



Mayor Eben Hopson Day celebrated

Hundreds of people paid a moving tribute to Eben Hopson on August 15 while Barrow celebrated Mayor Eben Hopson Day. The Congressional and State leadership, Native Corporate leaders, family and friends gave testimonials to Hopson's long history of public service, Civic and Native leadership to a large crowd of Barrowites and visitors in the Barrow high school gymnasium.

The Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, which dedicated their award-winning headquarters building in ceremonies the same day, was the host for the celebration. Many highly placed dignitaries spoke of Hopson's vision and leadership in the Native movement, the Inuit Circumpolar effort, in State Government, during the settlement of Alaska Native land claims, and in the organization and leadership of the North Slope Borough.

The Mayor and his wife, Rebecca and Hopson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Al Hopson, warmly greeted notables and friends who gathered to honor the veteran leader.

A proclamation from Governor Jay Hammond was read which declared August 15 to be "Mayor Eben Hopson Day" in Alaska. Routine passengers on the Wien Boeing jets to and from the world's largest Eskimo community were very surprised to notice the State's top political, business and Native leadership all travelling on the same flight.

Guests, several of whom had come as far away as Washington, D.C., joined hundreds of persons from the community for a feast which included ham, turkey, and Eskimo foods.

The salute to Hopson attracted so many V.I.P.'s to Barrow that it took a spokesman for the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation 15 minutes to introduce them all.

Stapleton/Klamser photo