



GRENADA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

THIRD SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

OFFICIAL REPORT

SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF THE LATE SIR DANIEL WILLIAMS)

TUESDAY 15TH OCTOBER, 2024

**Special Joint Sitting of the Senate and House of Representatives
Held at the Parliament Chamber, Mt. Wheldale, St. George's
On Tuesday 15th October, 2024
To Celebrate the Life of Sir Daniel Charles Williams, Former Governor-General**

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Attendance

PRESENT

Madam President

Senator the Honourable Dr. Dessima Williams

in the Chair

- | | |
|---|--|
| Senator the Honourable David Evlyn Andrew | - Minister of Education |
| Senator the Honourable Quinc Britton | - Parliamentary Secretary within the Ministry of Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture with Responsibility for Culture |
| Senator the Honourable Seville Francis | - Parliamentary Secretary within the Ministry of Youth and Sports |
| Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph | - Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs |
| Senator the Honourable Gloria Ann Thomas | - Minister of Social & Community Development, Housing and Gender Affairs (Social Security) |
| Senator the Honourable Dr. Myanna Charles | - Opposition Member of the Senate |
| Senator the Honourable Dwight Hosford | - Opposition Member of the Senate |
| Senator the Honourable Mondy André Lewis | - Member of the Senate (Labour Rep.) |
| Senator the Honourable Salim Rahaman | - Member of the Senate (Business Rep.) |
| Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair | - Member of the Senate (Farmers Rep.) |

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Attendance

ABSENT

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas | - Minister of Tourism, Creative Economy and Culture
(Excused) |
| Senator the Honourable Norland Cox | - Opposition Member of the Senate
(Deputy President)
(Excused) |

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Attendance

PRESENT

Mr. Speaker

Honourable Leo Cato, MP

in the Chair

Honourable Dickon Mitchell, MP
(St. David)

- Prime Minister & Minister for National Security, Home Affairs, Information, Disaster Management & Public Administration, Infrastructure and Physical Development, Public Utilities & Civil Aviation and Transportation

Honourable Philip A. Telesford, MP
(St. George South East)

- Minister for Health

Honourable Lennox John Andrews, MP
(St. Andrew South West)

- Minister for Economic Development, Planning and Co-operatives, Agriculture & Lands, Forestry and Marine Resources

Honourable Dennis Cornwall, MP
(St. Patrick East)

- Minister for Finance

Honourable Delma Thomas, MP
(St. Andrew North West)

- Minister for Youth and Sports, Mental Health, Wellness, and Religious Affairs, with a special focus on the Mt. Gay Psychiatric Hospital

Honourable Andy Williams, MP
(St. George South)

Minister for Mobilisation, Implementation and Transformation

Dr. the Rt. Hon. Keith C. Mitchell, PC, MP, JP
(St. George North West)

- Leader of His Majesty's Opposition

Honourable. Dr. Clarice Modeste-Curwen, MP
(St. Mark)

- Deputy Speaker

Honourable Peter David, MP
(Town of St. George)

- Member

Honourable Kate Lewis-Peters, MP
(St. Andrew North East)

- Member

Honourable Emmalin Pierre, MP
(St. Andrew South East)

- Member

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ABSENT

- | | |
|--|---|
| Honourable Joseph Andall, MP
(<i>St. Patrick West</i>) | - Minister for Foreign Affairs, Trade & Export
Development
(Excused) |
| Honourable Tevin Andrews, MP
(<i>Carriacou & Petite Martinique</i>) | - Ministry of Carriacou, Petite Martinique Affairs
and Local Government
(Excused) |
| Honourable Kerryne Z. James, MP
(<i>St. John</i>) | - Minister for Climate Resilience, the Environment
and Renewable Energy
(Excused) |
| Honourable Ron Livingston Redhead, MP
(<i>St. George North East</i>) | - Member
(Excused) |

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Prayers

Oath of Allegiance / Affirmation

The Special Joint Sitting of the Senate and House of Representatives began at 10:06 a.m.

(Senate Prayer was said)

(House Prayer was said)

Mr. Speaker: Please join me in saying the Lord's Prayer.

(The Lord's Prayer was said)

Mr. Speaker: Pray be seated.

(Sound of gavel)

Deputy Clerk: Item 3 – Oath of Allegiance or Affirmation of a new Senator.

Clerk: Senator Myanna Charles.

(Senator the Honourable Myanna Charles proceed to the Clerk's Table)

Sen. the Hon. Myanna Charles: I, Myanna Charles, do swear that I would faithfully bear true allegiance to His Majesty, King Charles III, His Heirs and Successors according to Law. So help me, God.

(Senator the Honourable Myanna Charles signs the Oath Book)

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**Oath of Allegiance / Affirmation
Announcements**

(The Clerk shakes Senator the Honourable Charles' hand)

Deputy Clerk: Item 4 – Announcements by Madam President.

Madam President: Honourable Members, it is my sad duty to announce the passing of our former Senator, the Honourable Allen McGuire. ... That Senator, the Honourable Norland Cox, sends his regrets and is unable to attend this Honourable House this morning. He also sends his condolences to the family.

Deputy Clerk: Item 4 – Announcements by Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members like the President, I regret to announce the death of a former Member of the House of Representatives and also a former Member of the Senate, the late Clarence Richard Rapier. We extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to the members of the family in this very difficult period.

I also wish to say to this Honourable House that a number of Members from the House of Representatives are absent today; namely, Honourable Ron Redhead, who is sick; Honourable Joseph Andall, who is also unwell; and Honourable Kerryne James, who is out of the island on state business. They all have sent their condolences to the family of Lady Williams, especially the family of the other two MPs who have died, and they express their regret of not being here to be part of this very special ceremony.

Honourable Members, I ask you to join us as we stand and observe one minute of silence in honour of our fallen comrades.

(Moment of silence observed)

Clerk: Pursuant to Standing Order No. 12 of the House of Representatives and Standing Order No. 10 of the Senate, this Special Joint Sitting has been summoned to

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celebrate the life of the late His Excellency, Sir Daniel Williams, former Governor-General who passed away on October 2, 2024.

Deputy Clerk: Item 5 – Motions.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Prime Minister.

Hon. Dickon Mitchell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to Honourable Members of this Joint Sitting. Mr. Speaker, I rise to move the following Motion standing in my name:

WHEREAS former Governor-General His Excellency, Sir Daniel Williams, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, and Queens Counsel passed away on October 2, 2024;

AND WHEREAS His Excellency, Sir Daniel Williams served as a parliamentarian representing the constituency of St. David and was a Minister of Government from 1984 to 1989;

AND WHEREAS His Excellency, Sir Daniel Williams also served the State of Grenada as Governor-General from 1996 to 2008 with unwavering dedication and a well-formed disposition of integrity;

AND WHEREAS His Excellency, Sir Daniel Williams was an exceptional leader and an outstanding gatekeeper of the public interest, steadfastly upholding the values of democracy, justice, and good governance;

AND WHEREAS His Excellency, Sir Daniel Williams was a paragon of virtue whose contributions far surpassed the ceremonial role of his Office, tirelessly promoting unity and stability in the interest of the State of Grenada;

AND WHEREAS the Members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives assembled at a Special Sitting of Both Houses of Parliament, are desirous of honouring and paying their respects to the **late** Sir Daniel Williams for his

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esteemed Public Service, for nurturing the highest principles and practices while in the Service of the State of Grenada;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Special Joint Sitting of the Houses of Parliament held at Mt. Wheldale, St. George, this 15th day of October 2024, hereby recognise the substantial contributions made by His Excellency, Sir Daniel Williams as a resolute Governor-General and an exemplar of erudite principles, respected and acknowledged throughout Grenada, regionally and extra regionally;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Special Joint Sitting of the Houses of Parliament of Grenada express profound sympathy to the Family, Relatives, and Friends of His Excellency, Sir Daniel Williams, and honour him for his humbled and distinguished service to the State of Grenada.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Prime Minister. Leader of His Majesty's Opposition.

Dr. the Rt. Hon. Keith Mitchell: Mr. Speaker, I take this with a deep sense of honour to second the Motion as presented by the Honourable Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Leader of His Majesty's Opposition.

Madam President: Senator Dwight Horsford after Senator... Senator Adrian Thomas is absent? Senator David Andrew, you will start. Thank you. Senator Andrew, you have the floor, sir.

Sen. the Hon. David Andrew: Madam President, I rise today to associate the Senate with the sentiments of the Motion as moved by the Honourable Prime Minister.

Madam President: I thank you, Senator David Andrew. Senator Dwight Horsford.

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Sen. the Hon. Dwight Horsford: Madam President, I rise to associate the Opposition of the Senate, with the sentiments of the Motion as accepted by the Leader of Government's Business.

Madam President: Thank you, Senator Horsford.

Mr. Speaker proposed the question to the House of Representatives.

Madam President: Honourable Members of the Senate and let me pause to welcome you, Senator Charles, welcome to the Senate. It is my pleasure to present the question to you, Senators.

Madam President proposed the question to the Senate.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Prime Minister.

Hon. Dickon Mitchell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek the leave to speak on the Motion, and in doing so, I wish to start, Mr. Speaker, by acknowledging the presence of Lady Williams, the children, grandchildren, and extended family of the late, Sir Daniel Williams. And though I have done so privately, I take the opportunity to publicly and on the record express my personal condolences to Lady Williams, the children of the late, Sir Daniel Williams, to his grandchildren, and his extended family. I also express condolences on behalf of my own family because as long I have been alive, the name "Danny" and, later, Sir Daniel has always resonated within my household, starting with my grandmother.

