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Gerald R. Ford ★ 1913–2006

Gerald R. Ford

Late a President of the United States

MEMORIAL TRIBUTES

DELIVERED IN CONGRESS

David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Gerald R. Ford

[110TH CONGRESS, 1ST SESSION . . . HOUSE DOCUMENT NO. 110–61]

MEMORIAL SERVICES IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND TRIBUTES IN EULOGY OF

Gerald R. Ford

LATE A PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Compiled Under the Direction of the Joint Committee on Printing

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 2007

House Concurrent Resolution No. 128

(Mr. BRADY submitted the following concurrent resolution)

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
UNITED STATES,
May 22, 2007.

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. COMMEMORATIVE DOCUMENT AUTHORIZED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A commemorative document in memory of the late President of the United States, GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, shall be printed as a House document, with illustrations and suitable binding, under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing.

(b) CONTENTS.—The document shall consist of the eulogies and encomiums for GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, as expressed in the Senate and the House of Representatives, together with the texts of each of the following:

(1) The funeral ceremony at Palm Desert, California.

(2) The state funeral ceremony at the rotunda of the United States Capitol.

(3) The national funeral service held at the Washington National Cathedral in the District of Columbia.

(4) The interment ceremony at the Gerald [R.] Ford Presidential Museum, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

SEC. 2. PRINTING OF DOCUMENT.

In addition to the usual number of copies printed of the commemorative document under section 1, there shall be printed the lesser of—

(1) 32,500 copies, of which 22,150 copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives and 10,350 copies shall be for the use of the Senate; or

(2) such number of copies that does not exceed a production and printing cost of $600,000, with distribution of the copies to be allocated in the same proportion as described in paragraph (1).

A compilation of addresses and tributes as given in the United States House of Representatives and Senate plus such additional materials, including the texts of eulogies, messages, prayers, and scriptural selections delivered at the funeral services held in Palm Desert, CA, Washington, DC, and in Grand Rapids, MI, on the life, character, and public service of the late President Gerald R. Ford.

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Gerald R. Ford

(1913–2006)

Early Years

GERALD R. FORD, the 38th President of the United States, was born LESLIE LYNCH KING, JR., the son of Leslie Lynch King and Dorothy Ayer Gardner King, on July 14, 1913, in Omaha, NE. His parents separated 2 weeks after his birth, and his mother moved with him to Grand Rapids, MI, to live with her parents. On February 1, 1916, approximately 2 years after her divorce, Dorothy King married Gerald R. Ford, a Grand Rapids businessman. The Fords immediately began calling her son JERRY FORD, and in 1935 his name was officially changed to GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, JR.

The future President grew up in a close-knit family that included three younger brothers, Thomas, Richard, and James. Mr. FORD attended South High School in Grand Rapids, where he excelled scholastically and athletically. He was named to the honor society and both the "All-City" and "All-State" football teams. To earn spending money he worked for the family paint business and at a local restaurant. He was also active in Scouting, and achieved the rank of Eagle Scout in November 1927—the only American President to do so.

College Years

From 1931 to 1935 Mr. FORD attended the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he majored in economics and political science, and graduated with a B.A. degree in June 1935. At a time of national economic hardship, he financed his education with part-time jobs, a small scholarship from his high school, and modest family assistance.

Outstanding Athlete

An extremely gifted athlete, Mr. FORD was a 3-year letterman and played on Michigan's national championship football teams in 1932 and 1933. He was voted the Wolverine's most valuable player in 1934. On January 1, 1935, he played in the

annual East-West College All-Star Game in San Francisco. That August, he played at Soldier Field against the Chicago Bears in the *Chicago Tribune* College All-Star Football Game, and his performance led to offers from the Detroit Lions and the Green Bay Packers. In tribute to one of its greatest student-athletes, Michigan subsequently retired Mr. FORD's jersey number 48. In addition, he was named to *Sports Illustrated*'s Silver Anniversary All-America Football Team, received the National Football Foundation's Gold Medal—its highest honor—and in 2006 was recognized by the NCAA as one of the 100 most influential student-athletes of the last century. In 2003, the NCAA created the NCAA President Gerald R. Ford Award, which is presented annually to an individual who has provided significant leadership as an advocate for intercollegiate athletics on a continuous basis over the course of their career. In 2005, the "Gerald R. Ford Legends of Center Award" was created to honor and promote President FORD's athletic and public service ideals. The award is presented annually to an outstanding former collegiate or professional football center, who has also made significant contributions to his community through philanthropic or business endeavors.

Yale Law School

Mr. FORD chose the legal profession over a professional football career. To help pay for law school, he initially took a dual position as assistant varsity football coach and boxing coach at Yale University, where he coached future U.S. Senators Robert Taft, Jr. and William Proxmire. He enrolled in Yale Law School, while also continuing his coaching responsibilities. Among an extraordinary group of law school classmates were future Supreme Court Justices Potter Stewart and Byron White, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, Sargent Shriver, Pennsylvania Governors William Scranton and Raymond Shafer, U.S. Senator Peter Dominick, and author William Lord.

GERALD FORD earned his LL.B. degree from Yale in 1941, and graduated in the top 25 percent of his class. After returning to Michigan and passing the bar exam, Mr. FORD and a University of Michigan fraternity brother, Philip A. Buchen (later to serve as President FORD's White House Counsel), established a law partnership in Grand Rapids. Mr. FORD also became active in a local group of reform-minded Republicans who called themselves the Home Front, when the United States entered World War II.

MR. FORD promptly joined the U.S. Naval Reserve, where he received a commission as an ensign in April 1942 and subsequently was appointed lieutenant commander. Following an orientation program at Annapolis, he became an instructor at a pre-flight school in Chapel Hill, NC. In spring 1943, he began service on the light aircraft carrier U.S.S. *Monterey*. Initially assigned as a gunnery division officer, then assistant navigator, he took part in major operations in the South Pacific, including the battles for Truk, Saipan, Guam, Formosa, Marianas, and the Philippines. During a vicious typhoon in the Philippine Sea in December 1944, he came within inches of being swept overboard. Severely damaged by the storm and a resulting fire, the ship had to be taken out of service. Lieutenant Commander FORD was honorably released from active duty in February 1946, having been awarded:

- An Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one silver star and four bronze stars,
- A Philippine Liberation Ribbon with two bronze stars,
- An American Campaign Medal, and
- A World War II Victory Medal.

Congress

Returning home to Grand Rapids, Mr. FORD became a partner in the prestigious law firm of Butterfield, Keeney and Amberg. A self-proclaimed "compulsive joiner," he was already well known throughout the community. He rejected his previous support for isolationism and adopted, instead, an outlook more in keeping with America's new-found responsibilities on the global stage. In 1948, with the encouragement of his hometown political hero, Senator Arthur Vandenberg, and reinforced by his stepfather, who was county Republican chairman, Mr. FORD decided to challenge isolationist Congressman Bartel Jonkman in the Republican primary. Against all odds, the upstart GERALD FORD defeated Jonkman. In the subsequent general election that fall, he received 61 percent of the vote.

At the age of 35, GERALD FORD was on his way to Washington for the 1st of 13 terms in the House of Representatives. A seat in Congress wasn't the only thing he won in autumn 1948. On October 15, at the height of the fall campaign, Mr. FORD married Elizabeth Ann Bloomer Warren. For over 58 years their partnership flourished, enriched immeasurably by their four children, Michael, John (Jack), Steven, and Susan, their seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

GERALD FORD served in the House of Representatives from January 3, 1949 to December 6, 1973, being reelected 12 times, each time with more than 60 percent of the vote. The new Congressman quickly established a reputation for personal integrity, hard work, and the ability to deal effectively with both Republicans and Democrats—qualities that would define his entire political career. He once described himself as "a moderate in domestic affairs, an internationalist in foreign affairs, and a conservative in fiscal policy." He became a member of the House Appropriations Committee in 1951 and rose to prominence on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, becoming its ranking minority member in 1961. In 1949, President Truman invited him to the White House for a personal tour to examine the dilapidated and dangerous conditions of the White House. Mr. FORD subsequently was instrumental in securing necessary congressional funding to rebuild and modernize the White House during the Truman Presidency.

As his reputation as a legislator grew, GERALD FORD was called upon, among other assignments, to serve on the first NASA Oversight Committee and on the CIA and Intelligence Oversight Committees. He declined offers in the 1950s to run for both the Senate and the Michigan Governorship. His political ambition was specific—to become Speaker of the House. In 1960 he was mentioned as a possible Vice Presidential running mate for Richard Nixon. In 1963 a group of younger, more progressive House Republicans—the "Young Turks"—rebelled against their party's leadership, and Mr. FORD defeated Charles Hoeven of Iowa for chairman of the House Republican Conference, the number three leadership position in the party.

In 1963 following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, President Johnson appointed GERALD FORD to the Warren Commission that investigated the crime. Mr. FORD was the last living member of the Warren Commission. In 1965 he co-authored with John R. Stiles "Portrait of the Assassin," a book about the findings of the Warren Commission.

The battle for the 1964 Republican Presidential nomination was drawn on sharp ideological lines between liberal Nelson Rockefeller and conservative Barry Goldwater. However, Mr. FORD had previously endorsed Michigan's favorite son, Governor George Romney, and thus did not become embroiled in the resulting schism in the party. In the wake of Goldwater's lopsided defeat at the hands of Lyndon Johnson, GERALD FORD was chosen by the Young Turks to challenge Charles Halleck for the

position of minority leader of the House. With the help of then-Congressmen Donald Rumsfeld and Bob Dole, Mr. FORD narrowly upset Halleck. He assumed his new position early in 1965 and held it for 8 years. As minority leader, his national stature rose quickly. As part of his efforts to rebuild the Republican Party, he typically made over 200 speeches a year across the country. Under Mr. FORD's leadership, the House Republicans steadily gained members, but never a majority. In both the 1968 and 1972 elections, Mr. FORD was a supporter of Richard Nixon, who had been a friend for many years. In 1968, GERALD FORD was again mentioned as a possible Vice Presidential candidate. Not even the Nixon landslide of 1972 could give Republicans a majority in the House, thereby leaving Mr. FORD unable to reach his ultimate political goal—to be Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Vice President

When Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned in October 1973, President Nixon was authorized by the 25th Amendment to appoint, subject to congressional confirmation, a replacement. He needed someone who could work with Congress, survive close scrutiny of his political career and private life, and be confirmed quickly. Heeding an immediate and strong bipartisan consensus, he chose GERALD R. FORD. Following one of the most thorough background investigations in the history of the FBI, Mr. FORD was confirmed by a vote of 92 to 3 in the Senate and 387 to 35 in the House of Representatives and sworn in as Vice President on December 6, 1973.

President

The specter of the Watergate scandal, the break-in at Democratic headquarters during the 1972 campaign, and the ensuing coverup by Nixon administration officials hung over Mr. FORD's 9-month tenure as Vice President. When it became apparent that evidence, public opinion, and the mood in Congress were all pointing toward impeachment, Richard Nixon became the only President to resign. On August 9, 1974, GERALD FORD assumed the Presidency amidst the gravest constitutional crisis since the Civil War.

Few Presidents confronted so daunting a challenge. Not only did the new President face widespread public disillusionment in the wake of the Watergate scandals and the Vietnam war, he had to grapple with a devastating economic recession,

a burgeoning energy crisis, and mounting tensions around the globe. The President who never sought the Presidency resolved that his time in office, however long or short, would be a time of healing and energizing the country to move forward in a positive way. But it was President FORD's confidence in his fellow citizens, and his devotion to our constitutional heritage, that helped him shoulder so effectively the burdens of the Oval Office.

He immediately set about restoring confidence in the Presidency and healing the wounds of the Nation. In his first speech as President—Lincolnesque in tone and FORD-like in its personal modesty—he said:

> "My fellow Americans, our long national nightmare is over. Our Constitution works; our great Republic is a government of laws and not of men. Here the people rule. But there is a higher Power, by whatever name we honor Him, who ordains not only righteousness but love, not only justice but mercy. As we bind up the internal wounds of Watergate, more painful and more poisonous than those of foreign wars, let us restore the golden rule to our political process, and let brotherly love purge our hearts of suspicion and of hate. With all the strength and all of the good sense I have gained from life, with all the confidence of my family, my friends, and my dedicated staff impart to me, and with the good will of countless Americans I have encountered in recent visits to 40 States, I now solemnly reaffirm my promise I made to you last December 6: to uphold the Constitution, to do what is right as God gives me to see the right, and to do the very best I can for America. God helping me, I will not let you down."

Pardon and Amnesty

Shortly after becoming President, he announced amnesty terms for Vietnam-era draft evaders and pardoned his predecessor. Both acts were highly controversial at the time, but President FORD courageously put America's best interests ahead of his own political popularity. The pardon of Richard Nixon was an act as personally courageous as it was politically detrimental. However, Mr. FORD strongly believed that protracted criminal proceedings would keep the country mired in Watergate and prevent the new administration and the American people from addressing other critical issues. Accordingly, he decided to grant

the pardon prior to the filing of any formal criminal charges against the former President. Many in Washington and around the country were in an uproar, and GERALD FORD's political honeymoon was over; his approval rating plummeted immediately with an estimated 60 percent of the American public disagreeing with the pardon.

However, history has been much more generous regarding the pardon than were President FORD's contemporaries. This historical re-examination of the pardon culminated in the May 2001 presentation of the Profile in Courage Award to President FORD by the John F. Kennedy Foundation. As Senator Edward Kennedy explained in presenting the Award:

> "At a time of national turmoil, America was fortunate that it was GERALD FORD who took the helm of the storm-tossed ship of state. Unlike many of us at the time, President FORD recognized that the Nation had to move forward, and could not do so if there was a continuing effort to prosecute former President Nixon. So President FORD made a courageous decision—one that historians now say cost him his office—and he pardoned Richard Nixon. I was one of those who spoke out against his action then. But time has a way of clarifying past events, and now we see that President FORD was right. His courage and dedication to our country made it possible for us to begin the process of healing and put the tragedy of Watergate behind us."

PRESIDENT FORD's Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, was equally direct in concluding that GERALD FORD "saved the country. In fact, he saved it in such a matter of fact way that he isn't given credit for it."

New Administration

Within the month President FORD nominated Nelson Rockefeller for Vice President. On December 19, 1974, Rockefeller was confirmed by Congress, and the country once more had a full complement of leaders. Mr. FORD confronted a divisive war in Southeast Asia, rising inflation at home, and a desperate need to restore the credibility of the Presidency. He also found himself dealing with a Congress increasingly assertive of its rights and powers.

The FORD philosophy was best summarized by one of his favorite speech lines: "A government big enough to give us everything we want is a government big enough to take from us

everything we have." In domestic policy, President FORD pioneered economic deregulation, formulated tax and spending cuts, and decontrolled energy prices to stimulate production. Through such steps, he successfully contained both inflation and unemployment, while at the same time reducing the size and role of a Federal Government whose growth to many observers seemed inexorable. Thus, President FORD foreshadowed subsequent efforts by his successors to continue these policies to make government smaller, smarter and more supportive of private initiatives. He championed policies and legislation that brought about changes that today we take for granted, including individual retirement accounts (IRAs), automated teller machines (ATMs), Title IX regulations for women's high school and college athletics, and the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act.

The heavily Democratic Congress often disagreed with President FORD, which led to numerous confrontations and his frequent use of the veto to restrain runaway government spending. Presidential historian Richard Norton Smith described the essence of GERALD FORD's leadership and strength of character: "President FORD never confused compromise with surrender, or moderation with weakness. While he had adversaries, he never had an enemy." Documentary producer Michael Grass summarized Mr. FORD's effectiveness: "FORD practiced the political art of intelligent compromise with low-key Midwestern habits of fairness, civility, and truth-telling." Columnist Mort Kondracke noted, "GERALD FORD represented the best in American politics . . . and [a style] that I'm afraid we are never going to see again." Through tough negotiations and principled compromise and despite large Democratic majorities in Congress, landmark legislation was enacted to promote energy decontrol, implement sweeping tax cuts, deregulate the railroad and securities industries, and reform antitrust laws.

Outstanding Cabinet and White House Staff

One of Mr. FORD's greatest strengths as a leader was his self-confidence and sense of security around others. According to columnist David Broder, President FORD "had one of the most competent staffs any of us have seen." The advisors he appointed included a large number of extremely bright, capable people who would go on after the Ford administration to render further outstanding service to the American people. George H.W. Bush was his CIA Director; his White House chief of staff was Dick Cheney; his Secretary of State was Henry Kissinger; his chief eco-

nomic advisor was Alan Greenspan; Donald Rumsfeld was his Secretary of Defense; his Attorney General was Edward Levi; his Secretary of Housing and Urban Development was Carla Hills; Brent Scowcroft was his National Security Advisor, William Simon was Treasury Secretary, and David Mathews was Secretary of HEW; his Under Secretary of Commerce was James Baker; his Secretary of Transportation was William Coleman; Frank Zarb was Administrator of the Federal Energy Administration; his OMB Director and Deputy Director were James Lynn and Paul O'Neill; and his White House staff included Robert Gates, James Cannon, John Marsh, William Seidman, Max Friedersdorf, Terrence O'Donnell, Robert Hartmann, Red Cavaney, David Gergen, Larry Speakes, and Roger Porter. The list of President FORD's outstanding advisors who continued with distinguished public service careers goes on and on.

Foreign Policy

In foreign policy, Mr. FORD was resolute and visionary. He continued the policy of détente with the Soviet Union and developed an aggressive "shuttle diplomacy" in the Middle East. U.S.-Soviet relations were marked by ongoing arms negotiations, the Helsinki agreements on human rights principles and East European national boundaries, trade negotiations, and the symbolic *Apollo-Soyuz* joint manned space flight.

One of President FORD's boldest, and at the time most controversial, foreign policy initiatives occurred in southern Africa. For many years, U.S. policy was to support the Government of South Africa, which for decades had practiced apartheid. In 1976, President FORD decided that a change in U.S. policy was long overdue, despite political considerations that strongly suggested otherwise. Secretary of State Kissinger went to Zambia and announced President FORD's decision that the longstanding U.S. support of South Africa, with its unconscionable policies of apartheid, was over. Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, William Scranton, characterized this decision by President FORD as "one of the finest achievements" of twentieth century U.S. foreign policy.

President FORD forcefully pushed for conclusion of the Helsinki agreements. His tireless efforts in negotiating those agreements, though politically controversial at the time, are now seen with the benefit of history as the first step toward democratization of Eastern Europe and the eventual collapse of the Soviet Union. Years later Colin Powell declared GERALD FORD's leader-

ship and personal participation in the Helsinki agreements as "a bold, brave, visionary act" and "one of President FORD's greatest moments."

PRESIDENT FORD's personal diplomacy also included trips to Japan—the first by an American President—and China; a 10-day European tour; and establishment of the annual international economic meeting of leaders (today known as the G–8 summits). In addition, as America's Bicentennial President, GERALD FORD received numerous foreign heads of state in the Nation's Capital. Henry Kissinger noted the depth and breadth of President FORD's achievements in foreign policy: "President FORD established what I believe was the closest relationship of any American President, in any period, with European leaders, and he did this by his special qualities—openness, intelligence, directness. And what is even more remarkable is that they have remained friends of his even after he left government. . . . Abroad his reputation was enormous."

With the fall of South Vietnam in 1975 as background, Congress and President FORD repeatedly clashed over Presidential powers, oversight of the CIA and covert operations, military aid appropriations, and the stationing of military personnel. On May 14, 1975, just days after Saigon fell, President FORD ordered U.S. forces to retake the SS *Mayaguez*, an American merchant ship seized by Cambodian gunboats in international waters 2 days earlier. The vessel was recovered, and all 39 crewmen were saved. Unfortunately, 41 brave Americans lost their lives in the preparation and execution of the rescue. The President himself did not escape the tumult of those times. On two separate trips to California in September 1975, GERALD FORD was the target of assassination attempts.

The next year he fought off a strong challenge from Ronald Reagan to secure the Republican nomination for President, and a chance to have his leadership confirmed by the voters. He chose Senator Robert Dole of Kansas as his running mate. The FORD-Dole team succeeded in narrowing Democrat Jimmy Carter's large lead in the polls, only to fall short in one of the closest Presidential elections in U.S. history.

The Presidency of Gerald Ford

The Presidency of GERALD FORD is defined by his personal integrity and unbending adherence to the truth. Ever the Eagle Scout—literally and metaphorically—in reflecting on his life, President FORD consistently referred to the straightforward

standards of conduct taught by his parents: "Work hard, tell the truth, and come to dinner on time." Openness was, and is, a core Ford family value. Equally honest and open was Betty Ford, who as First Lady developed a reputation for candor and lack of pretense. President FORD strongly supported his wife in her battles with breast cancer, alcoholism, and addiction to prescription medicines, and he warmly endorsed her frank talk about these and other issues.

In 2003 Vice President Dick Cheney observed, "President FORD restored trust and confidence in the Presidency and the White House simply by the sheer force of his character." Thus, by the time of the Nation's Bicentennial, the American people had a renewed pride in their free institutions, and in themselves. Presidential biographer Richard Reeves acknowledged that his earlier assessment of the 38th President had been unduly harsh. A quarter century later, Reeves took a very different tack: "We judge presidents by the one or two big things that they do," he wrote. "Nobody remembers that Lincoln balanced the budget, and nobody cares. In the end, President FORD did the one thing he had to do, which was hold the country together."

With the passage of time and the perspective of a broader historical context, the Presidency of GERALD FORD has been understood and acknowledged with much greater clarity and appreciation. Columnist David Broder was unequivocal: "In an odd, inexplicable way, the truth has begun to dawn on people—that he was the kind of President Americans wanted—and didn't know they had."

Former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill concluded: "God has been good to America, especially during difficult times. At the time of the Civil War, he gave us Abraham Lincoln. And at the time of Watergate, he gave us GERALD FORD—the right man at the right time who was able to put the Nation back together."

Former Senator Tom Daschle observed: "As our President, GERALD FORD did more than wake us from our long national nightmare; he made it possible for us to dream again."

As President Jimmy Carter graciously acknowledged on January 20, 1977, the man from Grand Rapids had indeed healed the land.

Private Citizen

Upon returning to private life, President and Mrs. Ford moved to California where they built a home in Rancho Mirage. President FORD's memoir, "A Time to Heal" was published in 1979. President FORD remained an active participant in the political process. He spoke out on important political issues and wrote numerous op-ed columns and other articles dealing with issues ranging from support for stem cell research and affirmative action, to urging a censure alternative to the impeachment of President Bill Clinton. In 1999, 25 years after he assumed the Presidency, he returned to the East Room of the White House to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He and Mrs. Ford were also awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the first ever joint presentation of Congress' highest civilian honor. In November 2006, President FORD became the longest living President in U.S. history.

The year 1981 saw the dedication of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library in Ann Arbor, MI, and the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, MI. Both institutions quickly established themselves as an important part of the Ford legacy. In 2006 the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy moved into its new home at the University of Michigan. President FORD was a frequent participant in conferences examining Congress, the Presidency, and foreign policy; Soviet-American relations; German reunification, the Atlantic Alliance, the future of American foreign policy; national security requirements for the 1990s; humor and the Presidency; and the role of First Ladies in the life of the Nation. At hundreds of colleges and universities he lectured on Congressional/White House relations, Federal budget policies, and domestic and foreign policy issues. He attended the annual Public Policy Week Conferences of the American Enterprise Institute, and in 1982 established the AEI World Forum, which he hosted for many years in Vail, CO. This continues as an international gathering of former and current world leaders, as well as business executives—all gathered to discuss issues of topical concern.

On August 9, 2004, President FORD spoke in Statuary Hall at the U.S. Capitol to members of his Cabinet and White House staff and reflected on his life and Presidency:

> "At my stage in life, one is inclined to think less about dates on a calendar than those things that are timeless—about leadership and service and patriotism and sacrifice,

about doing one's best in meeting every challenge that life presents.

"History will judge our success. But no one can doubt our dedication. We set out to bind America's wounds, and to heal America's heart. By the time we celebrated our Bicentennial in 1976, we celebrated more than a distant event—we were able to take heart ourselves from the renewal of the great truths expressed by our Founders.

"Without seeking them, I was called upon to fill this Nation's highest offices. For 2½ years, I had the greatest privilege that can come to any American—to lead my countrymen through trying times, and uphold the sacred honor of free men and women everywhere.

"So I ask you to join me in saluting the past, savoring the present, and anticipating the future. For in America, the best has never been—it is always yet to be."

And now GERALD R. FORD has passed on, having fulfilled the legacy instilled more than 90 years ago in a Grand Rapids household: "love of God, love of family, love of country."

Courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Gerald R. Ford as a naval officer.

Robert Knudsen, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Gerald R. Ford is sworn in as the 38th President of the United States.

David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

President Ford briefs the congressional leadership on the seizure of the American merchant ship SS *Mayaguez*.

Ricardo Thomas, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

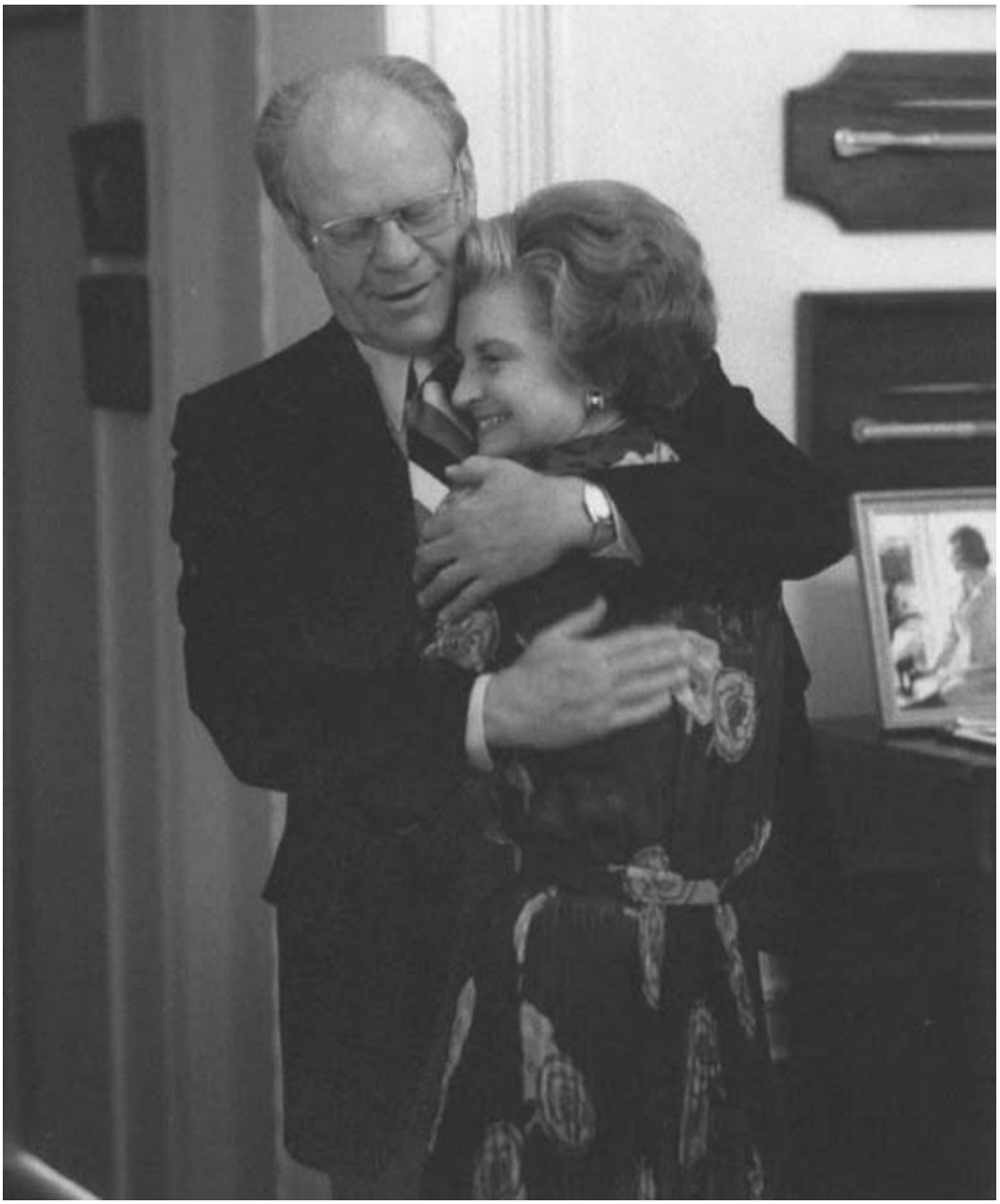
President Ford and his golden retriever, Liberty, in the Oval Office.

David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Escorted by Deng Xiao Ping, President Ford inspects the honor guard upon his arrival in China with his official delegation, which included Mrs. Ford, Susan Ford, and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

William FitzPatrick, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Mike, Gayle, President Ford, Mrs. Ford, Jack, Susan, and Steve on the South Lawn of the White House.



David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

President and Mrs. Ford in the White House residence.

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR

Gerald R. Ford

1913–2006

State Funeral
Services And Ceremonies

December 29, 2006
St. Margaret's Church, Palm Desert, California

Arrival ceremony

Family prayer service

Family visitation

Public repose

December 30, 2006
St. Margaret's Church, Palm Desert, California

Departure ceremony

Palm Springs International Airport, California

Departure ceremony

Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland

Arrival ceremony

World War II Memorial, Washington, DC

Ceremonial pause and moment of mutual tribute

U.S. Capitol

Arrival ceremony, east steps U.S. House of Representatives

Casket in repose outside U.S. House of Representatives

State Funeral Service, Capitol Rotunda

December 30, 2006–January 1, 2007
U.S. Capitol Rotunda

Lying in state on Lincoln Catafalque

January 2, 2007
U.S. Capitol

Casket in repose outside U.S. Senate

Departure ceremony, east Senate steps

White House—Pennsylvania Avenue

Tribute by White House staff, U.S. Secret Service, and Blair House staff

Washington National Cathedral

Arrival ceremony

National Funeral Service

Departure ceremony

Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland

Departure ceremony

Gerald R. Ford International Airport, Michigan

Arrival ceremony

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Arrival ceremony

Prayer service—Tribute wreaths, University of Michigan and Yale University

Public repose

January 3, 2007
Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

Departure ceremony

Grace Episcopal Church

Arrival ceremony

Funeral service

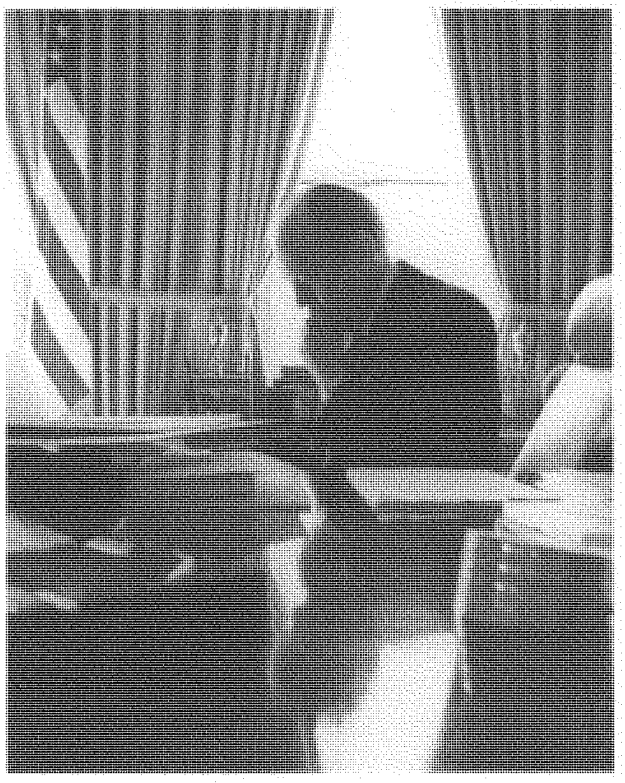
Departure ceremony

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

Arrival ceremony

Interment service

21-Aircraft flyover



GERALD R. FORD

JULY 14, 1913 – DECEMBER 26, 2006

GERALD R. FORD

University of Michigan, B.A., 1935
Yale University School of Law; LL.B., 1941
United States Navy, 1942–1946
United States House of Representatives, 1949–1973
Vice President of the United States, 1973–1974
President of the United States, 1974–1977

The family of Gerald R. Ford deeply appreciates your prayers and many kindnesses as together we celebrate and honor the life of a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, and the 38th President of the United States.

Tuesday, December 26, 2006
Rancho Mirage, California

President Gerald R. Ford died peacefully at his home in Rancho Mirage, California, at 6:45 p.m. PST.

Friday, December 29, 2006
Rancho Mirage, California

Mrs. Ford and the Ford family depart the residence en route to St. Margaret's Church.

Hearse departs Eisenhower Medical Center en route to St. Margaret's Church.

Combined motorcade arrives at St. Margaret's Church, Palm Desert, California.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by Major General Guy C. Swan III, and the Ford family proceed inside to the narthex. They then are escorted outside for the arrival ceremony.

Family members with Mrs. Ford are Michael Ford, John Ford, Steven Ford, Susan Ford Bales, Sarah Ford Goodfellow, Bekah Ford Cooke, Hannah Ford, Christian Gerald Ford, Jonathan Ford, Tyne Vance Berlanga, Joy Elizabeth Berlanga, Heather Vance, Riley Ann Goodfellow, Gayle Ford, Juliann Ford, Vaden Bales and Matthew Bales.

United States Marine Corps Twentynine Palms Band (Twentynine Palms, California):

"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
"O God Our Help in Ages Past"

Armed Forces Body Bearers carry the casket into the narthex where the Prayers for the Reception of the Body are offered. The casket is carried from the narthex and positioned on a bier in front of the altar.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan, and the family follow the casket into St. Margaret's Church.

A brief prayer service for the Ford family is conducted by Father Robert Certain of St. Margaret's Church and Father Brooks Keith of Beaver Creek Chapel, Beaver Creek, Colorado.

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church

47535 Highway 74
Palm Desert
California
92260
(760) 346-2697
(760)341-1212 fax
www.stmargarets.org

Gerald R. Ford
1913—2006

O God of grace and
glory, we remember
before you this day
our brother Gerald.
We thank you for
giving him to us, his
family and friends,
to know and to love
as a companion on
our earthly pilgrimage.
In your boundless
compassion,
console us who mourn.
Give us faith to see
in death the gate
of eternal life, so that
in quiet confidence
we may continue
our course on earth,
until, by your call,
we are reunited with
those who have gone
before; through Jesus
Christ our Lord.
Amen.

At the conclusion of the family's private time, the following guests proceed to the altar to pay their respects:

Mr. Gregory Willard
Ms. Penny Circle
Ms. Ann Cullen
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Simmons
Mrs. Janice Hart
Mr. Richard Garbarino
Mr. David Hume Kennerly
Ms. Carol Buck

Visitation with invited friends and guests begins.

Visitation concludes. Mrs. Ford and the family return to the residence.

Private repose begins for invited public officials, U.S. Secret Service families, law enforcement leadership and families, and other invited guests.

Public repose begins at St. Margaret's Church and continues through the night. During the repose, approximately 57,000 people paid their respects at the casket.

Saturday, December 30, 2006
Rancho Mirage, California; Washington, DC

Mrs. Ford and the family arrive at St. Margaret's Church.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan, and the Ford family proceed to the church steps.

Armed Forces Body Bearers carry the casket from St. Margaret's Church to the hearse.

United States Marine Corps Twentynine Palms Band:

"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and Gregory Willard, and the Ford family proceed to the motorcade.

Motorcade departs St. Margaret's Church en route to Palm Springs International Airport.

Motorcade arrives at Palm Springs International Airport.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan, and the family proceed to the arrival ceremony.

