

In memoriam

Ralph Munro



State Reception

June 28, 2025



Welcome

Secretary of State Steve Hobbs

Posting of the Colors

Washington State Patrol Color Guard

Opening Tribute

Battle Hymn of the Republic, Tim Krivanek

Opening Prayer

Rev Jake Medcalf, Sammamish Presbyterian Church

Tributes

Charlene Krise, Squaxin Tribe

Ezra Teshome, Polio Eradication in Ethiopia

Thanh Tan, Vietnamese Refugees

Karen Munro Ellick, Orca Advocate

Song - Over the Next Hill I'll be Home

Elizabeth Hummel

Award Presentation

Makoto Iyori, Consul General of Japan in Seattle

Eulogy

Former Secretary of State Kim Wyman

Meditation: Going Home

Laurie Kildow

Honoring the Munro Family
and People with Disabilities

Christi Stoll

Closing Benediction

Rev. Jake Medcalf

Song - America (My Country, 'Tis of Thee)

Sing-a-Long

In memory of Ralph Munro



Ralph Munro personified public service. As a young college graduate, his volunteer work with disabled children caught the attention of Governor Dan Evans, who always said, “Ralph taught me how to care.” Ralph’s compassion and commitment improved countless lives here and around the world.

In 1975, after the fall of Saigon, he played a key role in the resettlement of thousands of Southeast Asian refugees. Working with Rotary International, he helped eradicate polio in struggling countries. And as our five-term Secretary of State, he instituted reforms to make voting simultaneously more accessible and secure.

Ralph also was a roving ambassador for diplomacy and trade, opening markets and creating friendships between state political and business leaders and their counterparts in other countries. Passionate in defense of democracy, he established the Ralph Munro Institute at his alma mater, Western Washington University, to promote civic literacy in secondary education and the public at large.

Ralph also championed Washington’s environment, establishing a sanctuary for bald eagles, working to stop the capture of orcas from Washington’s waters, and making the outdoors accessible to the disabled. The grandson of Scottish immigrants often wore his clan’s tartan kilt to celebrate the diversity of America. A native Washingtonian, Ralph Munro loved his state, his country and humanity.