

## NEIL MACNEIL

Neil MacNeil was born in the Bronx, New York, on January 3, 1923, and was a resident of Bethesda, Maryland, when he died on June 7, 2008. A graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy and Harvard College, MacNeil spent two years at Columbia University's School of Graduate Faculties, concentrating on historiography and American history. He began his career in journalism as a local reporter on the *New York Times*. In 1949 he went to Washington as a congressional correspondent for the United Press.

He joined *TIME Magazine* as Chief Congressional Correspondent in 1958, where he spent nearly thirty years, until his retirement in 1987, reporting on Congress. For *TIME* MacNeil reported many cover stories; the subjects were members of Congress including Sam Rayburn, Mike Mansfield, Lyndon Johnson, the Kennedy brothers—John F., Robert F., and Edward M. —Everett Dirksen, Gerald Ford, Hubert Humphrey, William Fulbright, Robert Byrd, and Howard Baker. For many years he served on the executive committee of the Congressional Periodical Press Galleries. In 1980 he won the Dirksen Award for distinguished reporting on Congress.

He appeared on such programs as NBC's 'Meet the Press' and ABC's 'Face the Nation.' For three years starting in 1964, MacNeil made a weekly report, 'MacNeil on Congress,' for the Eastern Television Network, a program enlarged in 1967 into 'Washington Week In Review' on National Public Television. A weekly regular on that program until 1978, he was also heard on National Public Radio, Voice of America, the British Broadcasting Corporation, Labor News Conference, and the Canadian Broadcasting System.

He wrote three books: *Forge of Democracy: The House of Representatives* (1963), *Dirksen: Portrait of a Public Man* (1970), and *The President's Medal 1789-1977* (1977), a study of presidential inaugural medals. At the time of his death, MacNeil was completing a fourth book, tentatively titled *Call The Roll: A Candid History of the United States Senate*.

In 1976 MacNeil served as chairman of the United States Assay Commission, a citizens' group annually appointed by the president to test the validity of the government's coinage, a commission originally created by George Washington during his administration and abolished in 1977 by President Carter as an economy measure.

MacNeil was president of the Clan MacNeil Association of America in 1976 and 1977. Elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society (1974), and the Massachusetts Historical Society (1977), MacNeil began serving as a trustee of the Augustus Saint-Gaudens Historic Site, Cornish, New Hampshire, in 1975. He was a member of the National Press Club.

### ROBERT M. WARNER

Robert M. Warner, a member of this Society since 1981, died in Ann Arbor, Michigan, on April 24, 2006, after a brief illness. His career was devoted to the institutions that he served so well, as well as the archival profession to which he made extensive contributions.

Born in Colorado, he was educated at the University of Denver and Muskingum College, from which he received a B.A. in 1949. After military service, he undertook graduate work in history at the University of Michigan, from which he received an M.A. in 1953 and the Ph.D. in history in 1958. He worked initially at the Michigan Historical Collections at the University of Michigan, first as a field worker identifying and bringing in research collections before being named director in 1966. Warner soon recognized the importance of securing a separate building, to give the institution more of a presence and identity, and he worked persistently to that end. In 1973, through the generosity of Mrs. Alvin Bentley and other Michigan donors, Warner saw the realization of the opening of the Bentley Historical Library, which has evolved to play a major role among the nation's historical research libraries.

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