Several thousand members of the general public are gathered around the perimeter of the airport to pay tribute and offer their final farewells.

Guests of Mrs. Ford traveling with her on the Presidential aircraft are escorted by Richard Wennekamp from the motorcade to the arrival ceremony.

Third Marine Air Wing Band (Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar, California):

"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
21-Gun Salute (5 second intervals)
"America the Beautiful"

Armed Forces Body Bearers carry the casket to the Presidential aircraft.

David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Departure ceremony, Palm Springs, CA.

David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Departure ceremony, Palm Springs, CA.

Presidential aircraft departs Palm Springs International Airport.

Presidential aircraft arrives Andrews Air Force Base.

Honorary pallbearers: Washington, DC

Martin J. Allen, Jr.
James A. Baker III
Robert Barrett
James Cannon
Kenneth Chenault
Richard B. Cheney
William Coleman
Richard DeVos
Robert Dole
Richard Ford
Alan Greenspan
Robert Hartmann
Carla Hills
Henry Kissinger
Jack Marsh
Paul O'Neill
Donald H. Rumsfeld
Brent Scowcroft

Sanford Weill
Frank Zarb

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and Susan Ford Bales, proceeds to the arrival ceremony.

Armed Forces Body Bearers remove the casket from the Presidential aircraft.

United States Air Force Band:
"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
21-Gun Salute (5 second intervals)
"My Country 'Tis of Thee"

Armed Forces Body Bearers place the casket in the hearse.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and Susan Ford Bales, proceeds to the motorcade.

Motorcade departs Andrews Air Force Base en route to the World War II Memorial.

En route, the motorcade passed slowly through Alexandria, Virginia, where thousands of people lined the motorcade route to pay their respects to President Ford.

Motorcade arrives at World War II Memorial.

Present at the World War II Memorial are female graduates of the U.S. Naval Academy who have gathered in tribute to President Ford's signing the legislation that admitted women to the Academy. Current Eagle Scouts and Boy Scouts from the Washington, DC, area are present. Several thousand members of the public, assisted by Mr. John Shlaes, are also present.

World War II veterans groups come to attention, and Colors are posted.

Naval boatswain's mate walks several steps forward toward the hearse. He then pauses and "Pipes the Side," the Navy tradition of honoring senior officers onto or off of the ship.

Upon conclusion, the boatswain's mate salutes and holds. The hearse moves slowly away from the Memorial.

Mrs. Ford's limousine proceeds to the point just vacated by the hearse. Mrs. Ford acknowledges the female graduates/naval officers of the U.S. Naval Academy.

Motorcade departs the World War II Memorial en route to the U.S. Capitol.

President Ford previously chose not to have a funeral procession through downtown Washington. However, in tribute to President Ford, military units that would otherwise have marched in such a processional assemble in formation outside the U.S. Capitol in the plaza area just to the east of the House of Representatives steps.

Motorcade arrives at U.S. Capitol, East Front of U.S. House of Representatives.

President Ford is the President who served the longest in the U.S. House of Representatives. In addition, he is the only President who went directly from the U.S. House of Representatives, to the Vice Presidency, and then to the Presidency. Accordingly, in an unprecedented tribute, instead of the traditional processional into the Rotunda, President Ford's casket will be carried up the east steps of the U.S. House of Representatives and placed in repose on a bier immediately outside the main door of the House Chamber before being carried into the Rotunda for the State Funeral Service.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan, proceeds inside the Capitol and then to the east corridor adjacent to the House Chamber. She is greeted by Mr. William Livingood, Sergeant at Arms of the U.S. House of Representatives and Mr. William Pickle, Sergeant at Arms of the U.S. Senate.

Michael Ford, John Ford, Steven Ford, Susan Ford Bales, Sarah Ford Goodfellow, Bekah Ford Cooke, Hannah Ford, Tyne Vance Berlanga, Heather Vance, Christian Gerald Ford and Jonathan Ford are escorted by Mr. Michael Wagner and Captain Eldridge Browne to the foot of the House steps.

A group of President Ford's former House colleagues assembles at the top of the House steps.

The following Ford family members and guests proceed to the balcony to the left of the House steps for the arrival ceremony: Gayle Ford, Vaden Bales, Juliann Ford, Blake Goodfellow, Clay Cooke, Matthew Bales, Gregory Willard, Ann Willard, Penny Circle, Ann Cullen, Janice Hart, Len Nurmi, Leon Parma, Barbara Parma, and Richard Garbarino.

During the arrival ceremony and the subsequent State Funeral Service in the U.S. Capitol, Mrs. Ford and the family are assisted by Troy McNichols, Ted Daniel, Robert Goodwin, Rachel Perry, Lucy Tutwiler, and David Bohrer.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan, proceeds outside to the top of the House steps, opposite the former congressional colleagues.

Armed Forces Body Bearers remove the casket from the hearse.

United States Army Band:
"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
21-Gun Salute
"America the Beautiful"
"Holy Ghost with Light Divine"

Armed Forces Body Bearers carry the casket up the east steps to the House Entrance to the Capitol.

The four Ford children, followed by the seven grandchildren, walk up the House steps immediately behind the casket.

The honorary pallbearers then walk up the House steps immediately behind the grandchildren.

At the top of the House steps, Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and joined by the children and grandchildren, follows the casket into the Capitol. Mrs. Ford and the children and grandchildren proceed to the Rayburn Room, where they are received by House Speaker Dennis Hastert and President pro tempore of the Senate Ted Stevens.

As Mrs. Ford enters the Rayburn Room, the Armed Forces Body Bearers move the casket to the Main Doors of the House Chamber.

In an unprecedented tribute to President Ford, the casket is placed in repose directly outside the Main Doors of the House Chamber, which is open and lit. The casket remains there prior to the processional.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and accompanied by Speaker Hastert and President pro tempore Stevens and by her children and grandchildren, proceeds from the Rayburn Room and pauses briefly at the casket.

Mrs. Ford and those with her proceed into Statuary Hall.

Procession into U.S. Capitol Rotunda through Statuary Hall

Former House colleagues of President Ford.
Congressional leadership (joined en route in Statuary Hall by the Speaker of the House and the President pro tempore of the Senate):
Special Honor Guard (Joint Chiefs of Staff)
Honorary pallbearers
National Colors
Military clergy and Father Robert Certain
Casket
Presidential Colors

As the Presidential Colors pass in front of Mrs. Ford in Statuary Hall, Mrs. Ford and her children and grandchildren join the processional and proceed into the Rotunda as follows:

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan
Ford children
Ford grandchildren

The casket is placed on the Lincoln Catafalque in the Rotunda.

Mrs. Ford is seated.

Mrs. Ford is flanked on her immediate right by the congressional leadership and on her immediate left by Vice President and Mrs. Cheney.

David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

President FORD's casket in repose outside House Chamber.

The Honorable

Gerald R. Ford

July 14, 1913—December 26, 2006
Thirty-eighth President
of the
United States of America

In Final Tribute from a Grateful Nation
The Lying in State of President Ford
The Rotunda, United States Capitol
Washington, D.C.
December 30—31, 2006, and
January 1, 2007

The Honorable

Gerald R. Ford

THIRTY-EIGHTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

July 14, 1913–December 26, 2006

UNITED STATES CAPITOL

The Rotunda

Saturday, December 30, 2006
7:00 p.m.

Order of Program

Preceding the Lying in State of President Ford

The Rotunda, United States Capitol
December 30, 2006

Prelude

UNITED STATES ARMY BRASS QUINTET

Invocation

THE REVEREND DANIEL P. COUGHLIN
Chaplain, United States House of Representatives

Interlude

UNITED STATES NAVY SEA CHANTERS

Remarks

THE HONORABLE TED STEVENS
President Pro Tempore, United States Senate

THE HONORABLE J. DENNIS HASTERT
Speaker, United States House of Representatives

THE HONORABLE RICHARD B. CHENEY
Vice President of the United States

Presentation of Wreaths

THE HONORABLE TED STEVENS
President Pro Tempore, United States Senate

THE HONORABLE J. DENNIS HASTERT
Speaker, United States House of Representatives

THE HONORABLE RICHARD B. CHENEY
Vice President of the United States

Benediction

DR. BARRY C. BLACK
Chaplain, United States Senate

REV. DANIEL P. COUGHLIN, Chaplain, U.S. House of Representatives: "How mighty is the hand that can turn a page of history!" Lord God, You call each of us by name and You alone know each of us through and through. You have called GERALD R. FORD unto Yourself and again he has responded to You with hope and is confirmed by America's prayers just as he sought them when called to serve as President of this great Nation.

As we welcome Mrs. Ford and President FORD's family and friends to this Rotunda, the Nation is called to surround them with their prayers—their sympathy for their loss and their gratitude for sharing his love and his loyalty with all of us for so many years in Government service.

Again, at this moment of death, we humbly ask You, Lord, to grant peace and reconciliation, healing and gentle civility to this Nation, as this man so nobly tried to do in life's singular moments by his efforts to close chapter upon chapter on America's sadness.

May the brightness of hope and the promise of eternal life reward this modest man, the Honorable GERALD FORD. And may the story of the 38th President of the United States inspire others in this Nation and around the world, to respond to Your Providential call as he did. Lord, call many to seize their moment to make a difference "by serving the people's urgent needs." Then empower them to make bold steps in searching for ways of peace and reconciliation, just as he did. "For mighty is the hand that can turn a page of history."

THE HONORABLE TED STEVENS, President Pro Tempore, U.S. Senate: Mrs. Ford, Michael, Jack, Steven, and Susan, distinguished guests, members of the Ford family, friends of GERALD FORD in America and throughout the world:

Tonight we say goodbye to a true gentleman, an exceptional leader, and our good friend, President GERALD FORD.

In our Nation's history, only nine men have been called upon to assume the mantle of the Presidency by succession. Even among these chosen few, GERALD FORD stands out as exceptional for only one man has assumed both the Vice Presidency and the Presidency.

When he took his oath as President, we were a people shaken by disbelief, racked with cynicism, and paralyzed by doubt. Then President FORD's voice—gentle but firm—told us, "We must go forward now together."

In our Nation's darkest hour, GERALD FORD lived his finest moment. Guided by his conscience, informed by our history, supported by the love and friendship of his wife, Betty, he was the man the hour required. He knew the road toward national healing began with courage to forgive. He reminded us: while the Presidency may be a human institution, there is great nobility in its humanity.

While his path to office was unlikely, history will know GERALD FORD's Presidency was no accident. By the time he took the oath of office, he had achieved everything he set his mind to do: He earned the rank of Eagle Scout and became the University of Michigan football team's most valuable player. During World War II, he served our country with distinction and was one of the men who inspired the title "the Greatest Generation." He honorably served the people of Michigan in the U.S. House of Representatives.

A "Man of the House," JERRY FORD stepped proudly into his role as Vice President, and the Senate welcomed him as the President of our Chamber. While he never voted to break a tie in the Senate, he was known to all of us as a person full of friendship, willing to sit and discuss issues at the request of any Senator.

President FORD achieved the goals he sought, but history will remember most, how, in its hour of need, our Nation sought him. As our 38th President, GERALD FORD stood ready to faithfully execute his office. In doing so, he woke us and told us "Our long national nightmare is over."

He was the steady hand in the storm, an honest broker of compromise. He became a great leader—an example for others to follow. President FORD understood the unique circumstances of his moment in history. He strove not to placate some, but to serve all. In so doing, he showed us there were still things which were good and honest and true. He restored our faith in our leaders, and he ensured the office of the Presidency was an institution worthy of the people it serves.

We here honor a leader for America and the world. President FORD fought high inflation and unemployment, completed the process of bringing our troops home from Vietnam, set the framework for the Middle East peace accords, and began a new era of cooperation and friendship with Japan. He was deeply beloved by the people of Alaska for signing legislation to protect the marine resources within 200 miles of our shores.

No one should suggest the tasks before him were easy. President FORD was scrutinized, questioned, and criticized. He was tested by the fire of public opinion. Few have remained hopeful in the face of such adversity, but GERALD FORD's optimism about America never wavered. He faced each challenge with bravery and courage matched only by his wife Betty, a woman who literally offered hope to millions of Americans by candidly sharing her experiences and inner strength.

President FORD once said, "I am indebted to no man, and only one woman—my dear wife." That debt our Nation shares, for Betty Ford is one of the most remarkable First Ladies to have ever graced the White House.

In the days since President FORD's passing, many words have been spoken and many statements published alluding to the tremendous character with which he approached his nearly three decades in public life. It was a character I witnessed firsthand when, as chair of our Senate campaign committee, I worked closely with President FORD and his running mate, Senator Bob Dole. During that time, I developed a deeper understanding and greater appreciation for JERRY FORD as a man, a father, and a husband. As was his running mate, Bob Dole, he was deeply committed to our democracy. Absolute honesty, integrity, and openness were the hallmarks of his career. They are now the legacy and the challenge he leaves to us.

President FORD's life is a reminder to those who serve this democracy—under this Capitol dome and elsewhere—that we are—for a time—the keepers of this great American experiment. Good stewardship requires us to see beyond party, beyond division, beyond personal aspirations.

President FORD once said: "The Constitution is the bedrock of all of our freedoms. Guard and cherish it, keep honor and order in your own house, and the Republic will endure."

It will be a fitting tribute to our good friend's memory to make this truth our intention and our purpose.

Upon taking the oath of office, President FORD asked our Nation to pray for him. In the next 2 days, Americans will come to this Rotunda to join us in praying for him once again. The line of visitors saying farewell has literally stretched from sea to shining sea—from California to our Nation's Capital. And it will end in Michigan, where the prayers of our grateful Nation will carry President FORD on his final journey home.

THE HONORABLE J. DENNIS HASTERT, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives: Mrs. Ford and members of the Ford family, Mr. Vice President, Members of Congress, distinguished guests:

I don't think it is a coincidence that American history seems to be an almost providential narrative—a story about finding the right man at the right time to lead the Nation. The Presidency is more than agendas and ideas. It is, at its core, a human institution molded and shaped by the character of the men who have served there. In summer 1974, America didn't need a philosopher king or a warrior prince, an aloof aristocrat or a populist firebrand.

We needed a healer. We needed a rock. We needed honesty and candor and courage. We needed GERALD FORD.

President FORD was one of the few men in history who did not need great events to make him great.

On the football field, in the halls of Congress, and in the Oval Office, there was always something big and solid about him. Big and solid and good.

In this sacred place, the President now lies in state under the Statue of Freedom. On the way here we paused at the door to the House of Representatives. In that place—the People's House—where GERALD FORD served for a quarter of a century—he was known simply as the "Gentleman from Michigan."

And while all Members are afforded this courtesy, in the case of GERALD FORD—"gentleman"—was much more a description of the man himself.

For in a time when turmoil and bitter division were all too common, he stood out as a man of deep civility, quiet thoughtfulness and sound judgment.

Like Abraham Lincoln, another great Midwestern President who confronted a Nation divided, GERALD FORD was called upon to bind our country's wounds. The twin crises of Vietnam and Watergate had crippled America—sapped our strength—shaken our confidence. With humility and devotion to purpose, GERALD FORD united us once again.

In an era of moral confusion, GERALD FORD confidently lived the virtues of honesty, decency, and steadfastness. His example of fairness and fair play, of dignity and grace, brought forth in us our better instincts.

He reminded us who we should be and he helped us to heal. The traits that GERALD FORD showed us as a congressional leader—the ability to listen, the courage to forge compromise in the

face of shrill partisanship, and the willingness to make the hard, and sometimes unpopular decisions, served him well as President.

The critics of the day got it wrong, but history is getting it right.

Despite his considerable achievements, the greatness of GERALD FORD lies not in what he did—but in who he was. He represented the strength of the Middle America that forged him.

He never changed.

Even when power was thrust upon him he remained an "every man" who exemplified all that is good about America.

Mrs. Ford, you were his best friend, his close partner—and, along with his faith, the source of his strength. You and your children knew him as a devoted family man and you loved him for his integrity, his kindness, and his humor. As the leader of our country at a difficult time in our history, it was those qualities that drew a grateful Nation to him as well.

We can never thank you enough for sharing him with us. Just a few feet from here—in the House Chamber—GERALD FORD was sworn in as Vice President of the United States. It would not be long before he would become our President. Speaking to the Nation after taking the oath as President he concluded by saying:

"I now solemnly reaffirm my promise to uphold the Constitution, to do what is right as God gives me to see the right and to do the very best for America. God helping me, I will not let you down."

You did right, Mr. President. You did not let us down.

Well done, good and faithful servant.

Godspeed Mr. President.

THE HONORABLE RICHARD B. CHENEY, Vice President of the United States: Mrs. Ford, Susan, Mike, Jack, and Steve; distinguished guests; colleagues and friends; and fellow citizens:

Nothing was left unsaid, and at the end of his days, GERALD FORD knew how much he meant to us and to his country. He was given length of years, and many times in his company we paid our tributes and said our thanks. We were proud to call him our leader, grateful to know him as a man. We told him these things, and there is comfort in knowing that. Still, it is an ending. And what is left now is to say goodbye.

He first stood under this dome at the age of 17, on a high school tour in the Hoover years. In his congressional career, he

passed through this Rotunda so many times—never once imagining all the honors that life would bring. He was an unassuming man, our 38th President, and few have ever risen so high with so little guile or calculation. Even in the three decades since he left this city, he was not the sort to ponder his legacy, to brood over his place in history. And so in these days of remembrance, as GERALD R. FORD goes to his rest, it is for us to take the measure of the man.

It's hard to imagine that this most loyal of men began life as an abandoned child, facing the world alone with his mother. He was devoted to her always, and also to the fine man who came into their lives and gave the little boy a name he would carry into history. Gerald and Dorothy Ford expected good things of their son. As it turned out, there would be great things, too—in a journey of 93 years that would fill them with loving pride.

JERRY FORD was always a striver—never working an angle, just working. He was a believer in the saying that in life you make your own luck. That's how the Boy Scout became an Eagle Scout; and the football center, a college all-star; and the sailor in war, a lieutenant commander. That's how the student who waited tables and washed dishes earned a law degree, and how the young lawyer became a Member of the U.S. Congress, class of 1948. The achievements added up all his life, yet he was known to boast only about one. I heard it once or twice myself—he said he was never luckier than when he stepped out of Grace Episcopal Church in Grand Rapids with a beautiful girl named Betty as his bride.

Fifty-eight years ago, almost to the day, the new Member from Michigan's Fifth District moved into his office in the Cannon Building, and said his first hello to the Congressman next door, John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts. They belonged to a generation that came early to great duties, and took up responsibilities readily, and shared a confidence in their country and its purposes in the world.

In that 81st Congress were four future Presidents, and others who wished for that destiny. For his part, Mr. FORD of Michigan aspired only to be Speaker of the House, and by general agreement he would have made a fine one. Good judgment, fair dealing, and the manners of a gentleman go a long way around here, and these were the mark of JERRY FORD for a quarter century in the House. It was a Democrat, the late Martha Griffiths, who said, "I never knew him to make a dishonest statement nor

a statement part true and part false, and I never heard him utter an unkind word."

Sometimes in our political affairs, kindness and candor are only more prized for their scarcity. And sometimes even the most careful designs of men cannot improve upon history's accident. This was the case in the 62d year of GERALD FORD's life, a bitter season in the life of our country.

It was a time of false words and ill will. There was great malice, and great hurt, and a taste for more. And it all began to pass away on a Friday in August, when GERALD FORD laid his hand on the Bible and swore to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. He said, "You have not elected me as your President by your ballot, and so I ask you to confirm me as your President with your prayers."

What followed was a Presidency lasting 895 days, and filled with testing and trial enough for a much longer stay. Even then, amid troubles not of his own making, President FORD proved as worthy of that office as any who had ever come before. He was modest and manful; there was confidence and courage in his bearing. In judgment, he was sober and serious, unafraid of decisions, calm and steady by nature, always the still point in the turning wheel. He assumed power without assuming airs; he knew how to treat people. He answered courtesy with courtesy; he answered discourtesy with courtesy.

This President's hardest decision was also among his first. And in September 1974, GERALD FORD was almost alone in understanding that there can be no healing without pardon. The consensus holds that this decision cost him an election. That is very likely so. The criticism was fierce. But President FORD had larger concerns at heart. And it is far from the worst fate that a man should be remembered for his capacity to forgive.

In politics it can take a generation or more for a matter to settle, for tempers to cool. The distance of time has clarified many things about President GERALD FORD. And now death has done its part to reveal this man and the President for what he was.

He was not just a cheerful and pleasant man—although these virtues are rare enough at the commanding heights. He was not just a nice guy, the next-door neighbor whose luck landed him in the White House. It was this man, GERALD R. FORD, who led our republic safely through a crisis that could have turned to catastrophe. We will never know what further unravelings, what greater malevolence might have come in that

time of furies turned loose and hearts turned cold. But we do know this: America was spared the worst. And this was the doing of an American President. For all the grief that never came, for all the wounds that were never inflicted, the people of the United States will forever stand in debt to the good man and faithful servant we mourn tonight.

Thinking on all this, we are only more acutely aware of a time in our lives and of its end. And we can be certain that GERALD FORD would now ask only that we remember his wife. Betty, the President was not a hard man to read, and to his friends nothing was more obvious than the source of his great happiness. It was you. And all the good that you shared, Betty, all the good that you did together, has not gone away. All of that is forever.

There is a time to every purpose under Heaven. In the years of GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, it was a time to heal. There is also, in life, a time to part, when those who are dear to us must go their way. And so for now, Mr. President—farewell. We will always be thankful for your good life. In Almighty God, we place our confidence. And to Him we confirm you, with our love and with our prayers.

DR. BARRY C. BLACK, Chaplain, U.S. Senate: Eternal, Lord God, the giver of every good and perfect gift, this evening we express our gratitude to you for giving our Nation the blessing of President GERALD R. FORD. Lord, when this land desperately needed strong moral leadership, you gave it—President FORD's astuteness, honor, commitment, and courage. When we needed a model of unswerving integrity, you provided us with someone who was true and honest. Accept our gratitude for his courage to decide based upon principles, for his pragmatic leadership during cynical times, and for his long life of exemplary service. Thank you for his efforts to do what was in the country's best interests and for helping to bind the Nation's wounds after Watergate and Vietnam. Thank you also for permitting him to remind us that family and faith still matter, and that right living is a language which is clear to everyone. Comfort those who mourn, particularly Mrs. Ford and the children. May the memory of President FORD's dignity, decency, diligence, and decisiveness challenge us to use our lives for your glory. We pray in the name of him who is the resurrection and the life. Amen.

At the conclusion of the service, Mrs. Ford, escorted by Vice President Cheney and accompanied by her four children, approaches the casket for a moment of prayer.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by Vice President Cheney and her four children, exits the Rotunda and proceeds through Statuary Hall en route to the Rayburn Room.

Mrs. Ford and the family depart the U.S. Capitol en route to Blair House.

David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Mrs. Ford and Ford children at casket, Capitol Rotunda.

Casket lies in state at U.S. Capitol.

Sunday, December 31, 2006
U.S. Capitol

Casket lies in state at U.S. Capitol. Members of the public proceed through the Rotunda to pay their respects.

Members of the Ford family throughout the day chose to come to the Rotunda and greet members of the public.

Mrs. Ford and the family are in residence at Blair House.

Monday, January 1, 2007
U.S. Capitol

Casket lies in state at U.S. Capitol. Public proceeds through Rotunda to pay their respects.

Mrs. Ford and the family are in residence at Blair House.

Members of the Ford family throughout the day chose to come to the Rotunda and greet members of the public.

Invited representatives from the countries visited by President Ford as President and from Great Britain arrive at Blair House and, assisted by Mr. Randell Bumgardner and Mrs. Syd Goodwin, pay their respects to Mrs. Ford and the Ford family.

Austria—Harald Guenther
Belgium—Ambassador Dominique Struie
People's Republic of China—His Excellency Wen Zhong Zhou
Finland—His Excellency Pekka Lintu
France—His Excellency Jean-David Levitte
Germany—Johannes Handl
Apostolic Nunciature, the Holy See—His Excellency Most Reverend Pietro Sambi
Indonesia—His Excellency Sudjadnan Parnohadiningrat
Italy—His Excellency Stefano Stefanini
Japan—His Excellency Ryozo Kato
Korea—His Excellency Tae-sik Lee
Mexico—His Excellency Carlos Alberto de Icaza Gonzalez
Republic of the Philippines—His Excellency Willy Gaa
Republic of Poland—Wojciech Flera
Romania—Dorian Mihai
Russian Federation—Alexander Darchiev
Spain—Rafeal Garranzo
United Kingdom—His Excellency Sir David G. Manning

The Chief of Protocol Donald Burnham Ensenat

Countries of Former Yugoslavia
Macedonia—Oliver Krliu
Montenegro—Ms. Zorica Maric
Serbia—His Excellency Ivan Vujacic
Slovenia—His Excellency Samuel Zbogar
Bosnia and Herzegovina—Darko Zelenika
Croatia— Marijan Gubic

Honorary pallbearers and spouses, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Brokaw, Mr. and Mrs. Terrence O'Donnell, Mrs. Mary Claire Murphy, and Mr. John Rogers are received by Mrs. Ford.

President and Mrs. George W. Bush arrive at Blair House and are escorted by Gregory Willard to the Eisenhower Library where they sign the condolence book. They then proceed to the Main Library where they are received by Mrs. Ford and the family.

President and Mrs. George H.W. Bush and Mr. and Mrs. James A. Baker III are received by Mrs. Ford and the family in the Main Library.

At the personal invitation of Mrs. Ford, Mr. Joseph Hagin, Deputy White House Chief of Staff, is received by Mrs. Ford and the family in the Main Library.

President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter, President and Mrs. Bill Clinton, former First Family members, Mrs. Happy Rockefeller, Mr. Nelson Rockefeller, Jr., and Vice President and Mrs. Cheney arrive at Blair House and are received by Mrs. Ford and the family.

Mrs. Ford and the family proceed to the U.S. Capitol.

Motorcade arrives at U.S. Capitol. Steven Ford and Gregory Willard escort Mrs. Ford into the U.S. Capitol, accompanied by Michael and Gayle Ford; John and Juliann Ford; and Susan Ford Bales and Vaden Bales.

Upon arrival, Mrs. Ford and the family are assisted by Ted Daniel, Rebecca Daugherty, and Lt. Kathryn Stillman.

Upon arrival, Mrs. Ford is greeted by her granddaughters who have been at the Rotunda greeting guests and paying their respects.

Mrs. Ford and the family are accompanied in the Rotunda by Terrence and Margaret O'Donnell, Gregory and Ann Willard, Ann Cullen, Len Nurmi, and Janice Hart.

Mrs. Ford is escorted into the Rotunda by General Guy Swan and is seated with her four children and their spouses next to the casket.

Mrs. Ford and her family return to Blair House.

Tuesday, January 2, 2007
Washington, DC; Grand Rapids, Michigan

In an unprecedented tribute to President Ford and his service as Vice President and President of the Senate, the casket is carried from the Rotunda to outside the door of the Senate Chamber, where it is placed in repose prior to departure from the Capitol.

Motorcade departs Blair House en route to the U.S. Capitol. As Mrs. Ford and the family depart, the staff of Blair House line the sidewalk outside Blair House in tribute to President Ford.

Motorcade arrives at the U.S. Capitol, east Senate steps.

Michael Ford, John Ford, Steven Ford, and Susan Ford Bales proceed to the east Senate steps of the U.S. Capitol, ascend the steps, and enter the U.S. Capitol.

The four children proceed to the hallway immediately outside the Senate Chamber, where they pause at the casket.

The honorary pallbearers proceed to the base of the Senate steps.

Armed Forces Body Bearers carry the casket to just inside the door to the east Senate steps. The four children follow behind the casket.

As the movement of the casket to the east Senate door commences, Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and Vaden Bales, proceeds to her position on the East Plaza.

Armed Forces Body Bearers carry the casket from the U.S. Capitol via the east Senate steps. The four Ford children accompany the casket.

United States Navy Band:

"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
21-Gun Salute
"Abide with Me"
"Soul of My Savior"

David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Departure ceremony, U.S. Senate.

Armed Forces Body Bearers place the casket in the hearse.

Motorcade departs the U.S. Capitol en route to the National Cathedral.

En route to the National Cathedral, the motorcade pauses at the White House. White House staff and U.S. Secret Service personnel are gathered outside in tribute and farewell to President Ford.

The staff of Blair House is also gathered outside Blair House in tribute and farewell to President Ford.

Motorcade arrives at the National Cathedral.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and Steven Ford, and the family proceed into the Cathedral to the Rare Books Library, where they are received by President and Mrs. George W. Bush.

Mrs. Laura Bush is escorted to her seat in the Cathedral by General Swan.

Sarah Ford Goodfellow, escorted by Gregory Willard, and Bekah Ford Cooke, Hannah Ford, Gayle Ford, Tyne Vance Berlanga, Heather Vance, Christian Gerald Ford, Jonathan Ford, Juliann Ford, Vaden Bales, Blake Goodfellow, Clay Cooke, Matthew

Bales and Hector Berlanga proceed to their seats in the Cathedral.

David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

President and Mrs. Ford's family arrives at the National Cathedral Funeral Service.

Vaden Bales proceeds to the south transept and greets Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens on behalf of Mrs. Ford and the family.

Michael Ford, Steven Ford, Susan Ford Bales and John Ford are accompanied by General Swan to their seats.

Mrs. Ford is escorted by President George W. Bush to her seat.

Armed Forces Body Bearers remove the casket from the hearse.

United States Coast Guard Band (New London, Connecticut):
"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
"Nearer My God to Thee"

The casket is carried into the narthex.

Processional into the Cathedral:
Special Honor Guard—Joint Chiefs of Staff
Honorary pallbearers
Clergy

National Colors
Casket
Personal Colors

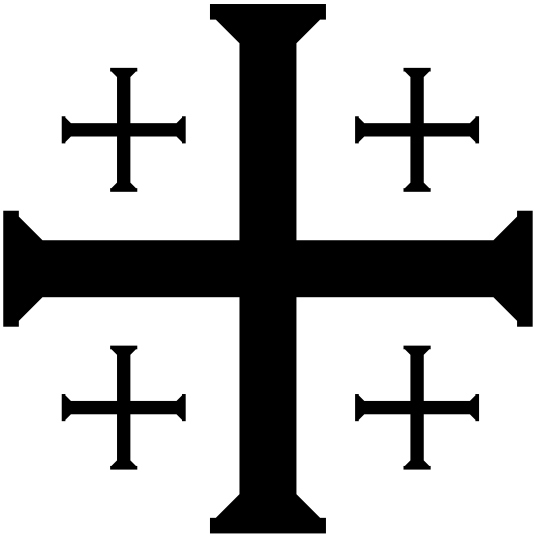
Armed Forces Body Bearers carry the casket to the crossing.

Service begins.

In Celebration of and Thanksgiving
for the Life of

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

1913–2006



Tuesday, the Second of January
In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Seven

The Cathedral Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul
in the City and Episcopal Diocese of Washington

Gerald Rudolph Ford

July 14, 1913–December 26, 2006

Thirty-Eighth President of the United States

PRELUDE

Performed by the Cathedral Organists

Prelude and Fugue in G Major, BWV 541	*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)*
Cortège et Litanie, Op. 19	*Marcel Dupré (1886–1971)*
Choral in E major	*César Franck (1822–1890)*
Prelude and Fugue in B minor, BWV 544	*J.S. Bach*
Prelude and Fugue in G Major, Op. 37, No. 2	*Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)*
Praeludium circulare, from Symphony No. 2, Op. 13	*Charles Marie Widor (1844–1937)*
Prelude and Fugue in A minor, WoO 9	*Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)*
Choral in A minor	*C. Franck*
Two choral preludes Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing What Wondrous Love Is This	*Paul Manz (b. 1919)*
Prelude and Fugue in E-flat ("St. Anne"), BWV 552	*J.S. Bach*

Performed by the United States Marine Orchestra

Fanfare for the Common Man	*Aaron Copland (1900–1990)*
When Jesus Wept, from *New England Triptych* (after the music of William Billings)	*William Schuman (1910–1992)*

Performed with the Armed Forces Chorus

O waly waly, from *Suite for Strings*	*John Rutter (b. 1945)*
Pilgrims' Hymn	*Stephen Paulus (b. 1949)*
How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place, from A German Requiem, Op. 45	*J. Brahms*

Music from the Bicentennial of American Independence Heritage Amanda Chester	*arranged by Stephen Bulla*
The Promise of Living, from *The Tender Land*	*Aaron Copland*
America	*Traditional* *lyrics by Samuel F. Smith* *arranged by Robert Edgerton*
America, the Beautiful	*Samuel Augustus Ward* *lyrics by Katherine Lee Bates* *arranged by Carmen Dragon*

BURIAL OF THE DEAD—RITE I

The Bourdon Bell tolls thirty-eight times as the cortege moves from the Capitol to the Cathedral

RECEPTION OF THE BODY — The Right Reverend John Bryson Chane

The Bishop meets the body at the door of the church and says:

With faith in Jesus Christ, we receive the body of our brother GERALD for burial. Let us pray with confidence to God, the Giver of life, that he will raise him to perfection in the company of the saints.

Deliver your servant, GERALD, O Sovereign Lord Christ, from all evil, and set him free from every bond; that he may rest with all your saints in the eternal habitations; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Let us also pray for all who mourn, that they may cast their care on God, and know the consolation of his love.

Almighty God, look with pity upon the sorrows of your servants for whom we pray. Remember them, Lord, in mercy; nourish them with patience; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; lift up your countenance upon them; and give them peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The people stand.

ANTHEM IN PROCESSION — The Reverend Dr. Robert Certain

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God; whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold, and not as a stranger.

For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For if we live, we live unto the Lord; and if we die, we die unto the Lord. Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

OPENING COLLECT — The Very Reverend Samuel T. Lloyd III

Dean The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Dean Let us pray.
O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant GERALD FORD, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
People Amen.

All are seated for the readings from scriptures.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON — Isaiah 40:28–31
read by Mr. John (Jack) Ford

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM—The King of Love My Shepherd Is — *arr. Michael McCarthy*
Sung by the Cathedral choirs

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine for ever.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.

EPISTLE — James 1:19–25
read by Mrs. Susan Ford Bales

A Reading from the Letter of James.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

TRIBUTES — The Honorable George H.W. Bush
The Honorable Dr. Henry A. Kissinger
Mr. Thomas J. Brokaw
The Honorable George W. Bush

ANTHEM—O God, Our Help in Ages Past — *arr. Mack Wilberg*
Sung by the Armed Forces Chorus with the United States Marine Orchestra

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

The people stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL — John 14:1–6a
read by Father Certain

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The people are seated for the Homily.

HOMILY — Father Certain

THE LORD'S PRAYER — *Albert Hay Malotte*
Ms. Denyce Graves and the United States Marine Orchestra

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The people stand for the prayers.
After each petition, the people respond Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rear Admiral Robert F. Burt

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace. Amen.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. Amen.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. Amen.

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. Amen.

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love. Amen.

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. Amen.

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. Amen.

Grant us grace to entrust GERALD to thy never-failing love; receive him into the arms of thy mercy, and remember him according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people. Amen.

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, he may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. Amen.

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The people are seated.

ANTHEM—Eternal Father, strong to save *arr. Mack Wilberg*
Sung by the Armed Forces Chorus with the United States Marine Orchestra

Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain
o'er which our traffic runs amain
by mountain pass or valley low;
wherever, Lord, thy people go,
protect them by thy guarding hand
from every peril on the land.

O Spirit, whom the Father sent
to spread abroad the firmament;
O Wind of heaven, by thy might
save all who dare the eagle's flight,
and keep them by thy watchful care
from every peril in the air.

