

**Remarks by Commissioner James H. Quello**

**On the Occasion of A Salute to Ambassador Walter Annenberg**

**By the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters**

**Philadelphia, PA - October 18, 1994**

**It is a signal honor to share the speakers' table with such a distinguished American leader as Ambassador Annenberg -- and I am delighted to have the opportunity as the senior FCC Commissioner to join in the tribute to a great, universally respected editor, publisher, broadcaster, diplomat and philanthropist -- to salute a communications leader with an exemplary record of public service.**

**This significant award has special added significance for me because they are honoring a fellow octogenarian -- someone who has graciously weathered the transition from the golden years to the platinum years -- and also someone whose physiology hasn't caught up with his chronology. And particularly, someone whose great expanse of impressive honors and awards -- exceeds anything I ever expected to experience. It's not necessary to repeat them here -- Just marvel at the major awards listed on your program.**



**You see, Mr. Ambassador, I have received a few awards recently -- nothing to compare in importance or prestige as yours, but nevertheless much appreciated -- I humorously referred to them as my pre-posthumous awards. I attributed my awards to venerability associated with age. I frankly said, "With age, venerability sets in -- when you become venerable, you get credit for virtues you never possessed." However, what is particularly impressive with your awards and honors, is they started years ago, way before age could be considered a venerability factor.**

**Mr. Ambassador, over my lifetime career in the Army, broadcasting and the FCC, I have seen all types of distinguished awards, honors, testimonials, etc., but you are, without reservation, the most highly honored and decorated communications and civic leader I have ever seen! I am frankly overwhelmed. What a great contribution you have made. What a distinguished heritage of excellence for future communications leaders -- a heritage that the passing of time can never dim.**

**In fact, you have been conferred about everything except immortality. A good friend advised me recently "Slow down and enjoy life -- You know, no one has ever established immortality." I replied "I know but someone must set the precedent!"**

**Mr. Ambassador, I hope you are destined to be the leader that establishes that precedent. The world is woefully understaffed by accomplished, socially conscious leaders like you.**

**However, if immortality is not your eventual destiny -- May the Lord be with you -- but not too soon!**

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