

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 9, 2010

JOHN HANCOCK OBSERVATORY MOURNS THE LOSS OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST VISIONARY THINKERS

Architectural pioneer, Bruce Graham, passes away but soaring significance remains

CHICAGO, IL – It is with great sadness that John Hancock Observatory laments the passing of famed architect Bruce Graham, who leaves his mark on the Chicago skyline with some of the most celebrated architectural works, including John Hancock Center. In commemoration of his impact on the people of Chicago and people around the world, John Hancock Observatory and Center is lowering the flags that stand prominently on the front plaza to half-mast and its iconic Crown of Lights will remain dark through Friday, March 12.

"Mr. Graham's legacy will continue to influence and shape the way architects around the world design the landmarks of tomorrow for generations," said Daniel Thomas, general manager, John Hancock Observatory. "Our sincerest and most heartfelt condolences go out to his family as they grieve the loss of a man who literally left a strong footprint on the world – we're standing tall in his honor."

While Bruce Graham designed buildings around the globe, his most notable imprint is arguably left on the Chicago skyline with the Sears Tower, Inland Steel Building and what is considered by many to be his greatest achievement – John Hancock Center. The building that bares his unique and now signature aesthetic was quite a design feat and still is to this day. It features the much lauded, now historic X cross bracing, which increases the amount of available rare open space by freeing up the need for inner support beams; minimized the use of steel, resulting in an estimated \$15 million in savings; created a more stable design concept that allows only five to eight inches of sway in a 60 mph wind [tested to withstand winds up to 132 mph]; and offers a unique wedge shape that creates the illusion it is even taller, while balancing the need for extra parking/commercial space below and smaller residential areas above.

About John Hancock Observatory

Located inside the iconic John Hancock Center, John Hancock Observatory is open every day from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. and, at 875 North Michigan Avenue, stands in the heart of the Magnificent Mile next to hundreds of shops, restaurants, attractions and entertainment venues. Highlights include spectacular 360° views spanning 80 miles and four states and the city's only open-air Sky Walk, all accessed by the fastest elevators in the country. John Hancock Center and John Hancock Observatory are owned and operated by affiliates of Golub & Company. More information at www.hancockobservatory.com.

Learn the latest from Chicago's skies by becoming a fan of John Hancock Observatory on Facebook and following its updates on Twitter, [@aThousandFeetUp](https://twitter.com/aThousandFeetUp).

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