O Trinity of love and power,
our people shield in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe're they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad praise from space, air, land, and sea.

The people stand.

THE COMMENDATION Father Certain

The Officiant and other ministers take their places at the body.

Officiant Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints,
People Where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Officiant Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
People Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,

neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Officiant Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant GERALD. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

People Amen.

THE BLESSING — Bishop Chane

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL — Dean Lloyd

Dean Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

HYMN—For All the Saints — tune: *Sine Nomine*

Sung by all

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy Name, O Jesus, be for ever blessed.
Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might:
thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, the one true Light.
Alleluia, alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia, alleluia!

O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
and win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia, alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Pièce Héroïque *César Franck (1822–1890)*

As the President leaves the Cathedral,
the congregation is asked to remain in their seats until directed by an usher.

PARTICIPANTS

Officiating Clergy

The Right Reverend John Bryson Chane
Bishop of Washington

The Very Reverend Samuel T. Lloyd III
Dean of the Cathedral

The Reverend Dr. Robert G. Certain
Rector, St. Margaret's Episcopal Church & School, Palm Desert, California

Homilist

The Reverend Dr. Robert G. Certain
Rector, St. Margaret's Episcopal Church & School, Palm Desert, California

Minister of Ceremonies

The Reverend Canon Carol L. Wade
Canon Precentor of Washington National Cathedral

Prayers of the People

Rear Admiral Robert F. Burt
Chief of Navy Chaplains

Readers

Mr. John (Jack) Ford

Mrs. Susan Ford Bales

Tributes

The Honorable George H.W. Bush
Forty-First President of the United States

The Honorable Dr. Henry A. Kissinger

Mr. Thomas J. Brokaw

The Honorable George W. Bush
Forty-Third President of the United States

Representatives of Faiths

Dr. Akbar Ahmed

Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies, American University, Washington, D.C.

Archbishop Demetrios
Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in America

The Right Reverend Frank T. Griswold III
The Twenty-fifth Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church

The Metropolitan Herman
Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of All America and Canada, Orthodox Church in America

Rabbi Bruce Lustig
Senior Rabbi, Washington Hebrew Congregation

Archbishop Pietro Sambi
Papal Nuncio to the United States

The Most Reverend Donald W. Wuerl
Catholic Archbishop of Washington

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Martin J. Allen, Jr.
James A. Baker III
Robert Barrett
James Cannon
Kenneth Chenault
Richard B. Cheney
William Coleman
Richard DeVos
Robert Dole
Richard Ford
Alan Greenspan
Robert Hartmann
Carla Hills
Henry Kissinger
Jack Marsh
Paul O'Neill
Donald H. Rumsfeld
Brent Scowcroft
Sanford Weill
Frank Zarb

MUSICIANS

Ms. Denyce Graves

THE UNITED STATES MARINE ORCHESTRA
Lieutenant Colonel Michael Colburn, *Director*

THE ARMED FORCES CHORUS
Lieutenant Colonel John Clanton, *Director*

THE CATHEDRAL CHOIRS OF MEN, BOYS AND GIRLS
Michael McCarthy, *Director of Music*
Erik Wm. Suter, *Organist and Associate Director of Music*
Scott Hanoian, *Assistant Organist and Assistant Director of Music*
Christopher Jacobson, *Organ Scholar*
Edward M. Nassor, *Carillonneur*
The Washington Ringing Society

THE CATHEDRAL VERGERS

Stephen Lott, *Head Verger*

THE CATHEDRAL USHERS

Michael Heid, *Head Usher*

University of Michigan, B.A., 1935
Yale University School of Law, LL.B., 1941
United States Navy, 1942–1946
United States House of Representatives, 1949–1973
Vice President of the United States, 1973–1974
President of the United States, 1974–1977

THE HONORABLE GEORGE H.W. BUSH, Former President of the United States: Well, as the story goes, GERALD FORD was a newly minted candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives in June 1948 when he made plans with a reporter to visit the dairy farmers in Western Michigan's Fifth Congressional District. It was pouring rain that particular day and neither the journalist nor the farmers had expected the upstart candidate to keep his appointment. And yet he showed up on time because, as he explained to the journalist, "they milk cows every day and, besides that, I promised."

Long before he arrived in Washington, GERALD FORD's word was good. During the three decades of public service that followed his arrival in our Nation's Capital, time and again he would step forward and keep his promise even when the dark clouds of political crisis gathered over America.

After a deluded gunman assassinated President Kennedy, our Nation turned to GERALD FORD and a select handful of others to make sense of that madness. And the conspiracy theorists can say what they will, but the Warren Commission report will always have the final definitive say on this tragic matter. Why? Because JERRY FORD put his name on it and JERRY FORD's word was always good.

A decade later, when scandal forced a Vice President from office, President Nixon turned to the minority leader in the House to stabilize his administration because of JERRY FORD's sterling reputation for integrity within the Congress. To political ally and adversary alike, JERRY FORD's word was always good.

And, of course, when the lie that was Watergate was finally laid bare, once again we entrusted our future and our hopes to this good man. The very sight of Chief Justice Burger administering the oath of office to our 38th President instantly restored the honor of the Oval Office and helped America begin to turn the page on one of our saddest chapters.

As Americans we generally eschew notions of the indispensable man, and yet during those traumatic times, few if any of our public leaders could have stepped into the breach and rekindled our national faith as did President GERALD R. FORD.

History has a way of matching man and moment. And just as President Lincoln's stubborn devotion to our Constitution kept the Union together during the Civil War, and just as F.D.R.'s optimism was the perfect antidote to the despair of the Great Depression, so too can we say that JERRY FORD's decency was the ideal remedy for the deception of Watergate.

For this and for so much more, his Presidency will be remembered as a time of healing in our land. In fact, when President FORD was choosing a title for his memoirs, he chose words from the book of Ecclesiastes.

Here was the verse:

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

"A time to be born, a time to die.

"A time to kill, and a time to heal.

"A time to weep, and a time to laugh.

"A time to mourn, and a time to dance."

He acknowledged that he was no saint. To know JERRY was to know a Norman Rockwell painting come to life. An avuncular figure, quick to smile, frequently with his pipe in his mouth. He could be tough. He could be tough as nails when the situation warranted. But he also had a heart as big and as open as the Midwest plains on which he was born. And he imbued every life he touched with his understated gentility.

When we served together in the House of Representatives years ago, I watched from the back bench—I watched this good man—and even from way back there I could see the sterling leadership qualities of JERRY FORD. And later, after I followed his footsteps into the Oval Office, he was always supportive.

On the lighter side, JERRY and I shared a common love of golf and also a reputation for suspect play before large crowds.

"I know I'm playing better golf," President FORD once reported to friends, "because I'm hitting fewer spectators."

He had a wonderful sense of humor and even took it in stride when Chevy Chase had to make the entire world think that this terrific, beautifully coordinated athlete was actually a stumbler. FORD said it was funny. He wrote it in his memoir.

I remember that lesson well, since being able to laugh at yourself is essential in public life. I'd tell you more about that, but as Dana Carvey would say: "Not gonna do it. Wouldn't be prudent."

In the end, we are all God's children. And on this bittersweet day we can take solace that the Lord has come and taken this good man by the hand and led him home to heaven.

It is plain to see how the hand of providence spared JERRY in World War II and later against two assassination attempts. And for that we give thanks. It is just as plain to see how the same hand directed this good man to lead a life of noble purpose, a life filled with challenge and accomplishment, a life indelibly

marked by honor and integrity. And today we give thanks for that, too.

May Almighty God bless the memory of GERALD R. FORD and keep him firm in the hearts of his countrymen. And may God bless his wonderful family.

THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER, Former Secretary of State: According to an ancient tradition, God preserves humanity despite its many transgressions because at any one period there exist 10 just individuals who, without being aware of their role, redeem mankind.

GERALD FORD was such a man. Propelled into the Presidency by a sequence of unpredictable events, he had an impact so profound it's rightly to be considered providential.

Unassuming and without guile, GERALD FORD undertook to restore the confidence of Americans in their political institutions and purposes. Never having aspired to national office, he was not consumed by driving ambition. In his understated way, he did his duty as a leader, not as a performer playing to the gallery.

GERALD FORD had the virtues of small-town America: sincerity, serenity and integrity. As it turned out, the absence of glibness and his artless decency became a political asset, fostering an unusual closeness to leaders around the world, which continued long after he left office.

In recent days, the deserved commentary on GERALD FORD's character has sometimes obscured how sweeping and lasting were his achievements.

GERALD FORD's prudence and common sense kept ethnic conflicts in Cyprus and Lebanon from spiraling into regional war.

He presided over the final agony of Indochina with dignity and wisdom.

In the Middle East, his persistence produced the first political agreement between Israel and Egypt.

He helped shape the act of the Helsinki European Security Conference, which established an internationally recognized standard for human rights, now generally accepted as having hastened the collapse of the former Soviet empire.

He sparked the initiative to bring majority rule to southern Africa, a policy that was a major factor in ending colonialism there.

In his Presidency, the International Energy Agency was established, which still forces cooperation among oil-consuming nations.

GERALD FORD was one of the founders of the continuing annual economic summit among the industrial democracies.

Throughout his 29 months in office, he persisted in conducting negotiations with our principal adversary over the reduction and control of nuclear arms.

GERALD FORD was always driven by his concern for humane values. He stumped me in his 5th day in office when he used the first call made by the Soviet Ambassador to intervene on behalf of a Lithuanian seaman who 4 years earlier had in a horrible bungle been turned over to Soviet authorities after seeking asylum in America. Against all diplomatic precedent and, I must say, against the advice of all experts, GERALD FORD requested that the seaman, a Soviet citizen in a Soviet jail, not only be released but be turned over to American custody. Even more amazing, his request was granted.

Throughout the final ordeal of Indochina, GERALD FORD focused on America's duty to rescue the maximum number of those who had relied on us. The extraction of 150,000 refugees was the consequence. And typically GERALD FORD saw it as his duty to visit one of the refugee camps long after public attention had moved elsewhere.

GERALD FORD summed up his concern for human values at the European Security Conference, when looking directly at Brezhnev he proclaimed America's deep devotion to human rights and individual freedoms. "To my country," he said, "they're not cliches or empty phrases."

Historians will debate for a long time over which President contributed most to victory in the cold war. Few will dispute that the cold war could not have been won had not GERALD FORD emerged at a tragic period to restore equilibrium to America and confidence in its international role.

Sustained by his beloved wife, Betty, and with the children to whom he was devoted, GERALD FORD left the Presidency with no regrets, no second-guessing, no obsessive pursuit of his place in history.

For his friends, he leaves an aching void. Having known JERRY FORD and having worked with him will be our badge of honor for the rest of our lives.

Early in his administration, GERALD FORD said to me: "I get mad as hell, but I don't show it, when I don't do as well as I should. If you don't strive for the best, you will never make it."

We are here to bear witness that JERRY FORD always did his best, and that his best proved essential to renew our society and restore hope to the world.

THOMAS J. BROKAW, Journalist: Mrs. Ford, members of the Ford family, President and Mrs. Bush, Vice President and Mrs. Cheney, President and Mrs. Bush, President and Mrs. Carter, President and Mrs. Clinton, distinguished guests, my fellow Americans, it's a great privilege and an honor for me to be here.

For the past week, we have been hearing the familiar lyrics of the hymns to the passing of a famous man, the hosannas to his decency, his honesty, his modesty and his steady-as-she-goes qualities. It's what we've come to expect on these occasions.

But this time there was extra value, for in the case of GERALD FORD, these lyrics have the added virtue of being true.

Sometimes there are two versions to these hymns—one public and one private, separate and discordant. But in GERALD FORD, the man he was in public, he was also that man in private.

GERALD FORD brought to the political arena no demons, no hidden agenda, no hit list or acts of vengeance. He knew who he was and he didn't require consultants or gurus to change him. Moreover, the country knew who he was and despite occasional differences, large and small, it never lost its affection for this man from Michigan, the football player, the lawyer and the veteran, the Congressman and suburban husband, the champion of Main Street values who brought all of those qualities to the White House.

Once there, he stayed true to form, never believing that he was suddenly wiser and infallible because he drank his morning coffee from a cup with a Presidential seal.

He didn't seek the office. And yet, as he told his friend, the late, great journalist Hugh Sidey, he was not frightened of the task before him.

We could identify with him—all of us—for so many reasons. Among them, we were all trapped in what passed for style in the 1970s with a wardrobe with lapels out to here, white belts, plaid jackets and trousers so patterned that they would give you a migraine. The rest of us have been able to destroy most of the evidence of our fashion meltdown, but Presidents are not

so lucky. Those David Kennerly photographs are reminders of his endearing qualities, but some of those jackets—I think that they're eligible for a Presidential pardon or at least a digital touchup.

As a journalist, I was especially grateful for his appreciation of our role, even when we challenged his policies and taxed his patience with our constant presence and persistence. We could be adversaries but we were never his enemy, and that was a welcome change in status from his predecessor's time.

To be a member of the Gerald Ford White House press corps brought other benefits as well as we documented a Nation and a world in transition, in turmoil. We accompanied him to audiences with the notorious and the merely powerful. We saw Tito, Franco, Sadat, Marcos, Suharto, the shah of Iran, the emperor of Japan, China with Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai and Deng Xiaoping all at once, what was then the Soviet Union and Vladivostock with Leonid Brezhnev, and Helsinki at one of the most remarkable gatherings of leaders in the 20th century.

There were other advantages to being a member of his press corps that we didn't advertise quite as widely. We went to Vail at Christmas and Palm Springs at Easter time with our families. Now cynics might argue that contributed to our affection for him. That is not a premise that I wish to challenge.

One of our colleagues, Jim Naughton of the *New York Times*, personified the spirit that existed in the relationship. He bought from a San Diego radio station promoter a large mock chicken head that had attracted the President's attention at a GOP rally. And then, giddy from 20-hour days and an endless repetition of the same campaign speech, Naughton decided to wear that chicken head to a Ford news conference in Oregon with the enthusiastic encouragement of the President and his chief of staff, Dick Cheney.

In the next news cycle, the chicken head was a bigger story than the President. And no one was more pleased than the man that we honor here today in this august ceremony.

When the President called me last year and asked me if I would participate in these services, I think he wanted to be sure that the White House press corps was represented. The writers, correspondents and producers, the cameramen, photographers, the technicians and the chicken.

He also brought something else to the White House, of course. He brought the humanity that comes with a family that seemed to be living right next door. He was every parent when

he said my children have spoken for themselves since they were old enough to speak—and not always with my approval. I expect that to continue in the future.

And was there a more supportive husband in America than when his beloved Betty began to speak out on issues that were not politically correct at the time. Together, they put on the front pages and in the leads of the evening newscasts the issues that had been underplayed in America for far too long.

My colleague Bob Schieffer called him the nicest man he ever met in politics. To that I would only add the most underestimated.

In many ways I believe football was a metaphor for his life in politics and after. He played in the middle of the line. He was a center, a position that seldom receives much praise. But he had his hands on the ball for every play and no play could start without him. And when the game was over and others received the credit, he didn't whine or whimper.

But then he came from a generation accustomed to difficult missions, shaped by the sacrifices and the depravations of the Great Depression, a generation that gave up its innocence and youth to then win a great war and save the world. And when that generation came home from war, they were mature beyond their years and eager to make the world they had saved a better place. They re-enlisted as citizens and set out to serve their country in new ways, with political differences but always with the common goal of doing what's best for the Nation and all the people.

When he entered the Oval Office, by fate not by design, Citizen FORD knew that he was not perfect, just as he knew he was not perfect when he left. But what President ever was?

But he was prepared because he had served his country every day of his adult life and he left the Oval Office a much better place. The personal rewards of his citizenship and his Presidency were far richer than he had anticipated in every sense of the phrase.

But the greatest rewards of JERRY FORD's time were reserved for his fellow Americans and the Nation he loved.

Farewell, Mr. President. Thank you, Citizen FORD.

THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States: Mrs. Ford, the Ford family; distinguished guests, including our Presidents and First Ladies; and our fellow citizens:

We are here today to say goodbye to a great man. GERALD FORD was born and reared in the American heartland. He belonged to a generation that measured men by their honesty and their courage. He grew to manhood under the roof of a loving mother and father—and when times were tough, he took part-time jobs to help them out. In President FORD, the world saw the best of America—and America found a man whose character and leadership would bring calm and healing to one of the most divisive moments in our Nation's history.

Long before he was known in Washington, GERALD FORD showed his character and his leadership. As a star football player for the University of Michigan, he came face to face with racial prejudice when Georgia Tech came to Ann Arbor for a football game. One of Michigan's best players was an African American student named Willis Ward. Georgia Tech said they would not take the field if a black man were allowed to play. GERALD FORD was furious at Georgia Tech for making the demand, and for the University of Michigan for caving in. He agreed to play only after Willis Ward personally asked him to. The stand GERALD FORD took that day was never forgotten by his friend. And GERALD FORD never forgot that day either—and three decades later, he proudly supported the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act in the U.S. Congress.

GERALD FORD showed his character in the devotion to his family. On the day he became President, he told the Nation, "I am indebted to no man, and only to one woman—to my dear wife." By then Betty Ford had a pretty good idea of what marriage to GERALD FORD involved. After all, their wedding had taken place less than 3 weeks before his first election to the U.S. Congress, and his idea of a "honeymoon" was driving to Ann Arbor with his bride so they could attend a brunch before the Michigan-Northwestern game the next day. (Laughter.) And that was the beginning of a great marriage. The Fords would have four fine children. And Steve, Jack, Mike, and Susan know that, as proud as their Dad was of being President, GERALD FORD was even prouder of the other titles he held: father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

GERALD FORD showed his character in the uniform of our country. When Pearl Harbor was attacked in December 1941, GERALD FORD was an attorney fresh out of Yale Law School, but when his Nation called he did not hesitate. In early 1942 he volunteered for the Navy and, after receiving his commission, worked hard to get assigned to a ship headed into combat. Even-

tually his wish was granted, and Lieutenant FORD was assigned to the aircraft carrier, U.S.S. *Monterey*, which saw action in some of the biggest battles of the Pacific.

GERALD FORD showed his character in public office. As a young Congressman, he earned a reputation for an ability to get along with others without compromising his principles. He was greatly admired by his colleagues and they trusted him a lot. And so when President Nixon needed to replace a Vice President who had resigned in scandal, he naturally turned to a man whose name was a synonym for integrity: GERALD R. FORD. And 8 months later, when he was elevated to the Presidency, it was because America needed him, not because he needed the office.

President FORD assumed office at a terrible time in our Nation's history. At home, America was divided by political turmoil and wracked by inflation. In Southeast Asia, Saigon fell just 9 months into his Presidency. Amid all the turmoil, GERALD FORD was a rock of stability. And when he put his hand on his family Bible to take the Presidential oath of office, he brought grace to a moment of great doubt. In a short time, the gentleman from Grand Rapids proved that behind the affability was firm resolve. When a U.S. ship called the *Mayaguez* was seized by Cambodia, President FORD made the tough decision to send in the Marines—and all the crew members were rescued. He was criticized for signing the Helsinki Accords, yet history has shown that document helped bring down the Soviet Union, as courageous men and women behind the Iron Curtain used it to demand their God-given liberties. Twice assassins attempted to take the life of this good and decent man, yet he refused to curtail his public appearances. And when he thought that the Nation needed to put Watergate behind us, he made the tough and decent decision to pardon President Nixon, even though that decision probably cost him the Presidential election.

GERALD FORD assumed the Presidency when the Nation needed a leader of character and humility—and we found it in the man from Grand Rapids. President FORD's time in office was brief, but history will long remember the courage and common sense that helped restore trust in the workings of our democracy.

Laura and I had the honor of hosting the Ford family for GERALD FORD's 90th birthday. It's one of the highlights of our time in the White House. I will always cherish the memory of the last time I saw him, this past year in California. He was still smiling, still counting himself lucky to have Betty at his

side, and still displaying the optimism and generosity that made him one of America's most beloved leaders. And so, on behalf of a grateful Nation, we bid farewell to our 38th President. We thank the Almighty for GERALD FORD's life, and we ask for God's blessings on GERALD FORD and his family.

Armed Forces Body Bearers carry the casket from the crossing.

As the casket is moved from the altar and, by prior personal request of President and Mrs. Ford, Vice President Cheney escorts the casket out of the Cathedral.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by President George W. Bush and Steven Ford, and the Ford family proceed to the narthex.

United States Coast Guard Band (New London, Connecticut):
"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
"Holy, Holy, Holy"

Mrs. Ford and the family proceed to the motorcade for boarding.

Motorcade departs the National Cathedral en route to Andrews Air Force Base.

Motorcade arrives at Andrews Air Force Base.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and Steven Ford, and the family proceed to their positions.

Mrs. Ford and the family are joined at the departure ceremony by President Jimmy Carter and Mrs. Rosalynn Carter, Tom and Meredith Brokaw, Dr. Fletcher "Buzz" Miller and Debby Miller, Richard Norton Smith, Gregory and Ann Willard, Penny Circle, Ann Cullen, Len Nurmi, Michael Wagner, Janice Hart, Terrence and Margaret O'Donnell, Leon and Barbara Parma, Lee and Jeanette Simmons, Richard Garbarino, Dr. Ted Garrett and Gayle Garrett, John Gregory Willard, and Thym Smith.

Armed Forces Body Bearers remove the casket from the hearse.

United States Air Force Band:
"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
21-Gun Salute (5 second interval)
"Goin' Home"

Armed Forces Body Bearers place the casket onto the Presidential aircraft.

The Ford children greet each of the honorary pallbearers.

The Ford family and President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter are escorted by Michael Wagner to the Presidential aircraft for boarding.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan, boards the Presidential aircraft.

Presidential aircraft departs Andrews Air Force Base en route to Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Approximately 1 hour and 10 minutes following departure, the Presidential aircraft flew very low over the University of Michigan and the University of Michigan Stadium and dipped its wings in tribute and farewell to President Ford's alma mater.

Presidential aircraft arrives at Gerald R. Ford International Airport, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Honorary pallbearers: Grand Rapids

Martin J. Allen, Jr.
Mary Sue Coleman
Richard M. DeVos
Richard A. Ford
David G. Frey
Pepi Gramshammer
Robert L. Hooker
Frederick G.H. Meijer
Jack Nicklaus
Leon W. Parma
Peter F. Secchia
L. William Seidman
Steve Van Andel
Glenn "Bo" Schembechler (*in memoriam*)

President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter, escorted by Michael Wagner, and the Ford family proceed from the Presidential aircraft to the departure ceremony.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Guy Swan and John Ford, proceeds from the Presidential aircraft to the departure ceremony.

Armed Forces Body Bearers remove the casket from the Presidential aircraft.

University of Michigan Marching Band (Ann Arbor, Michigan):

"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
21-Gun Salute (5 second interval)
"The Yellow and Blue"
"Hail to the Victors"

Motorcade departs en route to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

As the motorcade proceeds from the Gerald R. Ford International Airport en route to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, honorary Color Guards from veterans organizations and regional Boy Scout troops are in formation across the entire south side of the Bridge Street Bridge.

Motorcade arrives at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Mourners in line to pay their respects during the public repose at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

President and Mrs. Carter are escorted inside the museum by U.S. Military Academy Cadet Peter Meijer.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and Gregory Willard, and the Ford family proceed to the arrival ceremony.

Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm and Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell stand just outside the main entrance. The remaining members of the 30/30 Club (teammates from President Ford's high school football team) are inside the museum atrium.

Armed Forces Body Bearers remove the casket from the hearse.

126th Army Band (Wyoming, Michigan):
"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"

Armed Forces Body Bearers proceed through cordon, and into the museum as "Amazing Grace" is played by a Grand Rapids Police Department bagpiper.

Bagpiper
Color Guard
Clergy
Casket
Presidential Colors
Honorary pallbearers
Mrs. Ford and General Swan
Family

Guard of Honor is posted.

A brief service is conducted in the museum.

Arrival Ceremony for President Ford at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum January 2, 2007

Invocation given by George Heartwell, Mayor of Grand Rapids

Remarks by Mr. Martin Allen, Chairman Emeritus, Gerald R. Ford Foundation

Remarks by Governor Jennifer Granholm of Michigan

"Shall We Gather at the River," sung by the United States Army Chorus

Placing of the University of Michigan wreath by Dr. Mary Sue Coleman, President, University of Michigan

Placing of the Yale University wreath by Dr. Richard Levin, President, Yale University

Benediction by Reverend Robert G. Certain

GEORGE HEARTWELL, Mayor of Grand Rapids: And those who know thy name put their trust in thee, for thou O Lord has not forsaken those who seek thee.

Let us pray:

Merciful God, we call on you to be powerfully present at this moment in the life of this family and this Nation. We celebrate your servant Gerald Ford who gave a lifetime of service to his country, who heard your call spoken through the votes of the people of this congressional district, spoken through a confirmation process for Vice President, and spoken through a succession process that placed him in the highest office of our land. Each time that he heard your call to move higher, he faithfully responded. Now in his spirit, he meets you face to face and hears your final call: Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Master. We who are left behind can only mourn his passing, pray for his soul, and look to a bright future for America which he saw so clearly. Comfort us in our grief, especially comfort his family whose sadness surpasses all. Comfort the Nation which strives for the decency and honor which President Ford embodied. Yet though we mourn, we are not a people who mourn without hope or who grieve without purpose. Our purpose must be to grasp what you have given us and to understand what you have shown us so that out of our night of mourning might come a dawn of quiet resolve. Thus today we resolve to be the great Nation President Ford challenged us to be. A Nation that is strong and courageous in the face of opposition. A Nation that forgives freely and seeks forgiveness from others. A Nation that adheres to the highest standards of ethics and diplomacy. A guiding light to the world. Bless the soul of Gerald Ford with homecoming joy and bless those of us who remain behind with the confidence of eternal life. Amen.

MARTIN J. ALLEN, JR., Chairman Emeritus, Gerald R. Ford Foundation: Betty, Mike, Jack, Steve, Susan, Brother Dick, members of the Ford family, the Ford staff, and friends of Ford:

There is a group here that could be classified as friends or family, the United States Army Chorus who have been with the Fords for so many of their significant events while in the White House and after. One of the many events that they performed in Grand Rapids was the dedication of this museum. They have adopted the Ford family as the family has adopted the chorus. It is most appropriate that they are here today and for tomorrow's services.

"Grand Rapids, Michigan—a place from which a man can journey far and never leave."

These words are taken from Jim Cannon's book on President Ford entitled "Time and Chance." Jim came to Grand Rapids with an understanding of the Midwestern culture, but when he left he had a much better understanding of what shaped President Ford's values and characteristics developed throughout his formative years. He found a young man whose family values were based on simple but profound Ford rules: "tell the truth, work hard and be at dinner on time." He abided by the Boy Scout oath: "Duty to God and Country"—and achieved the distinguished title of Eagle Scout. He experienced discipline, courage, and competitiveness with respect for opponents as a football player at South High School. Those values would endure throughout his life and evolved characteristics of decency, integrity, civility and goodwill.

"A place from which a man can journey far and never leave"—and journey from Grand Rapids he did . . . to the University of Michigan, Yale University, the South Pacific during World War II, Alexandria, Virginia, the White House, Colorado, and California . . . but wherever he journeyed, the values forged in Grand Rapids never left him.

And most important to him, of all of his memories and experiences in Grand Rapids, it was in this city where the great love story of JERRY FORD and Betty Bloomer had its beginning, a beginning that would have no end. The concise, but powerful, words selected by President and Mrs. Ford inscribed at the burial site say it all—"Lives committed to God, Country and Love."

We have just completed the 25th anniversary of the dedication of this museum. For over 20 years, I have had the privilege—indeed the pleasure—to meet President Ford at these entrance doors whenever he visited his Presidential museum. I always greeted him the same way, "Welcome home, Mr. President." And he always responded, "Marty, it's good to be home."

Following Governor Granholm's remarks, the United States Army Chorus will sing the beautiful hymn that asks the question in its title "Shall We Gather at the River?," and is answered by the refrain "yes, we'll gather at the river."

And so we gather here to conclude President Ford's final journey from California, to Washington, DC, to the city he never left, Grand Rapids, to say

"Welcome home, Mr. President."

JENNIFER GRANHOLM, Governor of Michigan: To Mrs. Ford, Michael, Jack, Steven and Susan, friends of the Ford family, President and Mrs. Carter, and honored guests:

On behalf of the State of Michigan, welcome. We are proud and honored that you are here.

And to President Ford: Welcome home, Mr. President. Welcome home to the city where you ate dinners with your family on Union Avenue, where you laughed with your high school football friends, and graduated with honors from Grand Rapids South High.

Mr. President, welcome home to the State and the city where your mother and your stepfather baked into your young life some good Midwestern values—hard work, sportsmanship, integrity, honesty.

Welcome home to the city you returned to after serving your country in the war.

Welcome home to the city where you and Betty were married, at Grace Episcopal Church—Betty in a $50 dress, and you in muddy shoes.

Welcome home to the district you represented in Congress so well for 25 years, while living on Crown View Drive.

And welcome home to the people you reflected so well when you were in Washington.

You probably saw as the motorcade drove in the citizens of Grand Rapids on freeway overpasses, children holding signs saying "Welcome Home." We are so proud. And let me just observe, sir, that a lot has been said about your humility, simplicity, low-key approach to leading. But we won't let all that understatedness fool us—you were incredible. We all know about being a high school and college football star, but . . . an Eagle Scout, a war hero, an honors graduate of the University of Michigan and Yale Law School. In fact, the most delightful secret about JERRY FORD is that you were a paradoxical gift of remarkable intellect and achievement, wrapped in plain brown paper.

Mr. President, you embodied the Midwestern spirit illustrated in the three rules you often said your parents taught you—tell the truth, work hard, and come to dinner on time. I cannot think of three better rules to live by, whether you are a boy growing up in Grand Rapids or the President of the United States.

I was listening to the commentators on the news this morning describe the actions yesterday by Susan and Jack and Mi-

chael and Steven as they personally shook the hands of mourners who came to pay their respects—the commentators described their graciousness and warmth and accessibility as an example of good Midwestern values. It made me proud. I'm sure that you were proud too, Mr. President.

We were proud to see the down-to-earth spirit you brought to the White House. We are proud that we will put you down in our Michigan earth, right here.

Welcome home, Mr. President, to a State proud of your time as not only the Nation's President, but our President, Michigan's President.

Mr. President, you said at the rededication of this museum in 1997:

"Like a runner nearing the end of his course, I hand off the baton to those who share my belief in America as a country that has never become, but is always in the act of becoming. Presidents come and go. But principles endure, to inspire and animate leaders yet unborn. . . . That is the mission of every American patriot. For here the lamp of individual conscience burns bright. By that light, we can all find our way home."

Mr. President, we are proud that you have found your way home.

"Shall We Gather at the River" sung by the United States Army Chorus:

Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angels he has brought,
With its crystal tides forever
Flowing by the throne of God

Yes, we'll gather at the river.
The beautiful, the beautiful, river.
Gather with the saints at the river,
That flows by the throne of God

Ere we reach the shining river
Lay we every burden down,
Praise our spirits will deliver
And provide our robe and crown.

Yes, we'll gather at the river.
The beautiful, the beautiful, river.
Gather with the saints at the river,
That flows by the throne of God

Soon we'll reach the shining river,

Soon our pilgrimage will cease,
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.

Yes, we'll gather at the river.
The beautiful, the beautiful, river.
Gather with the saints at the river,
That flows by the throne of God

JENNIFER GRANHOLM: Second only to Grand Rapids, the University of Michigan shaped Gerald Ford's character and broadened his outlook. In placing a memorial wreath on behalf of the entire Wolverine family, President Mary Sue Coleman expresses the university's own pride in, and affection for, its most distinguished graduate.

Dr. Coleman approaches the Michigan wreath, which is carried by a soldier. The wreath is then placed by Dr. Coleman at the casket. Following a personal moment, Dr. Coleman speaks with Mrs. Ford.

JENNIFER GRANHOLM: In his memoirs, President Ford wrote of Yale University and its gothic towers with unabashed enthusiasm. "Everywhere I went, I observed an atmosphere of scholarship, dignity, and tradition," he said. In Yale's classrooms he mastered the law; on its athletic fields he learned lessons that would stand him in good stead and guide him for the rest of his life. Today, President Richard Levin and Yale University honor us, even as they honor this son of Michigan, who was also a loyal son of Eli.

Dr. Levin approaches the wreath, which is carried by a Marine. The wreath is then placed by Dr. Levin at the casket. Following a personal moment, Dr. Levin speaks with Mrs. Ford.

FATHER ROBERT CERTAIN: Let us pray.

Lord God Almighty, in whose name the Founders of this country in liberty for themselves and for us, lit the torch of freedom for nations then onboard, grant we beseech thee that we and all people of this land may have grace to maintain these liberties in righteousness and peace through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

And may the peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his son, Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of the

Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you, always. Amen.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and John Ford, and the Ford family proceed to the motorcade.

Mrs. Ford and the family proceed to Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.

Public repose begins at the museum. Approximately 69,000 people paid their respects at the casket throughout the night. At various periods during the night, several of President and Mrs. Ford's children and grandchildren greeted the guests.

Wednesday, January 3, 2007
Grand Rapids, Michigan

The family proceeds to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

The family, accompanied by General Swan, proceeds inside the museum for private time prior to the departure ceremony.

Armed Forces Body Bearers carry the casket from the museum.

126th Army Band (Wyoming, Michigan):
"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Procession moves to the hearse.

Order of Procession
Honorary pallbearers
Clergy
Casket
Presidential Colors
Family

Armed Forces Body Bearers place the casket in the hearse.

The family departs en route to Grace Episcopal Church.

Along a portion of the motorcade route from the museum to Grace Church, Boy Scouts formed a 1-mile long honorary cordon to pay their final respects to President Ford.

Mrs. Ford and the family arrive at Grace Church and are escorted to the Guild Room.

Vice President and Mrs. Dick Cheney, President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter, and Secretary and Mrs. Donald Rumsfeld proceed to the Guild Room and greet Mrs. Ford.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan, and the family proceed to the sanctuary.

Armed Forces Body Bearers remove the casket from the hearse.

Air Force Band of Flight (Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio):

"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"

Armed Forces Body Bearers carry the casket through the cordon and into the church as "Fairest Lord Jesus" is played.

Former Michigan football coach, the late "Bo" Schembechler, had been invited by President Ford to be an honorary pallbearer in Grand Rapids. In tribute to Coach Schembechler and his friendship with President Ford, a maize and blue stadium blanket with the University of Michigan "M" was placed on the pew that would have been occupied by Coach Schembechler. Mrs. Cathy Schembechler, Coach Schembechler's widow, accompanied the honorary pallbearers and their spouses at all ceremonies and services in Grand Rapids.

Service commences.

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A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of

GERALD R. FORD

Thirty-Eighth President of the United States

Wednesday, January 3, 2007

2:00 P.M.

Grace Episcopal Church

Grand Rapids, Michigan

★ ★ ★

"Our Constitution works; our great Republic
is a government of laws and not of men.
Here the people rule. But there is a higher Power,
by whatever name we honor Him,
who ordains not only righteousness, but love;
not only justice, but mercy."
—GERALD R. FORD, AUGUST 9, 1974

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart,
and lean not unto thine own understanding.
In all thy ways acknowledge Him,
and He shall direct thy paths."
—BOOK OF PROVERBS, CHAPTER 3:5–6

"God has been good to America, especially during difficult times.
At the time of the Civil War, he gave us Abraham Lincoln.
And at the time of Watergate, he gave us Gerald Ford—
The right man at the right time who was able
to put the Nation back together."
—THE HONORABLE THOMAS P. (TIP) O'NEILL
SPEAKER, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE — Grace Episcopal Church Choir and Organist

RECEPTION OF THE BODY — The Reverend Dr. J. Nixon McMillan

With faith in Jesus Christ, we receive the body of our brother GERALD for burial. Let us pray with confidence to God, the Giver of life, that He will raise him to perfection in the company of the saints.