Sir Daniel Williams is probably as well known, a citizen of the parish of St. David as any citizen that you can find. And though the Motion speaks to his time as Parliamentarian, and Minister of Government, and his time as Governor-General, with

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your leave, Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak a little bit about my own knowledge of his time as a lawyer, as a family man, as a community man and as a public servant.

And I can think of no better legacy than his foundation for needy students, which he set up and which I know first-hand Daniella, in particular, has continued to champion. That foundation, Mr. Speaker, is representative of Sir Daniel's commitment to public service, to helping those in need and to seeing education as a tool for ensuring that young men and women, particularly those who are economically disadvantaged, could get an opportunity to raise themselves and their families to better circumstances.

Sir Daniel always conducted himself with calm, with grace and with elegance. I do not recall ever once seeing him angry. As a human being, he must have been, but he certainly never, as far as my limited time on earth and as far as my recollection, ever publicly displayed anger. So he represented himself, he represented his family, he represented the parish of St. David with dignity, and it is not always easy to do so when doing so in public life, and particularly at the time when he entered public life in 1984. Grenada was coming out of perhaps one of its darkest periods and a period of great instability, politically, and socially.

And so, offering himself to serve at that time, already having had law practice, is testimony to the fact that he was prepared to move from his comfort zone into the uncomfortable, into the limelight, and into public service on behalf of the citizens in St. David, the citizens of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique, and the citizens of the region. And so he set a perfect example for many to follow, including myself.

I, therefore, want to thank Lady Williams and her family for allowing him to do so and for supporting him throughout the period that he did so because I am under no illusion that without the support of Lady Williams and the family, his decision and his success at the decision would have been a lot more difficult.

Sir Daniel served for a long period as Governor-General and during difficult times as well, but he brought, despite the fact that he came from a political background, as the Motion says, integrity to the office. We, therefore, are clear that the Motion accurately depicts his time and his service to the Office of Governor-General. It is not always easy

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to do if one comes from a political partisan background and then assumes the highest office in the State of Grenada. But he did so exemplary, and therefore, he raised the bar as to what one should expect when serving as Governor-General of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

Sir Daniel's law firm was located almost in boundary with the law firm that I practice on Lucas Street. And although by the time I was practising, he was clearly in public service and not necessarily practising, from time to time, I would see him visiting the office, and I would have the opportunity to meet him either in the garage when he was coming out of the vehicle or when he was simply walking on Lucas Street to be able to speak and converse with him. And he always had a word of counsel or two both in terms of the law and, more importantly, in terms of one's relationship with the wider community and the clients that we served. I, therefore, quite understand why Daniella and other members of the family have been able to continue the legacy that he left with the law firm; it is clear because of the foundation that he built that they've been able to carry on the legacy of the practice of law.

But, above all, in my interactions with Sir Daniel, he was a community. Many of us, particularly if we come from rural villages, strive to leave our rural villages, strive to distinguish ourselves by distancing ourselves from where we came from, Sir Daniel did the very opposite. He always anchored in St. David. He was always part of the community, and he always gave back to the community. So whether it's in the form of investing in St. David by buildings, everyone knows St. David doesn't have a town, and there is no urban centre, but Sir Daniel did his part in contributing to making sure that we had the infrastructure within St. David that could house basic necessities like pharmacies etcetera that is so badly needed by the citizens of St. David. He resided in St. David, and we knew that after Hurricane Ivan destroyed the official residence of the Governor-General, he resided at his residence. He could have chosen to go elsewhere, but again, he demonstrated his commitment to St. David and his commitment to anchoring in the community.

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I know first-hand that Sir Daniel prized his library, and it is perhaps a reflection that he understood the importance of reading, reading, and reading because that is really the only way in which we can acquire the knowledge, the understanding, and the wisdom that we only need to be able to navigate this complex world. And so I know for sure that Lady Williams and the family will continue to nurture that spirit of reading, nurture that spirit of knowledge, and nurture that spirit of ensuring that his foundation continues to succeed.

I would conclude by saying, he was also anchored in his faith and played a pivotal and leadership role in his church. And, again, he could have spent time at larger and bigger churches, but you became stable at a small Petit Bacaye Church in St. David, and I understand why that was stable because if you go to that church, the singing always takes you to soaring heights and Sir Daniel was an instrumental path of the church and the church community in St. David.

So, Mr Speaker, naturally, there are others here who could speak in far more detail about Sir Daniel's political life and his life as Governor-General. So I speak merely as a citizen of St. David as someone whom Sir Daniel opened the doors for by being a trailblazer and by letting a young boy from Petite Esperance in St. David know that there is no limit to success or achievement except those that you impose on yourself.

He has clearly been a trailblazer. He's clearly set the example for me, and many others to follow, and in that way, he planted a tree knowing that he may not get the chance to sit beneath the shade of the tree but that others will do so. And that, Mr. Speaker, in my mind, is a neat way of describing the life, the work, and the legacy of Sir Daniel. May his soul rest in internal peace. Thank you. **(Applause)**

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Prime Minister. And I know invite the Leader of His Majesty's Opposition to make his contribution.

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Dr. the Rt. Hon. Keith Mitchell: Mr. Speaker, thank you. And, of course, as I said earlier on, I am honoured to have the opportunity to share my own feelings and, of course, be part of this important Joint Session of the Honourable House.

I do want to make the point, Mr. Speaker, that I thought that the wording of the Motion was extremely appropriate in describing the person whom we are honouring here today. Sometimes, when someone passes on, you hear tributes and statements which do not always appear to be consistent with the life or all aspects of the life of individuals. But this Motion, Mr. Speaker, and I don't want to compliment those who constructed it, in fact, speak to the quality of the person that we are honouring here today. So, let me first recognise my good friend, Lady Williams, her daughters, children, grandchildren and family members who are here this morning being part of and witnessing this Special Joint Session of this Honourable House.

Mr. Speaker, just as a little picong here, sometimes I look over on the "Other Side", and I think maybe I should be on the "Other Side" because they look more spacious than the room that I was given here this morning, Mr. Speaker. **(Laughter)** So next time, please, if there is another opportunity, give me a little more space. **(Laughter)**

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members of this House, for me, this is not about a tribute to some past parliamentarian; it's much deeper than that because of the personal relationship that I had the opportunity to receive, to share with this distinguished Grenadian patriot and son. Mr. Speaker, in 1984, when I returned to Grenada from Washington, I heard about the name "Danny Williams", but I did not know the individual.

And it must be recorded, and I do hope I'm giving that leverage here this morning because of the extent of the personal relation and connection that we've had that obviously no other Member of this House would have had the opportunity to share in that way. And, it was a time of chaos in the country, political chaos, and there were three political parties at the time; the Grenada National Party guided by Herbert Blaize, the National Democratic Party headed by George Brizan, and, of course, the Grenada Democratic Movement, which I was a member of and the past leader of the National

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Democratic Congress, Tillman Thomas, was also a Member of, headed by Dr. Francis Alexis.

Being advised that the parties, then, should get together in a time of political chaos, in contesting the General Election in December 1984, there was an agreement that we should unite. And, therefore, each party submitted three names of persons who would meet to decide on the candidates going forward in the General Elections of 1984. And at that session at Knox House, Mr. Speaker, and distinguished Members, the candidate for the elections was decided, details I would not go through here, but in the choice of the elections, the person whom we wanted to, had agreed to, support by all parties to run in the St. David Constituency did not accept to run there. Therefore, the parties had to decide since that person was also a leader of one of the parties in the discussion. So a delegation was chosen to look for an alternative. I can't remember exactly the combination of that delegation, but I know they met and decided that Sir Daniel would be the best person.

When they returned to us, they indicated that Sir Daniel clearly did not want to be a candidate. He has always recognised his role as a patriotic citizen and would do anything for his country, but he did not. He was a reluctant suitor in the political process at the time, but given his passion for his country, he could not turn them down. After a lot of pleading, he made it very clear to the team that it would be one term. It does not matter what happens afterwards, it will be one term. **(Laughter)** Sir Danny, as I called him, was a very quiet man with a very quiet disposition, but when he spoke and when he decided on something you cannot shift him easily. So even after that period of the first term ended and he was approached, he asked, do you remember that I gave my word? So one term, and that was it.

So the election on December 3, 1984, as you recall, the NNP won 14 out of the 15 seats. St. Andrew North East was the only seat that did not go in the NNP column at that time. Danny was then made Minister for Health, and I think it would be recognised that there was a tremendous amount of progress in the Health Ministry during that time because of the service and his relationship with the staff over that particular period.

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But something I've noted before Danny took the Oath of Office as a Government Minister, he told us in a session before the Oath was taken it was known that he has retainers in several firms and banks in the country, one of the leading lawyers, some powerful retainers giving him serious resources. He was also the lawyer for the Catholic Church. He made it clear that he was going to resign and give up all the retainers with all the banks and businesses that he served. A tremendous sacrifice. A tremendous sacrifice. And that tells you, Mr. Speaker, and distinguished Members here, the quality of the personality of this patriotic Grenadian.

Mr. Speaker, the Government continued in office from 1984 and in 1987, the first split of the New National Party occurred when George Brizan and some of the members decided to leave the Government and form what is now the National Democratic Congress, Mr. Speaker. I know Danny met with George Brizan because they were very, very close and did everything to counsel him against leaving and against forming a new political party. Maybe if they had heeded the advice, the Prime Minister and my colleagues would not necessarily be here today **(laughter)** as Leaders of the National Democratic Congress. George did not heed his advice at that time. Mr. Speaker, the sense of humour is important **(laughter)** in this time, although we talking about the life of this great man.

