

Tributes

He was a great Quebecois and a great Canadian. He wanted Canada to remain a solid united country. That is what he stood for as a great Quebecer and as a great Canadian.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Sauvé was a member of Parliament from the province of Quebec. He was a minister in Mr. Pearson's cabinet. He sat here with the right hon. member for Vancouver Quadra and many other members of this House. He was a very well known businessman in Quebec and everywhere. He had a great deal of wisdom and, as I said in English, he was a great Quebecer and a great Canadian.

On behalf of my party and myself, I want to offer condolences to his wife Jeanne and his son Jean-François.

Hon. Lucien Bouchard (Lac-Saint-Jean): Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege to know Maurice Sauvé personally. He was a man who was both a Quebecois and a Canadian and distinguished himself with unwavering political commitment at a crucial time in the history of Quebec and Canada.

Maurice Sauvé was one of those who made it possible—and that is one of his claims to fame, I think—for Jean Lesage and his “équipe de tonnerre” to take power in Quebec in 1960. He is even credited with coining the slogan “équipe de tonnerre”, the wonder team that greatly contributed to electing the forces of reform in Quebec. That government, which Maurice Sauvé strongly supported, led to the political, economic and social awakening of Quebec in the 1960s. After two eventful careers, one in politics and the other in business, Mr. Sauvé gave his wife Jeanne unfailing and outstanding support as she so admirably filled the high office of Governor General of Canada.

On behalf of the Bloc Quebecois and in my own name, I extend the deepest and most heartfelt sympathies to Mrs. Sauvé, his son Jean-François and Jean-François' wife.

THE LATE PIERRE DENIGER

Hon. Jean Corbeil (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, misfortunes rarely come alone. Two weeks ago, in the Montreal area, misfortune struck a second time after it took the Hon. Maurice Sauvé, to whom we have just paid tribute. Death also claimed Pierre Deniger, who served as the member for Laprairie from 1979 to 1984.

After a dazzling career as a transportation lawyer, Pierre Deniger served his fellow citizens honestly, enthusiastically and competently in this House for five years and then pursued his business career with great success.

My colleagues in the House of Commons and the Progressive Conservative Party join me in offering his wife Lynne and his two very young children, Christiane and Patrick, who are nine years old, our sincere condolences at this time of extreme sorrow.

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis): Mr. Speaker, I have lost a friend, a confidant and an excellent political advisor. That is what I said to Pierre O'Neill of *Le Devoir* on the death of Pierre Deniger, who was the member of Parliament for Laprairie from 1979 to 1984.

In politics, I had the opportunity to chair the first and second nominating conventions that chose him as a Liberal candidate. In return, Pierre honoured me by presiding the celebration of my 25th anniversary in politics three years ago. At 44 years of age, Pierre had already made his mark.

As his great friend, Jacques Olivier, the former member for Longueuil, said in *Le Devoir*, Pierre Deniger did not have cold feet and in Parliament, at meetings of the Liberal Party and in caucus, he never hesitated to say aloud what many colleagues thought to themselves.

He was active in the private sector since 1984. He was vice-president of Labatt Brewery, president and executive director of the Quebec Brewers' Association and, since 1991, vice-president of Domtar.

As *Le Devoir* reports, Pierre was a lawyer for the Transport Commission from 1972 until he became a political assistant to Transport Minister Otto Lang. He rightly fought for Quebec to obtain its share of navy frigate contracts and subcontracts. Later, he was very interested, with his usual legendary determination, in encouraging the development of the aerospace industry in the Montreal area.