Deliver your servant, GERALD, O Sovereign Lord Christ, from all evil, and set him free from every bond; that he may rest with all your saints in the eternal habitations; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit You live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Let us also pray for all who mourn, that they may cast their care on God, and know the consolation of His love.

Almighty God, look with pity upon the sorrows of Your servants for whom we pray. Remember them, Lord, in Your mercy; nourish them with patience; comfort them with a sense of Your goodness; lift up Your countenance upon them; and give them peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The people stand.

ANTHEM IN PROCESSION — The Reverend Dr. Robert Certain

"I am the resurrection and the life," saith the Lord.
"He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live;
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

I know that my Redeemer liveth,
and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth;
and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God;
whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold,
and not as a stranger.

For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.
For if we live, we live unto the Lord;
and if we die, we die unto the Lord.
Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord;
even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

OPENING COLLECT THE REVEREND CHARLES HOWELL

Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: And with Thy spirit.
Priest: Let us pray.
O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of Thy servant GERALD FORD, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of Thy saints; through Jesus Christ Thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
People: Amen.

The people are seated.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Read by Mr. Michael Ford
PSALM 23

A Reading from the Psalms of David

The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures. He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand.

HYMN
Sung by all

Refrain:
All glory, laud, and honor
to Thee, Redeemer, King!
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.

1. Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son.
who in the Lord's Name comest,
the King and Blessed One.
Refrain.

2. The company of angels
is praising Thee on high;
and we with all creation
in chorus make reply.
Refrain.

3. The people of the Hebrews
with palms before Thee went;
our praise and prayers and anthems
before Thee we present.
Refrain.

4. To Thee before thy passion
they sang their hymns of praise;
to Thee, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.
Refrain.

5. Thou didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring.
who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King.
Refrain.

The people are seated.

EPISTLE: ROMANS 8:14–19, 34–35, 37–39 — Read by Mr. Steven Ford

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God.

Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: THE BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC
The United States Army Chorus

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.

Refrain:
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch fires of a hundred circling camps
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;
His truth is marching on. *Refrain*

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free;
While God is marching on. *Refrain*

The people stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 14:1–6 — Reverend Katherine Brower

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
People: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Priest: Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Afer the Gospel, the people are seated for the tributes and Homily.

TRIBUTES — The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
The Honorable Jimmy Carter
Mr. Richard Norton Smith

HOMILY — The Reverend Dr. Robert Certain

The people stand.

THE APOSTLES' CREED
Said by all

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER
Said by all

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE PRAYERS

Mrs. Sarah Ford Goodfellow
Mrs. Tyne Vance Berlanga
Mr. Christian Gerald Ford

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who hast knit together Thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of Thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech Thee, to Thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, Thy light and Thy peace. *Amen.*

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with Him to our joyful resurrection. *Amen.*

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that Thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. *Amen.*

Grant to Thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve Thee with a quiet mind. *Amen.*

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in Thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on Thee, they may know the consolation of Thy love. *Amen.*

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. *Amen.*

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. *Amen.*

Grant us grace to entrust GERALD to Thy never-failing love; receive him into the arms of Thy mercy, and remember him according to the favor which Thou bearest unto Thy people. *Amen.*

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of Thee, he may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in Thy heavenly kingdom. *Amen.*

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in Thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with all Thy saints, to receive the crown of life which Thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of Thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The people are seated.

ANTHEM: ON EAGLE'S WINGS

The United States Army Chorus, Sergeant First Class Alvy R. Powell, Jr., Soloist

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain:
And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of His hand.

2. You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
Under His wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

3. For to His angels He's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone. *Refrain*

The people stand.

THE COMMENDATION THE REVEREND CHARLES HOWELL

The Celebrant and other ministers take their places at the body.

Celebrant: Give rest, O Christ, to Thy servant with Thy saints.

People: Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Celebrant: Thou only art immortal, the Creator and Maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so Thou didst ordain when Thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

People: Give rest, O Christ, to Thy servant with Thy saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Celebrant: Into Thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend Thy servant GERALD FORD. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech Thee, a sheep of Thine own fold, a lamb of Thine own flock, a sinner of Thine own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of Thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

People: Amen.

THE BLESSING — The Reverend Dr. Robert Certain

Nearing the end of his Presidency on January 12, 1977, President FORD distilled a quarter century of public service into a farewell address to the American people that was, like the man himself, more connected with the future than the past. May the words he spoke that night of reflection and his testament to faith serve as our benediction on GERALD FORD for his courage, his character, and his providential place in the history of America:

"My fellow Americans I once asked you for your prayers, and now I give you mine. May God guide this wonderful country, its people and those they have chosen to lead them. May our third century be illuminated by liberty and blessed with brotherhood so that we and all who come after us may be the humble servants of thy peace. Amen."

THE DISMISSAL — The Reverend Dr. J. Nixon McMillan

Priest: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING PROCESSION: HYMN

Sung by all

1. A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper He amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing:
for still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great,
and, armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not His equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing:
dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth His Name,
from age to age the same,
and He must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us;
we will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us;
the prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure,
one little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Him who with us sideth:
let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is for ever.

POSTLUDE: NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

The people are asked to remain at their seats until directed by an usher.

★ ★ ★

PARTICIPANTS

OFFICIATING CLERGY

The Reverend Dr. Robert G. Certain
Rector, St. Margaret's Episcopal Church & School, Palm Desert, California
The Reverend Charles H. Howell
Rector, Christ Church, Staten Island, New York
Former Rector, Grace Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan
The Reverend Dr. J. Nixon McMillan
Interim Rector, Grace Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan
The Reverend Katherine Brower
Deacon, Grace Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan

READERS

Mr. Michael Ford
Mr. Steven Ford

INTERCESSORS

Mrs. Sarah Ford Goodfellow
Mrs. Tyne Vance Berlanga
Mr. Christian Gerald Ford

TRIBUTES

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
The Honorable Jimmy Carter
Thirty-Ninth President of the United States
Mr. Richard Norton Smith

MUSICIANS

The Grace Episcopal Church Choir
Mr. John E. Hamersma, *Director of Parish Music and Organist*
The United States Army Chorus
Major James Keene, *Conductor*
Sergeant First Class Alvy R. Powell, Jr., *Soloist*

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Martin J. Allen, Jr.
Mary Sue Coleman
Richard M. DeVos
Richard A. Ford
David G. Frey
Pepi Gramshammer
Robert L. Hooker
Frederick H.G. Meijer
Jack Nicklaus
Leon W. Parma
Glenn E. Schembechler
In Memoriam
Peter F. Secchia
L. William Seidman
Steve Van Andel

★ ★ ★

GERALD R. FORD has come home—to the place where his commitment to integrity and selflessness was first instilled in him over 90 years ago by Dorothy and Gerald Ford, Sr. A graduate of the University of Michigan and Yale Law School, Lieutenant Commander Ford served aboard the U.S.S. *Monterey* in the South Pacific theater during World War II. After the war, he returned to Grand Rapids where in October 1948 he married the former Betty Bloomer. For over half a century their partnership flourished, enriched immeasurably by their four children—Michael, John (Jack), Steven, and Susan—and by their seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Soon after their wedding, voters in Michigan's Fifth Congressional District sent the Fords to Washington for the first of his 13 terms in the House of Representatives. The new congressman quickly established a reputation for personal integrity and political moderation—a reputation that would define his entire political career. An internationalist in the tradition of Senator Arthur Vandenberg, Ford was entrusted in Congress with growing responsibilities for national defense and foreign relations. In 1963, President Lyndon Johnson appointed Congressman Ford to serve on the Warren Commission that investigated the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Two years later, Ford was elevated by his Republican colleagues to the post of House Minority Leader, where he encouraged a constructive opposition and an inclusive GOP. By the early 1970s, Ford concluded that he would never realize his ambition to be Speaker of the House and decided with Betty that they would return home for good in January 1977.

But history and the American people weren't ready to part with Gerald Ford. In December 1973, he was confirmed as Vice President of the United States. And just eight months later, on August 9, 1974, Ford assumed the Presidency amidst the gravest constitutional crisis since the Civil War. Upon taking the Presidential Oath, he spoke to the American people: "I am acutely aware that you have not elected me as your President by your ballots. So I ask you to confirm me as your President with your prayers."

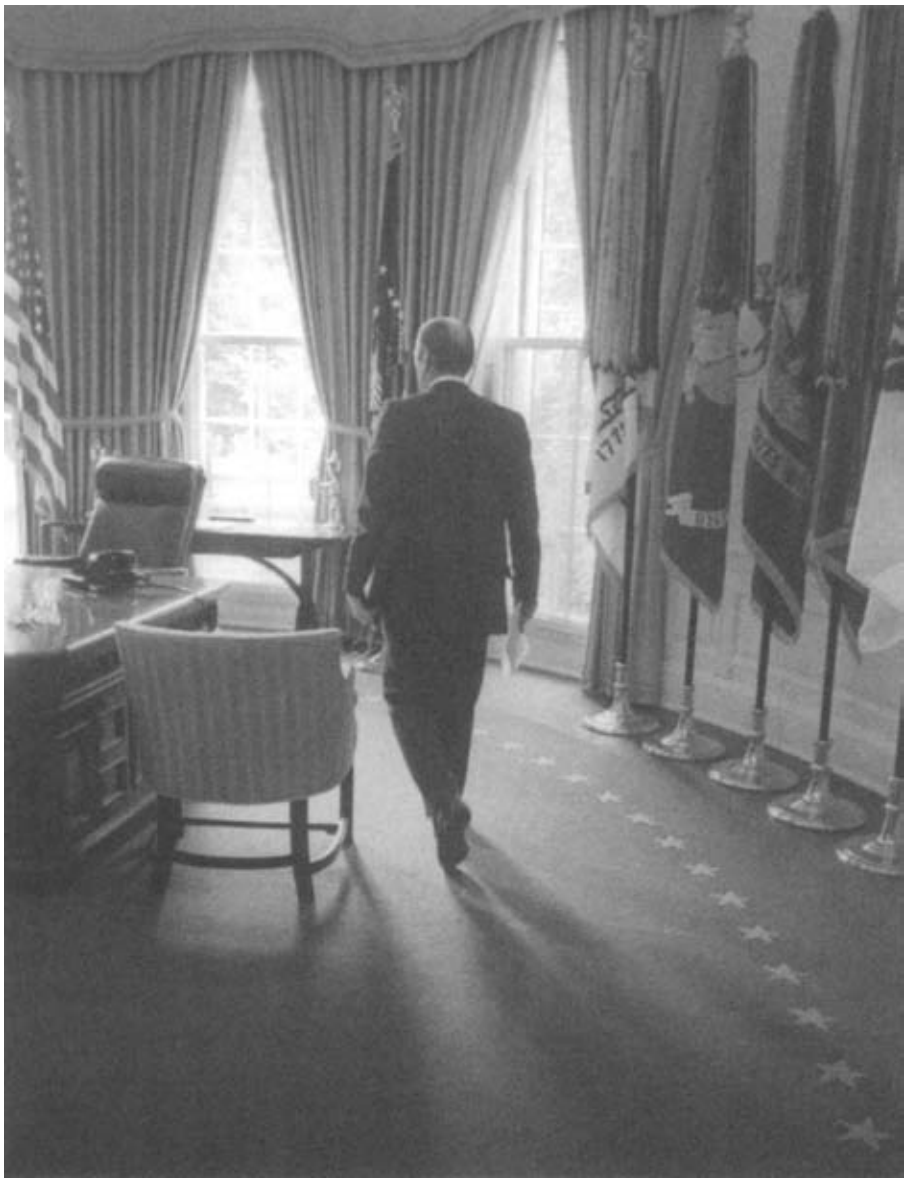
Not only did the new President confront widespread public disillusionment in the wake of the Watergate scandals and Vietnam War, he also grappled with a devastating economic recession and mounting tensions around the globe. The President who never sought the Presidency resolved that his time in office, however long or short, would be a time of healing. He promptly announced clemency terms for Vietnam-era draft evaders and pardoned his predecessor in an act that was as personally courageous as it was politically detrimental. In 2001, the John F. Kennedy Foundation presented the Profile in Courage Award to President Ford in tribute to his placing the Nation's best interests over his political future in issuing the pardon.

More than his many achievements and visionary initiatives in foreign and domestic policy, the Presidency of Gerald Ford is defined by his personal integrity and unbending adherence to the truth. As Vice President Dick Cheney has observed, President Ford "restored trust and confidence in the Presidency and the White House simply by the sheer force of his character." Thus, by the time of the Nation's Bicentennial, the American people had a renewed pride in the Presidency, the Nation, and themselves. As President Jimmy Carter graciously acknowledged on January 20, 1977, the man from Grand Rapids had healed the land.

Upon returning to private life, President Ford remained active in public, civic, and charitable activities. He received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and he and Mrs. Ford were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. He spoke at over 200 college campuses, convened annual meetings of his AEI World Forum in Vail, Colorado, and contributed significantly to the presidential library and museum which bear his name. Decrying popular cynicism, President Ford used his speeches, newspaper articles, and other writings to remind his countrymen that politics is indeed a noble calling.

And now Gerald R. Ford has made his final trip home, having fulfilled the legacy instilled in him in a Grand Rapids household more than 90 years ago—

Love of Family, Love of Country, Love of God.



JULY 14, 1913–DECEMBER 26, 2006

DONALD RUMSFELD, Former Secretary of Defense: Reverend, clergy, President and Mrs. Carter, Mr. Vice President and Lynne, honored guests and friends of GERALD RUDOLPH FORD.

There's an old saying in Washington that every Member of the U.S. Congress looks in the mirror and sees a future President. Well, JERRY FORD was different. I suspect that when he looked in a mirror, even after he became President, he saw a citizen and a public servant.

A few days ago a neighbor offered an insight, saying, "He was one of us." And he was. And that made him special and needed in a dark and dangerous hour for our Nation.

No matter how mean-spirited or partisan Washington became—and let's not forget that as President, GERALD FORD, as other Presidents, was roundly criticized and belittled, he never lowered himself to that level.

Mr. Vice President, you will recall well his strong disapproval when his longtime friend, Congressman George Mahon, a Democrat, was criticized. And his deep disappointment when, for a variety of reasons, he was unable to attend a function honoring his political rival but close friend, then-Speaker of the House of Representatives, Tip O'Neill. In the Oval Office, working on his transition to the Presidency, we saw him welcome advice from Democrats and Republicans alike in those very early days.

But the advice he valued most, as he put it, "Was that which comes from my wife." Betty, as I recall, your advice was unvarnished, sometimes unsolicited, and almost always right on the mark. Indeed, everyone who knew him could see that GERALD FORD seemed to marvel every day at his great good fortune at having met and married Elizabeth Bloomer Ford.

Betty was a First Lady like no other, an inspiration for truly millions that she never met and a rock of support for a husband who relied greatly on her wisdom, her candor, and, indeed, her personal courage. Betty, we thank you for your devotion to him, to our country, and to the millions of Americans who have benefited because you have touched their lives.

Mike, Jack, Steve, and Susan, you and your children are in our prayers today also. You strengthened and sustained your dad during a profound and turbulent time. And your country is grateful for that.

You know, a wonder of America is that its future Presidents can rise from unlikely places: a log cabin in Kentucky, a haber-

dashery in Missouri, an ice creamery in Kansas, or a paint shop in Michigan.

In fact, a visit to this city in the 1920s or 1930s might well have come across a towheaded boy cleaning paint cans or selling soda at the amusement park to earn some extra money during the Depression.

JERRY FORD had a self-described fiery demeanor. He said because of it, his mother made a lot of friends, all of the mothers of the kids that he had gotten into scraps with. But if he had a certain "vinegar," he was also brimming with promise. He demonstrated that at Michigan, at Yale, and as a volunteer in the Navy stationed aboard the U.S.S. *Monterey*.

When Joyce and I visited him just after Thanksgiving, he told us about the time that the U.S.S. *Monterey*, the aircraft carrier he served on in World War II, encountered a typhoon which heavily damaged the ship and nearly threw him overboard. I doubt that he ever imagined that 30 years later, he would be at the head of a different kind of ship, swept by a different kind of storm, and that America would be depending on his steady and trusted hand at the helm.

When I joined GERALD FORD as a Member of Congress in 1962, I found a skillful legislator who had earned the respect of his colleagues. He was energetic in his desire to serve and to contribute, but he did not wake up every morning wondering how he could get ahead. In fact, in 1964, Betty will remember that a small group of us had to work very, very hard to persuade JERRY FORD to run for minority leader of the U.S. House of Representatives. And I was able to see him work skillfully to achieve passage of the historic civil rights legislation during the 1960s.

Later, as White House chief of staff, I was standing next to President FORD during two assassination attempts that stunned an already traumatized country, which he handled with courage, with poise, and, I should add, with good humor.

He was a patriot who knew that freedom is precious and that it comes at a cost. I'm grateful that I was serving last year when the Navy considered naming a new aircraft carrier class the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford*, a decision to be announced some time later this month, I'm told. And, without giving away any secrets, I can report that, during that visit with President FORD, I brought him a cap with the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford* emblazoned across the top of it. How fitting it will be that the name Gerald R. Ford will patrol the high seas for decades to come, in the defense of the Nation he loved so much.

Over the past few days, in the midst of our mourning, Americans have searched for the words to best describe JERRY FORD, the man, and the Ford era. My own thoughts are drawn to the profound and historic legacy he created in his nearly 900 days as President. It takes time and distance before one can truly measure an event or even an era, but many here remember well what our country was like on that day that GERALD FORD took the Presidency.

The pressures were enormous. The stakes were high. The world was watching. And the American people were holding their breath, wondering what would happen next.

The words President FORD used to reassure our country and the American people were plain and they were straightforward. His sincerity gave them eloquence. Even in a country coarsened by skepticism, few doubted that the gentleman from Michigan would keep his word.

That was his special magic. He was then, and remains today, the only person who took office without having been elected to either the Presidency or the Vice Presidency. He had no national base. He had no political platform, no campaign team, no time to prepare for his truly awesome responsibilities. In a sense, he stepped into an airplane in full flight as the command pilot, without even knowing the crew.

Our cold war enemies were searching for signs of vulnerability. So the American President had to be strong.

Our Nation was reeling from bitterness and suspicion. So the President needed to be comforting and reassuring.

The economy was fragile, and our national political institutions were shaken. So the President had to be decisive and confident.

Our country generally seems blessed to find the right leader at the right time. Through that special providence, the times found GERALD FORD. Because GERALD FORD was there to restore the strength of the Presidency, to rebuild our defenses, and to demonstrate firmness and clarity, America could again, in Lincoln's words, "stand as the last, best hope of Earth."

He reminded Americans of who they were. And he put us on the right path, when the way ahead was, at best, uncertain. And, all things considered, those are probably the most lasting and profound contributions that a leader can make.

It's commonly said that President FORD healed the Nation. And he did. Like all great leaders, he knew victory, and he knew loss. After a long and tough campaign, one might have expected

him to carry some bitterness over his narrow defeat for election in his own right.

Instead, he remembered the cloudy skies over Washington on the day he first entered the White House. And, as his plane left the city on his last day as President, he recalled that the sun was shining brightly.

He said, "I couldn't see a cloud anywhere, and I felt glad about that."

Today, we say goodbye to a leader, a husband, a father, a grandfather, and, for so many of the people here today, a friend. And we take comfort knowing that GERALD FORD is now in a place greater than even the country he led, a kingdom everlasting, and without a cloud in sight. It is a place where, in the words of the scriptures, "the lord God will wipe away tears from all faces."

May God bless GERALD FORD and his strong and loving family. And may God bless the country he loves so much, served so well, and did so much to heal and strengthen.

THE HONORABLE JIMMY CARTER, Former President of the United States: "For myself and for our Nation, I want to thank my predecessor for all he has done to heal our land."

Those were the first words I spoke as President. And I still hate to admit that they received more applause than any other words in my inaugural address.

You learn a lot about a man when you run against him for President, and when you stand in his shoes, and assume the responsibilities that he has borne so well, and perhaps even more after you both lay down the burdens of high office and work together in a nonpartisan spirit of patriotism and service.

My staff and my diary notes, as I prepared for this eulogy, reveal a list of more than 25 different projects on which JERRY and I have shared leadership responsibilities.

He and I were both amused by a *New Yorker* cartoon a couple of years ago. This little boy is looking up at his father. And he says, "Daddy, when I grow up, I want to be a former President."

JERRY and I frequently agreed that one of the greatest blessings that we had after we left the White House during the last quarter century was the intense personal friendship that bound us together.

During our closely contested political campaign, as Don just reminded me, we habitually referred to each other as "my distin-

guished opponent." And, for my own benefit, while I was President, I kept him fully informed about everything that I did in the domestic or international arena.

In fact, he was given a thorough briefing almost every month from the head of my White House staff or my National Security Adviser. And JERRY never came to the Washington area without being invited to have lunch with me at the White House.

We always cherished those memories of now perhaps a long-lost bipartisan interrelationship.

JERRY FORD and I shared a lot. We both served in the U.S. Navy, he on battleships, I on submarines, as junior officers. In fact, it was my profession. And we both enjoyed our unexpected promotion to Commander in Chief.

Each of us had three sons. And then our prayers were answered—and we had a daughter.

And we both married women who were good looking, smart, and extremely independent.

As President, I relished his sound advice. And he often, although, I must say, reluctantly, departed from the prevailing opinion of his political party to give me support on some of my most difficult challenges.

For many of these, of course, he had helped to lay the foundation, including the Panama Canal treaties, nuclear armaments control with the Soviet Union, normalized diplomatic relations with China, and also the Camp David accords.

In fact, on a helicopter in flight from Camp David back to Washington, President Anwar Sadat, Prime Minister Menachem Begin and I made one telephone call, to GERALD FORD, to tell him that we had reached peace between Israel and Egypt.

President FORD and I also shared a commitment to force the Soviet Union to comply with its promise to respect human rights within the Helsinki Agreement, which gave strength to brave dissidents behind the Iron Curtain, and helped to undermine Soviet tyranny from within.

Our mutual respect, which I have described, blossomed into a valued personal friendship during our shared trip to attend the funeral of President Anwar Sadat in Egypt. We formed a personal bond while lamenting on the difficulty of unexpectedly defeated candidates trying to raise money to build Presidential libraries.

That's what bound us together most firmly, I think, for the rest of our days.

In the early days of the Carter Center, JERRY joined me as cochairman in all of our important conferences and projects. And I never declined an opportunity to help him with his own post-Presidential plans.

We enjoyed each other's private company. And he and I commented often that, when we were traveling somewhere in an automobile or airplane, we hated to reach our destination, because we enjoyed the private times that we had together.

More—one of our most successful and little-known joint efforts, by the way, was agreeing on how to respond to the literally hundreds of invitations from people who claimed that all the Presidents were going to participate in an event. And, after a private telephone conversation, we would quickly let them know that at least two of us would not be attending.

Yesterday, on the flight here from Washington, Rosalynn and I were thrilled when one of his sons came to tell us that the greatest gift he received from his father was his faith in Jesus Christ.

It is true that JERRY and I shared a common commitment to our religious faith, not just in worshipping the same savior, but in attempting, in our own personal way, to achieve reconciliation within our respective denominations.

We took to heart the admonition of the Apostle Paul that Christians should not be divided over seemingly important, but tangential issues, including sexual preferences and the role of women in the church, things like that.

We both felt that Episcopalians, Baptists and others should live together in harmony, within the adequate and common belief that we are saved by the grace of God through our faith in Jesus Christ.

One of my proudest moments was at the commemoration of the 200th birthday of the White House, when two noted historians both declared that the FORD-Carter friendship was the most intensely personal between any two Presidents in history.

This close relationship extended to our spouses, as Betty worked on drug and alcohol abuse, and Rosalynn addressed the challenges of mental illness. And, when those two women descended on Washington together, few Members of Congress could resist their combined lobbying assault.

The four of us learned to love each other.

In closing, let me extend, on behalf of Rosalynn and me and Jack and Chip and Jeffrey and Amy, and our 11 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandson, our personal sympathy and love to Betty

and Mike and Jack and Steve and Susan, and all of your extended family.

The tens of thousands of people who lined the highway yesterday and today were expressing this mutual love which we share for President JERRY FORD.

I still don't know any better way to express it than the words I used almost exactly 30 years ago. For myself and for our Nation, I want to thank my predecessor for all he did to heal our land.

RICHARD NORTON SMITH, Historian: No one ever called GERALD FORD an imperial President. Perhaps that was because no figure in memory was so immune to Washington's besetting disease of self-importance. Case in point: Seven years have passed since Marty Allen and I found ourselves in the Fords' living room at Rancho Mirage, for what, in any other living room, would have been the most uncomfortable of conversations—a discussion of funeral planning. That it wasn't the least bit uncomfortable was due entirely to the Fords' sensitivity, their utter lack of pretense, and, not least of all, a robust sense of humor reminiscent of that other plain-spoken Midwesterner, Harry Truman.

After a lengthy review of his plans, the President was called away to the phone. A few minutes later he returned, with a grin on his face and a question on his lips.

"Well," he asked in a booming voice, "have you got me resurrected yet?"

All this week Americans, many of them too young to recall the strident summer of 1974, have watched grainy images of an East Room inaugural. We have listened once more to the words that calmed a Nation at war with itself. Thrust into a place to which he had never aspired, GERALD FORD resolved to make his Presidency a time of healing, even as he drew out the poisons released by Vietnam and Watergate.

So he didn't only pardon Richard Nixon; he opened the door for thousands of Vietnam draft evaders to find their way home. In his first days there, he welcomed to the Oval Office the Congressional Black Caucus, leaders of organized labor, and others who for too long had felt excluded from America's House. "Hail to the Chief" gave way to the University of Michigan Fight Song. The Justice Department was purged of politics, the CIA reined in.

Thirty years later we acknowledge with pride what then we only dimly perceived—GERALD FORD gave us back our Government. But there was much more to the Ford Presidency than ending our long national nightmare. With the passage of time and the cooling of passions, historians have begun to recast his 895 days in office, not as a coda but as a curtain raiser. He was, after all, the first President to pursue economic deregulation or propose a comprehensive energy policy.

His critics boxed the ideological compass. The left called him intransigent for his refusal to trade away the cruise missile, a weapons system then in development, in order to obtain an arms agreement with the Soviet Union. The right denounced him for signing the Helsinki Accords, which allegedly conceded Eastern Europe to the men in Moscow.

Today we know better. It is hard to imagine America's military arsenal without the cruise missile. And 30 years on, Helsinki has come to be seen as an important victory in the age-old struggle for human rights, on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

By 1974 it was rare to hear a President laugh; so it was all the more reassuring to hear our new President laugh at himself. Once, after an enthusiastic campaign crowd cheered him to the rafters, a beaming Chief Executive asked a group of accompanying reporters what they thought of his speech. There ensued a few moments of awkward silence, finally broken by the President's frank assessment: "Not worth a damn, was it?"

GERALD FORD could be a surprising man.

I discovered this for myself 30 years ago, when called on to introduce the then-Vice President of the United States to the Harvard Republican Club. It was an eye-opening event for everyone concerned. We were surprised that Richard Nixon's Vice President would venture so deep into hostile territory. No doubt he was surprised that there were enough Republicans at Harvard to form a club.

While chatting offstage, I couldn't resist showing our guest a less than flattering caricature that had been plastered all over campus by Students for a Democratic Society—the same organization that was, even then, noisily demonstrating its displeasure outside the Harvard Club. Reflecting the tenor of the time, the poster depicted Vice President FORD as a grinning puppet impaled on the arm of a sinister looking Richard Nixon.

Most politicians would have blanched at the sight. GERALD FORD chuckled. Then he asked me if he could have a copy to display in his office.

Years later, trustees of his Presidential library foundation were debating whether to obtain for permanent exhibit the staircase that had once stood atop the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, and which had served as a final means of escape for thousands of Americans and South Vietnamese in April, 1975. To those who asked, why on earth remind people of that humiliating experience, President FORD had a ready answer. "It's part of our history," he said.

And then he revealed a vision few expected from this laconic Midwesterner. To the President that staircase symbolized, no less than the slab of Berlin Wall already on display, a desire for freedom as old as humanity itself. He knew whereof he spoke—for when Congress tried to pull up the ladder and slam shut the doors to Vietnamese refugees, it was President FORD who went to the country reminding us of our history and of our moral obligation to shelter the oppressed. Eventually he was able to rescue and resettle 130,000 of the war's most innocent victims.

On a bittersweet day in 2000 he came home to Grand Rapids, where he joined hundreds of members of the Vietnamese community in remembering a painful past, and in renewing a shared commitment to uphold freedom against those who would put the soul itself in bondage.

GERALD FORD could be a surprising man.

As part of the Millennium celebrations, *Time* magazine invited prominent Americans to identify the pre-eminent figure of the twentieth century, along with a backup selection in case their first choice had already been taken. I fully expected President FORD to nominate a Winston Churchill or Dwight Eisenhower. He did nothing of the kind. Without hesitation he declared the greatest man of the century to be Mahatma Gandhi. The second greatest, in his opinion, was Anwar Sadat.

Think of it: two peacemakers from the Third World, men of color, defiers of the colonial West, each martyred for his convictions.

By then I shouldn't have been surprised. To most of us, advancing age means a narrowing of sympathies. Our attitudes harden along with our arteries. But not GERALD FORD. His friendship with President Carter, unlikely as it may seem in this era of scorched earth partisanship, reveals much about a leader who never confused moderation with weakness, nor compromise with surrender, and who in his own estimation had adversaries, but not enemies.

For 60 years he was a patriot before he was a partisan. If he never mastered the art of the soundbite, it is equally true that he never turned to a focus group to locate his convictions. He was better at statesmanship than salesmanship. To be sure, Dorothy Ford's son put his faith in God before government. But precisely because he revered the individual as a creature of God, he respected individual choices.

In contending for the greatest of all freedoms—the freedom to be oneself—he did not hesitate to dissent from party orthodoxy. This, too, should have come as no surprise—for he had first entered politics as a rebel with a cause, a young veteran of World War II who was unafraid to take on the entrenched isolationism of his own party's establishment.

Through it all he drew strength and inspiration from the family he loved, like his country, with an old-fashioned intensity. He cherished beyond words Mike, Jack, Steve and Susan; his extended family; his brother Dick, his beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren. And how much they gave back to him, especially in these last few years, when the roar of the crowd yielded to the infant's laughter and the mellow kinship of Indian summer.

He often said that his was a life richly blessed. The greatest of his blessings was to share a journey of 58 years with a woman whose courage and candor matched his own. The President famously observed that he was a Ford, not a Lincoln. But in at least one respect he was wrong. For his devotion to Betty Bloomer, of Grand Rapids, recalls nothing so much as the sentiment engraved on a plain wedding band presented by a rising prairie politician to his bride, Miss Mary Todd. "Love Is Eternal," it read.

And so it is. He was so proud of you, Mrs. Ford, proud of your bravery and bigheartedness in teaching us all that what some might mistake for personal weakness is but the gateway to spiritual witness, and that no life is beyond redemption. Naturally you were at his side that morning 5½ years ago when the John F. Kennedy Library presented him with its Profiles in Courage Award.

The award was a lantern, an exact replica of the beacon hung in a Boston church steeple to warn American patriots of an advancing British army in April 1775.

Though it recalled a time of intensely partisan feelings, the ceremony itself was a ritual of healing—the final act of the Ford Presidency, and a fitting climax to a life that wed principle to

reconciliation. As the least self-dramatizing of men, President FORD used to joke that he was charismatically challenged. Whatever he may have lacked in charisma, he more than made up for in character.

In accepting the Profiles in Courage Award, he expressed the hope that no future President would ever confront the choice that he faced barely 1 month into his Presidency of healing.

But if he did, or should he be presented with an even greater test of national character, said President FORD, "I hope he will remember that the ultimate test of leadership is not the polls you take, but the risks you take. In the short run, some risks prove overwhelming. Political courage can be self-defeating, but the greatest defeat of all would be to live without courage, for that would hardly be living at all."

And now he has come home, to the place, emotionally, he never left. Not long before he died, the President remarked, "When I wake up at night and can't sleep, I remember Grand Rapids." That Grand Rapids returned his affection many times over was unforgettably demonstrated by the tens of thousands who stood in line for hours outside the museum, braving the cold to make certain that his last night was anything but lonely.

Soon we will take him to his final place of rest, our grief mingled with gratitude for a life that is its own lantern in the steeple. May the glow it casts remind us of a politics that elevates rather than divides; and of a country as honorable as it is powerful.

Sleep well, old friend. We love you very much.

Mrs. Ford and the family proceed to the Guild Room.

Honorary pallbearers and family members, escorted by General Swan, Captain Eldridge Browne, and Michael Wagner, proceed outside for the departure ceremony.

Mrs. Ford, accompanied by Gregory Willard, proceeds by limousine to the departure ceremony.

Procession moves from Grace Church to the hearse.

Order of Procession
- Color Guard
- Clergy
- Casket
- Presidential Colors

Air Force Band of Flight (Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio):
- "Ruffles and Flourishes"
- "Hail to the Chief"
- "Faith of Our Fathers"

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and Michael Ford, proceeds to the motorcade.

Motorcade departs en route to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

Upon arrival at the parking lot north of the museum, the honorary pallbearers (except Dick Ford) and honorary pallbearer spouses are escorted to the interment site.

Dick Ford remains with Mrs. Ford and the family.

Mrs. Ford and the family are escorted to their positions for the arrival ceremony.

Armed Forces Body Bearers remove the casket from the hearse.

126th Army Band (Wyoming, Michigan):
- "Ruffles and Flourishes"
- "The National Anthem"

Armed Forces Body Bearers, followed by the family, proceed through the cordon to the interment site. "God Bless America" is played. "America the Beautiful" is sung by the United States Army Chorus.

Order of Family Processional
- Color Guard

Clergy
Casket
Presidential Colors
Mrs. Ford and General Guy Swan
Family

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and Steven Ford, and the family are assisted into the interment site by Michael Wagner. Vice President and Mrs. Cheney, President and Mrs. Carter and Secretary and Mrs. Rumsfeld join with Mrs. Ford and the family and are accompanied into the interment site by Gregory Willard.

Interment service begins.

David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Interment service, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

FATHER CERTAIN: Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me. I will never turn away anyone who believes in me. He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give new life to our mortal bodies through his dwelling spirit. My body therefore is glad and my spirit rejoices. My body also shall rest in hope. You will show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Oh God, his blessed son was laid in a sepulchral in the garden. Bless we pray this grave and grant that he whose body is to be buried here may dwell with Christ in paradise and may

come to your heavenly kingdom through your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

"Goin' Home" is sung by the United States Army Chorus.

21-Gun Salute

Benediction

FATHER CERTAIN: Ensure in certain hope of the resurrection to Eternal Life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our brother GERALD and we commit his body to its resting place. Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless him and keep him, the Lord make his face to shine upon him and be gracious to him, the Lord lift up his countenance upon him and give him peace. Amen.

Let us pray together in the words our savior Christ has taught us:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Father of all, we pray to you for those we love but see no longer, grant them your peace, let light perpetual shine upon them and in your loving wisdom and almighty power work in them the good purpose of your perfect will through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grant Oh Lord to all who are bereaved the spirit of faith and courage that they may have strength to meet the days to come with steadfastness and patience not sorrowing as those without hope but in thankful remembrance of your great goodness and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. And this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Oh Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts, the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Oh Lord support us all the days of our lives until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Amen.

Rest eternal grant to him Oh Lord and let light perpetual shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Firing of three volleys by seven-member U.S. Navy unit.