Mr. Speaker, in 1989, there was also a further split of the Government, and I was then fired from the Government of the day. I recalled then Danny, who stood for democracy within the organisation when that split occurred, and was asked to remain in the Government while the NNP was literally thrown out of Government, said on principle he could not, as a democrat, support this. And while he was a very close confidant and supporter of the then Prime Minister, he said that he could not, in conscience, in principle, go against what he perceived to be a democratic activity.

In fact, Mr Speaker, it will be known and maybe for the first time, many Members hear it because Danny is a person who does not really speak a lot about these matters. He was offered substantial sums to remain in the Government and he said he is not for sale. That was the quality of the person that we are talking about today.

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Mr. Speaker, in 1990, General Elections came, and the NNP won two seats out of the 15 seats. Danny campaigned and did what he could and what he thought he had to do in supporting the New National Party. After the election, in an attempt to restructure and organise the New National Party, he again reluctantly agreed to sign as Deputy Political Leader of the New National Party. Clearly, we had to nudge him and indicate that the necessity of the survival of the NNP needed people like himself. And I must also say, Mr. Speaker, Dr John Watts was also a key person who was supporting Danny in that respect.

And if you remember, many of you here probably do not know John Watts was the man who formed the Grenada National Party that Herbert Blaize led, and he was the person who backed and supported Herbert Blaize to become the first Leader of the Grenada National Party. So that's for the history of many Members here who do not know this.

So because of that support and his commitment over the years, the New National Party in five years became victorious in the General Elections in 1995, winning eight of the 15 seats after winning just two seats at the General Elections in 1990. Danny's commitment and support and advice over the years were essential to that success, Mr. Speaker. So in 1996, Mr. Speaker, Danny was appointed, as recommended, Governor-General of this country.

I mean no reason to get at anyone or person or group, but to say that it was unfortunate at the time, the Opposition party at the time, condemned the appointment and literally, literally vilified what I considered to be a Grenadian patriot, a humble man of integrity. Their claim was, Mr. Speaker, that was a politician and, therefore, should not have been appointed as Governor-General of the country. The quality of the person and the integrity of the person were not given the kind of importance that they should have had. And we had so many periods in the Caribbean where persons have been in politics, served as President and Governor-General in so many other countries. I do really want this to be taken in the context of what we are talking about today and not

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personal, Mr. Speaker. If I did not say it then that means I'll be dishonest with myself in a very special situation like this.

Mr. Speaker, I probably would not be standing here today had it not been for the advice and support that Danny has given me over the years. You know, something that always touched me about the person that we are honouring here today is that none of us is perfect. We are all subject to errors and so on. But Danny, when he has to remind you of something that you are doing or planning to do that's not in the best interest; when he calls you and he is speaking to you, you start feeling that it is something nice he is going to tell you **(laughter)** because he has a way of telling you, well you are not doing bad, you're doing all right, but... And then he goes down to the "but". **(Laughter)** Clear, precise and to the point. You could not miss it. In other words, if you want to be mad with that sort of thing, you have to be mad with yourself **(laughter)** because he made you feel good but then the lashes came afterwards. In fact, that's how my mother used to scold us.

Mr. Speaker, the 2008 Elections came, and the National Democratic Congress became victorious. Again, we saw the quality of Sir Daniel Williams, and I know that he called the Prime Minister-elect to inform him that the Government has changed, and therefore, he is offering his resignation as Governor-General of the country. The principle of the man. What he stood for. As he told me, the then Prime Minister indicated that he understood what he was doing, but he wanted him to remain for a couple of months to see to it that the Throne Speech was delivered before he demitted the Office of the Governor-General. Sir Daniel Williams demitted office after that Throne Speech, not long afterwards.

In effect, Mr. Speaker, we are talking about someone today who has been selfless in many, many respects, who stood for principle, principle whether it's about giving up the retainers of what he had before or whether it was remaining in the Office of Governor-General or whether it was times when he satisfied the status quo. He put principle ahead of everything else and stood for what he perceived. He would never say to you that he was absolutely right. That was his perception, and that's what it was

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all about; perception is what he was doing. He was doing what his conscience dictated that he must do.

And there are some aspects... The Prime Minister referred to it to some extent, but I remember Sir Daniel built an extension to his home. It's a place for activities and social gatherings. There were so many organisations that held fundraising events at that place, and I asked many times if you got fees, and he would not take fees. And what was sad, Mr. Speaker, and colleagues all here today, when he was being vilified several times during his life, some of the same organisation never stood in his defence, never came out and said a word. And one day, I sat with him, and I said did this person or did this group come out and say something on your behalf because of what you are going through? And he said to me no, well that's their choice, he said that's their choice. He was as cool as a cucumber. This was the man. In other words, what people do, that's for them. I can only owe it to myself and my God.

But I do want to make one further point before I sit. The National Democratic Congress nominated Sir Carlyle Glean as the Governor-General after Sir Carlyle Glean, like Sir Danny, participated in active politics. In other words, by the action of the National Democratic Congress, then, when Danny was appointed, the NNP should have followed suit and attacked that nomination. But friends, let me say this, and it's not just the call, Danny called me, and he said to me, "Keith, I hope you do not do the same thing that was done to me," and I said, "Danny, I already made up my mind". I know Sir Carlyle Glean was a good man. I know he was a decent man. When the appointment was made there was no way I would stand and criticise that appointment.

In other words, I will not follow suit, but the thing is, Sir Danny called me; he wanted to ensure that I did not and I would not go down that road. Again my friends, demonstrating the quality of the human being that we are now honouring today. I am proud of the opportunity to know him. I am proud.

(The Leader of His Majesty's Opposition began crying; in a tearful tone he continued)

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Dr. the Rt. Hon. Keith Mitchell: Mr. Speaker, we've lost a great Grenadian. I am sorry. I beg your indulgence. Lady Williams and your family have given us a lot; I want to thank you for what you have given me as a person and to your country. Mr. Speaker, thank you. Thank you. **(Applause)**

Mr. Speaker: Thank you very much, Leader of His Majesty's Opposition. I understand the moment. I want to say to the rest of the House, we are going to continue on "This Side", and then when we are finished, the President will take over for "This Side" of the House. So I now invite the Honourable MP for St. Andrew North West to make her contribution.

Hon. Delma Thomas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to express my deepest sympathy to Lady Williams, the children, grandchildren and the extended family of Sir Danny Williams. Sir Danny William's life, to public service, has been one of example for every one of us, and so we know as a family, you would miss him but may you find comfort in the life he lived, in the work he has done for the people of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique. May his soul rest in Peace. **(Applause)**

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Honourable MP for St. Andrew North West. I sense it's the Honourable MP for St. George South East.

Hon. Philip Telesford: Good morning to this Honourable House. I recognise Lady Williams, children and grandchildren, and I express my deepest sympathies to you and the entire family. ***"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the creator, the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall, but those who hope in the Lord will renew their***

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strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint.

I offer strength to you Lady Williams, the entire family at this very sad moment. No one gets accustomed to losing a loved one; even the strongest amongst us break in times like these. But let us use these moments to reflect upon the positives, upon the contributions that he's made to the community, the contributions to family and the contributions to the nation. We want to say thanks to you, Lady Williams, and to the children and grandchildren for lending us Sir Daniel Williams for those many years. We recognise the selfless sacrifice that was made and we offer our thanks and appreciation back to you and the entire family. Thank you. **(Applause)**

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Honourable MP for St. George South East. Honourable MP for St. Andrew South West.

Hon. Lennox Andrews: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my deepest sympathy for the passing of an exemplary son that our country would have produced. Mr. Speaker, in my early years of formation, I always read about outstanding personalities and great human beings. So I read a lot about Aristotle, Plato, Adam Smith, John Stuart Mill, Fidel Castro, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, Karl Marx, and Federico Andreu. And I found in my reading, Mr. Speaker, that all these great human beings, they became great, they became great and they were respected and admired worldwide because of their merit, exclusively because of their work.

And so, Mr. Speaker, philosophy speaks about two kinds of personalities, philosophy speaks about the historic personality and the relevant personalities of history. Some of us come to this world, we live, we may do something outstanding, but to know about us, you have to read about us in the history books. We're historic. Others come to this space, and because of their merit, because of their work; they never die. They live forever. We speak about them in our daily lives, we celebrate and we try to follow and emulate their work and their example. They have only physically

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disappeared. They are relevant. There are relevant personalities of history. They never die.

But, Mr. Speaker, I also share the view that the greatest merit that one could achieve is to be of service to his country and to his people. What makes you relevant is your work, your work in serving your country and your people, whether it is an outstanding speech that you carry out or whether you were in a certain position that allowed you to serve. So great men are men... let me just correct myself: great men and women are men and women who visit and spend some time on this planet not for themselves, but they do so to serve the country, to serve people and to serve humanity.

And, Mr. Speaker, when I read the preamble to the Motion here today I can safely say, with satisfaction, that Sir Daniel Williams was a man who served his country and served his people with distinction. And therefore, the people of Grenada would consider him not just a historic personality of our history but a relevant personality of our history. And if I were to emulate him, if I were to follow in his footsteps, the best that I can do, Mr. Speaker, is to ensure that I serve my country and my people with respect, with dignity and with honour.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I pray that having produced an outstanding personality, a relevant personality of history, I pray that all of us and those to come will cherish his memories, will cherish his work, and will want to emulate him and follow his example in being of service to our country and to our people. May his soul rest in peace. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. **(Applause)**

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Honourable MP for St. Andrew South West and I now invite the MP for St. Patrick East to make his contribution.

