

## In Memoriam

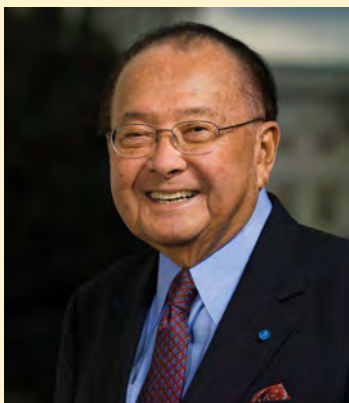
### Lui Bell (1956–2012)



The people and the turtles of Polynesia, Melanesia, and Micronesia have lost a truly iconic and inspirational leader. Lui Bell of the Secretariat of Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) passed away in late 2012. He will long be remembered, admired, and loved by

family, friends, and colleagues. The “Turtle Man of the Pacific Islands,” Lui was a humble and thoughtful person who walked within and intuitively understood the two worlds of his life, not only in Samoa but also in the many islands of the region he served and frequently visited. The old days and ways are passing in the Pacific, too fast for many. Lui understood that change very well and with it the need to retain and teach patience, respect, humility, a gentle voice, and the value of taking things slowly—in spite of the constant pressures from the outside world demanding more and fewer resources to address conservation needs. Lui opened every SPREP turtle meeting and training session with a prayer, asking God to bless the participants and guide their work and decisions in striving to conserve sea turtles for the benefit of the marine and island ecosystems and for the cultural needs of the people. May God bless Lui, and watch over and give comfort to his family. Talofa, Vinaka, Aloha, and Fond Farewell.

### Daniel K. Inouye (1924–2012)



On December 17, 2012, the *Honolulu Star-Advertiser* carried the headline “Hawaii mourns ‘An American Hero,’” announcing the passing of U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye at age 88. He had served as Hawaii’s senator in Washington, DC, for 50 years.

Senator Inouye’s record on human rights and many other just causes linked to equality, ethnicity, culture, national dignity, strength, and freedom will forever be recorded in history books. Perhaps less known was his vigorous support for sea turtle research and conservation through congressional initiatives starting in the mid-1980s. If not for Senator Inouye, our knowledge of Hawaii’s sea turtles would be a mere shadow of what it is today. When asked how he would like to be remembered, he said, “I represented the people of Hawaii and this nation honestly and to the best of my ability. I think I did okay.” His staff said his last word was “Aloha.”

## Thank You

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