Final Prayer by Father Certain:

> God of Peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ. The Great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant make you perfect in every good work to do his will working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight through Jesus Christ to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Aircraft flyover and Missing Man Formation by 21 U.S. Air Force tactical fighter aircraft.

Sounding of "Taps" by U.S. Navy bugler.

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save" is played during the folding of the U.S. flag.

Presentation of the U.S. flag to Mrs. Ford by Vice President Cheney.

Interment service concludes. Mrs. Ford and the family approach the casket.

Mrs. Ford, escorted by General Swan and Steven Ford, and the family proceed inside the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

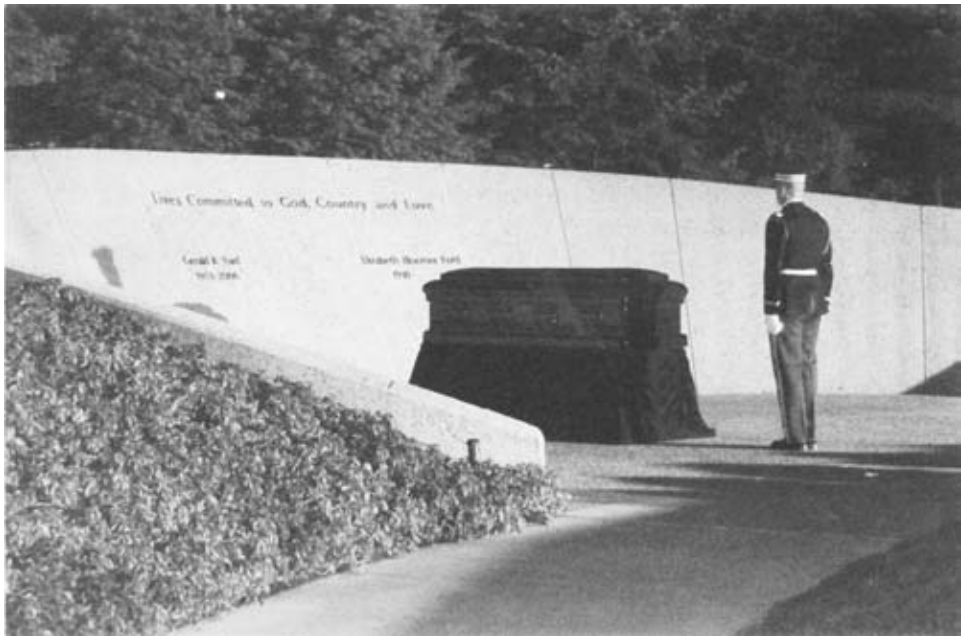
Vice President and Mrs. Cheney, President and Mrs. Carter, and Secretary and Mrs. Rumsfeld pay their respects at the casket and proceed inside the museum.

Lilian Fisher, Penny Circle, Richard Norton Smith, Gregory Willard, Ann Willard, Richard Garbarino, Ann Cullen, Len Nurmi, Carol Buck, Michael Wagner, Barbara Owens, Douglas Emery, Lee Simmons, Jeanette Simmons, Shelli Archibald, and Jordan Lewis pay their respects at the casket.

First Sergeant Alvy Powell pays his respects at the casket.

Honorary pallbearers and spouses and other guests pay their respects at the casket and proceed inside the museum.

Members of the United States Army Chorus, Robert Boetticher, Sr., and Robert Boetticher, Jr., pay their respects at the casket.



David Hume Kennerly, courtesy Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

President FORD's casket outside the tomb on the night of January 3, 2007.

Gerald R. Ford

July 14, 1913–December 26, 2006

State Funeral of President Gerald R. Ford

Gregory Willard was President and Mrs. Ford's and the Ford family's personal representative for the State Funeral and was responsible for overall planning and implementation of the State Funeral.

Major General Guy C. Swan III, Commanding General, Joint Force Headquarters/National Capital Region and U.S. Army Military District of Washington (MDW), was the senior MDW representative to Mrs. Ford and the Ford family for the State Funeral. General Swan was Mrs. Ford's official escort throughout the State Funeral.

Michael Wagner, MDW Chief of State Funeral Plans and Operations, was the MDW family liaison for the State Funeral and was the senior MDW civilian representative to Mrs. Ford and the family.

Richard Wennekamp was the California family coordinator for the State Funeral.

Terrence O'Donnell was the Washington, DC family coordinator for the State Funeral.

Martin J. Allen, Jr. was the Grand Rapids family coordinator for the State Funeral.

Remarks of Susan Ford Bales

at the Naming Ceremony for the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford*

Pentagon Auditorium

January 16, 2007

Mr. Vice President, Secretary England, Secretary Winter, Senator Levin, Senator Warner, Admiral Mullen, General Swan, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

The Ford family this morning is filled with tremendous pride. No doubt, my brothers and I could spend several hours talking about how much the Navy's tribute meant to Dad. However, before talking about today's remarkable tribute, with your indulgence, Secretary Winter, I'd like to share some thoughts from Mother and our family. Mother is doing well and is watching this ceremony on the Pentagon Channel.

During the past 3 weeks, we've been deeply moved by the outpouring of affection and remembrances from across the United States. We particularly want to express what an honor it was to have the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces present with us at every ceremony and service of the State Funeral. There is nothing—absolutely nothing—that would have made Dad prouder. The dedication, compassion, and dignity of those brave men and women strengthened and comforted Mother and our family at every step of the way. They will always have a special place in our hearts—always.

We would like to extend a personal thank you to President and Mrs. Bush and to Vice President and Mrs. Cheney for their many kindnesses and, most of all, for their decades of friendship with Dad and our family. We remember fondly Mr. Joe Hagin and the White House staff, along with the U.S. Secret Service, for their many kind deeds and for their moving farewell tribute in front of the White House.

We are particularly grateful to the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, especially both Sergeants-At-Arms and their staffs, for their assistance and for the unprecedented historical tributes that both bodies conducted for Dad.

And, General Swan, if I may, a personal comment. The kindness and care that you provided to Mother as her personal escort is a gift for which we will always be grateful. You embody the highest ideals of our great country, General Swan, and your

assistance to Mother was, quite frankly, beyond description. Thank you, sir.

As we gather today for the naming of CVN–78, let me first say to Senator Levin and Senator Warner, thank you for your tireless efforts in make this Naming Ceremony a reality. And thank you for your unceasing support of our men and women in uniform.

The naming of CVN–78 as the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford* represents more than assigning a name to a naval vessel. There is now a unique bond between CVN–78 and its new namesake. The permanence of Dad's name and his legacy is forever instilled into this magnificent vessel and the men and women who will someday occupy her decks. And it is that special bond that gives our family such pride.

The U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford* also shares a unique bond with another ship and her crew. As many of you know, several years ago the U.S.S. *America* was towed into the Atlantic Ocean and then sunk in a series of tests to verify critical components of the CVN–78 carrier program. Those tests were essential to maximizing the survivability of the future carrier fleet, including CVN–78. The U.S.S. *America* and her proud crew set a magnificent example of patriotism and unwavering service to the U.S. Navy. And now their valor lives on within the spirit of the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford*. For that gift and for their service, we are deeply grateful to the *America* and her crew.

I've thought a lot about how to convey Dad's gratitude upon learning that Secretary Winter was considering naming CVN–78 the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford*. I struggled to find words adequate to express the emotions that Dad shared privately with Mother, Mike, Jack, Steve, and me regarding CVN–78. And, as was so often the case with Dad, the answer was found in his own words.

A few weeks before his death, Dad wrote a letter to our friend Greg Willard regarding the CVN–78. In the letter, he described how much the tribute then under consideration by Secretary Winter meant to him. Dad wrote to Greg:

> "In closing, please permit me a personal reflection. In my life, I've received countless honors. But none was greater than the opportunity to wear the uniform of Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy. On an aircraft carrier in the South Pacific during World War II, I learned to respect, and to rely on, my comrades as if my life depended on them—because it often did. As a World War II veteran,

> I yield to no one in my admiration for the heroes of Omaha Beach and Iwo Jima. At the same time, I take enormous inspiration from their grandsons and granddaughters who are writing new chapters of heroism around the globe.
>
> "Thus, it is a source of indescribable pride and humility to know that an aircraft carrier bearing my name may be permanently associated with the valor and patriotism of the men and women of the United States Navy."

Dad conveyed in words precisely how each of us in the Ford family feels about this wonderful tribute. So today and in our every tomorrow, we will fondly remember those words with the knowledge that the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford* and her crew will forever embody a tribute to Dad that was—and is—without equal.

Secretary Winter, on behalf of Mother and the entire Ford family, please accept our sincere gratitude and appreciation for the extraordinary honor which you have given Dad.

May God bless and watch over the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford* and her crew. And may God bless America.

Thank you very much.

Memorial Tributes

IN THE

House of Representatives of the United States

IN EULOGY OF

Gerald R. Ford

In the House of Representatives of the United States

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Hon. John A. Boehner

OF OHIO

Madam Speaker, Leader Hoyer, my distinguished colleagues, welcome to you all. I would particularly like to welcome our new colleagues. It is an honor and a privilege to serve in this great institution, and I would like to thank you in advance for the sacrifices and contributions you will make to this body during your time here.

As colleagues, we owe a huge debt to those who have served before us. I would be remiss if I did not mention the enormous contributions of one of my predecessors, GERALD FORD. Former President FORD served in the House over 25 years, including 8 of those years as Republican leader from 1965 to 1973. He served his Michigan constituents and the American people with great distinction not just here in Congress, but as Vice President and as President of the United States. The thoughts and prayers of this House and those of a grateful Nation are with Betty and the Ford family. . . .

Hon. Nancy Pelosi

OF CALIFORNIA

. . . In this hour, we need and pray for the character, courage, and civility of a former Member of this House, President FORD. He healed the country when it needed healing. This is another time, another war, and another trial of American will, imagination, and spirit. Let us honor his memory not just in eulogy, but in dialog and trust across the aisle.

I want to join Leader Boehner in expressing our condolences and our appreciation to Mrs. Ford and to the entire Ford family for their decades of leadership and service to our country. . . .

Hon. Sheila Jackson-Lee

OF TEXAS

. . . Mr. Speaker, it is wholly fitting and proper that the Members of this House, along with all of the American people, paid fitting tribute to the late President GERALD R. "JERRY" FORD, a former leader in this House, who did so much to heal our Nation in the aftermath of Watergate. Upon assuming the Presidency, President FORD assured the Nation: "My fellow Americans, our long national nightmare is over." By his words and deeds, President FORD helped turn the country back on the right track. He will be forever remembered for his integrity, good character, and commitment to the national interest. . . .

EXPRESSING PROFOUND REGRET AND SORROW OF THE HOUSE ON THE DEATH OF GERALD R. FORD, 38TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 11) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 11

Resolved, That the House of Representatives has learned with profound regret and sorrow of the death of GERALD R. FORD, thirty-eighth President of the United States of America.

Resolved, That the House tenders its deep sympathy to the members of the family of the former President in their bereavement.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy of the same to the family of the former President.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the former President.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House will observe a moment of silence in honor of former President FORD.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Hon. Ted Poe

OF TEXAS

Mr. Speaker, during the great World War II, the U.S. aircraft carrier *Monterey* faced its fiercest naval battle, not with the Imperial Japanese Navy, but the storm of the sea, Typhoon Cobra.

A naval lieutenant (jg) answering the call to action motivated the crew to combat against the Cobra's bone-crushing waves, torrential rains, and consuming fires it caused on board the ship.

Refusing the order to abandon the ship, this warrior valiantly went below, marching into the mouth of the fire, rescuing those trapped within its grasp. He ignored the searing heat of the flames and the blackness of the smoke. Hour upon hour this man led others in the charge to extinguish the demon fire, saving fellow sailors and officers.

He did not seek recognition in the darkness of 1944; it sought him. When it called, this naval officer answered in a manner of all American patriots, with courage, valor, and victory.

Twenty-nine years later, this same individual helped rescue an entire Nation from the fire of corruption and war. And he brought peace. His name was President GERALD FORD, and we thank him.

And that's just the way it is.

Hon. Mark Udall

OF COLORADO

Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation to name the post office in Vail, CO, after our Nation's 38th President, GERALD R. FORD, JR.

I believe this legislation is appropriate as another means of honoring the legacy of President FORD, in large part because of his special connection to Colorado and the Vail Valley.

In 1968 then-Congressman FORD and wife Betty first came to Colorado with their children to celebrate Christmas and to ski in the mountains at Vail. Like many other visitors, President FORD was inspired by the beauty of the area and found a connection to the land and to the surrounding community.

The Fords later owned a home and continued to vacation in Vail. When he became President, his vacations in Colorado helped introduce the world to the town of Vail, and in fact, the family home was dubbed the Western White House.

Vail residents knew President FORD and his family as neighbors and friends and are proud of their long association with them. GERALD FORD was beloved in Vail, where he was known to be a good neighbor, an avid golfer and a lover of the outdoors.

President FORD will rightly be remembered for his personal warmth, his decency, and his interest in bridging the many divisions in America during the 1970s. My father, Mo Udall, served in Congress with GERALD FORD, and while they were often on different sides in political matters—so much so that my father hoped to run against President FORD in the famous election of 1976—they were united by a common view that politics should unite people. They both were firm believers that in public life one could disagree without being disagreeable.

This is a credo I continue to believe in, and I commend the memory of both good men to this House, an institution they loved.

Coloradans, especially those in the Vail Valley, have come to think of Mr. FORD as the first President from Colorado because he was a great ambassador for the State who established long ties to the people of Colorado.

As a dedicated public servant, President FORD served honorably in his years in Congress and in the White House. Most important, when America needed someone to reassure their trust in government after Watergate, he filled that leadership role with authenticity.

I believe President FORD's special relationship and legacy in Colorado should be appropriately recognized by naming the postal facilities in Vail, CO, in his honor.

Hon. John L. Mica

OF FLORIDA

Madam Speaker, with the passing of President GERALD FORD, our Nation, the U.S. House of Representatives and the Ford family have lost a leader, a respected colleague and a loved one who was very special to their lives.

Few American leaders of our time have gained the admiration and appreciation so well deserved and earned by our 38th President. While our country has lost a distinguished leader and the Congress has lost a distinguished Member, GERALD FORD's life and public service will always remain a model for future generations.

In October 1999 I had the pleasure to quietly sit and speak with President FORD at the conclusion of a Capitol Hill reception that was held after he was honored with the Congressional Gold Medal in the Capitol Rotunda. While I had met him before, what struck me on this special occasion was how such a great man receiving the highest honor from our Nation and Congress could be so humble, so gracious and so genuine.

How memorable it was for me to spend that special time with that gentle man and great American. How fitting it was that GERALD FORD returned this week to the Capitol and the Congress he loved. While this gentle man belongs to the ages, he will always share a special place in our hearts and fond memories.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 49 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, January 5, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable GERALD R. FORD, 38th President of the United States.

Friday, January 5, 2007

Hon. Ted Poe

OF TEXAS

Madam Speaker, when President GERALD FORD played football for Michigan, he was the team's center on offense. He touched the ball on every play. The play could not begin without GERALD FORD snapping the ball. Others on the team, however, the quarterback, running back and receivers, made all the headlines, but that was fine with GERALD FORD. As the center he was neither on the right nor the left but in the middle of the charge to move the ball over the goal line.

GERALD FORD and Michigan were successful. Michigan won two national championships. GERALD FORD was offered contracts with NFL teams, such as the Detroit Lions. He chose law school instead, served in World War II, fought in that great war, and was a Member of this very House.

When he became President, "Ole No. 48," President FORD, took the ball again, but this time on the field of American discontent about corruption and war. He stayed in the center and once again was successful in moving Team America across the goal line of healing and hope.

However, when entering a room, President FORD always preferred the band not play the traditional "Hail to the Chief" but, rather, the Michigan fight song.

Thank you, President FORD, for playing ball for Team America.

And that's just the way it is.

Hon. Steve King

OF IOWA

GERALD R. FORD, and may he rest in peace, to whom we said goodbye within this past week was the man who came to the Presidency after having served 25 years here, Mr. Speaker, in the House of Representatives, a man who was almost without guile as President. He was a President who made decisions at a time when we needed someone who had absolute integrity. He was the person who had confidence, the confidence and the endorsement of Democrats and Republicans at the time, Mr. Speaker. And with GERALD R. FORD as President, when he made a decision, he laid out his reasoning and his rationale, when he made the right decision, he made it for the right reason.

He thoughtfully deliberated on the components of the information, the interactivity of them and what the result would be and what the constitutional foundation was on that decision. And he made his decision, and he told us why. And that established confidence in the integrity and the judgment, in the intellect, and the character and in the faith of GERALD R. FORD.

When he made the wrong decision, and I will just say when I disagreed with him would be my definition of the wrong decision, he still laid out his argument. And when he laid out his argument, I could not fault him for using the wrong criteria. It was well thought out. He made his arguments well. When we disagreed, I would have a different argument.

But in those kinds of debates he earned our respect for President FORD.

. . .

Hon. Artur Davis

OF ALABAMA

Madam Speaker, we overlooked GERALD FORD's significance when he served as President. His tenure was only slightly longer than a congressional term, a cruel irony for a politician whose political career was so grounded in the by-ways of the House. He was hardly a master politician, if the term refers to the winning of elections or the swift dispatch of opposition: FORD came within an inch of not being re-nominated, and he lost in the general election to the most obscure winner of our times.

This week, as we mourn President FORD's passing, his legacy is much clearer: first, he gracefully presided over the aftermath of Richard Nixon's forced removal, and over the culmination of our debacle in Vietnam. Had he gotten either moment wrong, the country might have been ripped into two bitter competing halves. As we contemplate the mistakes subsequent Presidents have made, it is a virtue that GERALD FORD made not a single major error in judgment: he did not blunder into any ill-chosen wars, and as much as an opposition-dominated Congress thwarted him, he never resorted to subterfuge in an effort to tip the scales.

Then there is the graceful way President FORD practiced politics. The challenge from Ronald Reagan was perilous because even in 1976, President FORD was not of a philosophic kin with most Republican primary voters. A less principled President would have demagogued on issues like busing or affirmative action; certainly, he might have abandoned the detente that was a major contributor to taming the Soviet Union. A modern, win-at-all-costs politician would have savaged an unknown like Jimmy Carter. The fact is that the 1976 election season was at once breathtakingly close and remarkably civil.

Imagine if GERALD FORD's major value, the cultivation of common ground, had dominated the last two fractious decades. Our two major political philosophies would not have been at irreconcilable odds, with both tending to treat each battle as if it were the ultimate one or as if we weren't bound to share a future together. We mourn GERALD FORD's decency and we also mourn the loss of the political character that left the stage when we retired him.

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

This Nation is still in mourning for President GERALD FORD. Today, as the House of Representatives pays tribute to him, we pray to You, Lord God, paraphrasing his own remarks in 1974 on taking the oath of office as President:

"We believe that truth is the glue that holds government together, not only our government but civilization itself. That bond is unbroken at home and abroad.

"In all our public and private acts as Members of Congress, we expect to follow our instincts of openness and candor with full confidence that honesty is always the best policy in the end.

"As we bind up internal wounds, let us restore the golden rule to our political process and let mutual love purge our hearts of suspicion and of hate."

At the beginning of the 110th Congress, we ask the people of this Nation for their prayers. With all the strength and all the good sense we have gained from life, with all the confidence our family, friends and dedicated staff impart to us and with the good will of countless Americans we have encountered, we now solemnly reaffirm our promise to uphold the Constitution, to do what is right as God gives us to see the right, and to do the very best we can for America.

"God helping us, we will not let you down."

Amen.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to the Following Resolution:

S. RES. 19

Whereas GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, the 38th President of the United States, was born on July 14, 1913, in Omaha, Nebraska;

Whereas GERALD FORD was raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he was active in the Boy Scouts, achieving the Eagle Scout rank, and where he excelled as both a student and an athlete during high school;

Whereas after graduating from high school, GERALD FORD attended the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he played on the university's national championship football teams in 1932 and 1933, and was honored as the team's most valuable player in 1934, before graduating with a B.A. degree in 1935;

Whereas GERALD FORD later attended Yale Law School and earned an LL.B. degree in 1941, after which he began to practice law in Grand Rapids;

Whereas GERALD FORD joined the United States Naval Reserve in 1942 and served his country honorably during World War II;

Whereas upon returning from his service in the military, GERALD FORD ran for the United States House of Representatives and was elected to Congress;

Whereas GERALD FORD served in the House of Representatives from January 1949 to December 1973, winning reelection 12 times, each time with more than 60 percent of the vote;

Whereas GERALD FORD served with great distinction in Congress, in particular through his service on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, of which he rose to become ranking member in 1961;

Whereas in addition to his work in the House of Representatives, GERALD FORD served as a member of the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination of President John F. Kennedy;

Whereas in 1965 GERALD FORD was selected as minority leader of the House of Representatives, a position he held for 8 years;

Whereas after the resignation of Vice President Spiro Agnew in 1973, GERALD FORD was chosen by President Richard Nixon to serve as Vice President of the United States;

Whereas following the resignation of President Nixon, GERALD FORD took the oath of office as President of the United States on August 9, 1974;

Whereas upon assuming the presidency, GERALD FORD helped the nation heal from one of the most difficult and contentious periods in United States history, and restored public confidence in the country's leaders;

Whereas GERALD FORD's basic human decency, his integrity, and his ability to work cooperatively with leaders of all political parties and ideologies, earned him the respect and admiration of Americans throughout the country;

Whereas the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 recommended that America's next nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, designated as CVN–78, be named as the U.S.S. Gerald R. Ford, in honor of our 38th President; and

Whereas GERALD FORD was able to serve his country with such great distinction in large part because of the continuing support of his widely admired wife, Elizabeth (Betty), who also has contributed much to the nation in many ways, and of their 4 children, Michael, John, Steven, and Susan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate notes with deep sorrow and solemn mourning the death of President GERALD RUDOLPH FORD.

Resolved, That the Senate extends its heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Ford and the family of President FORD.

Resolved, That the Senate honors and, on behalf of the nation, expresses deep appreciation for President FORD's outstanding and important service to his country.

Resolved, That the Senate directs the Secretary of the Senate to communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the former President.

Hon. Vernon J. Ehlers

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, the last 2 weeks have been a time of sorrow for me, and a time

of pride also. I was awakened at 2 in the morning to learn that my good friend, President FORD, had passed away. And the succeeding whirlwind of funerals, receptions, and events dealing with his death have reminded us all how much he gave our country and how much he did for our country.

I am proud to call Mr. FORD a friend. I am proud of what he did for our country. I am proud that he so ably reflected the values and virtues of West Michigan, my part of the country.

We pray that You will bless Betty and his family and give them comfort and give them strength.

I will shortly be presenting a resolution honoring President FORD, and I hope that Members will find their way to the floor to speak on this special resolution, or speak later this evening. I encourage them to join me in honoring this great American and wonderful President.

Hon. Danny K. Davis

OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 15) mourning the passing of President GERALD RUDOLPH FORD and celebrating his leadership and service to the people of the United States, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 15

Whereas all American Presidents affect the history of the United States, but President GERALD RUDOLPH FORD leaves a legacy of leadership and service that will endure for years to come;

Whereas millions of men and women across America mourn the death of the 38th President of the United States;

Whereas GERALD R. FORD is the only person from the State of Michigan to have served as President of the United States;

Whereas GERALD R. FORD graduated from the University of Michigan with academic and athletic excellence;

Whereas GERALD R. FORD attended Yale University Law School and graduated in the top 25 percent of his class while also working as a football coach;

Whereas GERALD R. FORD joined the United States Navy Reserves in 1942 and served valiantly on the U.S.S. *Monterey* in the Philippines during World War II;

Whereas the U.S.S. *Monterey* earned 10 battle stars, awarded for participation in battle while GERALD R. FORD served on the ship;

Whereas GERALD R. FORD was released to inactive duty in 1946 with the rank of Lieutenant Commander;

Whereas in 1948, GERALD R. FORD was elected to the House of Representatives, where he served with integrity for 25 years;

Whereas GERALD R. FORD's contributions to the foreign operations and defense subcommittees of the Committee on Appropriations earned him a reputation as a "congressman's congressman";

Whereas in 1963, President Lyndon Johnson appointed GERALD R. FORD to the Warren Commission investigating the assassination of President John F. Kennedy;

Whereas from 1965 to 1973, GERALD R. FORD served as minority leader of the House of Representatives;

Whereas from 1974 to 1976, GERALD R. FORD served as the 38th President of the United States, taking office at a dark hour in the history of the United States and returning the faith of the people of the United States in the Presidency through his wisdom, courage, and integrity;

Whereas the Presidency of GERALD R. FORD is remembered for restoring trust and openness to the Presidency;

Whereas President GERALD R. FORD followed a steady, sensible course to cope with the Nation's economic problems and during his Administration halted double-digit inflation and lowered unemployment;

Whereas President GERALD R. FORD worked to solidify President Nixon's accomplishments in China, bring representatives of Israel and Egypt to the conference table, and provide developmental assistance to poor countries;

Whereas in 1975, under GERALD R. FORD's leadership, the United States signed the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, commonly known as the "Helsinki Agreement", which ratified post-World War II European borders and supported human rights;

Whereas GERALD R. FORD, together with Betty Ford, was awarded the Congressional Gold Metal in 1999 in recognition of dedicated public service and outstanding humanitarian contributions to the people of the United States;

Whereas in 1999, GERALD R. FORD received the Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian award, for his role in guiding the Nation through the turbulent times of Watergate, the resignation

of President Nixon, and the end of the Vietnam War, and for restoring integrity and public trust to the Presidency;

Whereas since leaving the Presidency, GERALD R. FORD has been an international ambassador of American goodwill, a noted scholar and lecturer, and a strong supporter of the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan, which was named for the former President in 1999; and

Whereas GERALD R. FORD's life has been characterized by honesty, integrity, and dedication of purpose: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses its appreciation for the profound public service of President GERALD RUDOLPH FORD;

(2) tenders its deep sympathy to Betty Ford; to Michael, Jack, Steven, and Susan; and to the rest of the family of the former President; and

(3) directs the Clerk of the House to transmit a copy of this resolution to the family of President GERALD RUDOLPH FORD.

Hon. Danny K. Davis

OF ILLINOIS

. . . Mr. Speaker, GERALD FORD, the Nation's 38th President, and the only person to serve both as President and Vice President, although elected to neither office, led the Nation out of the dark days of the Watergate scandal. When GERALD FORD took office on August 9, 1974, he declared:

> I assume the Presidency under extraordinary circumstances. This is an hour of history that troubles our minds and hurts our hearts.

After playing football at the University of Michigan and serving on an aircraft carrier in the Navy during World War II, FORD was elected to the House of Representatives in 1948 as a Republican. The district he represented included his hometown of Grand Rapids, MI. FORD's reputation for integrity and openness made him popular and well regarded among his peers during his 25 years in Congress.

In 1965, he was elected minority leader. In October 1973 Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned from office after pleading no contest to tax evasion. President Nixon, ensnared in the rising Watergate scandal, asked the well-respected FORD to leave Congress in order to replace Agnew, and he accepted.

In September 1974, FORD granted President Nixon a pardon, an act that is credited for calming American anxieties about the Watergate controversy. "It was a tough decision," FORD told *USA Today* in an interview in 2000. "We needed to get the matter off my desk so I could concentrate on the problems of 260 million Americans and not have to worry about the problems of one man."

GERALD FORD was a devoted public servant who led this country with grace and bipartisanship during challenging times. All of America is grateful to him for his leadership and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Hon. Tom Davis

OF VIRGINIA

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, though he served as President for only 2½ years, GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, JR., leaves a legacy of leadership and service that will endure for years to come. As the 38th President of the United States, he is remembered as a man whose integrity and decency would be the salve needed to heal a deeply divided country during one of the most politically turbulent periods in our Nation's history. He is also remembered as a loving and loyal husband, family man, and friend.

Born on July 14, 1913, in Grand Rapids, MI, GERALD FORD graduated from the University of Michigan and excelled in both academics and athletics. He was voted the most valuable player on the football team his senior year at Michigan, which led to offers to play for the

Detroit Lions and the Green Bay Packers.

Despite these offers, FORD decided that law would be a better career choice. He attended Yale University Law School, graduating in the top 25 percent of his class while working both as a football and a boxing coach.

It was at Yale that he would receive his first taste of national politics, volunteering on Wendell Willkie's 1940 Presidential campaign.

His rise in Michigan politics was put on hold when he joined the U.S. Navy in 1942 to serve in the Second World War. He served valiantly on the aircraft carrier U.S.S. *Monterey* until 1946, attaining the rank of lieutenant commander.

The year 1948 was a banner year for FORD as it was the year he was elected to the House of Representatives, with over 60 percent of the vote, the lowest margin he was ever to receive. It was also the year he would marry Elizabeth "Betty" Bloomer, who would become one of his most ardent campaigners and mother to their four children.

FORD served in the House with distinction and honor for 25 years, where his contributions earned him a reputation as a Congressman's Congressman. Even though his highest aspiration was to be Speaker of the House, he never got the chance. He did, however, hold the highest Republican post in a Democratically controlled Congress by being elected the minority leader in 1965.

He held that post until 1973 when he was appointed by President Nixon to replace Spiro Agnew as Vice President of the United States of America amid allegations of corruption.

After Nixon's resignation on August 9, 1974, GERALD FORD became the 38th President of the United States and has the distinction of being the only person to serve but never was elected by the populace to either the Presidency or the Vice Presidency.

As President, he followed a steady, sensible course to cope with the Nation's economic problems. He is credited with halting double-digit inflation and lowering unemployment. He also worked to solidify President Nixon's accomplishments in China and ended U.S. involvement in the Vietnam war.

Under his leadership, the United States signed the final act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, commonly known as the Helsinki agreement, which ratified post-World War II European borders and supported human rights, and is now regarded as having helped bring down the Soviet Union. Maybe most important, his wisdom, courage and integrity restored the faith of the American people in the executive branch of government. His time in office is remembered for restoring trust and openness to the Presidency.

His courageous and difficult decision to pardon President Nixon may have cost him the election. However, it is now regarded as being in the best interests of the Nation, allowing it to move forward and recover from a tumultuous time.

After leaving the Presidency, FORD became an international ambassador of American goodwill, a noted scholar and lecturer, and a strong supporter of the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan. And together with his wife, Betty, he was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999 in recognition of their dedicated public service and outstanding humanitarian contributions to the people of the United States.

Also in 1999 FORD received the Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian award, for his role in guiding the United States through the turbulent times of Watergate, the resignation of President Nixon, and the end of the Vietnam war, and for restoring integrity and public trust to the Presidency.

GERALD R. FORD, the President and the man, embodied many fine characteristics that we as Americans value: honor,

integrity, decency, hard work, and kindness. For this, I ask my colleagues to join in honoring his legacy by supporting this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Virginia for his remarks and would like to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan, Representative Bart Stupak.

Hon. Bart Stupak

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of this resolution, paying tribute to one of Michigan's greatest sons, a man who dedicated the best years of his life to public service, President GERALD R. FORD. Those who knew GERALD FORD remember him for his humility, his understanding of the virtue of public service and his dedication to his family. Michigan and America have lost a statesman who truly believed in the honor of public service.

President FORD will be remembered not only for his Presidency but also for his distinguished career representing Michigan in Congress and for his service as minority leader of the U.S. House of Representatives. He believed deeply in this institution, and he served his State, his party, and his Nation skillfully as a Congressman for more than a quarter of a century. President FORD exemplified the values both of this institution and the great State of Michigan with humility, good humor, faith, and persistence.

GERALD FORD did not seek power or fame, but he answered the call of our Nation's highest office when our Nation needed him. He was selected to be Vice President because of his high character, bipartisanship, and integrity. Eight months later, these qualities were evident when President FORD helped heal a divided Nation after the Watergate scandal.

There can be no better demonstration of a tribute to President GERALD R. FORD than the outpouring of gratitude and respect from ordinary citizens when he was laid to rest on January 3. The people of Michigan remember him not only as President or minority leader but as a constant presence in our lives and as a selfless, dedicated public servant who talked about the values that unite us in the most divisive of times.

President GERALD R. FORD represented us with honor and courage, and he will be deeply missed. To Betty and his children, Michael, Jack, Steven and Susan, thank you for sharing the President with us.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the author of this resolution, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Ehlers).

Hon. Vernon J. Ehlers

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 15, a resolution I introduced along with Speaker Pelosi, Republican Leader Boehner, Majority Leader Hoyer and the entire Michigan congressional delegation. This resolution honors our great President, GERALD R. FORD, who was also an outstanding Member of Congress.

I am privileged to serve in the same House seat that President FORD held. I am still deeply honored when people, both here and in Grand Rapids, MI, refer to my district as "Jerry Ford's district." After all these years, they still consider it to be Jerry's.

He personified the many good traits that West Michigan has to offer our Nation; honesty, integrity and a sense of courage and duty. I think you are going to hear these words a great deal as we honor President FORD in this Chamber, where he honorably served for 25 years.

I was deeply touched by the funeral services and memorial celebrations held for President FORD over the past 2 weeks since his death on Tuesday, December 26, 2006. I want to thank all those who helped plan and carry out those memorable events, which solemnly reflected on this great man and his service and leadership to our Nation. I am pleased that this House can now take time at the beginning of a new Congress to celebrate and remember one of our own Members and the great things that he did for our country.

For many younger Americans, these past tributes have served as a history lesson about the so-called "accidental President." They have learned, and those of us who knew him, have remembered his athletic prowess at the University of Michigan; his brave service in the Navy during World War II; his outstanding representation of Grand Rapids and Western Michigan in the Congress; his ascension to the Republican leader's position in 1965; his appointment and confirmation as Vice President in 1973; and, of course, his rise to the Presidency in the wake of Richard Nixon's resignation in August 1974.

What has struck me during the memorial services and tributes is the shift in the way President FORD is regarded as compared to some of the opinions during his Presidency. For example, at the time of his appointment as Vice President, the *Wall Street Journal* editors wrote that the nomination "caters to all the worst instincts on Capitol Hill, clubbiness, partisanship and the small-mindedness that thinks in terms of those who should be rewarded rather than those who could best fill the job."

Little did the *Wall Street Journal* know that the Congress had in fact picked the person who could best fill the job; they later changed their thoughts and their writings about President FORD.

I think a lot of people probably thought at the time as the *Wall Street Journal* did. He was a political insider, from a relatively small city in Michigan, who many knew little about. But those of us in Grand Rapids, his constituents and his colleagues, knew who he was, a decent, thoughtful, trustworthy man, full of integrity and courage.

As it turns out, the country should be eternally grateful for the blessing of the timely leadership, strength and wisdom of JERRY FORD during this perilously difficult time in the constitutional history of our Nation. I am glad that 30 years of history have shown that the Members of Congress, and those who advised President Nixon on his appointment, knew what they were talking about and what they were doing.

President FORD's appointment and his ascendancy to the office of President was not the result of "clubbiness" or "political favor." He was the person best suited to fill the job, and he literally healed our Nation by the actions that he took during those troubled times.

I am pleased that the opinion writers at the *Wall Street Journal* recognized this when editorializing after his death. They eloquently wrote that President FORD navigated many perils in his short tenure, including the public furor over Watergate, the unpopularity of the Vietnam war, dramatic inflation and a struggling economy, and, as they put it, "better than he gets credit for."

I think that over time history will continue to hold President FORD in even higher regard for the actions he took to bring honor and respect back to the Presidency, to stabilize the economy, and to lay the groundwork for freedom and democracy to spread, and for Soviet communism to fall.