Hon. Dennis Cornwall: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good morning to every Member of this Honourable House. I stand in support of the Motion to celebrate the life of the late Sir Daniel Williams and to simply say that I am elated and happy to be here and be part of this historic occasion. Lady Williams, your kids, grandkids and extended

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family, I wish to take this opportunity on behalf of the people of the St. Patrick East Constituency to express our condolences and sympathy for what you are going through right now. I think it's honourable to be part of something that is just.

And despite I didn't know Sir Danny Williams very well because I knew as public servant back in the mid 90's when he became Governor-General, I was part of the Ministry of Finance as a public servant. And if it's one thing I recall back then is that having participated in purchasing property from the Government of Grenada, then, he was the signature on my deed, and therefore, I always remember that. So, I do not want to basically go out of the way and basically try to compete with all the illustrious presentations that were made before me because I can't say that I know Sir Danny Williams to the extent that I can comment about his personal life.

What I do want to say, though, is this: I believe he has done a great deal on this earth and thank you for lending us Sir Danny Williams. And to say to you, I am honoured to be part of the celebration. May his soul rest in peace. Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for St. Patrick East. And is it the MP for St. Andrew North East?

Hon. Kate Lewis-Peters: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Please make your contribution, Honourable MP.

Hon. Kate Lewis-Peters: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I, too, join with the rest of the Members of the House to express deepest condolences to Lady Williams and family on the passing of our former Governor-General, Sir Daniel Williams. I remember Sir Daniel Williams for his calmness, his grace and his humility. And the service he provided to our country embodies integrity. And it is very sad today that we are here to mourn his passing. But, I do want to encourage us to remember him for the

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positive impact his life would have left on our country, Grenada. So to the family, I say thank you for giving Sir Daniel Williams to us for his contribution and all that he has done, the indelible mark he has left on our country, and I do express again my deepest condolences. May his soul rest in peace. **(Applause)**

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Honourable MP for St. Andrew North East. And I now invite the MP for the Town of St. George.

Hon. Peter David: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join others in associating myself with the... **(Inaudible comment by Mr. Speaker)** Yes, Mr. Speaker. Thank you. I want to join others in associating myself with the sentiments expressed in the Motion.

I want to, on behalf of my family, because my family knew Sir Danny quite well and Lady Williams, I want to express my condolences on their behalf for Sir Daniel Williams. Sir Daniel, I'm certain, would not have achieved all of what he did without the solid support of Lady Williams and the family, so on my family's behalf, I want to express my deepest condolences. I want to say that I knew Sir Danny, not in a political way. In fact, he did represent my father many years ago. My father used him as an attorney. I did use him as an attorney many years ago. So I got to know Sir Danny, not as well as the others, the Political Leader and Leader of the Opposition... I mean **(laughter)** Leader of the Government, sorry and the Leader of the Opposition, but certainly I got to know him well.

I described him as calm, kind, focused and loving. In fact, when I went to visit Lady Williams, she spoke about Sir Danny always liking people around. And then I went to the wake on the third night and I have never been to a wake like that. Two things stood out for me: the amount of people that were there and the fact that it was nearly a full church service conducted on Sir Danny's behalf. It meant him being deeply rooted in his faith, which I saw on the third night, and deeply rooted in his community.

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But then I should know that because when I went to study in London after I met Sir Danny, I stayed in a place in South London in Davenport Road and the lady who I was renting the room, because I was studying law, said that she loved Sir Danny. And I asked, "How did you know him?" She said, "He lived right here in the same place I was living". So I had the honour of being in London where Sir Danny studied and being in the room and the house and with the landlady that Sir Danny shared. So I feel this affinity to Sir Danny.

So, Lady Williams, I won't be long I just want to say on our behalf, on the behalf of the people of the Town of St. George, we've lost a good soul, but the good thing is that you were able to spend those last days with him and in speaking with you, I felt a sense that you are comforted still in the fact that he lived a full. He lived a full life. He lived the life he wanted to, and there are many people, not in St. David alone, as the Member for St. David said, but throughout this country, who remember Sir Danny very fondly: the kind, calm, focused lover of people. Thank you, may God bless you all. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. **(Applause)**

Mr. Speaker: Thank you to the Honourable MP for the Town of St. George. Honourable MP for St. Mark.

Hon. Dr. Clarice Modeste-Curwen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Madam President, Mr. Speaker, I beg your indulgence to address the family of the late Sir Daniel Williams to express my condolences to them. I see Lady Williams and family, friends and well-wishers. I am aware that there might be listeners further afield through whatever media that are listening, and I want to extend condolences to them and, in particular, the people of St. David whom he loved very much and who loved him.

I also want to express thanks to the family of Sir Daniel Williams, not just for allowing him to do so much that he did for his constituency and Grenada as a whole, but for supporting him. I know Lady Williams was always there, and I always admired from a distance the partnership that I saw with these two people, Sir Daniel Williams and

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Lady Williams and, of course, the family. So I know, I am aware that he had strong support from his family.

Mr. Speaker, I want to join and echo the sentiments of the Motion as expressed earlier and also echo the sentiments of our Political Leader in his compliments of the words expressed in the Motion, which was so appropriate even though I feel that they do not do quite a justice because sometimes words just cannot do justice to an exemplary character, but it is a great attempt to try and encapsulate in a few words the personality, the character and the contributions that Sir Daniel Williams made.

So I beg your indulgence to note some of the words, exceptional leader, outstanding gatekeeper, of the public interest and how he worked tirelessly in promoting unity and stability and so on and so on. Others would have heard, but I want to associate myself with the sentiments of those.

I also want to take this opportunity to speak a little bit about Sir Daniel Williams. I can't claim to know him as much as the Political Leader of the Opposition would have expressed, but I had the opportunity to meet him several times. He leaves a mark on you with his demeanour, his quietness and his calm gestures. And even though he was calm and quiet, one could not mistake the authority in the man.

You know, the quiet strength he exuded reminds me of something that a famous writer would have said, I don't know if it's one of the philosophers that my friend earlier mention, one of the philosophers, maybe it's one of them, and later on, we will talk to see if it was one of those great philosophers. But he said, "***Lives of great men all remind us, we can make our lives sublime, and, departing, leave behind us, footprints on the sands of time***". You know, when there are footprints on the sand, we live in a coastal country, the waves come, and they quickly erase those footprints, but when people leave like Sir Daniel Williams, the footprints he has left are indelible, and they will stay with us forever.

So I knew him as a quiet man as everybody did, but he had a firmness of purpose, he spoke with authority, and he commanded that we listen to him, and he gave great counsel, very wise counsel. He was always watching, always listening, so when

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we spoke in Parliament afterwards, he did make very guided comments as to how you know or whether we did well. He may not say we didn't do well. He might say, you know, you could have embellished a little bit more or whatever, whatever. He was that kind of person, and we always respected his input. He was ready to give advice, a great counsellor in the profession and a great counsellor in terms of how he dealt with us as younger politicians and Parliamentarians.

One of the lessons I will never forget is, I call it, the Good Samaritan's lesson or going the extra mile. One day, we sat together, and he said to me, "As a person and as a Christian and as a politician, we have to be prepared to go the extra mile". And he said to me, "If you're going"... And I don't remember the locations that he used, but he said, for example, "If you're going to the police station in St. David"... And he used St. David's as an example, "You're travelling to, let's say, to your home which is near to the secondary school in St. David and somebody asks you for a ride, and you stop, and when the person is in the car you realise the person going up by the police station, you could tell the person look, this is my home I am dropping you here or"... And these were his words, "Or you can say, all right, so where are you going, are you going to the police station, it's okay, it's not too far I'll take you there." "Going-the-extra-mile". And I have never forgotten that. I may not have practised it all the time, but I am guided by those words "Go the extra mile", and those were the words that he said to me that I remember.

On a lighter side, I mentioned the partnership of Sir Daniel and Lady Williams. Every time I see these two people together, they used to have a lot of socials, their partnership in dancing. They were excellent on the floor and it was exemplary of the kind of life they lived. These people got together, they did a foundation to take care of needy children and I want to compliment that partnership and the family support for doing that. **(Applause)**

And so many other things that Lady Williams allowed him to do for the community and to share his time. I want to compliment Lady Williams and the family on the exemplary life he lived. It is not just a page we have to take to follow, but he left a

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whole book behind for us to follow as politicians, as human beings, and as Christians. May God rest his soul. **(Applause)**

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, MP for St. Mark. Thank you very much, and I now invite the MP for St. Andrew South East to make her contribution.

Hon. Emmalin Pierre: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Madam President. I rise this morning to associate myself with the sentiment of the Motion as presented by the Honourable Prime Minister and, of course, the very touching, emotional, historical presentation presented by the Leader of His Majesty's Opposition. Madam President,

Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to extend my deepest condolences, through you, to Lady Williams, all of the children, grandchildren, all of the family members, extended family members, and all of those who were loved by Sir Daniel and who loved him. I extend my deepest condolences to you at this time.

As I sat and reflected on the period of time that I have known Sir Daniel, I agree with our Leader of His Majesty's Opposition that the Motion does capture the true essence of who he was, but in a very concise way. There is so much that could be shared.

