

De: THIEBAULT Hugues [mailto:coordination@mountainwilderness.org] **Enviado**
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Press release

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Mountain Wilderness pays tribute to the memory of its Honorary President Edmund Hillary

Sir Edmund Percival Hillary, who was born on July 20, 1919 at Tuakau (New Zealand), died on January 11, 2008 in Auckland (New Zealand). He was, with the Sherpa Tenzing Norgay, the first man to have climbed the highest peak on the planet, Chomolangma (formerly Everest, 8,850 m), on May 29, 1953, during a British expedition led by Sir John Hunt. Honorary Chairman of the International Association Mountain Wilderness since its inception, he defended the ethics of the mountain opposed to any consumerist abuse. He was one of the first to insist on the need to respect the mountain during the conquest of virgin summits. His action for the protection of Himalayan forests, particularly in Nepal has had a significant impact. Today, more than ever, Mountain Wilderness calls climbers from around the world to continue the work of this great mountaineer, and protect the last remaining wilderness areas in our mountains.

Contact :

Vincent NEIRINCK

v.neirinck@mountainwilderness.org

Tel. (00 33) (0)4.76.01.89.08