My thoughts and prayers continue to go out to Betty and to their children, Michael, Jack, Steven and Susan, as well as their grandchildren. The Ford family demonstrated remarkable composure and strength during these long weeks of mourning, and we thank them for helping to lead us in our grief.

At the beginning of this new year and this new Congress, I am hopeful that we in this House will be mindful of the life and legacy of JERRY FORD. He served in this House with distinction, he treated everyone with respect, and he always conducted himself with honesty, integrity and forthrightness in every matter he undertook. I pray that we will do the same.

His family creed, incidentally, although humorous, is one we should all emulate: "Work hard, tell the truth, and come to dinner on time."

Mr. Speaker, I know all my colleagues will support this resolution to honor our 38th President.

Hon. Danny K. Davis

OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, during the last week we have heard many discussions about the impact of President GERALD FORD. We have heard people talk about the fact that he was never elected to either the Presidency or the Vice Presidency of the United States. But yet his impact has been felt in such a way, as I listened to Representative Ehlers from Michigan talk, that people still refer to the district as his district.

I hear individuals who are sports fans who remember his days as an athlete when he played football and the fact that whatever the assignments were, that he could pick up the assignment and do exceptionally well with it, and that oftentimes he didn't veer too far from the center. He didn't always veer so far to the left or he didn't always veer so far to the right, but he was one of these kind of straight-down-the-middle people who protected the interests of his colleagues, who protected the well-being of his mates, who protected the interests of those on the team.

I think he saw America as a team and, when he was given the ball, decided that his greatest challenge was to protect the interests of America. And that is what he did, even though he probably knew that it would cause some difficulty with his reelection.

Even though he knew that in all likelihood and all probability there were individuals who would be concerned enough that they may not give him the kind of support that he would need to be reelected, he did it anyway. He did it because he could put the interests of the country above those of any personal feelings or personal need that he had. I think that that is really what puts him down in history as one who excelled to the point of greatness, because he served the country and served the interests of the country extremely well.

Mr. Speaker, when students study politics, when young people are trying to understand what it is that they need to be and what they ought to become if they really want to be a great public servant, they should study the life of President GERALD FORD, and they should understand that being a public servant is to put the public interest first. That is what he did, that is what he is noted for, and that is why all of America continues to revere him, especially those of us who are old enough to remember that period, who are old enough to kind of recall the mood of the people and what was taking place and what was going on at that time.

No matter how historians write the script, you can never take away what President GERALD FORD did for America.

That is why we salute him, and that is why we raise him up; that is why we lift him to the American people, and that is why this resolution is so important.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Walberg).

Hon. Tim Walberg

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I rise as a proud Michigander today to express my profound respect and appreciation and admiration for the life and public service of our 38th President.

President GERALD FORD was a man of impeccable integrity and ethics who served valiantly in World War II on the U.S.S. *Monterey*, where he came close to losing his life in December 1944. After returning home to Michigan, his calling remained in public service to his country. He ran for the Grand Rapids area congressional seat against an incumbent Republican Congressman. Nobody thought he could win. But with a strong conviction and a clear contrast between the two, he won two to one in the primary.

President FORD went on to serve 25 years in the U.S. House and was voted in 1961 by the House membership as a "Congressman's Congressman." Rising to the rank of Republican leader, he was known for his modesty, his intelligence, and thoughtfulness throughout his career. After FORD became President, the decisions that he made, though costing him politically, healed a fractured Nation. Today, we thank him for putting our country ahead of his own political success.

May we never forget this great Michigander, and may the Lord's blessings be upon his family.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, could I inquire as to how much time I have left.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Illinois has 21 minutes remaining and the gentleman from Virginia has 18 minutes remaining.

Hon. Danny K. Davis

OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Oftentimes when we talk about civil rights and the era of civil rights, and we talk of the individuals who were pushing perhaps the most, sometimes the name of GERALD FORD does not get included in that discussion, and he is not included in that discussion because he didn't always loom as high as some others might have. He was not necessarily one of these individuals that you would just simply know about. Oftentimes he did what he did somewhat quietly but, nevertheless, did it and it had the impact that it was designed to have.

Such were his positions relative to civil rights issues, even prior to ever seeking or getting involved in public office. I was told a story of how, as he captained the football team, there were some controversies relative to an African American member of the team who was not going to get an opportunity to play. Of course, President FORD, as football team captain at that time, a sort of President-in-waiting, learning what leadership really meant and what leadership was all about, just sort of took the position that if this gentleman was not going to be able to play, then neither would he. And of course the team was concerned, because if you have a star and the star is not playing, then of course it decreases your chance of winning.

Think of what America would be if all of us stood up all of the time for stars,

or for the individuals who had the potential to be stars, to make sure that they got their rightful chance, their rightful opportunity, got their acceptance because of what they could contribute and because of what they brought to the table. I guess that really was the understanding that GERALD FORD had even at that moment, and all of America continues to be grateful to him.

Mr. Speaker, at this time it would be my pleasure and my honor to yield to the gentlewoman from California, the Speaker of the House, such time as she might consume.

Hon. Nancy Pelosi

OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and applaud him, Mr. Davis of Illinois, and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Davis), for bringing this resolution to the floor to honor a great man, and I rise today to join them in paying tribute to the life and leadership of President GERALD FORD.

I would like to also recognize Mrs. Betty Ford and the wonderful children, Michael, Jack, Steven, and Susan, who with their love and support helped to make President FORD's leadership possible; but they made a contribution in their own right.

Betty Ford really changed the way people in America talked about their health and the challenges in their lives. Every family in America respects her, every family in America is in her debt for, again, changing how people speak about their physical and other challenges. Mrs. Ford, we all give you our condolences and our respect and admiration for your leadership as well.

Having also served as House minority leader, as President FORD did, I have great respect for the fair and reliable leadership that President FORD displayed throughout his service in the House. He was effective and respected on both sides of the aisle. He recognized that however much we may disagree on political questions, we serve the people of the Nation, the great institution, the House of Representatives.

He later became President, and another President, Thomas Jefferson, said: "Every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle." GERALD FORD knew that. GERALD FORD followed that. He assumed office during one of the greatest times of challenge for our Nation and provided the American people with the steady leadership and optimism that was his signature.

The outpouring of emotion and affection displayed by the American people last week and the week before reminds us that they desire the kind of leadership President FORD embodied. In this hour, we need and pray for President FORD's character, courage, and civility to affect us. He healed the country when it needed healing. This is another time, another war, and another trial of our American will, imagination, and spirit. I ask our colleagues, let us honor his memory not just in eulogy but in dialog and trust across the aisle.

Once again, our condolences to the family. I hope it is a comfort to the Ford family that so many people mourn their loss and are praying for them at this time.

Hon. Danny K. Davis

OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, thrust by President Nixon's resignation into an office he had never sought, former President GERALD FORD occupied the White House for just 895 days. They were, however, 895 extraordinary days that President FORD

used to guide the Nation through and out of the dark days of the Watergate scandal.

When FORD took office on August 9, 1974, he declared: "I assume the Presidency under extraordinary circumstances. This is an hour of history that troubles our minds and hurts our hearts."

FORD got his first exposure to national politics at Yale University, working as a volunteer in Wendell Willkie's Republican campaign for President.

After World War II service with the Navy in the Pacific, he went back to practicing law in Grand Rapids and became active in Republican reform politics. The rest is history.

President FORD was elected to the House of Representatives in 1948 as a Republican. FORD's reputation for integrity and openness made him popular and well regarded among his peers during his 25 years in Congress.

In 1965, he was elected minority leader. Mr. FORD was a devoted public servant who led his country with grace and bipartisanship during challenging times. The country is grateful to him for his leadership and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Hon. Vernon J. Ehlers

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is a great pleasure once again to recognize the many accomplishments that President FORD had during his life, and I am pleased that we can spend more time this evening adding to the record we began early this afternoon.

Before I do that, I want to remind all Members to please take the time to go to the Cloakrooms and record their remembrances in the books that are displayed there. This will be very meaningful to Mrs. Ford and the family if we can do that, and I urge all Members to do that.

Mr. Speaker, before I proceed any further, I would like to yield to Mr. McCotter from Michigan for such time as he may consume.

Hon. Thaddeus G. McCotter

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to go on record with the reminiscence of the late President FORD.

As a young person growing up in Michigan, I remember Watergate. It is a very early political memory. And it would have been so easy at the time for that indelible memory to remain with a young person and sour them and make them cynical toward the public process and toward government in general.

But I was very lucky because the man who took the place of the disgraced Richard Nixon was a man from Michigan by the name of GERALD FORD. Living in Michigan at the time being a young person, to see someone from my home State filled me with pride and a sense of inspiration that one person could rise above it and help to heal the wounds of a Nation.

So in many ways today in paying respect to GERALD FORD, it is not my ability to thank him for his service to our country in general, but to thank him personally for the inspiration that he provided me, to see what one good and decent man could do for his fellow Americans.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure now to yield such time as he may consume to one who knew President FORD well, the Dean of the House of Representatives, the Honorable John Dingell from the State of Michigan.

Hon. John D. Dingell

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend for his kindness and for his yielding me this time. I express to him my gratitude not only for his managing this time, but for bringing this bill to the floor. You have done a good thing, and I say to you, sir, my thanks.

I also want to congratulate my dear friend from Michigan (Mr. Ehlers) for his part in bringing this matter before us.

We honor here a great American, a real patriot, a distinguished President, a man who served with distinction in the House, where he had no enemies and legions of friends. He was an honorable and decent man. He was a friendly man. He was uncomplicated. He was good. He was a fine family man, and he was a man with whom any Member of this House on either side of the aisle could work with affection and with respect. We will miss him. He was a great American, and he was a man who left a great tradition as a Member of this body and as a member of the Appropriations Committee where he served with distinction.

A curious event associated with him is that he always wanted to be Speaker, but never made the grade. By a curious set of circumstances, he was the only man who probably could have been confirmed as Vice President under the constitutional amendment. And by an even more curious circumstance, he was never elected either Vice President or President, and yet he served in both offices with real distinction.

I will be praying for the repose of his soul. My wife, Deborah, and I knew GERALD FORD and admired him greatly. We extend our condolences to his wonderful wife, Betty, who was his loyal friend, supporter, counselor, and who served his country and him and all of us with distinction and who brought luster not just to her name but also to the name of her distinguished husband.

We will pray to God He will be good to JERRY FORD, and I thank my colleagues for bringing this resolution. It is well deserved by a great American.

Hon. Vernon J. Ehlers

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to give a few vignettes of JERRY FORD that illustrate the type of man that he was.

We heard this afternoon when we discussed this on the floor that he had been active in supporting the Civil Rights Act that passed this House and the Senate some years ago. But this was not an out-of-the-ordinary thing for him. When he was a football player at the University of Michigan, and a very fine one, I might add, undoubtedly the finest athlete to ever occupy the White House, he was the captain of the football team. They were scheduled to play Georgia Tech. There was one African American football player on the Michigan football team, and Georgia Tech said we cannot allow a black player to play on the field at Georgia Tech.

When GERALD FORD heard that, he said, "I will not play either. I am simply not going to play if they will not let my friend, Ward, play." That was the type of person he was. It was not until his African American friend begged him to play that he finally conceded that he would play.

Another vignette is when he was elevated to the Presidency, we had a big party for him back in Grand Rapids, MI, and 5,000 people turned out for our little party. Person after person got up to the microphone and related experiences in their life where JERRY FORD had helped them, whether it was a matter of hous-

ing, of veterans benefits, getting medals for veterans. The list went on and on and on.

That accords with another thing that was told me by one of my fellow legislators at the time. He had become a Member of Congress and he said, "Sometimes I cursed JERRY FORD. Because of the high standard of constituent service he provided, we worked endlessly in our office to do as well as JERRY FORD and his staff did in his office."

Those are two examples. I have more, but I see that the majority leader has arrived, and I know he is anxious to speak on this issue.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the majority leader, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. Hoyer), one who did know the President, but, as I observed a few minutes ago, not quite as long as Representative John Dingell.

Hon. Steny H. Hoyer

OF MARYLAND

Mr. Speaker, I thank my very distinguished friend for yielding and thank him for his leadership in this Congress, in the great city that he represents and his State of Illinois. He does a wonderful job.

I am pleased to join the sponsor of this resolution, my good friend, Vern Ehlers. Vern Ehlers represents the district, as some of you have already been told, I am sure, I just got to the floor, but I am sure you have been told he represents the district that GERALD FORD represented for a quarter of a century.

JERRY FORD was my friend. President FORD was someone who I got to know after he was President of the United States. As Mr. Davis observed, I was not in the Congress and did not serve with President FORD. He was, however, a distinguished leader of this body.

I would like to say just a few words, Mr. Speaker, about the contributions of a great American leader, a man who personified integrity, openness, civility, and a sense of responsibility, and a man who helped restore public confidence in our institutions of government during a time of national crisis and grave doubt about our Government, and that doubt existed here in this country and abroad.

President JERRY FORD, our Nation's 38th President, took office during a period of American history when deep skepticism was the norm and uncertainty ruled the day. The challenges he faced were not the product of his actions, but he effectively confronted them and helped our proud Nation rise above its "long national nightmare," as he referred to it, and to begin dreaming again about the promise that has been ours since our founding.

President FORD, of course, never asked to be our Commander in Chief. The responsibilities and burdens of that office were thrust upon him when he chose to answer our Nation's highest calling. That calling came because of the respect that was accorded to him in this House, in the U.S. Senate, and in our country.

He never put partisanship or ambition ahead of the needs of the American people, seeking instead to heal our national wounds. Where he saw division, he built bridges, and where he saw doubt, he nurtured trust.

I am proud to be able tonight to serve in the same Chamber where GERALD R. FORD served our Nation for such a long time. I have now served 1 year longer than GERALD FORD served in this House. He served for 25 years. I am in my 26th year. But no one brought more luster to their service, no one brought more integrity to this House, no one was a better example of what all of us ought to be as Members of this great institution, the

People's House, than was GERALD R. FORD of Michigan.

He offered his talents for seeking compromise and building consensus. I would hope all of us would take a lesson from GERALD FORD as we move ahead over the next 2 years. Too often, the cycle that we enter is a cycle of confrontation rather than consensus creation. We need consensus. America wants consensus. America wants progress. America wants a Congress focused on its need, not a Congress focused on how we can make the other guy look bad.

GERALD FORD can be an example and should be an example for all of us to emulate. I am honored to have this opportunity to carry on President FORD's steadfast commitment to God, to country, to, obviously, his family, his beloved wife Betty, and to the People's House.

It goes without saying that the thoughts and prayers of an indebted Nation are with the Ford family in their time of sorrow. I want to congratulate the Ford family, who conducted themselves with such great dignity and returned the caring of literally tens of thousands of people who came through our Rotunda to honor President FORD and his service and to thank him for that which he has done for our country. Jack and Susan in particular stood for hours greeting people and thanking them for being there, and the other children as well.

On December 26, 2006, we lost a great American, a great leader and a great friend. I was a member of the Appropriations Committee and had the honor of chairing the Treasury-Postal Subcommittee. The Treasury-Postal Subcommittee had under its aegis the retirement funds for our former Presidents, and in that capacity, I had an opportunity to talk to him from time to time, not about his own personal interests, which we did talk about, but that is not why we talked.

He talked about the institution. He talked about what we were doing to make this House run better. I can remember we were at a forum at Georgetown together over two decades ago at which we both spoke, and he spoke of the need for having more contested elections, as opposed to districts that were automatic for one party or the other. He said that would be good for democracy, good for discussion of issues and good for the creation of consensus.

GERALD FORD's indomitable spirit will live in these halls of power and service for generations to come, halls that will forever bear the mark of his influence and dedication to the people of the United States of America.

I want to extend my deepest sympathy to President FORD's beloved wife, Betty, his children, and his family and loved ones, and in closing thank him; thank him for being an example to which all of us could repair for service in this body; thank him for being an example for the American people to look to for what a Member of Congress can and ought to be, a man of principle, a man of generosity, a man who cared about his country and its people.

GERALD FORD, we thank you for your service, and we miss you.

Hon. Vernon J. Ehlers

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to add a few more comments, little vignettes. We have had a lot of discussion today about the wonderful attributes of President FORD as a President, as a Vice President and as a Member of the House of Representatives. Indeed, he was a most gracious person and also a most capable and hard-working person. I appreciate the comments that Majority Leader Hoyer made

which reflect very accurately what a wonderful person Mr. FORD was. But I want to add just a few examples from my hometown and my experience with him.

I, at one time, was the chairman of the County Commission. This was at the time when we were erecting the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids. Of course, he was interested in that and came around regularly. He was retired from the Presidency at that time.

I recall walking down the street with Mr. FORD. I thought I knew quite a few people there, but walking down the street with him, even though he had not served in Congress for some 10 years at that time, people, of course, would greet him and say, "Hi, JERRY, how are you doing?" They all knew him. The amazing part to me was that he knew them, and he would say, "Hi, Bob. Hi, Shirley. Hi, Jerry. How are you doing?"

Then another time we walked into the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, which had been the Pantlind Hotel, and he had stayed there when he came back to Grand Rapids for visits and for meetings. We walked into the hotel lobby, and, of course, a number of people saw him and sort of mobbed him and kept talking to him.

I noticed a bellman standing off to the side, and it was clear to me that he wanted to speak to Mr. FORD but didn't dare to come up to this group of people. He just thought it wasn't proper. So I mentioned this to President FORD. I said, "I think the bellman wants to talk to you." He said, "Oh, good." So he marches over to him and says, "Harry, how are you doing? It is good to see you again." I didn't know he had a personal relationship with him.

Then he said, "By the way, I heard that your mother has cancer. Is that true? How is she doing?" He then had a 10-minute conversation with this young man about his mother and her health and what had gone on. I am curious how many ex-Presidents would take the time to do that for a bellman that they had known in the past?

Similarly, the first time he went to the White House as President and a reporter I know was following him, when he approached the White House, of course, the Marines stood erect, opened the doors and stood at attention. He came up and held out his hand and said, "Hi, I am JERRY FORD. I am going to be living here. What is your name?" The reporter talked to the Marines at the door after that and said, "Have you ever had that before?" One said, "No, I have been here for several years, and the previous President has never even looked at me." But, again, that was characteristic of Mr. FORD.

One final little note. I am a nuclear scientist, as most of you know. I had moved from Berkeley, CA, where I got my Ph.D., and I was teaching at Calvin College. I heard a speech at a national convention from a Congressman who said, "It is terrible. We don't have any scientists in the Congress. We don't have any scientific advice." He said, "I urge you to contact your Member of Congress to see if you can help them by giving scientific advice."

So I took the gentleman at his word. I sent a letter to Congressman FORD and said, "I am a scientist. I have heard there is not much scientific advice there. I would be happy to help you in any way I can."

I dropped the letter in the mailbox, and my first thought was I would get a nice response that said: Thank you for your comments. We will keep you in mind if we ever need you. But in fact, Mr. FORD was excited about it. The day they got the letter, his chief of staff called me and said, "JERRY is very excited with this and would like to meet with you."

So I met with him. I established a science advisory committee, and we met with him quarterly to advise him on scientific matters. What struck me was he was extremely interested in the meetings and in what we were saying, but also

very, very quick on catching on to the scientific terms and issues we were discussing, much more so than the average lay person would be able to catch on. So it was a real pleasure for us.

But one day after a meeting, I said, "Mr. FORD, I don't quite understand, because you come back to Grand Rapids, you spend all day in meetings, you spend an hour or hour and a half in a meeting with us just because we want you to know more about science," and I said, "You really seem to enjoy it. Doesn't it get tiresome sometimes?"

He put his arm around my shoulder and he said, "Vern, one thing you have to recognize: Everyone else I meet with is asking for something. You are the only group I meet with that is offering me something."

I have never forgotten that, and it really gave a lot of meaning to me when I got here in Congress and found out that is true. Almost everyone that walks through our office doors comes in asking for something, not trying to help. So I now appreciate more fully why he appreciated our help.

These are just a few instances of what a wonderful human being President FORD was, how he related to the people around him, how he was concerned about the people around him and really sought to do what was best for them and what was best for this country. He was a terrific model for the rest of us and for me, and I have always tried to serve the people as well as he has.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I have no further comments, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Hon. Danny K. Davis

OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Speaker, as I close, let me just first of all commend and thank Representative Ehlers for introducing this resolution. I also want to thank all of those who have come down and taken the time to speak.

In summing up the life of President GERALD FORD, I am reminded of something that my mother used to tell us all the time, and that is that if a task is once begun, never leave until it is done; be the labor great or small, do it well or not at all.

President GERALD FORD, wherever he was, did his work well, whether it was on the football field, at the university, in the halls of Congress, as Vice President and ultimately as President of the United States of America, and our country is a better place because of it.

Hon. Rush D. Holt

OF NEW JERSEY

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join all Americans today in mourning the passing of President GERALD R. FORD and support H. Res. 15.

GERALD FORD became President in the aftermath of Watergate, a scandal that shook to the core the confidence that Americans place in their government. His unquestioned integrity, good humor, and unimpeachable personal character carried this Nation through one of the toughest periods of American history. GERALD FORD's legacy is one of steadiness in a time of crisis and of selfless service for his country.

Hon. Mark Udall

OF COLORADO

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 15, mourning the passing of President GERALD R. FORD.

While we mourn President FORD, we also celebrate this great American's life and unique contributions to our country.

I believe he will be remembered as a devoted and decent man of impeccable integrity who put service to his country before his own self interest. In public life, there can be no higher achievement.

In 1968 President FORD and his family first came to Colorado to ski. He was inspired by the beauty of the area and found a connection to the land and to the surrounding community and ended up buying a home in Beaver Creek. When he became President, his vacations in Colorado helped introduce the world to the town of Vail, and in fact, the family home was dubbed the Western White House.

Coloradans, especially those in the Vail Valley, consider JERRY FORD to be the first President from Colorado because he was a great ambassador for the State who established long ties to the people of Colorado. He was known as the first skiing President, and because of this tireless promotion of Colorado's ski industry, he was inducted into the Colorado Ski Hall of Fame in 2001. He was a good neighbor, an avid golfer, and a lover of the outdoors. So you can see why I like to claim the former President as a constituent.

Because of his work with charities in Colorado and his contributions to our great State, I've introduced a bill which would rename the Vail Post Office after President FORD, and I hope that the House will take up that bill soon and pass it in his honor.

President FORD will rightly be remembered for his personal warmth, his decency, his interest in bridging the many divisions in America during the 1970s. My father, Mo Udall, served in the Congress with him, and while they were often on different sides in political matters they were united by a common view that politics should unite people. I remember a story—in 1974 President FORD invited Arizona's Senators and Representatives to ride on Air Force One for a meeting he was having with Mexico's president. At the time, Arizona had two Republican Senators and three Republican Congressmen. They all declined. The one Democratic Congressman—my dad—accepted the invitation.

"All these other politicians don't want FORD to come into their district. Hell, I'm glad to see him in mine," my dad told a person in a crowd outside the place where FORD and the Mexican president were meeting. Mo then went into the crowd and put his arm around the President, telling him how proud Arizona was to have him. "It's a great day for the State."

They both were firm believers that in public life one could disagree without being disagreeable. This is a credo I try to live by and I draw inspiration from my father and from President FORD. They were both practitioners of civility long before the term came a popular term of political art.

As a dedicated public servant, President FORD served honorably in his years in Congress and in the White House. Most important, when America needed someone to reassure their trust in government after Watergate, he filled that leadership role with authenticity.

In short, GERALD FORD helped heal our Nation during a time of crisis, provided steady leadership and restored people's faith in the Presidency and in government. We need leaders like him today.

Hon. Lee Terry

OF NEBRASKA

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late President GERALD R. FORD, who was born in my hometown of Omaha, NE. President FORD will forever be remembered for his great service to the people of the United States of America. He served the people at a complicated and divisive time in our history with honor and distinction. By helping our Nation

heal from the political turmoil of Watergate, he helped move us forward.

President FORD was a man of selfless actions based in modest, Midwestern values. As a public servant, I am proud of his efforts; as a Nebraskan, I am proud of our President.

President FORD was a man who gave up a National Football League career in order to study law and ultimately serve the people in the highest office of public service. His love for our Nation and our American freedoms will live on through our work in Congress and his immortal words, spoken during his 1977 State of the Union Address when he said:

> The Constitution is the bedrock of all our freedoms. Guard and cherish it, keep honor and order in your own house, and the Republic will endure.

He was a scholar, an athlete, an honorable President, and an even more honorable American. Our Nation will truly miss his leadership, honesty and integrity.

Hon. Adrian Smith

OF NEBRASKA

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great friend of this institution, President GERALD FORD. I speak for all of us when I say that our thoughts and our prayers go out to his wife, Betty, and their family.

Born LESLIE LYNCH KING, JR., in Omaha, NE, President FORD embodied the values and spirit of Nebraska by putting the good of the Nation ahead of personal, partisan politics. He was a valued colleague to two branches of our Government, who loved and honored our traditions.

A great statesman, he will be hard—if not impossible—to replace. President FORD taught us lessons of unity we will do well to remember as we debate issues that may be divisive.

The flags hang at half mast throughout our entire Nation to remember a good and decent man. Though I never met him, I am honored to pay my respects to this great man.

God bless him and his family.

Hon. Candice S. Miller

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, as a member from the Michigan congressional delegation I am proud to honor today one of our State's favorite sons, the 38th President of the United States, GERALD R. FORD.

President FORD is the only person in the history of our Nation to ascend to the Presidency having never sought either the Presidency or the Vice Presidency. And he did so at one of the most difficult moments in our Nation since the Civil War.

Upon assuming office he acknowledged that he had not been elected through the votes of the American people but simply asked for his confirmation through their prayers.

He was the right man for the right office at the right time for our Nation.

He made policy decisions not based on political calculation, but on what he believed was in the best interests of the Nation.

He was not afraid to reach across party lines to find solutions to the myriad challenges which faced our Nation.

He was a man of unquestionable character.

Prior to coming to Congress I had the honor to serve as Michigan's Secretary of State and as such served as our State's official historian.

During my term in office I had the privilege to place a historic marker at the newly renovated boyhood home of President FORD.

On that day he spoke of the values instilled in him in that home, in his com-

munity and in our great State of Michigan.

These were values that served him well throughout his life and certainly when he assumed the Presidency.

Values like honesty. Integrity. Treating every person with respect and dignity. Love of country and a commitment to freedom.

His commitment to these values was evident throughout his public service. As a military officer in the Pacific in World War II. As a Member of this House of Representatives for nearly three decades. As the leader of the Republican minority in the House where he proudly voted for and sought votes for landmark legislation like the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act.

And as Vice President and President of the United States where he helped America recover from what he called our long national nightmare of Watergate and where he concluded the war in Vietnam.

Simply put, GERALD R. FORD was a great American worthy of our honor and respect.

Our condolences go out to his wonderful and courageous wife Betty and to the entire Ford family.

A grateful Nation owes a debt of gratitude to President FORD for his lifetime of honorable service.

May he rest in peace.

Hon. John D. Dingell

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to my dearly departed friend, GERALD R. FORD, the 38th President of the United States.

GERALD R. FORD rose to the Presidency at a time when the Nation was in crisis. Disillusioned by Watergate, nervous about an economy in recession, and anxious to get its soldiers out of war, the country was yearning for a leader who could reestablish a sense of normalcy. So when FORD took over the White House after a short stint as Vice President, and a quarter century in the House of Representatives—even though we disagreed on some fundamental policy issues—I was relieved. I knew JERRY as an all-American hailing from Grand Rapids, MI, a fellow World War II veteran, and above all, a man of extraordinary character. He was the right man at the right time to restore a divided Nation shaken to its constitutional roots.

When FORD left for duty he was considered an "isolationist." When he came back, he was a committed internationalist. It was this change, which I think marks the type of person that my friend GERALD FORD was. Many of today's pundits will call him a "throwback" or a "dying breed." I say he simply possessed a remarkable sense of self, strong patriotism, and astute common sense. He looked at the world, saw the conflicts, recognized the need for U.S. leadership, and changed his own opinion.

Too often today, men and women in public life who change their opinion are derided. Stubborn consistency in the face of rebutting evidence is now considered leadership. But this narrow definition of leadership was never the FORD model. He was a citizen legislator, a stalwart in a grand tradition that stretches back throughout democracy, from the complexities of the 21st century to the founding of Athens. He never sought leadership, it always came to him.

During his 25 years in Congress, where we worked side by side in the Michigan delegation for 17 years, FORD worked hard for his party but also reached out and made many friends across the aisle. His party elected him as minority leader in 1965 where he served as an effective leader and consensus builder until 1973 when he took over the Vice Presidency under Richard Nixon, replacing Spiro Agnew.

Not only did Mr. FORD take over the Presidency during one of the toughest times in American history, he did so as a leader whose political party differed from the congressional majority. He vetoed an unprecedented 66 bills during his Presidency. Nevertheless, the Congress passed some important laws with bipartisan support under the Ford administration, including the Community Development Block Grant, the Privacy Act, and the Federal Elections Campaign Act Amendments.

GERALD FORD and I worked particularly closely during his Presidency on energy matters. Despite our differences, we were able to work together. During the Ford administration we passed the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (EPCA), which established the Nation's first fuel economy standards. Because of his self assuredness and his uncanny ability to think for himself, policy disputes did not deter FORD from working across party lines to achieve success. Nor did partisan bickering preclude bipartisan friendships: he played golf with political adversary Tip O'Neill and became good friends with Jimmy Carter after Carter defeated him in the 1976 election.

President FORD was devoted to ensuring that America and the Presidency were in better shape than when he found it, and above all else, this was his most important accomplishment. His honesty and patriotism should be a model for elected officials today who are often too eager to create a sound bite and too reluctant to find common ground. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my fellow colleagues join me in remembering President GERALD R. FORD, and honoring him by carrying on his legacy of bipartisanship, honesty and integrity in the years to come.

Hon. Mary Bono

OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 15, and to pay tribute to a dear friend and remarkable American. Today we honor the life and memory of our Nation's 38th President, GERALD R. FORD. The consideration of this legislation is of great personal importance to me, as I had the honor and distinction of counting President FORD not only as a friend but also as a constituent.

These past few weeks, the American people have come to know the story of one of our most beloved leaders, a man who brought our Nation together during a tumultuous time and restored faith in our democratic system of government. President FORD famously said, "Our Constitution works, our great Republic is a government of laws and not of men." Yet, the truth is that our system works because of people like GERALD R. FORD and his wonderful wife, Betty—people who dedicated their lives to making our country strong and improving the prospects for all American citizens.

Despite achieving great success as an athlete, President FORD declined the opportunity to play professional football because he wanted to serve the Nation he loved. He went to Yale to study law, served heroically in the U.S. Navy during World War II, honorably represented the people of Michigan in this very House for 25 years, and was selected to serve as Vice President because he had the confidence of the U.S. Congress and was simply the best man for the job. He assumed the Presidency he never sought because, when called, he never shied from his duty to his country.

His personal integrity was beyond question and his quiet strength steadied our Nation in a time of crisis. President FORD skillfully led our Nation through the post-Watergate era. He laid the

groundwork for a historic peace accord in the Middle East and steered our country through tough economic times. History has shown that he was the right leader for those difficult days.

In California's Coachella Valley, where President FORD and Betty made their home after leaving the White House, their support of charities, too numerous to mention, helped make them the beloved "first-couple" of the Palm Springs region. As lifelong partners who were truly devoted to one another and to their family, the Fords encouraged millions of dollars in donations to many worthwhile causes. When Betty Ford courageously raised public awareness of dependency issues and founded the recovery clinic in her name, President FORD stood squarely and quietly behind her every step of the way.

I extend my deepest sympathy to Betty and the entire Ford family for their loss, a loss we all share. As we begin this congressional session in the House which he loved so deeply, I think we would be well served to remember the example of leadership and selfless duty to country that President FORD provided. We celebrate his memory, and our Nation is better for his service.

Hon. Sander M. Levin

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 15. It is fitting and right that the House remember this highly distinguished citizen of the State of Michigan, and honor his service to the people of the United States.

GERALD FORD's life and legacy define the term "public servant." He served with distinction in World War II aboard the U.S.S. *Monterey*. In 1948, he was elected to the House of Representatives, where he served with integrity for 25 years. In 1974, during one of the darkest moments in U.S. history, GERALD FORD served as our Nation's 38th President and restored integrity to the Presidency.

As the Nation has honored President FORD over the course of the last week, I have been struck by how many have made mention of his honesty, trustworthiness, and essential decency. As the first President Bush said of his one-time colleague in the House of Representatives at the memorial service at Washington Cathedral last week, "to political ally and adversary alike, JERRY FORD's word was always good."

President FORD will also be remembered for believing that America is strongest when we work together and work with others.

President FORD has left us a rich legacy. As we begin this new Congress, I hope all of us here will honor him by taking to heart that legacy.

Hon. Sheila Jackson-Lee

OF TEXAS

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 15. This resolution mourns the passing of GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, JR., the 38 President of the United States, and honors his lifetime of outstanding leadership and service to our Nation.

President FORD was born LESLIE LYNCH KING, JR., in 1913 in Omaha, NE. Soon after his birth, his mother moved to Grand Rapids, MI, where she remarried and he was adopted and renamed after his stepfather, Gerald Rudolph Ford.

While in high school, JERRY FORD was an outstanding student and athlete, and Eagle Scout. He went on to achieve a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Michigan, where he majored in economics and political science. He also played on the University's 1932 and 1933 national championship football teams and was selected to several college all-Amer-

ican football teams. Indeed, JERRY FORD was such a gifted football player that he was offered contracts by the Detroit Lions and Green Bay Packers. But he turned them down to accept a coaching position at Yale University, in hopes of gaining admission to its law school. His perseverance paid off and he was admitted in 1938. He graduated in the top third of his class with an LL.B. in 1941.

President FORD returned to Grand Rapids to practice law and teach a course at the University of Grand Rapids. He also helped coach the Grand Rapids football team. After the United States entered World War II, he joined the U.S. Naval Reserve, serving on the light aircraft carrier U.S.S. *Monterey*. In 1944, he narrowly survived a deadly typhoon in the Philippine Sea. In 1946 he completed his military service and was honorably discharged.

Upon returning home to Grand Rapids, JERRY FORD resumed his law practice, this time with a more "internationalist" outlook due to his experiences abroad. He was elected to Congress with more than 60 percent of the vote in 1948 after ousting an isolationist incumbent in the Republican primary. During the 1948 campaign, JERRY married the outspoken advocate of women's rights, Elizabeth Anne Bloomer Warren, whom we all know and love as "Betty." JERRY FORD was elected to Congress 13 times by his constituents, never once receiving less than 60 percent of the vote. In October 1973, he was nominated to be Vice President by President Richard Nixon and assumed the office after being confirmed by both the House and the Senate. In fact, JERRY FORD holds the distinction of being the only person in history to be confirmed by both Chambers of Congress.

At noon on August 9, 1974, upon the resignation of President Nixon, JERRY FORD became the 38th President of the United States. In addressing the Nation after taking the oath of office, President FORD said: "My fellow Americans, our long national nightmare is over." And he was right. Over the next 29 months, President FORD did much, by word and deed, to restore public confidence in the institutions of government. In the final analysis, President FORD's lasting legacy is "all he did to heal our land," as his successor, President Jimmy Carter, memorably put it in his 1977 Inaugural Address. There is perhaps no more deserving recipient of the Medal of Freedom, an honor bestowed on President FORD in 2000 by President Bill Clinton. In 1999, he was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal and in 2001, he was presented the Profile in Courage Award by the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum.

Mr. Speaker, I salute President FORD for his outstanding and patriotic service, especially his efforts as President to unite and heal the Nation in a time when it had lost all confidence in its officials. I strongly urge all Members to join me in supporting this resolution honoring and celebrating the late President GERALD R. FORD and his lifetime of achievement and service to our country. We mourn the death but celebrate the life of this great American, this great President, and former minority leader of this House.