But, this morning, Madam President, Mr. Speaker, I recalled the 3rd of December, 2003. It was the very first time I had a very close-up, personal engagement with Sir Danny. It was the day that he presented to me the Instrument of Appointment in my role as a Member of the Senate and as a Member of the Government. Madam President, Mr. Speaker, it was a very historic moment for me. And I recall I was about 28 at the time; I recall after the ceremony, standing speaking to family and friends, and I noticed the Governor-General walking across in my direction. I could not believe it because, of course, your perception of the Governor-General at that time, you never thought he would be coming to you, and he came across, and he stood next to me, and he whispered, almost sounded like a song, "Just remain humble and focused". I never forgot those words, "Just remain humble and focused". Madam President, Mr. Speaker,

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those words stayed with me throughout the years. And so this morning, as we reflect, as we think about his many years of service, an exceptional leader, outstanding statesman, he has served, and he has served us so well. Again strength and grace to his family.

But as I reflected, Madam President, Mr. Speaker, there are three things that stood out to me that have inspired me over the years that I have known this great man. And I believe the first one for me is love for family. We have established, and we know the contribution that he has made in his role of leadership in this country. But, I am saying in addition to that, there are three things that have inspired me over the years that still resonate so deeply for me, personally, that I wish to share this morning, his love for family.

I don't recall a conversation with Sir Danny, whatever the subject matter, without him creating an opportunity to speak about his family, his dear wife and children. But, what is interesting, because we can share how we feel about other people, but interestingly, when you speak to his family, you get the exact same thing coming back: the love and the respect that they shared. So, it was mutual, and I have admired it over the years.

Madam President, Mr. Speaker, the second thing that, for me, has been very touching and very inspiring is his humility and love for people; particularly, I want to zero in on the poor and vulnerable. Sir Danny had a heart for people in need. I am sure his inspiration for the foundation, and so many other things that he did in the community traced right back to a heart for people. I have admired that. His willingness to give, to contribute, to be on the ground, as we would say, activities, particularly, in St. David. His involvement in the community regardless of the level of the position that he held. To me, that has been an inspiration.

But I remember a conversation with Sir Danny where he shared his experience; I will never forget his experience with the passage of Hurricane Ivan. I sat there, and I listened to him, and the trauma and everything else that he shared was overshadowed for me by the humility that came forth when he spoke about his journey from the

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Governor-General's residence to his house in St. David, walking. And he said, climbing over the telephone poles... I mean, I could just imagine the trauma, but as I said for, me, what stood out was the humility. And he spoke about his experience of encountering so many people on the way; Madam President, Mr. Speaker, for me, those are the things that stand out.

The third thing of the three Madam President, Mr. Speaker, for me, is how Sir Danny responded to the most vicious attacks on his character. For me, what I saw was someone of great faith in God, somebody who understood that through it all, I learned to trust in Jesus. May his soul rest in peace. **(Applause)**

Mr. Speaker: Thank you very much, Honourable MP for St. Andrew South East. I now turn over to, Madam President.

Madam President: There is one more on your side.

Mr. Speaker: Sorry, sorry, Honourable. I don't know why I missed you. It's now your turn. The floor is now yours, Honourable MP for the South.

Hon. Andy Williams: A special good morning to everyone. Mr. Speaker, let me just start by saying this: the uniqueness of the name Sir Danny Williams and, as a little boy, what it meant to me. When I was growing up hearing the name, it was a merger between myself and my brother because my brother's name is Danny Clarke and my name is Andy Williams. **(Laughter)** So when I heard the name Danny Williams, it always had that special place, in me saying, it was myself and my brother, Danny Williams.

But, Mr. Speaker, let me just... I'll be short. Mr. Speaker, I try to take lessons from life and I am sitting here hearing everything about Sir Danny Williams and the wonderful person he was. Mr. Speaker, I also want to give credit to his family because being a Parliamentarian, politician, and Governor-General is not an easy task. And, Mr.

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Speaker, sometimes you are putting your family in a situation where they feel uncomfortable, they feel saddened at times and even your time with them may be limited. And, Mr. Speaker, as we gather here today, Madam President, you know, the lessons I am getting from this is that at the end of it all, who we have with us. Family. Family.

So I want to urge, Mr. Speaker, everyone here today and everyone listening that in our busy schedule, in our lives as politicians, Parliamentarians, do not take our family for granted. Love our family, spend time with them, comfort them because at the end of it all, that is who will stand with us and stand by us.

So I say today, Mr. Speaker, my condolences to the family of Sir Danny Williams and I do not know him personally, but from what I have heard today, I can tell he was a great man, and I think you were privileged to have a man like this to be a husband, a father and a grandfather to all of the family. So I want to say thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. **(Applause)**

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Thank you very much, Honourable MP. I now finally turn over to the President.

Madam President: Thank you. I don't know if it's appropriate to say colleague, co-chair and comrade. **(Laughter)** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Honourable Members of the Senate, your moment has arrived, and I offer the floor first to Senator the Honourable David Andrew. You have the floor, Senator.

Sen. the Hon. David Andrew: Thank you. Thank you very much, Madam President. Madam President, Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to associate myself with the sentiments of the Motion as presented.

Indeed with your leave, I'd like to express my deepest condolences to Lady Williams, the children of the late Sir Daniel Williams, his surviving relatives and all who cared about him. I pray for God's grace and God's strength to all of them as they cope

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and manage in what obviously would be a difficult period. When you live, and you get immersed in a family, and you get accustomed to having someone share that space with you, it's always going to be difficult when that time comes when you have to part with them.

Madam President, Mr. Speaker, the Motion speaks of Sir Danny's involvement as a Representative in 1984, I was still a primary school student at that time. **(Laughter)** But, then several years later, when I became a secondary school teacher, by then, he was Governor-General, and I had to teach my students, and I had to make sure my students became aware of who the then Governor-General was. And so I've been following him since then. But from since that time, 1984, up to this year, and very recently, I know that Sir Danny Williams has been involved in service at various levels, from Parliamentary Representative to Governor-General to community activists, and you've heard it from persons who probably know him a lot better than I do.

But I have had the privilege, while I served as a Counselling Supervisor for the district of St. David, I had the privilege of meeting him on several occasions because I often I'll be at the graduation of several of the schools in St. David, and I remembered a couple of occasions and one, in particular, meeting him in a graduation at the St. David RC School and we had very cordial exchanges.

A gentleman who is indeed a genuine person, a genuine human being, very soft-spoken and very profound. And so, Sir Danny has genuinely contributed and he has genuinely served. We can say that he has lived. You see, several times people come, they probably exist on the planet for several decades sometimes, and they can't find a reason why they have done so. I don't think that's the case for Sir Danny. He has truly contributed in every sense.

And so I thank God that his family was able to partner with God to lend him to Grenada in the service of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique. And so, I thank you, Lady Williams, I thank your family, and we pray that God will continue to strengthen each of you as you can continue in this period. God bless you all. Thank you.

(Applause)

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Madam President: Thank you, Senator Andrew. Thank you. Senator André Lewis, you have the floor, sir.

Sen. the Hon. Mondy André Lewis: Thank you very much, Madam President. I stand here on behalf of Labour to extend our deepest condolences to Lady Williams and her family and all those who have been closely associated with Sir Daniel. We are very grateful for his contributions and we do wish you all the very best. In a way, and probably more than in a way, there is continuity. There is continuity in terms of his legal profession because the Williams Legal law firm continues. And as I said, on behalf of the workers, we wish you continued memories of him.

I also beg the understanding of the Houses. I must take my departure because one of our comrades who has given yeoman service to the Grenada Airport Authority as a Met Officer and also as a member of the Technical and Allied Workers Union Management Committee is being buried today in the north of the island, that's comrade Martin Moore and I'm due to represent the Union there. So I crave your understanding Lady Williams and family and everyone that on my departure it has to do with performing and recognising the role and contributions of our Grenadian brothers and sisters. So I thank you very much and, on behalf of the workers once, again, condolences to the families and friends. Thank you. **(Applause)**

Madam President: Thank you, Senator Lewis, to the front lines you go, you see. Senator the Honourable Claudette Joseph, you have the floor, madam.

Sen. the Hon. Claudette Joseph: Thank you, Madam President, Mr. Speaker. Madam President, I, too, like the speakers before me, rise to associate myself with the sentiments as so eloquently expressed in the Motion before this Honourable House. And likewise, I first extend sincerest condolences to the family of Sir Daniel, Lady Gloria, Dawne, Pauline, Daniella, the grandchildren and the extended family. These condolences are coming as my colleagues have done and will continue to do on behalf

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of the Government and people of Grenada, but also, on my own behalf and on behalf of the members of the legal profession in Grenada.

Sir Daniel is a name that I grew up knowing, associating him with those patriotic sons and daughters who stepped forward in the immediate period following the tragic events of 1983 to be part of the restoration of constitutional democracy in Grenada. And I always remember Sir Daniel as being the MP for the constituency of St. David because as a young person just coming out of the revolutionary experience, merely a teenager, but very keenly following the politics of the time and from that moment on, Sir Daniel, to me, displayed what a great patriot he was, a public servant, a community man, an outstanding lawyer and a humble servant of God.

And I will just endorse all that has been said so far, but to highlight that as a member of the legal profession, Sir Daniel was very supportive and encouraging of young lawyers. He had this very humble way about him even though he was a senior lawyer. While I was a young, and maybe a hot and sweaty lawyer and the Deputy Registrar of the court, you know, you come out, and you think you know everything, Sir Daniel was one of those senior lawyers who came very quietly and humbly at the Registry and corrected and schooled me in the most... Well, it's only after he got up and left I realised I was being schooled (**laughter**) because I probably would have been holding up one of his probate applications or something. He came very humble and nice and had me take out my probate text, "Tristram and Cootes", and showed me exactly where I was wrong and that I should proceed with his application, and so we developed a very good rapport.

