



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, April 26, 2007

## **STATEMENT FROM MPAA CHAIRMAN & CEO DAN GLICKMAN ON THE PASSING OF JACK VALENTI**

Washington, D.C. – The Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) joined the nation in mourning the passing of Jack Valenti – war hero, presidential advisor, author and for 38 years, president of the MPAA – who died today in Washington, D.C. Mr. Valenti’s successor at the MPAA, Chairman and CEO Dan Glickman, offered this statement:

“Jack Valenti was a giant who loomed large over two of the world’s most glittering stages— Washington and Hollywood. He was a patriot who loved and served his country, and he was a passionate champion of American cinema and artistic freedom. He was truly a model for us all.

“The entire MPAA community is deeply saddened by the news that we have lost Jack. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mary Margaret, with their three children, Alexandra, John and Courtenay and with the rest of the Valenti family.

“Jack was a showman, a gentleman, an orator, and a passionate champion of this country, its movies, and the enduring freedoms that made both so important to this world. He also embodied the theatricality of our industry with his conviction, quick wit and boundless energy. In a very real sense, he was the ultimate leading man.

“After distinguishing himself in private business and, famously, in public service, Jack took the reins of the Motion Picture Association America and led the organization for nearly 40 years. He helped chart a dramatic transformation of the American film industry. He was the visionary who created the voluntary movie ratings system that has stood the test of time, both safeguarding our nation’s filmmakers from censorship and providing parents with an unparalleled resource to use with their children. He ushered the movies into the digital era and condemned intellectual property theft.

“Jack was an American original. No one will ever fill his trademark cowboy boots. I am proud to count myself among the many who have had the privilege and the benefit of his friendship and counsel. Jack’s spirit and his influence will endure in both the art of politics and of cinema. Both are far better for his contributions. Jack’s perspective was forever the same—always leave them wanting more. He’s done just that to all of us.”

###

**For more information, contact:**

MPAA Los Angeles

Seth Oster

(818) 461-1587 (office)

(213) 926-2449 (cell)