Hon. Peter Hoekstra

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former President and U.S. Congressman GERALD R. FORD.

GERALD FORD, who is often referred to as "Michigan's Greatest Son," worked hard wherever his life led him and based his decisions upon what he felt was the right thing to do.

A star football player with my alma mater, the University of Michigan, he turned down offers to play in the Na-

tional Football League to study law at Yale.

He then volunteered to serve his country in the Navy during World War II before returning to Michigan to put his law degree to work.

He later defeated an incumbent for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives in his own party's primary, which from my own experience is an incredibly difficult endeavor. His colleagues later elected him to the highest leadership position among Republicans in the House.

GERALD FORD admittedly did not seek the greatness of the U.S. Presidency, but destiny determined that he would become the right man in the right place at the right time.

President FORD allowed the country to move forward by pardoning Richard Nixon, although it likely contributed to him failing to win the 1976 election.

He helped to unite a divided Nation, even when he knew that it would likely result in a great personal cost. He made the decision because he knew that if he did not, our country would spend the months and years looking back and not ahead. For him it was simply the right thing to do.

He conducted himself with integrity and character throughout every step of his distinguished career. He set a very high standard for those of us in West Michigan who would follow him to Washington.

The legacy he leaves to join his Creator will impact not only the officeholders who follow in his footsteps, but generations of Americans to come.

Hon. Dale E. Kildee

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H. Res. 15, a House resolution mourning the passing of former President GERALD FORD of Michigan.

Throughout his life and his career, JERRY FORD exhibited the highest standards of courage, wisdom, integrity, and civility.

I had the honor of serving with President FORD's brother, Thomas, in the Michigan Legislature before I was elected to Congress in 1976.

Mr. Speaker, I must admit that I was one of those who questioned President FORD's pardon of Richard Nixon at the time he gave it.

But by the time FORD gave his final State of the Union speech in January 1977, I, and most of the Nation, had come to realize the rightness of his decision to pardon Nixon.

I vividly remember the sustained and prolonged applause, from both sides of the aisle, for President FORD during his January 1977 State of the Union Address to the Congress.

He took the Office of the Presidency at a very difficult and troubled time for our Nation and for our world.

He had previously served his country with honor as a naval officer during World War Two, as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from the State of Michigan, and as the minority leader of the U.S. House.

But when his country needed him the most, he served in the highest office in the land, as President of the United States of America.

He was the right person, at the right time, in the right office.

He guided our Nation through a very difficult time and he helped in the healing process which our country so deeply needed at that time in our history.

Mr. Speaker, JERRY FORD loved this country, he loved his House, he loved his State of Michigan, and he certainly loved his wife Betty and their children and grandchildren.

Our thoughts and our prayers are with them as we honor JERRY FORD today.

Hon. Eliot L. Engel

OF NEW YORK

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the great President GERALD R. FORD, who has recently passed away. GERALD FORD was not only America's 38th President but he was also a dedicated husband, father, athlete, and WWII veteran.

Born in Nebraska, Mr. FORD was an athletic young man. He was the star of his high school football team and continued to play football as a college student at the University of Michigan. He then went on to receive his law degree from Yale University. Shortly after graduating from Yale, GERALD FORD received a commission as ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve and received numerous awards for his bravery and service during WWII. After returning from the war, he became more involved in politics, serving as a Member of the House of Representatives for 25 years, including 8 years as the minority leader, and later becoming Vice President before taking the oath as President.

President FORD took power following one of the most difficult times in our Nation's history and brought America back together. GERALD FORD was a noble, honorable man who emerged as a leader at a time when Americans were questioning their Government. President FORD showed us that strength and integrity are indisputably important traits to have in order to successfully lead our great Nation.

As power has just changed hands in Congress, it is my hope that we will heed the legacy of GERALD FORD and always seek to stand together to face the challenges of the future. GERALD FORD will be sorely missed by all of the Americans that he touched. My heart goes out to all of his family members.

Hon. Tom Cole

OF OKLAHOMA

Madam Speaker, I rise today to praise a truly good man. With the passing of President GERALD FORD, the House of Representatives lost its most distinguished alumnus, and America lost a great patriot who always placed his country's good ahead of his own political interest. GERALD FORD was a man of absolute integrity and profound personal decency.

Much has been said about President FORD's distinguished career in the House and as President. Many will rightly recall his absolute integrity and his profound personal decency. To build upon those remarks, I would like to share some of my personal interactions with GERALD FORD. I had the honor of meeting and working with former President FORD on many occasions after he left office. I found him to be the same man in private that he was in public—decent, honorable, and self-deprecating in his humor and observations. He was shrewd without being devious and wise without being complicated.

Madam Speaker, President FORD had genuine connections to and affection for Oklahoma and Oklahomans. He told me on several occasions that he became Vice President and ultimately President because of the late Speaker Carl Albert of Oklahoma, who supported his nomination for the Vice Presidency. He always remembered that Oklahoma was one of only two Southern States that he carried in 1976. Indeed, once while making this point to me, he recalled the exact margin of victory—13,266 out of over 1 million cast.

Madam Speaker, during a memorable 1976 campaign stop in Oklahoma, President FORD said, "It's great to be in Oklahoma, the home of Will Rogers, who never met a man he didn't like, and the Oklahoma Sooners, who never played a

team they couldn't beat." I later told him that single line won Oklahoma for him. "Well," he responded, "talking college football is pretty good politics in a lot of places. You might try it if you're ever campaigning in Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, or just about anywhere in the South." It is still one of the best pieces of advice I ever got from a practicing politician.

President FORD paired his intelligence with empathy and his candor with modesty. He was as politically astute as he was personally decent, something that all too many people forget. He was absolutely loyal to his party while still approaching politics in a pragmatic and bipartisan manner that made genuine political compromise possible. The House was all the better because of his character, and so too was our country. When speaking to the Congress, the President said with his usual humility that he was a Ford, not a Lincoln. Today, only the best among us might be able to call themselves Fords.

We will all miss him very much, Madam Speaker, and I strongly urge support of H. Res. 15.

Hon. David L. Hobson

OF OHIO

Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring the legacy of former President GERALD R. FORD.

Although I never served with President FORD personally, I admire him for his record as a leader in the House of Representatives, and later for accepting one of the greatest challenges an individual can assume—the Presidency of the United States of America.

In the past couple of weeks, we have heard many historians talk about President FORD's legacy of healing our Nation in the aftermath of the Watergate scandal. At the time, he was sharply criticized for his decision to pardon President Richard Nixon, but now he has been lauded for moving this country forward. I think they are right. I admire him for the courage he had in making what was arguably one of the most difficult decisions a sitting President has ever made.

As a Midwesterner myself, I would like to think that it was some of the values and experiences that President FORD had while growing up in Michigan that helped shape him into the courageous and good-natured leader that he later became.

While President FORD played football for what we Ohio State University fans refer to as "the team up north," he demonstrated his good-natured personality the day that he gave the university's 1974 commencement address. It was just a few weeks after he became President and legendary football coach Woody Hayes was still at OSU. According to a recent story in the *Columbus Dispatch*, he said:

> We just had our picture taken together and when that picture appears in today's *Dispatch*, I'm pretty sure what the caption will say, "Woody Hayes and friend."

President FORD loved our country, and he served it with integrity, which helped restore the public's confidence in the Presidency. I proudly join my colleagues in honoring him with this resolution and in expressing our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Betty Ford and her family.

Hon. John Conyers, Jr.

OF MICHIGAN

Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my colleague and fellow Michigander, President GERALD R. FORD. I had the privilege of serving alongside then-Congressman FORD in the U.S. House of Representatives for nearly a decade, and was able to observe first hand the character and integrity of this "Congress-

man's Congressman." Congressman FORD's exemplary service was confirmed by the support of the people of Grand Rapids, MI, whose love for him endures to this day. As minority leader of this body, President FORD demonstrated the collegiality and uprightness he would draw upon to lead our Nation through a dark time in our history.

I disagreed with some of President FORD's decisions. Along with most of the American public at that time, I disapproved of the way he pardoned his predecessor before trial proceedings had been initiated. I also disagreed with many of his policy positions. However, time has shown that the man some have called the "accidental President" was the right person to take the highest office in the land at a critical time for our Nation.

GERALD FORD's honor and integrity were the qualities we needed to restore trust and openness to a damaged Presidency. His humble and steady leadership brought our democracy back from the brink of a constitutional crisis. The citizens of the State of Michigan and of our great Nation will not soon forget the important contributions of this man of integrity and honor.

Hon. Michael R. Turner

OF OHIO

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H. Res. 15, a resolution honoring the life of President GERALD R. FORD. As America remembers President FORD's leadership and service to the American people, I offer my condolences to the Ford family.

While attending former President FORD's funeral, I had the opportunity to converse with Dr. David Mathews, a community leader in my district. Dr. Mathews served as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare under President FORD and shared with my office some personal stories of the President's legacy. Dr. Mathews recalled:

> FORD was a reconciler. While there was a great balance in FORD, he was also tough as nails. He did what he believed the country needed and was never motivated by polls.
>
> In 1976 one U.S. soldier stationed at Fort Dix died of the swine flu. There was some concern that the potential for an epidemic existed. A panel of the best and brightest scientists of the day was convened. That panel included Doctors Jonas Salk and Albert Sabin, who did much of his research at the University of Cincinnati. Both were pioneers in developing polio vaccines. Some of the panelists counseled the President to quickly begin creating vaccine and getting the word out to the Nation. Others thought it prudent not to risk a panic, and wait. President FORD was decisive and unwilling to risk an epidemic, giving the order to produce the vaccine. To emphasize the point President FORD and I received the first and second doses of the vaccine.
>
> The working relationship and personal friendship between President FORD and I continued after the Ford administration. In the early 1980s, when I became president of the Kettering Foundation, I suggested to FORD that he invite former President Jimmy Carter to the first conference at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library. That conference addressed the public's reaction to proposals to strengthen the Nation's Social Security Program. The meeting was based on results from a citizens' briefing book prepared for the National Issues Forums.
>
> Characteristically, President FORD agreed, not just begrudgingly, or acquiescing, he was enthusiastic about inviting Carter ... That was the first project Presidents FORD and Carter did together. It resulted in a lifelong friendship.

I am pleased to join my colleagues in supporting H. Res. 15 and honoring the life of President FORD.

Hon. John A. Boehner

OF OHIO

Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong support of the resolution honoring the life of former President GERALD R. FORD.

GERALD FORD served America with great distinction—first in the military, then as a Member of the U.S. House, and later as Vice President and President of the United States. After faithfully serving his Michigan constituents for 25

years in the House, he was called to serve all of the American people in the White House when his country needed him most.

The Watergate crisis was one of the most difficult times in our Nation's history, and President FORD's unflinching leadership helped heal a Nation and restore the American people's faith in their Government. His decision to pardon President Nixon was a controversial and difficult move that drew a great deal of criticism. But in hindsight, I think most Americans would agree it was the right decision, the honorable decision, and reflected President FORD's good judgment and straightforward approach.

Throughout the ordeal, President FORD earned our affection and respect. He will be remembered for the integrity, character, and grace he exhibited in his work and throughout his life.

As public servants we owe a huge debt to those who have served before us, and we owe President FORD a debt of gratitude for the enormous contributions and sacrifices he made on behalf of his country. I am humbled to serve in the same elected leadership post he occupied for 8 years during his tenure in the House.

Our thoughts and prayers, and those of a grateful Nation, are with Betty and the Ford family. I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution.

Hon. Ralph Regula

OF OHIO

Madam Speaker, I would like to comment on the life and legacy of President GERALD FORD.

I served with him in the House of Representatives and had the pleasure of working with him when he served both as Vice President and President of the United States. I will always think fondly on President FORD as a humble, genuine President and good friend.

The people of Ohio will always be extremely grateful for his leadership in creating Ohio's Cuyahoga National Park, one of the most visited in the 388 National Parks and other sites administered by the National Park Service.

President FORD's leadership and service to the Nation is well described in the title of his book "A Time to Heal."

His wife Betty in her role as First Lady also was a wonderful role model for millions of American women, particularly her devotion to helping people in establishing the Betty Ford Clinic to help individuals with challenging personal problems.

Our Nation was enormously enriched by the leadership of President FORD and his wife Betty.

I would like to extend my sincere condolences to the Ford family. I pray that you are comforted by the kind words and admiration the country has shown for President FORD.

Hon. Betty McCollum

OF MINNESOTA

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 15, a resolution to honor the late President GERALD FORD who passed away on December 26, 2006. A man of great honor and integrity who led this country through one of the most difficult times in our history, he will be remembered as a fair, respected leader who was able to rise above partisanship to serve the citizens of this Nation.

President FORD, born in Omaha, NE and raised in Grand Rapids, MI, embodied the spirit of the Midwest. He was hard-working, modest, unassuming, and throughout his life held an unabashed pride in the University of Michigan where he starred on the football team. During World War II, President FORD earned the title of lieutenant commander

and several honors while serving this country in the U.S. Navy.

Mr. FORD began his political career when he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives as the Representative from Grand Rapids, MI. He held that seat from 1949 until 1973, and of the 25 years he served in the House, he was minority leader for 8.

In 1973, when Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned, President Richard Nixon nominated then-Congressman FORD to assume the Vice Presidency. President FORD's nomination was quickly approved by both the House and the Senate. However, his time as Vice President was brief and the attention of the country was focused on the looming Watergate scandal. On August 9, 1974, President Nixon stepped down and President FORD assumed the position of Commander in Chief.

As our Nation's President, FORD was faced with the critical task of regaining the trust of a country that had lost confidence in its top leadership. In order to begin to restore transparency and integrity to the office of the President, he traveled around the country listening and talking to the people of this country. President FORD felt the way in which he could help the country to begin to move beyond the wounds of Watergate was to grant a full and unconditional pardon to President Nixon. President GERALD FORD put the needs of our Nation before his own vulnerability to political fallout, and that is the mark of a great leader.

On behalf of the families of Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District, we extend our prayers and sincerest condolences to Mrs. Betty Ford, her children and all of the family and friends of President FORD. President GERALD FORD was a loving husband and father and a devoted public servant. He will be remembered and honored in the highest regard.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the life of President GERALD FORD.

Hon. Juanita Millender-McDonald

OF CALIFORNIA

Madam Speaker, last week Congress received the body of the late President GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, our 38th President, to lie in State in the Rotunda. He was the second President for whom I felt such an endearment that it felt as if I'd lost a friend.

I first met President FORD along with President Carter several years ago when I called on both men to support legislation I had introduced to give those who had been incarcerated, paid their debt to society, and had become productive citizens a restoration of their voting rights. In speaking with him, I found him to be very sensitive and understanding of that important issue. He said that it was the decent thing to do and signed a letter (along with President Carter and myself) asking President George W. Bush to submit a proclamation to all States to ensure these citizens' voting rights.

Two years later, I had the opportunity to meet with him and his beloved wife, Betty, at Rancho Mirage along with Governor Schwarzenegger and others to discuss Federal legislation for California. We continued our discussion on voting rights, and I became further impressed with his modesty despite the fact that he had served at the highest level in this country.

GERALD R. FORD was a man of character and integrity, with many accomplishments to his credit. He was a Boy Scout, and the only President who has ever attained the rank of Eagle Scout. He was a football star for the University of Michigan where he majored in political science and economics while leading his team to two national titles. He studied at Yale Law School and opened his own law practice in Grand Rapids, MI, before joining the Navy where he served as an offi-

cer during WorId War II and earned several medals.

In 1948, GERALD R. FORD was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where he served until 1973. He was the Republican minority leader from 1965 to 1973. During his years in the House, Mr. FORD was, as the *New York Times* described, "a negotiator and a reconciler." On October 12, 1973, he was appointed Vice President of the United States after Spiro Agnew resigned. He became President after the resignation of Richard Nixon on August 9, 1974. President GERALD R. FORD is the only person to ever serve as both Vice President and President without being elected to either office.

As President, one of his first actions was to pardon President Nixon, allowing the Nation to heal and move on. Although this action was highly criticized at the time and may have cost him the election in 1976, it helped to restore Americans' faith in the office of the President. President FORD successfully addressed high inflation and unemployment while ending American involvement in Vietnam and pursuing international human rights through the Helsinki Accords, helping end the cold war.

President FORD's legacy extends far beyond his accomplishments, however. More than anything else, President GERALD R. FORD will be remembered for his character, integrity, and humility. GERALD R. FORD was a very decent and humble human being. As Americans, we mourn more than the loss of a former President—we mourn the loss of a truly great American.

Hon. Rahm Emanuel

OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise with my colleagues today in support of House Resolution 15, honoring the late Honorable GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, the 38th President of the United States.

Here in this Chamber, GERALD FORD served dutifully for 25 years, representing the people of the Fifth District of Michigan from 1949 until his ascension to the Oval Office. As a Congressman, his warmth, approachability, and affability made him one of the most highly regarded Members of his day.

It was these qualities which would shape GERALD FORD into an excellent House floor leader for his party, a position he held for 8 years until his appointment as the 40th Vice President. During his tenure as minority leader, GERALD FORD set a standard of fairness, diplomacy, and cooperation to which all of us can aspire.

As both Vice President and President, GERALD FORD was called to serve in positions of great responsibility during a troubled time in our Nation's history. He accepted his powers and responsibilities with the same steadfast composure and patience for which he had become known as a Congressman.

As a man known for his ability to create consensus, compromise, and conciliation, he was well suited to take the helm of America and navigate the turbulent storm it faced. President FORD's gentle nature helped soothe the deep scars America faced after an arduous period of strife at home and abroad.

Madam Speaker, GERALD FORD served our country with a patient hand, an understanding mind, and a reassuring voice. His time in Congress and in the White House leave behind a legacy of commitment, passion, and comity that we will all remember.

Hon. Fred Upton

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the passing of a great President and American, President GERALD R. FORD.

As I reflect upon the distinguished life and legacy of President FORD, the first things that come to mind are his honesty, integrity, and ability to make the tough decisions for a Nation that was fiercely divided by war and recovering from a scandal at the highest level of government. He served with the best interests of America in mind, never losing sight of his faith, family, and his beloved roots in Southwest Michigan.

President FORD was truly a Michigan original, and folks throughout our State saw an ordinary man become extraordinary; yet, he always remained our native son. His upbringing in Michigan molded the man that JERRY FORD became—growing up in an environment that encouraged him to pursue his vision of what America should and could be.

I have the great honor and privilege of representing some of the very same folks in Southwest Michigan that President FORD did during his time in Congress.

All our hearts go out to Betty and the Ford children: Mike, Jack, Steve, and Susan during this difficult time.

His legacy continues to grow particularly as we see first hand the partisan divisions which divide our country and this Congress. President FORD was one that always put his country first and his party second.

President FORD was a remarkable man and an outstanding representative of the Wolverine State. Our Nation was blessed to have such a compassionate and steadfast leader and he will forever remain in our memory.

Farewell to our President. Go Blue.

Monday, January 29, 2007

GERALD R. FORD, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 49) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 North Frontage Road West in Vail, Colorado, as the "Gerald R. Ford, Jr. Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 49

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. GERALD R. FORD, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 North Frontage Road West in Vail, Colorado, shall be known and designated as the "Gerald R. Ford, Jr. Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Gerald R. Ford, Jr. Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. Norton) and the gentleman from California (Mr. Issa) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

Hon. Eleanor Holmes Norton

OF WASHINGTON, DC

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 49,

legislation naming a postal facility in Vail, CO, after the late GERALD R. FORD, JR.

President FORD helped ease a Nation during tense times. But even before he was President, he was widely known in this Chamber as a man of great integrity and openness. Although never elected to the office of President or Vice President, President FORD was appointed to mend a bruised American psyche and maneuver our country through the only Presidential resignation ever, to help end the Vietnam war, and to help ease rising inflation.

He succeeded, and for that extraordinary service to his country his legacy should be remembered by all in our country and throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Hon. Darrell E. Issa

OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of another downpayment on thanking President GERALD FORD for his legacy, a legacy that really began, flourished and was all about this body. We are recognizing GERALD FORD as the 38th President of the United States because he did spend 2½ years as our President. But uniquely, the man born in 1913 in Grand Rapids, MI, was, in fact, a man of the House.

During his entire tenure in the House, he did not enjoy time in the majority. Yet his goal was to be Speaker of the House. He had no higher calling, never sought one, but accepted the one that was cast upon him.

At the time that he was selected to be Vice President of the United States, we were already mired in the Vietnam war and disgrace had been brought upon the Vice Presidency. It was GERALD FORD who came in impeccably honest, undeniably a man of the people and a man who was only for the people.

That is how he was selected, that is why he was selected, it is why the Senate and the House thought he was the only man for the job. Who would have known that just a short time, 10 months later in fact, he would find himself cast into an even larger role, another role that he did not ask for.

Yet that was who GERALD FORD was, a man who came out of athletics and out of university to serve in the U.S. Navy in 1942 because it was the right thing to do. He had represented a district that would have returned him to the House to this very day if, in fact, he were still alive.

Instead, he answered a call, a call that each of us in the House has answered by coming to this body. That was the call of service to the United States. As I support the naming of this post office in the place he loved, in the place he skied, in the place that he called home for his immediate period after leaving the White House, I do so as the second man of the House that we are recognizing here today, first Congressman Lane Evans and then Congressman/President GERALD FORD.

Hon. Mark Udall

OF COLORADO

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 49, legislation to name the postal facility in Vail, CO, after our Nation's 38th President, GERALD R. FORD, JR.

I believe this bill is fitting as another means of honoring the legacy of President FORD, in large part because of his special connection to Colorado and the Vail Valley. I am pleased by the support it has received; all members of the Colo-

rado delegation have co-sponsored the legislation.

In 1968 then-Congressman FORD and wife, Betty, first came to Colorado with their children to celebrate Christmas and to ski in the mountains at Vail. Like many other visitors, President FORD was inspired by the beauty of the area and found a connection to the land and to the surrounding community.

The Fords later owned a home in Vail and continued to vacation there. When he became President, his vacations in Colorado helped introduce the world to the town of Vail, and in fact, the family home was dubbed the Western White House.

Vail residents knew President FORD and his family as neighbors and friends and are proud of their long association with them. President FORD served on the board of directors of the Vail Valley Foundation. Vail also serves as the home of the Betty Ford Alpine Gardens and the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater. President FORD was beloved in Vail, where he was known to be a good neighbor, an avid golfer and a lover of the outdoors.

President FORD will rightly be remembered for his personal warmth, his decency, his interest in bridging the many divisions in America during the 1970s. My father, Mo Udall, served in the Congress with GERALD FORD, and while they were often on different sides in political matters—so much so that my father hoped to run against President FORD in the famous election of 1976—they were united by a common view that politics should unite people. They both were firm believers that in public life one could disagree without being disagreeable.

This is a credo I continue to believe in, and I commend the memory of both good men to this House, an institution they loved.

Coloradans, especially those in the Vail Valley, have come to think of him as the first President from Colorado because he was a great ambassador for the State, who established long ties to the people of Colorado.

As a dedicated public servant, President FORD served honorably in his years in Congress and in the White House. Most important, when America needed someone to reassure their trust in government after Watergate, he filled that leadership role with authenticity.

I believe President FORD's special relationship and legacy in Colorado should be appropriately recognized by naming the postal facilities in Vail, CO, in his honor.

I urge all Members support the legislation today.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. Norton) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 49.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those voting have responded in the affirmative.

Monday, February 12, 2007

Hon. Darrell E. Issa

OF CALIFORNIA

In 1976, President GERALD FORD issued Proclamation 4417, in which he said, "Learning from our mistakes is not pleasant, but as a great philosopher once admonished, we must do so if we want to avoid repeating them." We recently put to rest President GERALD FORD, but there was no action that GERALD FORD ever did as President more significant than this one. President FORD, in apologizing and taking back the misconduct perpetrated on American citizens so long ago, has set a high standard for it never happening again.

Thursday, February 15, 2007

Hon. Louie Gohmert

OF TEXAS

GERALD FORD has been quoted recently. What a fine man. I hear people on both sides of the aisle at his funeral and after his death. He begged this Congress and this House please do not cut off the [military] funding; we promised them funding even after we pulled our troops out. But this Congress said, no, we are cutting the funding, and we have been harmed ever since.

Friday, March 9, 2007

Hon. Steve King

OF IOWA

But the Commander in Chief didn't challenge that. The Commander in Chief at the time, the initial one was President Nixon, who was very weak politically. And then, of course, the appointed, not elected, President FORD, whom I revere, neither challenged that restriction put on by Congress.

So I don't believe we have a constitutional challenge that has taken place because President FORD and President Nixon did not challenge the Congress when they began to tie the strings in Vietnam.

MONDAY, *April 23, 2007*

Hon. Emanuel Cleaver

OF MISSOURI

. . . Not long ago President GERALD FORD died, and I was reminded of a story of his days here in this House. He held regular debates here in Washington with his Democratic counterpart, Congressman Thomas Hale Boggs. They would debate at the National Press Club. At Congressman GERALD FORD's suggestion, they would ride over from the Capitol to the National Press Club and agree on the topic of the debate. Can you imagine that happening in 2007? Then, after the debate, they would go out and have lunch. . . .

WEDNESDAY, *April 25, 2007*

Hon. Joe Wilson

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

. . . As former President GERALD FORD said, "Music education opens the doors that help children pass from school into the world around them, a world of work, culture, intellectual activity and human involvement. The future of our Nation depends on providing our children with a complete education that includes music." . . .

THURSDAY, *May 10, 2007*

Hon. Bob Dole

OF KANSAS

. . . But Tip O'Neill was a friend of another leader of this body, GERALD FORD. As many of you know, GERALD FORD's ambition was to become Speaker of the House. Well, he never made it, but he became Vice President and President of the United States which probably to him was a second prize. And I think we were all reminded earlier this year that history chose a good and decent man to heal the wounds of Watergate when President FORD was there. . . .

TUESDAY, *May 22, 2007*

Hon. Robert A. Brady

OF PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 128) authorizing the printing of a commemorative document in memory of the late President of the United States, GERALD RUDOLPH FORD.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 128

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. COMMEMORATIVE DOCUMENT AUTHORIZED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A commemorative document in memory of the late President of the United States, GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, shall be printed as a House document, with illustrations and suitable binding, under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing.

(b) CONTENTS.—The document shall consist of the eulogies and encomiums for GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, as expressed in the Senate and the House of Representatives, together with the texts of each of the following:

(1) The funeral ceremony at Palm Desert, California.

(2) The state funeral ceremony at the rotunda of the United States Capitol.

(3) The national funeral service held at the Washington National Cathedral in the District of Columbia.

(4) The interment ceremony at the Gerald [R.] Ford Presidential Museum, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

SEC. 2. PRINTING OF DOCUMENT.

In addition to the usual number of copies printed of the commemorative document under section 1, there shall be printed the lesser of—

(1) 32,500 copies, of which 22,150 copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives and 10,350 copies shall be for the use of the Senate; or

(2) such number of copies that does not exceed a production and printing cost of $600,000, with distribution of the copies to be allocated in the same proportion as described in paragraph (1).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Brady) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Ehlers) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Hon. Robert A. Brady

OF PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution provides for the printing of a memorial tribute to honor our late 38th President, GERALD R. FORD. A former minority leader of this House, President FORD died on December 26, 2006, at the age of 93. Our distinguished colleague from Michigan (Mr. Ehlers), who now represents GERALD FORD's former district, introduced this resolution. The measure takes the same form as that passed after President Reagan's death in 2004. I support the gentleman's resolution, and I thank him for sponsoring it.

Mr. Speaker, since President FORD's death, Americans have expressed their respect and gratitude for his remarkable career that took him into the Navy during World War II, to this House, to the Vice Presidency, and then to the White House. In the aftermath of the ordeal of Watergate, many consider President FORD, then and now, as the right man at the right time. It is fitting that Congress provide for this customary tribute, and I urge the House to adopt the concurrent resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Hon. Vernon J. Ehlers

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 128, authorizing the printing of a commemorative document in memory of the late President of the United States, GERALD R. FORD.

It was an honor for me to serve as a scientific adviser to Congressman FORD in the late 1960s and early 1970s, and I then came to know President FORD in many capacities throughout the years. I now have the privilege of serving the people of Grand Rapids and Western Michigan in the exact seat he held from 1949 until 1973, and I am now most pleased to recognize one of the great sons of the State of Michigan.

Although President FORD's life ambition was to become Speaker of this esteemed body, fate and the Lord had other plans for JERRY FORD. While he was not a man who sought the Presidency, FORD was a tireless public servant who did not shrink from duty when his country needed him most. He bore the mantle that had been thrust upon him with great humility, never forgetting the solid Michigan values that were his compass in the most trying of times.

When he ascended to the Presidency upon President Nixon's resignation in 1974, FORD served with honor and dignity, telling us that "our long national nightmare is over." He was recommended and approved for his position by people in Congress who knew him very well. In fact, I believe he is the only President of the past 1½ centuries who served as the choice of the Members of Congress. Their trust aided him in governing and leading our Nation out of that nightmare. In pardoning President Nixon, he essentially gave up any chance he had of a second term as President; but, in doing so, he literally healed the Nation. And I recall a very personal discussion with him one time where he said he knew full well that he would likely lose the election because of the pardon, but he saw no alternative but to pardon President Nixon in order to put the whole Watergate episode behind us and get the Nation moving again.

I am privileged, and I have always felt a sense of honor, to be serving in the same House seat that Congressman FORD served. By publishing this book, we will educate future generations about the contributions of a great man who came from ordinary beginnings yet found himself performing well in extraordinary circumstances. JERRY FORD personified the many good traits that West Michigan has to offer our Nation, with his honesty, his forthrightness, and his hard work. And I urge my colleagues to support the creation of this commemorative volume. I urge strong support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleague from Michigan in support of this fitting tribute for our late President FORD. I urge the House to support the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Brady) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 128.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THURSDAY, *May 24, 2007*

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills and a concurrent resolution of the House of the following titles: . . .

H. Con. Res. 128. Concurrent resolution authorizing the printing of a commemorative document in memory of the late President of the United States, GERALD RUDOLPH FORD.

Hon. Sheila Jackson-Lee

OF TEXAS

. . . Madam Speaker, it is wholly fitting and proper that at the beginning of this new 110th Congress, the Members of this House, along with all of the American people, paid fitting tribute to the late President GERALD R. "JERRY" FORD, a former leader in this House, who did so much to heal our Nation in the aftermath of Watergate. Upon assuming the Presidency, President FORD assured the Nation: "My fellow Americans, our long national nightmare is over." By his words and deeds, President FORD helped turn the country back on the right track. He will be forever remembered for his integrity, good character, and commitment to the national interest. . . .

WEDNESDAY, *August 1, 2007*

Hon. James R. Langevin

OF RHODE ISLAND

. . . Mr. Speaker, it is wholly fitting and proper that at the beginning of this new 110th Congress, the Members of this House, along with all of the American people, paid fitting tribute to the late President GERALD R. "JERRY" FORD, a former leader in this House, who did so much to heal our Nation in the aftermath of Watergate. Upon assuming the Presidency, President FORD assured the Nation: "My fellow Americans, our long national nightmare is over." By his words and deeds, President FORD helped turn the country back on the right track. He will be forever remembered for his integrity, good character, and commitment to the national interest. . . .

FRIDAY, *August 3, 2007*

Hon. Alcee L. Hastings

OF FLORIDA

. . . As President GERALD FORD said during the Helsinki Accords, "History will judge this conference not by what we say here today, but by what we do tomorrow, not by the promises we make, but by the promises we keep." We continue to respect this profound statement and we anticipate the spirit of President FORD's sentiments will continue to endure long after the death of the late former President. . . .

Memorial Tributes

IN THE

Senate
of the United States

IN EULOGY OF

Gerald R. Ford

In the Senate of the United States

Thursday, January 4, 2007

MEASURE HELD AT THE DESK

The following measure was submitted and ordered held at the desk:

S. RES. 19

A resolution honoring President GERALD RUDOLPH FORD.

SENATE RESOLUTION 19—HONORING PRESIDENT GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. McConnell, Ms. Stabenow, Mr. Levin, Mr. Akaka, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Allard, Mr. Baucus, Mr. Bayh, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Biden, Mr. Bingaman, Mr. Bond, Mrs. Boxer, Mr. Brown, Mr. Brownback, Mr. Bunning, Mr. Burr, Mr. Byrd, Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Cardin, Mr. Carper, Mr. Casey, Mr. Chambliss, Mrs. Clinton, Mr. Coburn, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Coleman, Ms. Collins, Mr. Conrad, Mr. Corker, Mr. Cornyn, Mr. Craig, Mr. Crapo, Mr. DeMint, Mr. Dodd, Mrs. Dole, Mr. Domenici, Mr. Dorgan, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Ensign, Mr. Enzi, Mr. Feingold, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Graham, Mr. Grassley, Mr. Gregg, Mr. Hagel, Mr. Harkin, Mr. Hatch, Mrs. Hutchison, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. Inouye, Mr. Isakson, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Kerry, Ms. Klobuchar, Mr. Kohl, Mr. Kyl, Ms. Landrieu, Mr. Lautenberg, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Lieberman, Mrs. Lincoln, Mr. Lott, Mr. Lugar, Mr. Martinez, Mr. McCain, Mrs. McCaskill, Mr. Menendez, Ms. Mikulski, Ms. Murkowski, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Nelson of Florida, Mr. Nelson of Nebraska, Mr. Obama, Mr. Pryor, Mr. Reed, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Salazar, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Schumer, Mr. Sessions, Mr. Shelby, Mr. Smith, Ms. Snowe, Mr. Specter, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Sununu, Mr. Tester, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Thune, Mr. Vitter, Mr. Voinovich, Mr. Warner, Mr. Webb, Mr. Whitehouse, and Mr. Wyden) submitted the following resolution; which was ordered held at the desk:

S. RES. 19

Whereas GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, the 38th President of the United States, was born on July 14, 1913, in Omaha, Nebraska;

Whereas GERALD FORD was raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he was active in the Boy Scouts and where he excelled as both a student and an athlete during high school;

Whereas after graduating from high school, GERALD FORD attended the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he played on the university's national championship football teams in 1932 and 1933, and was honored as the team's most valuable player in 1934, before graduating with a B.A. degree in 1935;

Whereas GERALD FORD later attended Yale Law School and earned an LL.B. degree in 1941, after which he began to practice law in Grand Rapids;

Whereas GERALD FORD joined the United States Naval Reserve in 1942 and served his country honorably during World War II;

Whereas upon returning from his service in the military, GERALD FORD ran for the United States House of Representatives and was elected to Congress;

Whereas GERALD FORD served in the House of Representatives from January 1949 to December 1973, winning reelection 12 times, each time with more than 60 percent of the vote;

Whereas GERALD FORD served with great distinction in Congress, in particular through his service on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, of which he rose to become ranking member in 1961;

Whereas in addition to his work in the House of Representatives, GERALD FORD served as a member

of the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination of President John F. Kennedy;

Whereas, in 1965, GERALD FORD was selected as minority leader of the House of Representatives, a position he held for 8 years;

Whereas after the resignation of Vice President Spiro Agnew in 1973, GERALD FORD was chosen by President Richard Nixon to serve as Vice President of the United States;

Whereas following the resignation of President Nixon, GERALD FORD took the oath of office as President of the United States on August 9, 1974;

Whereas upon assuming the presidency, GERALD FORD helped the nation heal from one of the most difficult and contentious periods in United States history, and restored public confidence in the country's leaders;

Whereas GERALD FORD's basic human decency, his integrity, and his ability to work cooperatively with leaders of all political parties and ideologies, earned him the respect and admiration of Americans throughout the country; and

Whereas GERALD FORD was able to serve his country with such great distinction in large part because of the continuing support of his widely admired wife, Elizabeth (Betty), who also has contributed much to the nation in many ways, and of their 4 children, Michael, John, Steven, and Susan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate notes with deep sorrow and solemn mourning the death of President GERALD RUDOLPH FORD.