When I decided to enter into private practice he again came and had some very encouraging words to say to me and, of course, offered that I could reach out to him at any time I needed in private practice. He explained that private practice is a tough field, but having interacted with me at the registry, he knew I could manage. And what a lot of people didn't mention today is that Sir Daniel was an author as well. In every sphere of life, he contributed intellectually by writing.

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And when I became a lawyer in private practice, he brought this little book, giving me a little pep talk and encouraging me. He gave me this little book, “*God Speaks*”, which was one of the books he wrote. That book contains anecdotes and stories to show the reader how in everyday life, with the things and people around them, nature and inspiring people, and so the Lord speaks to him through all the wonderful things he’s created. And so, as a community man and as a Christian, he wrote these books.

When he was Minister as a public servant of the people, he wrote again, “*A Synoptic View of the Public Service of Grenada in 1999*”; “*Prescription for a Model Grenada in 2000*”; “*Government of the Global Village in 2007*”. He never stopped writing. So that was based on his experience as a Minister for Government, and, of course, he held various ministerial portfolios actually in the short time that he was in the Lower House and a Member of the Cabinet, including acting at times as the Attorney General and at least at one occasion as Acting Prime Minister. So, Sir Daniel saw it all and served in all these capacities.

When he became Governor-General, he wrote a booklet on “*The Office and Duties of the Governor-General*”. And then, as a lawyer, he wrote a little book for the layman, always thinking of people, the “*Layman’s Lawbook*” this was in 2002. And also, an index of the Laws of Grenada from 1959 to 1979, a “*Compendium of the Laws of Grenada in 1985*”, and this one is published internationally by the University of Virginia.

So, Sir Daniel, I almost say Dr. Williams... **(Laughter)** Sir Daniel wrote and contributed to the jurisprudence and the intellectual space in which he operated. And I can tell you when he became Governor-General of Grenada it was indeed a blessing for those of us in the Bar Association. I remember that at the time, I was on the Executive of the Bar Association, and we always struggled when we had activities to find locations to host the activities. Well, from the time Sir Daniel became GG, his place became our place and as far as he was concerned, the Governor-General’s residence was the people’s residence. So he hosted us there on many occasions.

And after Ivan, when the Governor-General’s residence became his private residence at St. David, almost every activity the Bar Association needed to host. Sir

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Daniel's place was the location, and so his family actually became an extension beyond Dawne and Daniella became an extension of the Grenada Bar Association. And for me, as a young lawyer who didn't have many partying days, part of my enjoyment in attending these occasions was to sometimes sit on the sidelines and watch Sir Daniel and Lady Williams take it away. They were quite a sight to behold as dancing partners.

And so we remember fondly this great statesman, this son of the soil, this man who left his mark in every sphere that he served, whether it's church, community, public service or the legal profession, we say thank you to the Williams family for lending Sir Daniel to us and may his soul rest in eternal peace with his God that he so diligently served. Thank you, Madam President. **(Applause)**

Madam President: I thank you. Thank you very much, Senator. Senator the Honourable Gloria Thomas. I think I saw Senator Thomas' light first. I could rotate. Are you all right there? Senator Hosford waiting a minute? After... Thank you. Thank you, sir. Proceed, Senator Thomas.

Sen. the Hon. Gloria Thomas: Thank you, Madam President, Mr. Speaker. Today we gather here to reflect on the life and times of Sir Daniel Williams, former Governor-General of Grenada. Let me take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt condolences to Lady Gloria, Dawne and the rest of the family. We know it is a difficult moment, not only for the family but his close associates and we trust that God will give the comfort that is necessary at this time.

Sir Daniel served as Governor-General from 1996 to 2008 but contributed to this country's development as a Member of Parliament and a lawyer. His contributions are well documented and serve as a source of inspiration for all of us as well as generations to come.

Despite being of quiet disposition, he was able to make positive impressions on those with whom he interacted and work with. Sir Danny has a long and distinguished career of service to Grenada. He was a philanthropist and that is the way I best know

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him. I got to know him in this way through the Lion's Club, working to improve the lives of the less fortunate here in Grenada.

He made his contribution and allowed the use of his residence for the annual “*Lions Poor-man’s Dinner*”, and the poor man’s dinner was \$100 from the late '90s to the early 2000s. So, \$100, 30 years ago, you could well imagine that was a real sizable fundraising activity. And so as we continue to reflect on his service and his life, I think it is an inspiration for all of us. We don't have to make a lot of noise to get things done, and we can be humble and still achieve a lot.

Today also, we pause to pay respect to Honourable Clarence Rapier and Honourable Allen McGuire who served this country and sat in these hollowed walls making decisions in the interest of our country. May their legacy be remembered and serve as an inspiration to us all as we continue to serve. May they all find perfect rest as their souls continue to rest in peace. Amen. **(Applause)**

Madam President: Thank you, Senator Gloria Thomas, and I offer the floor to Senator the Honourable Dwight Hosford. You have the floor, sir.

Sen. the Hon. Dwight Hosford: Thank you. Madam President, Mr. Speaker, I'm mindful of certain respectful and mournful activities because today, I see many of my colleagues going in that direction; I will be very brief. But I am moved to speak and to join in the chorus of commendation for the life of a faithful and distinguished son of the soil.

I believe, Madam President, Mr. Speaker, it was the Greeks who long recognised, as true, that what echoes in time is what men do in this life that changed the course of history. And though today we reflect on Sir Danny’s life and contribution to this nation, what I'm about to say is something of my own observation and reflection, in that what we do today is hardly enough.

Sir Danny belonged to a generation of special Grenadians that changed the course of history. Earlier on, distinguished speakers, I believe it was the Leader of the

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Opposition, the Prime Minister and others, who mentioned his quiet and humble contribution and participation in the restoration of democratic rule to a traumatised and broken nation. But that contribution is more profound than that, in that we are here today, and a different generation of leaders are here today in a Parliament and in these proceedings precisely because of the contribution of men like Sir Danny and others.

I say so, Madam President, Mr. Speaker, because this generation of special Grenadians is not going to be with us for very long, yet. It is the natural order of things that Papa God will call them home, and as we have been seeing, they are going home, and not enough is written about their contribution.

We celebrated 50 years of Independence, and much of our preoccupation and reflection is about two tumultuous events and periods of our nation's life: Independence, Revolution and the collapse thereof. Not much, discernibly, not much is said, spoken and written about those who rose to the occasion and the time to pick the country up and put it back together, some of whom are in this Parliament today not necessarily as Members but in the gallery as witnesses.

And so, as we reflect on Sir Danny and his life, I say these things so that our memories and our reflections must come full circle to a broader view of his contributions and those of his ilk. And I, too, join with my colleagues and a grateful and mournful nation to thank him and his family for his service, his contribution to our nation and the very benefits of our parliamentary and democratic experience that we now enjoy.

And so those were the few words I wish to add, Madam President, Mr. Speaker, on this solemn occasion because I thought it is important that things are put in perspective in my humble view regarding such great men as Sir Danny. And perhaps, now too, is the occasion for us to honour those of that generation who are still with us for their contributions in a meaningful way. So thank you, Madam President, Mr. Speaker, for affording me this opportunity to say these things. **(Applause)**

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Madam President: Thank you. Thank you, Senator Hosford, for your Maiden Address at least to the Joint Houses and we will have your Maiden Senate Statement. I offer the floor to Senator Honourable Seville Francis, you have the floor, madam.

Sen. the Hon. Seville Francis: Good morning and thank you, Madam President. Afternoon. Sorry, Mr Speaker, Members of this Honourable House, family, friends and well-wishers of the former Governor-General, Sir Danny Williams. Allow me to associate myself with the sentiments of those expressed before as we gather here today to eulogise and celebrate the life of Sir Danny Williams. So to the family, I offer my condolences and also to thank you on his behalf for the contributions that he has made to this great nation.

I know I am probably the youngest here, and you're wondering, what do you know about Sir Danny Williams? But my fondest memories, and I think I've shared that before in this Honourable House, my mother carried me to almost every state function, literally dragged me when I probably did not want to go. But as I looked back and remembered attending those events, one of the things that stood out to me was the grace that Sir Danny Williams exuded as he carried out his functions at state events. The calm, graceful demeanour that he displayed is something that I hope to embody and emulate as I carry out my functions in this role serving this great nation.

One of the resonated words, for me in this House this morning, was "legacy". And we speak of his legacy, but one of the things is his foundation. The one that speaks to helping the less fortunate, needy people and children who he wished had a better life at attaining education. And so that is something that is forever going to remain with me simply because I, as a young lady in this society, recently launched a foundation that seeks to help the less fortunate, especially when it comes to attaining their education. And so, for me, I may not be able to match the character of the man who we celebrate today, but I hope to walk in his shoes or follow in his footsteps to create that impact that is so needed here in this great nation.

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His giving spirit or character was one of the things mentioned here this morning. I can also attest to that, being part of an organisation, friends of the mentally ill, and I always hear the names Lady Williams and Sir Danny Williams as one of the main sponsors for the events that we hold. And also, on behalf of the friends of the mentally ill, allow me to place on record my condolences and thank you so much for the contributions that you've made for persons affected by mental challenges in this great nation.

