

## George Bonello Dupuis passed away



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Former Finance Minister, High Commissioner to London and Sliema Wanderers president George Bonello Dupuis passed away at the age of 82.

Born in Sliema, Dr Bonello Dupuis has practiced as public notary since 1953. George entered politics in 1966 with the Christian Workers' Party (CWP).

In 1971 he successfully contested the general elections on the PN ticket. He was returned to Parliament in 1976, 1981, 1987 and 1992. In 1987, he was elected from 2 electoral districts. He was the PN's spokesman for trade industry, tourism and finance.

From 1973 to 1987 he was the PN treasurer. In the early 70s he worked with others towards the building of the PN headquarters in Pieta'.

After the 1987 elections, Dr Bonello Dupuis was nominated Minister of Finance. Between 1992 and 1995 he served as a Minister of Economic Services. As a minister, Dr Bonello Dupuis considered the selling off the Bank of Valletta shares as the pinnacle of his political career.



The 1987 Cabinet led by PM Eddie Fenech Adami - Dr George Bonello Dupuis , 7th from the right **DOI Archive**

Interestingly enough, Dr Bonello Dupuis is considered to be the inventor of the Super Five lottery. When he took up the job of Finance Minister he discovered government stores full of old lotto tickets, to get rid of these, he set up the Super Five.

In April 1995, he was appointed president of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of

the Representatives. In October 1995, he was co-chairman European Union Malta Parliamentary committee.



Dr Bonello Dupuis was appointed High Commissioner to London in 1999.

He started his sporting career at the University of Malta where he captained the University and Malta athletics teams.

In 1951, he represented Malta in the first edition of the Mediterranean games but he is best known as a footballer.

He played football for the university sports club, Sliema Wanderers, Melita and Mosta. Dr Bonello Dupuis served as a president of the Sliema wanderers committee from 1962 to 1987 and from 1995 to 1996 before he formally retired from all sporting activities.

In 1995, he was decorated as a companion of the National Order of merit (KOM). He is survived by his wife Iris Gauci Maistre, 2 sons and a daughter.

Meanwhile the PL expressed its condolences towards his relatives, and its appreciation towards his work during his various ministerial and diplomatic posts.