Mayor Derek S.K. Kawakami issues statement on the passing of former Hawaiʻi County Mayor William “Billy” Kenoi

LĪHU’E – Mayor Derek S.K. Kawakami issued the following statement today on the passing of former Hawaiʻi County Mayor William “Billy” Kenoi.

“We share in the overwhelming outpouring of love as we grieve for Billy. While he may have been a Mayor of a county, he was more than that – he was a son of Hawaiʻi.

“Billy had the unique gift to find each person’s strength, speak to it, then inspire. He moved not just minds, he moved hearts.

“He was not just a role model for me in his leadership, but also in how to live life to the fullest. I am eternally grateful for his mentorship, guidance, and friendship these past years.

“Monica and I extend our deepest aloha and sympathy to Billy’s ʻohana – his wife Takako, and his kids Mahina, Justin, and Liam.

“Hawaiʻi is a better place because we have known Billy. We will miss him.”

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