And just a couple of days ago, I laid my grandmother to rest. And I recall on my journey back to Grenada the scripture 1 Corinthians 15:55-57 playing on my mind as the tears bathed me her home to the airport back to Grenada. And this morning, Lady Williams and the rest of the family, I want to share that with you because I, too, look forward to saying, "***O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin: And the strength of sin is the law. But, thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ***" May his soul rest in eternal peace. Thank you. **(Applause)**

Madam President: Thank you, Senator, and thank you kindly. I offer the floor to Senator Salim Rahaman. Senator Rahaman.

Sen. the Hon. Salim Rahaman: Thank you, Madam President. I would like to begin by mentioning that I have learnt a lot about Sir Danny Williams in this discourse today in this sharing of information on the life of a great Grenadian. And to say that as I reflect we don't honour our elders in the way that we ought to. A lot of time is spent on the airwaves, on trivial things, some of them politics, some of the important, a lot of them not. And we don't see enough storytellers telling the stories that we have heard today.

I've been fortunate to meet Sir Danny Williams as a customer of mine and as a young man growing up observing him in his various roles and the thing that stood out to me about him was his character. You can learn a lot about a man by the way he

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speaks and by the way he carries himself. So a lot has been said about him and the way he lived his life, and I'm sure that that has had an effect and will have a continued effect on his family, his grandchildren and those who knew him.

But looking forward in Islamic tradition, we are taught that when a man dies, three things continue, his good deeds come to an end when he dies, but three things continue to bring good deeds on his account. One is called “*Sadaqah Jariyah*”, which is charity, unending charity. So if someone were to plant a tree and somebody were to eat from the fruits of that tree, the person who planted the tree would continually get the reward. So in this way, the tree that Sir Daniel planted is his contribution to our democracy for many, many years through his politics and through his leadership as Governor-General. And so it strengthened our democracy, and we heard about it after times of difficulty in our nation, and that tree is still bearing fruit, and so that is partly to his account.

Second is “knowledge” that he would have imparted that the people acted upon after his death, and clearly, we have heard today from our Attorney General and others knowledge that he had imparted to other youngsters, and they have continued to benefit from it today. And third, are children who he leaves behind, family who he leaves behind who will pray for him and ask God almighty to continually bless him for what he has provided for them.

And so, as I listened, that teaching came to mind, and I wanted to share it because it is not always about the past, we can make our future by how we live today and it is a lesson for me, and it is a lesson for all of us as leaders how we conduct ourselves in private and in public so that we too can have a lasting legacy. I offer sincere condolences to you, Lady Williams and your family and God's continuous blessings. May his soul rest in eternal peace. Amen. **(Applause)**

Madam President: I thank you, Senator Rahaman, and I offer the floor to you, Senator Roderick St. Clair. You have the floor, Senator.

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Sen. the Hon. Roderick St. Clair: Thank you, Madam President, and of course, I recognise the Speaker and, of course, all the Members of both Houses, of course, the audience inside and outside, but most of all, Madam President, for the purpose which we are here today pertaining to the Motion recognising Sir Danny Williams as a noble statesman who has contributed and recognising his efforts I would say on earth. I want to associate myself also, with the Motion presented to the Houses. Of course, as the voice of the Farmers and the Fisher Folks in the Senate, I want to speak here in their voices, of course, with some intonations of my perspectives.

Firstly, to the family. Lady Williams, the children, grandchildren, of course, the extended family, not only biologically but based on what I have heard, all those he touched, the different groups, and so on that benefited and will continue to benefit from his generosity. I shook his hands on many occasions in many functions that I attended, and the issue of humbleness, calmness, and serenity, if that's an appropriate word, is very important, and, of course, maybe we wonder why he was so calm.

You know, when you hear the history and context of how we got into this extra public life of politics and governance, it was always in times of some turmoil, and the best recipe for dealing with those cases is to keep calm, you know, and it's something I would say personally, will take us through in the time of storm and rough times.

Madam President, Mr. Speaker, and Members, of course, it's my understanding and knowledge that Sir Williams, of course, is a man deeply rooted in the soil, the earth and his agricultural estates. Of course, I know, I had discussions with his daughter some months ago, and she wants to get the farm back up and running. I want to recognise and urge her and the rest of the family that that part of the legacy is in your hands, and we look forward to great outcomes from those.

But as I was reflecting, Madam President, to be here this morning, last night, I pondered what to say, how I would speak, and what I should say, and three things came to my thoughts. Of course, we are hearing a lot of "three things" today, "three", "three", but I guess as Parliamentarians or politicians, we know today is not a day to be speaking lengthy, so we are keeping it simple.

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And the message and the purpose for which we're here came to my mind. We came here to a Special Sitting to recognise and to pay homage to a great statesman. But the question arises, why? Why are we doing this? What is the purpose? What do we hope to achieve at the end of the day? And I battled on my way here this morning, trying to get some clarity. While I came up with some broad context when I listened to many of the presentations, they came down to three things, and there's one additional quote I will finish this presentation with.

To me, to be recognised in such context as we are doing today, you have to be deeply rooted in God, it starts there, the Maker. Without God, without connection, without the Maker who gets you here, for whom gives you the energy, the strength, the inspiration, you can get no way further, and so when I listened, that came out very clearly. Not only in Sir Danny's attendance to service but as he wrote, "*God Speaks*". I was shocked. So I was actually on point with that.

The other thing that came out, Madam President, as the second point, and the second point in that order, is the issue of serving your country. Outside of God, there is no greater thing that can happen to anyone, but serving your country, whether it is military, sports, or politics. To serve your country means that you are representing your country to the world, like the Kirani James and all the other great ones. Whether you are successful or not, that's a different discussion. The first issue is, to serve.

And to serve... I think I can borrow it, Member Andy. "You have to have your belly to serve." You have to... You have to... It's not easy to stand up in front of people and the whole world. The whole country is behind you... You have to have confidence. My good friend, Senator Rahaman, mentioned that you have to have knowledge. As Member Lennox Andrews said on the "Other Side", "merit", you have to have the capacity. So, it is not just about whether I want to represent my country or I want to do this, but you have to be prepared.

And so we heard Member Peter David speaking about him going to school in the UK to prepare himself because if he was not prepared, he would not have been able to reach those heights. And so, being a statesman as we sit here to honour, we have to

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be prepared in all ways to excel, such that in whatever we do, we will be able to leave footprints in the sand or indelible marks or however we want to refer to them.

And I say this, Madam President, these two points, and I'll get to the third one shortly. It is not only for us whilst we represent here, but there are many others, hundreds of thousands, locally and overseas in other countries too, who would want to aspire and be great leaders, philosophers, persons who leave their legacies behind, persons who would want to create their own mark and leave marks behind. And so there are models, there are ways to do this, and maybe the family will have to write this book, "How To Be Great", and the examples. Because being great doesn't happen by chance, it involves many things, some of which we hear today.

But, what we do know, is that God is always in the middle of this. It starts there. You have to have capacity and competency, you have to have the urge and the will to want to do, but you also have to be a wise man and we heard all the wising. He spoke to Doctor Mitchell, he said, "Don't go there. Leave it alone". **(Laughter)** The wise-ness is very important.

But in all of this, Madam President, you can have God, you can have all the capacity, but if you have a dysfunctional family, a non-supportive family and friend, not only direct, immediate family, friends and your network, if it doesn't exist, one and two are in trouble. And so, we have to understand; we have to be supportive wherever we can to Lady Williams and the family for giving up, which was rightly said, Sir Danny, to the nation.

And maybe in his passing, you may say, well, you are going through a sad moment, but at the same time, there must have been struggling a lot, maybe having times with him, you have to attend to these different issues and so on. They had to be tolerant at the same time. They had to be supportive, and he had to explain certain things to them that they had to... And so, it is not an easy road. Maybe you may say, well, we don't have to worry about that anymore, but you do have to worry about that because, as a family, you'll be called upon, trust me, to sort of explain how you did it,

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how did he do it or some documentary to create that model of a statesman or woman. This is what I'm seeing ahead of us.

The life of a politician's family is not a simple thing especially in competitive politics. Things are being said; you may say well, no, they have it wrong; how can they be saying that? Because you know better, but you wouldn't pick up the radio or go on the radio and curse and debate; you have to be calm. And I say this to say, not only to your family but all of us family and friends. We have to be supportive because this is what we call the enabling environment, the enabling environment.

So you can have a good tomato plant growing nicely with all the tomatoes, but if the enabling environment, the weeds, the irrigation and the greenhouse are not around, which is the family, that tomato may not get to the plate. And so, whilst God is important and whilst all those other things relating to competencies are important, the family is. But what keeps the family together is also very important. It comes back to our belief in faith, belief in that, this person can do it and that push. The cheers that we give when you see our athletes running and jumping or getting the ball and you say, yes, go for it... The cheerleaders.

And so I ask you, the family, at the same time, to find new people to cheer for. There are many other persons who are looking for support, we are not asking you to adopt everybody. But, there are others in your way you can help, share and keep the legacy.

Whilst I don't want to say may his soul rest in peace, I would say that his life will continue. His reading, his writing and all of those things... The Bible was written many years ago, and it is still alive. How many of us have written a book or written something that someone can read 40 years from now or 70 years from now? Wise people do these things because they know someday they will be helpful.

And so, I want to just read finally. I don't like reading and referencing things. I like to argue my own references, but I thought this might be helpful in the context of all that was discussed by one, William James. I don't know who this person is, but it's on the internet. You know it's Google everything. It says, "**The greatest use of life...**", the

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use of life, just understand, the use of life, what we do, "... **Is to spend it...**", it's a currency, "... **To spend it on something that will outlast it.**" And with these last words, I want to extend you the greatest sympathy and the greatest support and be strong, very strong. I lost my wife about a month ago, so I understand your loss right now. Okay? Thank you. **(Applause)**

Madam President: I thank you, Senator St. Clair, and I offer the floor, for her Maiden Statement, Senator the Honourable Myanna Charles. Doctor Charles.

