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**Forest Preserve mourns passing of former president Jack Cook**

GENEVA, IL — The Forest Preserve District of Kane County mourns the passing of its former President, Jack Cook, who died Tuesday, Feb. 1.

Mr. Cook was first appointed to the Kane County Board and Forest Preserve Commission in 1989. He served District 20 in Elgin. He was elected in 1990, and served as a commissioner until 2004. He was elected president of the Forest Preserve District in December 1994, it was a title he held through December 2002.

He will be long remembered for his devotion to the citizens of Kane County and for his awareness of citizens' desire to protect open space. In fact, Mr. Cook led the charge for the District's first referendum in 1999. He modernized the District's committee structure, and created the Land Acquisition and Utilization Committees.

"Jack was responsible for initiating the Forest Preserve's land acquisition and improvement program," said District President John J. Hoscheit. "He dedicated his heart and soul to the Forest Preserve District of Kane County," Hoscheit said.

A memorial service is planned for Mr. Cook on Friday, Feb. 11, at 4 p.m. at the Elgin Evangelical Free Church, 1900 Big Timber Rd., Elgin.

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