



The Speaker Series Committee
presents Eldorado Member
Dennis Washington

Interviewed by Greg Renker
Friday, March 29, 2019

Disciplined Passion

Dennis R. Washington embodies the classic American success story of a person with little means who overcomes many obstacles to achieve the American dream.

Dennis parlayed an early love of machinery into a diversified business group collectively known as the Washington Companies. His privately-owned operations include a large copper mine, one of the largest private railroads in the United States, a railroad in southern British Columbia, one of Canada's largest marine services companies, shipbuilding, environmental remediation, and heavy equipment dealerships in the western United States and Russia. In November 2017, Washington added to his mining interests with the purchase of Dominion Diamond Mines for \$1.2 billion. Dennis has been recognized and honored for his business achievements, including receiving two doctorates, being inducted into the Mining Hall of Fame, and being awarded the Horatio Alger Association's Norman Vincent Peale Award, the Association's highest honor.

Dennis counts one of the best decisions in his life as marrying his beautiful wife Phyllis, who graduated from the University of Montana as the first college graduate in either of their families. Phyllis taught elementary school and helped pay many of the family's bills while their business was getting started. In June 2019, Dennis and Phyllis will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary. Dennis's family is his proudest accomplishment. They have two sons: Kyle and his wife, Janelle, are parents to Devin, 13, Zoe, 12, and son Blake, 10. Kevin and his wife, Chelsea, are parents to Ryder, 6, Avery, 4, and a newborn boy, Atlas.

In 1988, Dennis and Phyllis established the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation with a focus on education, health and human services, community service, and arts and culture. The Foundation has contributed to the success of organizations throughout the United States and Canada that give people the tools they need to succeed in life.



six o'clock - cocktail reception
six-thirty - address followed by dinner

\$85.00 per person
plus sales tax and service charge.

Please make reservations with Member Services by calling (760) 423-1512.
Attire: Jacket required, tie preferred. Guests are welcome. Seating will be assigned.