Sen. the Hon. Dr. Myanna Charles: Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, Mr. Speaker, I stand to support the Motion to celebrate the life of His Excellency, Sir Daniel Williams. I extend my deepest condolences to Lady Williams, the children, grandchildren, relatives and friends of Sir Daniel Williams.

Though I may not know Sir Daniel Williams personally, from the sentiment shared here today, it is evident that his unwavering service and significant contribution to our nation have left an indelible mark on our hearts and in our history. We are profoundly grateful for his selfless service and a legacy which will continue to inspire us all, myself included.

So again, thank you, and may his soul rest in eternal peace. Thank you, Madam President. **(Applause)**

Madam President: Well, we thank you, Senator Charles, for your words at this late hour and for your considerable brevity. Thank you. **(Laughter)** Thank you, Senator. I offer the floor to Senator Quinc Britton. Senator Britton, you have the floor, sir.

Sen. the Hon. Quinc Britton: Afternoon, Madam President, Mr. Speaker. I, too, join to stand here to associate myself with the sentiments expressed in the Motion presented or read by the Honourable Prime Minister. Madam President, I beg your

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indulgence to express our profound and sincerest condolences to the family on behalf of the Government and people of Grenada, particularly the people of St. Mark, we say our deepest condolences to you.

Though I, too, didn't have any personal encounter with Sir Danny, but with many sentiments that have been expressed here today, without a shadow of a doubt, Sir Danny has left an indelible mark in the many lives of our citizens of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique through his exemplary services at various levels. To you, I say thank you for lending him to serve us as an esteemed gentleman. Though he is gone, he will never be forgotten and may the many wonderful memories he shared bring comfort to every soul that grieves. May his soul rest in perfect peace. **(Applause)**

Madam President: I thank the Honourable Senator Quinc Britton, and I believe this summarises or concludes the statements. May I take leave to offer very brief remarks?

Gloria, Lady Williams, please permit me to add my voice in saluting your dearly departed husband, beloved Sir Daniel Williams, a statesman who worked in the public square. Among his many books, the one entitled, "*The Layman's Lawbook*" contributes immensely to the wellspring of the legal knowledge of our civil society and our nation, indeed Grenada as a whole. His life is a reflection of the many formidable undertakings of service and his life does reflect his heartfelt commitment to Grenada.

Gloria, Lady Williams, on behalf of my mother, who was a strong friend of the family and on my behalf and clearly on behalf of this Senate, I too express sincere condolences to you, your family and your relatives on the sad passing of Grenada's former Attorney, Grenada's former Minister of Government and Grenada's former Governor-General of the years 1996 to 2008.

As this distinguished House has acknowledged throughout the morning here in your gracious presence, Madam, your departed spouse was a distinguished son of the soil, and his life was one of the formidable undertakings anchored in the community. If I were to summarise it, I would say that his work fits within the complex intersection of

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law, family and community life and national politics, all of which contributed to Grenada's national development. Sir Daniel Williams provided wise leadership and courageous action, calm, as it was already said, wise, as it was already said, and deliberate, and as it was already been said, very relevant in every era, in every time that he served.

And thus, in a long and fruitful life, this intersection undertook many forms: children's foundation, commitment to the church, law firm, successful daughters and family, a published author and entrepreneur, a farmer, a partner and, of course, a parent. We as a people are indeed indebted to this imminently humane and qualified gentleman.

The Honourable Prime Minister of Grenada, Dickon Mitchell, said that Sir Daniel Williams planted a tree under which many others could find shade. And when I heard that summary, I thought and the tributes that followed, I thought this is indeed what the man was all about. In that complex of being a human being, being a parent, being a public official, he was planting, he was opening up spaces for others. And if you didn't want to, you did not have to interact. But it has struck me how interesting it is, how meaningful it has been that persons from different generations, different political persuasions, and different feelings of interaction have all been able to find shade under the tree of Sir Daniel Williams.

And thus, he lived. He lived because he served, he served god, family and country. And he served as a way indeed, as his way to live. I thank you, and I ask for God's continued blessing on the family and mercy on his soul.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, I, too, must join my voice with the sentiments expressed before. Having listened to everything that was said, it's clear in my mind that Sir Danny did a lot more than we realised as individuals. When you add the sum total of the contributions today, you get a better sense of who the gentleman really was.

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I don't know what his childhood dream was, but to serve as GG, as Governor-General, it's the highest office that anyone can serve. So as simple and as humble as he was, he managed to attain the highest office of the state. That is really commendable. And if there is a reason to be hopeful and cheerful, is that Sir Danny rose, I'm not sure which part of St. David, but rose from wherever he was born to sit in the highest office.

I didn't know much of the gentleman. Many years ago, he called me when I worked at the Ministry of Education and said to me that he wanted to open; he called it a resource centre, somewhere not far from Honourable Prime Minister, St. David's Pharmacy, somewhere along this line there. He showed me an area where he wanted to open a resource centre. I went with him, I looked at the place because he talked about computers and books and the like, so I accompanied the gentleman, and I asked myself then, I wonder why, is he into this? **(Laughter)** You know? Is there more that you can do for yourself? But he seemed to be focused on something. I almost could have heard him thinking. Then I stepped back and said to myself, Sir Danny feels that he must do more for the people he knows. And so that resource centre, without even asking him, came to me as a way of providing an opportunity for the lesser among him to be able to access education and resources to change their own situation.

So the sum total of everything that was said today, comes forcefully to mind, that the way Sir Danny lived his life, there must be a place up there for him. Thank you. **(Applause)** After... **(Laughter)**

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Prime Minister.

Hon. Dickon Mitchell: Madam President, Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank all of the Members who have expressed their sentiments in supporting the Motion and who have personally expressed their condolences, sympathy and tributes to Sir Daniel and Sir Daniel's family. It's not often that we get the honour of paying tribute to someone who

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has held the highest office in the land, simply because of the rare distinction that such offices bring. It is also not commonplace for persons to hold such offices.

If I'm not mistaken, Sir Daniel's passing signifies that we do not, in fact, have any former Governors-General who are now alive. And so, as my learned friend Mr. Horsford indicated, such men and the era that Sir Daniel represented, perhaps has come to an end. And so, it is now up to us to continue in the high standards of the service to the public, that he has set. And so, being given the opportunity to pay attribute to him in this Motion, simply represents an opportunity for all of us to be reminded, as difficult as it is, and as much belly as you need, it is service over self that leads to gratification and that personifies the purpose for the existence of human beings.

So I commend all of the Members at this Joint Sitting for joining in paying tribute to Sir Daniel. And I thank you, Madam President, and, Mr. Speaker, the Clerk and the Members, the support staff at Parliament for giving us the opportunity to do so. And lastly, for Sir Daniel's family, friends, well-wishers and supporters for taking time off from your busy schedule and spending the better part of almost three hours with us today. Thank you very much. **(Applause)**

Mr. Speaker: Thank you very much, Honourable Prime Minister, for your closing remarks.

Mr. Speaker proposed the question to the House of Representatives.

Madam President proposed the question to the Senate.

Question put and agreed to.

Motion approved.

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Madam President: On we move for other matters. I join with others in indicating that I will submit to the record a statement concerning the former Senator Allen McGuire, who has also passed. His statement will be in the record.

Mr. Speaker: Leader of Government's Business.

Hon. Phillip Telesford: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that these Honourable Houses be adjourned *sine die*.

Mr. Speaker: MP for St. Mark.

Hon. Dr. Clarice Modeste-Curwen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Madam President, Mr. Speaker, I beg to support the Motion as presented by the Leader of Government Business.

Madam President: For the Senate. Senator Andrew. David Andrew.

Sen. the Hon. David Andrew: Madam President, I beg to associate the Senate with the sentiments of the Motion as moved by the Leader of Government's Business. Thank you.

Madam President: Thank you, Senator. For the Opposition in the Senate, Senator Dwight Horsford.

Sen. the Hon. Dwight Horsford: Madam President, I second the Motion as accepted by the Leader of Government's Business.

Mr. Speaker proposed the question to the House of Representatives.

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Madam President: Again, we thank the distinguished family members of Sir Danny for being with us this morning.

Madam President proposed the question to the Senate.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members of the House of Representatives this ...

Madam President: No. **(Inaudible comment)**

Mr. Speaker: Okay. Honourable Members from the House of Representatives, this Honourable House now stands adjourned ***sine die***.

Madam President: Honourable Senators. These Houses stand adjourned ***sine die***. **(Laughter)**

Honourable Dickon Mitchell: Mr. Speaker, Madam President, I beg your indulgence.

Mr. Speaker: Go ahead. Go ahead, Honourable Prime Minister.

Hon. Dickon Mitchell: Thank you, and might I be so presumptuous as to ask that, Madam President, Mr. Speaker, whether we would, whether I would be permitted to invite the family of the late Sir Williams to dine with us for lunch.

Mr. Speaker: So be it, Honourable Prime Minister.

Hon. Dickon Mitchell: Thank you.

Madam President: We do not need a Motion for that. **(Laughter)**

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(Sound of gavel)

Mr. Speaker: This Honourable House now stands adjourned.

The Houses adjourned sine die at 12:55 p.m.

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