Resolved, That the Senate extends its heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Ford and the family of President FORD.

Resolved, That the Senate honors and, on behalf of the nation, expresses deep appreciation for President FORD's outstanding and important service to his country.

Resolved, That the Senate directs the Secretary of the Senate to communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the former President.

Monday, January 8, 2007

Hon. Harry Reid

OF NEVADA

Mr. President, I never had the opportunity to meet with GERALD FORD when he was President, but I did when he was Vice President. I was chairman of the National Lieutenant Governors Conference. This was during the height of the energy crisis, and we came to Washington. One of the pleasures was meeting with the Vice President in the White House. That was really a big deal for me, a young Lieutenant Governor from Nevada. And a week or so after having met with the Vice President, he sent a picture to my home, a picture of me and the Vice President. That was really a significant event in the Reid family, but also my boy thought it was a significant event, and he took a crayon and marked all over that picture—my prized picture of my being in Washington, sitting with the Vice President. So my wife and I labored for some time and worked to get the crayon off that picture. We did a pretty good job. I still have the picture, but you can see my boy's marking on that with his crayon. I wish I had the opportunity to talk to the Vice President about that. I am sure he would have laughed.

President FORD was a wonderful man. We all know he died the day after Christmas. He was 93 years old. There were celebrations, as there should have been, in the Capitol Rotunda, at the National Cathedral, the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, MI, and the Episcopal Church in Grand Rapids, MI, where I had the opportunity to attend at the invitation of the former First Lady. The speeches were good. Former Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld spoke, President Jimmy Carter spoke, a noted historian spoke. It was really a quite moving event.

We have heard tales during the past couple weeks of GERALD FORD and the athlete he was. We have even read from

Chevy Chase, who became famous literally making fun of GERALD FORD. He made fun of him because—he was a big man—coming out of an airplane once, he hit his head on the airplane door, and that was the beginning of Chevy Chase's career.

The fact is, even though Chevy Chase became famous making fun of President FORD, we have never had a more athletic President—all-Big Ten; he was a great, outstanding football player at the University of Michigan.

As a Member of Congress, he was outstanding. He was praised by people who served with him. He served for about 25 years in the Congress and became the Republican leader. He, of course, was Commander in Chief as President of the United States. But one of the things we have learned so directly during the last couple weeks is how great he was to his wife Betty. She, during the time of their real public presence, had breast cancer and had a bout with alcoholism, and she approached both in a very strong, courageous way. The Betty Ford Clinic in Palm Springs is a place where people go to find that they are addicted and need help. But we have learned what a wonderful wife she was to President FORD and what a great First Lady she was to her entire country.

We have heard tributes from Senators, Governors, clergy, newsmen, and Presidents. They differed in tone and substance, but they all made the point of stressing one thing: GERALD FORD was, above all, a man of integrity, a man of honesty, and, ultimately, a role model for all of us who serve in Government.

He, of course, is the only man to become President who was never elected. Yet, time and time again, he proved himself the right man at the right time, healing the Nation after the scars of Watergate and moving our country forward.

Husband to his wife Betty, father to his beautiful children, Michael, John, Steven, and Susan, World War II veteran, star athlete, even an Eagle Scout—GERALD FORD was the core of what America is all about, a shining example of what we hold best in America. He took office at a dark time in our country's history and shepherded this Nation through the trials of Vietnam and Watergate, with a bipartisan spirit of reconciliation and grace, a shining example to us all. He reminded a wounded Nation of the honesty and decency of its leaders.

Mr. President, we all hope when we pass on our friends and colleagues will look back and say we left the world a better place. With GERALD FORD, there is no doubt. This Government, this Nation, this world are better from GERALD FORD's life and service to our country, and for this the Senate honors his life today.

Hon. Mitch McConnell

OF KENTUCKY

Mr. President, many praiseworthy things have been said about GERALD RUDOLPH FORD over the past 2 weeks, and this is good. It is good to see so many people speak so well of a man who was often wrongly criticized in life, and it has been uplifting to watch an entire Nation stop and reflect on what it means to live a good life, good to see that old virtues still have the power to inspire.

Of course, GERALD FORD didn't seek out the Presidency, and certainly he came into the highest elected position in the land in the unlikeliest of ways.

I was recently reminded that his life didn't get off to the most promising start. Born LESLIE LYNCH KING, JR., in Omaha, NE, his mother and father divorced when he was 2.

His mother picked up and moved back home to Grand Rapids, where she married a paint and varnish salesman. Gerald Ford, Sr., gave Dorothy three more

boys—and her first son a new name that he would carry into history.

The childhood home was pleasant, but since money was tight, JUNIOR had to mow lawns and grill hamburgers after school.

The experiences of the boy had an effect on the man: GERALD FORD would later gain a reputation in Congress as a fiscal conservative, as someone who thought that Government, like any household, should live within its budget. He didn't learn this from a policy paper. He didn't need to.

We have heard that GERALD FORD was a great athlete, that he could have played with the Packers or the Lions, but he took a job as an assistant coach at Yale instead. And determined to go to Yale Law School, he convinced the faculty to let him on part time. They did.

JERRY FORD once said: "The harder you work, the luckier you are. I worked like hell." He ended up in the top fourth of a law school class that included a future Supreme Court Justice, a future Secretary of State—and a future President.

We have heard how President FORD signed up for the Navy after Pearl Harbor; that he put duty and country first, and nearly got swept off the deck of the U.S.S. *Monterey* in the middle of a typhoon. It wouldn't be his last brush with an early death.

And we have heard a love story: that GERALD FORD came home to Michigan after the war and married a pretty young dancer named Betty Bloomer; that he started to think about politics, and that Betty wasn't worried at all about it distracting from family life. "I never thought he'd win," she said.

But, of course, he did.

The Fords moved east, and decided to stay awhile, and stayed together through it all—until last week, when Betty, older now but no less graceful, said goodbye to her husband, the President, in the same church where they said "I do" 58 years ago.

We have been inspired by the story of President FORD's political career—how he didn't make a name for himself with high-profile speeches or partisan broadsides; how he did his job, and did it well, in big and little things.

He built a reputation as someone who could bridge the gap, who brought people together and worked problems out. JERRY FORD summed up his approach to lawmaking this way:

> You have to give a little, take a little, to get what you really want. But you don't give up your principles.

All this is what we have heard about GERALD RUDOLPH FORD's life before the President of the United States called him at home on October 6, 1973, to see if he would be willing to replace a Vice President who had resigned in disgrace.

Congressmen all over Washington were sitting by their phones that night, hoping the call would come for them. JERRY FORD was swimming laps.

And 8 months later, when the President himself resigned, JERRY FORD was there again.

There's a plaque at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library which says that GERALD FORD may have been among the unluckiest Presidents of the 20th century. Where I come from we don't call that luck. We call it providence.

As President FORD himself put it: 1975 was "not a time for summer soldiers and sunshine patriots. It was a year of fears and alarms." JERRY FORD was the right man for the moment because he was a good man all along.

And what did he bring to the Presidency? Exactly what we needed in that dark and painful hour: honesty, simplicity, and what he liked to call, "a little straight talk."

His sincerity may have been his greatest gift, but it almost surely cost him the greatest honor the voters could have given him. He told them plainly, just a few months after taking the oath, that the state of the Union wasn't good.

He gave them bad news again the next year, an election year when most people would have been tempted to gloss over problems. The state of the Union was better, he said, but it still wasn't good enough.

And when he lost, he wasn't bitter. He even made a point to make sure the transition was smooth. He didn't want Jimmy Carter to face the same problems he did, he said.

I remember those days. I was a young lawyer in JERRY FORD's Justice Department. I remember how the new President restored hope in our country, in the Presidency, and in the Republican Party.

I remember how he lost his own race for reelection but cleared the way for another great Midwesterner to win 4 years later.

This Nation has owed a tribute to GERALD FORD for a long time, and it is good that he has gotten it in these last days.

In weaker moments, we tend to think that victory goes to the fast, the brilliant, the well-born. But in one of our Nation's weakest moments, GERALD FORD showed us leadership through the gentlemanly virtues of honesty, integrity, and plain hard work.

The tributes now are almost done. But the greatest tribute we can give to GERALD RUDOLPH FORD lies ahead. The American people have shown how much they admire leaders who are honest, straightforward, and kind.

In the early days of a new session, we best honor the memory of our 38th President, and the Nation he loved and served so well, by making those qualities our own.

I yield the floor.

Hon. John Warner

OF VIRGINIA

Mr. President, I thank our distinguished majority leader [Harry Reid] and minority leader [Mitch McConnell] for their initiative in putting this resolution together. I, also, thank both of our distinguished leaders for including in the resolution a reference to the action by the Senate, an initiative we took in the Senate Armed Services Committee at the time that I was privileged to be chairman and the distinguished Senator from Michigan, Mr. Levin, was the ranking member, to name one of America's future aircraft carriers, now under construction, the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford*. This initiative then was taken into consideration by the Department of Defense, the Secretary at that time, and, indeed, the Secretary of the Navy. The Secretary of the Navy has, traditionally, responsibility for the naming of ships. And whereas the Armed Services Committee recommended during floor consideration of the annual defense authorization bill that the naming be written in law, in conference, at the request of the Secretary of the Navy, we made it a sense of the Congress.

The Department of Defense will host a ceremony on January 16, with the Ford family and others to formally name the ship in honor of President FORD.

I also thank Jack Marsh, former Secretary of the Army and former counselor to President FORD, for his participation in the effort by the Senate to take this initiative, as well as former Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird. I collaborated with both of those distinguished gentlemen. Secretary Laird was a lifetime friend and served in Congress with GERALD FORD.

As we go forth in our careers, we always should look back to acknowledge those who made it possible for us to achieve our goals. I am always very humbled by the many people who helped inspire me to run for the Senate and who helped me win election. GERALD FORD was right there at the beginning of my first race with sound, practical advice.

I ask the indulgence of my colleagues where I recount some of that advice: It

started, I remember, in summer 1960. I was an advance man for then-Vice President Nixon. We were on a campaign train trip through the Middle Western States that included a stop in Michigan. This was the old-fashioned train with the observation car, where the candidate would go out on the rear platform and give a speech to the crowds that gathered in all the little towns and communities along the route. But we had one very memorable stop. I remember the town was Muskegon, MI.

My job was to get the candidate, the Vice President, and some of his senior staff off the train and to the auditorium in town. In performing these tasks, I was joined by an elected Michigan official. In a moment, I will provide his name. As we entered the building, we went into a holding area. I was awaiting a cue from the master of ceremonies on stage to bring on the Vice President. He was escorted by this local official. As we were waiting, unbeknownst to us, in the balcony, some mischievous people—I don't think it was evil, but it was mischievous—suddenly pelted us all with raw eggs. There we were, the Vice President with eggs streaming down off him. I took out my handkerchief and did the best I could to polish him up a bit, and the local official did the same. The Vice President went on the stage, fully composed, and gave an excellent speech.

I went back to the train thinking that I would be severely reprimanded and my first job in politics terminated. Well, it turns out that the local official who helped me get him up to the stage and who also helped to polish up the Vice President joined me in the observation car, where they were serving beer. As he came in, I thanked him, but said: "You know, I think this is the end of my political career."

And he said: "Why so?"

And I described my responsibility. And he then said: "Well, of course, I am a local Congressman and I should bear the responsibility."

And we joined each other with a beer, he said to me: "You know, I think both of us will survive."

That was GERALD FORD, showing the magnanimity of that marvelous man and his understanding of those types of situations.

I want to thank that wonderful American for his contribution to inspire me later in years to try for the Senate. He was then Vice President, and he used to counsel me on how to get started in public life. I was then Secretary of the Navy, having succeeded John Chafee, a former Member of this body, the much revered Senator from Rhode Island. And John Chafee had left the Navy Secretary's Office and ran for the Senate and was defeated in his first bid. And I was ready to plunge in and try my first race when GERALD FORD said to me: "No, you want to kind of get behind you this career in the Department of Defense," because it was a highly controversial period of history. There was much concern among the citizenry, not unlike what we see today.

I took his advice. And he said: "Go run the Bicentennial. I will get you appointed to that Presidential office."

I said: "Mr. Vice President, I don't even know how to spell the word."

He said: "Study up on it."

Not only did he do that, but he came down as Vice President and administered the oath to me on the steps of his beloved House of Representatives. The Bicentennial was a marvelous career opportunity to learn the fundamentals of public office. I worked with him closely, took an enormous interest, as he knew the Bicentennial would become a healing mechanism for the country in the aftermath of Watergate. He was right. I traveled with him on July 4, 1976, in his helicopter, and we made stops along the way. I will never forget going to New York Harbor on the final day of the 2-year celebration. And there we were on the deck of a car-

rier. And he struck the ship's bell such that it triggered church bells all across the United States to celebrate that day in American history.

While we were standing there, he told me about his trip to sea in 1944. I read from his biography:

> His closest call with death came not as a result of enemy fire, however, but during a vicious typhoon in the Philippine Sea in December 1944. He came within inches of being swept overboard while the storm raged. The ship, which was severely damaged by the storm and the resulting fire, had to be taken out of service. FORD spent the remainder of the war ashore and was discharged as a lieutenant commander in February 1946.

During the course of the war, he was awarded decorations for his valiant service. I remember when I went overseas in 1951, as a communications officer for a Marine Corps squadron. We were aboard the same class of ship. It was a small carrier. We also went through a typhoon in the South Pacific en route to Korea. It was 72 hours of memory that will never be erased, but I know what he went through because I think that typhoon was far more severe than the one our ship experienced. So I take my hat off to this magnificent American, who was among those who made it possible for me, in many respects, to eventually be privileged to represent the State of Virginia in the Senate.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the sense of Congress naming the CVN–78 aircraft carrier as the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford* be printed in the *Record*.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the *Record*, as follows:

SEC. 1012. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON NAMING THE CVN–78 AIRCRAFT CARRIER AS THE U.S.S. GERALD R. FORD.

1. (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) GERALD R. FORD has served his country with honor and distinction for the past 64 years, and continues to serve.

(2) GERALD R. FORD was commissioned in the Naval Reserve in 1942 and served valiantly at sea on the U.S.S. Monterey (CVL–26) during World War II, taking part in major operations in the Pacific, including at Makin Island, Kwajalein, Truk, Saipan, and the Philippine Sea.

(3) GERALD R. FORD received [7] engagement stars . . . for his service in the Navy during World War II.

(4) GERALD R. FORD was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1948.

(5) During 25 years of service in the House of Representatives, GERALD R. FORD distinguished himself by an exemplary record for character, decency, and trustworthiness.

(6) Throughout his service in the House of Representatives, GERALD R. FORD was an ardent proponent of strong national defense and international leadership by the United States.

(7) From 1965 to 1973, GERALD R. FORD served as minority leader of the House of Representatives, raising the standard for bipartisanship in his tireless fight for freedom, hope, and justice.

(8) In 1973, GERALD R. FORD was appointed by President Nixon to the office of Vice President of the United States under the 25th Amendment to the Constitution, having been confirmed by overwhelming majorities in both Houses of Congress.

(9) On August 9, 1974, GERALD R. FORD became the 38th President of the United States, taking office during one of the most challenging periods in the history of the United States.

(10) As President from August 9, 1974, to January 20, 1977, GERALD R. FORD restored the faith of the people of the United States in the office of the President through his steady leadership, courage, and ultimate integrity.

(11) As President, GERALD R. FORD helped restore the prestige of the United States in the world community by working to achieve peace in the Middle East, preserve detente with the Soviet Union, and set new limits on the spread of nuclear weapons.

(12) As President, GERALD R. FORD served as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces with great dignity, supporting a strong Navy and a global military presence for the United States and honoring the members of the Armed Forces.

(13) Since leaving the office of President, GERALD R. FORD has been an international ambassador of American goodwill, a noted scholar and lecturer, a strong supporter of human rights, and a promoter of higher education.

(14) GERALD R. FORD was awarded the Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999 in recognition of his contribution to the Nation.

(15) As President, GERALD R. FORD bore the weight of a constitutional crisis and guided the Nation on a path of healing and restored hope, earning forever the enduring respect and gratitude of the Nation.

(b) NAMING OF CVN–78 AIRCRAFT CARRIER.—It is the sense of Congress that the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier of the Navy designated as CVN–78 should be named the U.S.S. Gerald R. Ford.

Hon. Debbie Stabenow

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. President, I rise today to honor one of Michigan's great sons. Today we honor the remarkable life and lasting legacy of President GERALD R. FORD. I thank our leaders and colleagues for the wonderful tribute that will be voted on at noontime today.

This past week our Nation mourned the passing of a President, while Michigan mourned the loss of a family member. Throughout his decades in public service, including a quarter century representing Michigan in the Congress, GERALD FORD worked tirelessly to serve the people and the interests of our great State and his beloved country.

It is an honor that the State of Michigan will serve as the final resting place for one of our Nation's great leaders. The funeral last Wednesday, which I was fortunate enough to attend, was truly a moving tribute to a man who cared deeply for the city of Grand Rapids, his home State of Michigan, and the country. The thousands of mourners who came to pay their respects is evidence of what he meant to us. People standing in line for hours, on into the night, and the wonderful, gracious way the family greeted so many of those coming to show their respect for GERALD FORD was a wonderful, meaningful act to watch.

I would be remiss if I didn't take the opportunity to speak about GERALD FORD's family. Betty Ford's grace and strength throughout the past few weeks have stood as a reminder not only of the importance of family in the life of GERALD FORD but also how much she has given to America through her courage, her example, and her charity. Betty Ford stood shoulder to shoulder with President FORD as a true partner throughout his life, while redefining the role of First Lady and serving the country with her own dedicated work on issues such as alcohol and drug abuse. Together, the Fords raised four remarkable children—Michael, John, Steven, and Susan. It is a testimony to GERALD FORD's character that he will be remembered not only as a great leader but as a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Born July 14, 1913, in Omaha, NE, GERALD FORD moved at a young age with his mother to Grand Rapids, MI, where she married his stepfather.

While attending South High School in Grand Rapids, GERALD FORD proved himself an academic and athletic prodigy, being named not only to the honor society but all-city and all-state football teams.

In 1931, he entered the University of Michigan, playing center and linebacker for the Wolverines. He played on two undefeated teams and was named the team's most outstanding player in 1934. FORD's legacy will always be felt at the university. To this day, his number 28 is one of only 5 football jerseys retired by the University of Michigan, while the School of Public Policy bearing his name will shape and produce America's leaders for generations to come.

GERALD FORD's childhood in Grand Rapids and his education both on and off the field at the University of Michigan helped forge a man whose character and actions throughout his life exemplified what is best about Michigan—hard work, loyalty, honesty, and selflessness.

After graduating from Michigan, FORD rebuffed offers from the Detroit Lions and the Green Bay Packers in order to attend Yale University Law School. He continued his love of athletics there by serving as a boxing coach and assistant varsity football coach. In 1941, he earned

his law degree from Yale, graduating in the top quarter of his class.

GERALD FORD then returned to the city he considered his home, Grand Rapids, to practice law before joining the U.S. Naval Reserve in April 1942, where he served as an assistant navigator with the U.S.S. *Monterey* in the Pacific during World War II. He was discharged from the Navy in 1946 as a lieutenant commander, returning to Michigan to practice law.

Entering politics with the encouragement of his stepfather, GERALD FORD ran for Congress in 1948, unseating incumbent Bartel Jonkman in the primary and going on to receive 61 percent of the vote in the general election. GERALD FORD would go on to represent the people of Michigan in Congress for the next 25 years, in 1965 rising to become the minority leader in the House.

In late 1973, he was called on to serve the country in a different capacity, as we all know, being named and confirmed Vice President. Within 8 short months, he was again called on to take the mantle of responsibility he had not sought, taking the oath of office as the 38th President of the United States. Stepping into the Oval Office during one of America's greatest constitutional crises, President FORD's quiet demeanor and steady hand helped calm a Nation and kept the Government moving forward during some of its darkest days.

It is a testament to President FORD and his time in public office, highlighted by his years in the White House, that even those who disagreed with his policy positions respected him as a person and a public servant. GERALD FORD dedicated his life to make our State and our Nation a better place to live, work, and raise a family. He was a man who understood that integrity and service are more than just words, they are ideals—ideals he learned in our wonderful Michigan and practiced every day of his life.

As a husband, a father, a Congressman, and our President, he led quietly by example, earning respect and friendship on both sides of the aisle through the hard work and honesty for which he was known. President FORD was a man utterly deserving of the words inscribed on a football resting on a homemade memorial outside the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids this week: "A true American and a hometown hero." President FORD, we thank you for your service. You will be missed. Our continuing prayers and support go to your family.

Hon. Thad Cochran

OF MISSISSIPPI

Mr. President, I am very pleased the Senate is formally expressing its respect and appreciation for the life and public service of President GERALD R. FORD.

No person in public service in my memory did more to restore confidence in our political institutions than President FORD.

He was a friend and mentor to me as a Member of the body, giving me sound advice and serving as a wonderful role model during my career in Congress and in the Senate.

I admired him enormously. His seriousness of purpose and his commonsense approach to solving our national problems were qualities that enabled him to give our Nation a new sense of confidence and direction.

We are deeply grateful that he served so ably as our Republican leader in the House, Vice President, and President of the United States.

Hon. Barack Obama

OF ILLINOIS

Mr. President, I rise today in memory of GERALD FORD, the 38th President of the United States. President FORD shouldered his burden with a unique sense of humility and good humor, in an office not known for nourishing those traits. President FORD's unusual combination of courage, strength, and conviction led America out of a deep crisis, healing our wounds and strengthening our Constitution in the process.

GERALD FORD was a self-made Michigander who worked part-time jobs as a young man to help support his family, and later to put himself through Yale Law School. A man of many talents, he could have been a professional football player, or lived well as an attorney. But instead, he chose a life of service, first as a decorated naval officer, then a 24-year Member of Congress, leader of his party in the House of Representatives, and presiding officer of this Chamber as Vice President.

Domestic turmoil and foreign policy challenges marked the mid-1970s, and President FORD addressed them both. History has favorably judged his actions to move the country beyond the Watergate scandal, although he paid a heavy price at the time. He also acknowledged the severe economic difficulties faced by millions of Americans and worked head-on to alleviate them.

Despite the host of domestic challenges America faced, President FORD remained a committed internationalist. He advanced the cause of peace in the Middle East, helping to end hostilities between Israel and Egypt and laying the groundwork for a peace between those two countries that endures to this day. His backing of the Helsinki Accords, while controversial, gave important support to dissidents living under Soviet rule who sought respect for their human rights.

Throughout his life, GERALD FORD handled the responsibilities and challenges that circumstance thrust on him without losing his Midwestern openness and sensibility. To many who disagreed with him, he still came across as a comforting figure who had the Nation's best interests at heart. Central to this ability to connect with people was his self-deprecating sense of humor, summed up by the quip, "I'm a FORD, not a Lincoln."

And while he may not have been a Lincoln, he certainly was not a common President. America is a better place because of him, and we all owe President FORD and his wife, Betty, a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Hon. Pete V. Domenici

OF NEW MEXICO

Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to President GERALD FORD. His passing on December 26, 2006, was marked with a yearning for the unity he brought to our Nation over 30 years ago. I extend my sincerest and most heartfelt sympathies to his family.

GERALD FORD and I were in Congress together for a brief period of time. He was a friend to me when I was a freshman Senator and throughout my career. I will always remember and appreciate his support and counsel.

President FORD came into office at a very difficult time and faced multiple tasks. He met those challenges and successfully brought the Nation through a tumultuous period in the history of the Presidency. While his time in the White House was relatively short, his legacy continues to persist. President FORD's leadership and credibility worked to bring the Nation through the Watergate crisis and its aftermath. That proved to be invaluable and underscored the resiliency of our democratic Government.

My wife Nancy and I send our condolences and prayers to First Lady Betty Ford and to the entire Ford family. We join the Nation in mourning President FORD and in honoring a long life of service. May his soul rest in peace.

Hon. Kay Bailey Hutchison

OF TEXAS

Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the 38th President of the United States.

GERALD FORD was an honest man, a modest man, and a patriotic man who cared deeply about this country. During World War II, he answered his Nation's call to duty, serving in the Navy aboard the U.S.S. *Monterey* in the Pacific Theatre. He later trained new naval officers for sea duty. Shortly after his discharge as a lieutenant commander in 1946, he began his storied political career.

During his 25 years of service in the House of Representatives, GERALD FORD earned the respect and admiration of nearly everyone in Washington. GERALD FORD's impeccable integrity made him the ideal choice to lead America at a time of considerable division.

When he was nominated by President Nixon to become Vice President, he was confirmed overwhelmingly by the Senate and the House. The Senate vote was 92 to 3, and the House vote was 387 to 35.

Before President Nixon submitted his nomination for Vice President, he asked the leadership of both parties who they would choose were they in his shoes. The obvious response was GERALD FORD.

When GERALD FORD assumed the Presidency following President Nixon's resignation, he moved quickly to bring our country together. He did this by always remaining true to his character. He also adhered to the common-sense principles that guided him throughout his career and his life. He never lost touch with his Midwestern values. And he never wavered from doing what he thought was in the best interests of the people of our country.

President FORD also attracted very talented employees. Among those who served in the Ford administration were Alan Greenspan, Council of Economic Advisers; George H.W. Bush, CIA Director; James Baker, Undersecretary of Commerce; Dick Cheney, Chief of Staff; and Donald Rumsfeld, Chief of Staff and later Secretary of Defense.

I had the pleasure of working with President FORD when he appointed me vice chair of the National Transportation Safety Board in 1976.

President FORD was a reliable friend and invaluable counselor. I will never forget his coming to Texas to campaign with me during my first race for the Senate. President FORD was always available to offer advice and remained in close touch with those of us who were his many appointees, staff, and colleagues over the years. This is the kind of person he was. It was an honor and a privilege to consider him a friend.

He cared deeply for his family, for his loving wife Betty, and for his four children: Michael, John, Steven, and Susan.

He cared for everyone he came to know during his magnificent political career.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Betty and the entire Ford family as we honor a public servant who gave tirelessly to our country. He will be missed.

Hon. Carl Levin

OF MICHIGAN

Mr. President, I don't know if my friends on the other side of the aisle want any of the 3 minutes remaining. If not, I will proceed.

I wanted to comment, briefly, on the life and passing of GERALD FORD during this period. I was listening to the re-

marks of my good friend from Virginia [Mr. Warner], and except for the part about eggs being thrown in Michigan, it struck an absolutely accurate chord, everything he said. It was kind of hard to imagine that anyone would throw eggs in Michigan, but I have to defend my home State. Other than that, I am sure his memory is very accurate and even the location no doubt is accurate.

He talked about JERRY FORD and what he did heroically in World War II and how he survived the typhoon. JERRY FORD, when he became President, inherited a typhoon. Most Americans will remember President FORD for righting the Ship of State during that stormy time when he became President. We all remember him for that because it was heroic what he did then for our Nation, a different kind of heroism from what he displayed in World War II but heroism nonetheless. He was deeply respected on both sides of the aisle for his civility, his bipartisanship, and his integrity.

We in Michigan, in addition to remembering him as all others will for what he did to right that Ship of State of ours, also remember him for a lifetime of service, including 13 terms in the House of Representatives from Michigan's Fifth Congressional District. And we also take particular pride in this son of Michigan and the manner in which he always treasured his West Michigan roots. There were many eulogies that were recently given about GERALD FORD, but in all of them it was noted that he never forgot where he came from. That was a very important part of this absolutely wonderful man, a friend of mine, someone with whom I had a number of dealings.

Before time runs out for our morning business, I wanted to thank the Senator from Virginia. I don't know if this has been mentioned this morning or not. The Senator from Virginia authored an amendment during the last authorization bill which we adopted here which, by the way, is the John Warner Defense Authorization Act for the next fiscal year, named after John Warner in tribute to his chairmanship. But in that bill, Senator Warner offered an amendment that would name the first of a future class of aircraft carriers the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford*. I understand that the Navy recently announced that it is going to follow the suggestion which was incorporated in the Warner amendment, which I was proud to cosponsor, but in presenting that amendment at that time, Senator Warner recounted some of the heroism of our dear friend, the recently departed President FORD, and his heroism both in war and peacetime.

I thank Senator Warner for the initiative he took to honor JERRY FORD's service to our country in a way which I think will have a very special meaning to President FORD because, as a Navy man, having the first of a future class of aircraft carriers named after him would bring a special pride to his heart.

GERALD FORD began his service to our country in the Navy during World War II, where he displayed great valor in combat, and this will be a fitting tribute.

Our thoughts and prayers are with GERALD FORD's beloved wife Betty and his family as we celebrate his life and legacy.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I thank my colleague, and I acknowledge the Senator's help on that. It was a joint project by the two of us.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the hour of 12 noon having arrived, the Senate will now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 19, honoring President GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 19) honoring President GERALD RUDOLPH FORD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays. . . .

The result was announced—yeas 88, nays 0.

The resolution (S. Res. 19) was agreed to.

The preamble, as modified, was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, as modified, reads as follows:

S. RES. 19

Whereas GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, the 38th President of the United States, was born on July 14, 1913, in Omaha, Nebraska;

Whereas GERALD FORD was raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he was active in the Boy Scouts, achieving the Eagle Scout rank, and where he excelled as both a student and an athlete during high school;

Whereas after graduating from high school, GERALD FORD attended the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he played on the university's national championship football teams in 1932 and 1933, and was honored as the team's most valuable player in 1934, before graduating with a B.A. degree in 1935;

Whereas GERALD FORD later attended Yale Law School and earned an LL.B. degree in 1941, after which he began to practice law in Grand Rapids;

Whereas GERALD FORD joined the United States Naval Reserve in 1942 and served his country honorably during World War II;

Whereas upon returning from his service in the military, GERALD FORD ran for the United States House of Representatives and was elected to Congress;

Whereas GERALD FORD served in the House of Representatives from January 1949 to December 1973, winning reelection 12 times, each time with more than 60 percent of the vote;

Whereas GERALD FORD served with great distinction in Congress, in particular through his service on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, of which he rose to become ranking member in 1961;

Whereas in addition to his work in the House of Representatives, GERALD FORD served as a member of the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination of President John F. Kennedy;

Whereas, in 1965, GERALD FORD was selected as minority leader of the House of Representatives, a position he held for 8 years;

Whereas after the resignation of Vice President Spiro Agnew in 1973, GERALD FORD was chosen by President Richard Nixon to serve as Vice President of the United States;

Whereas following the resignation of President Nixon, GERALD FORD took the oath of office as President of the United States on August 9, 1974;

Whereas upon assuming the presidency, GERALD FORD helped the nation heal from one of the most difficult and contentious periods in United States history, and restored public confidence in the country's leaders;

Whereas GERALD FORD's basic human decency, his integrity, and his ability to work cooperatively with leaders of all political parties and ideologies, earned him the respect and admiration of Americans throughout the country;

Whereas the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 recommended that America's next nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, designated as CVN–78, be named as the U.S.S. Gerald R. Ford, in honor of our 38th President; and

Whereas GERALD FORD was able to serve his country with such great distinction in large part because of the continuing support of his widely admired wife, Elizabeth (Betty), who also has contributed much to the nation in many ways, and of their 4 children, Michael, John, Steven, and Susan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,, That the Senate notes with deep sorrow and solemn mourning the death of President GERALD RUDOLPH FORD.

Resolved, That the Senate extends its heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Ford and the family of President FORD.

Resolved, That the Senate honors and, on behalf of the nation, expresses deep appreciation for President FORD's outstanding and important service to his country.

Resolved, That the Senate directs the Secretary of the Senate to communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the former President.

Hon. Richard J. Durbin

OF ILLINOIS

. . . Last week, America bid farewell to a good and decent man named GERALD FORD. I was honored to be at his funeral service in Grand Rapids, MI. He was a man who served at one of the most tumultuous times in American history. He inherited a war he couldn't win. Years later, when asked about that Vietnam war, President FORD said:

> My approach was we inherited the problem with the job. It is my obligation on behalf of the country to try and solve the damn thing.

A generation later, our Nation faces a similar moment. We need to work to-

gether. We need to cooperate on a bipartisan basis to find a plan worthy of the courage and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform. It should begin now. It shouldn't be left to future Presidents . . .

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate: . . . The message further announced that the House has agreed to H. Res. 11, resolving that the House of Representatives has learned with profound regret and sorrow of the death of GERALD R. FORD, 38th President of the United States of America.

Hon. Ken Salazar

OF COLORADO

Mr. President, I rise today to speak in favor of a bill that will be introduced by Senator Allard and myself to name the post office in Vail, CO, after President GERALD R. FORD.

I call myself fortunate because I worked with President FORD. In our brief time together, it was obvious to me he was a man of honor, integrity, and courage.

GERALD FORD was a man who loved the State of Colorado, who loved its people and its culture. So it is a fitting tribute that the post office in his adopted town of Vail should bear his name.

President FORD led a remarkable life—remarkable not only for his great success but for the humility, dignity, and candor which were the hallmarks of his career. And what a career it was: from the University of Michigan to Yale Law School to service in the Navy to a leadership position in the U.S. Congress, and eventually, of course, to the Presidency of these United States, to say nothing of a long and productive post-Presidential career.

Of course, it is his time in the White House which people will remember most, and for good reason. It was President FORD who, through his leadership, brought the country together during a time of crisis. He was not only the right man at the right time for a very difficult job, he was a perfect man to deal with circumstances, the likes of which this country had never seen.

But I will remember President FORD not only for his good deeds in public office but for his unending commitment to justice and equality well after he left the White House behind. In 1999, when our shared alma mater, the University of Michigan, had its diversity policies challenged in court, President FORD wrote an op-ed piece in the *New York Times* about diversity, and he talked about an inclusive America which was essential to the future and the strength of the United States. In his op-ed piece, which was widely circulated, about which he and I spent time talking one day, he wrote the following:

> Of all the triumphs that have marked this as America's century—breathtaking advances in science and technology, the democratization of wealth and dispersal of political powers in ways hardly imaginable in 1899—none is more inspiring, if incomplete, than our pursuit of racial justice.

President FORD bravely defended the University of Michigan's diversity program with the same elegance and bravery with which he confronted the tribulations of the Watergate era and, in the process, left behind a legacy of tolerance and justice which will not soon be forgotten.

Of course, no tribute to President FORD would be complete without mention of his extraordinary family, particularly his wife, Betty, and as President FORD famously said: "I am indebted to no man, and only to one woman—to my dear wife." Betty Ford's bravery and her candor has inspired millions upon millions of

Americans, and we are grateful for her service, and we wish her and the Ford family the very best.

The people of Colorado thank GERALD FORD for his service, and we are proud to move forward in helping the post office in Vail, CO, bear his name.

Hon. Wayne Allard

OF COLORADO

Mr. President, as my good friend and colleague from Colorado [Mr. Salazar] just mentioned, we are introducing S. 194 naming the post office in Vail, CO, after former President GERALD R. FORD. As this vote just showed, we are all aware that when GERALD FORD passed away last month, our country lost a great man. Much has been said recently about President FORD: How he selflessly came to the aid of this country in one of its most trying times, how he governed through his beliefs about what was the best decision for the Nation regardless of the personal consequences, and his lifelong pursuit of bipartisanship and debate.

The defining characteristic of President FORD was his ability to remain humble and a man of the people. As testimonies poured in across the Nation, we were reminded about how he played selflessly as center at the University of Michigan, worked as a busboy while attending law school, and often hosted barbecues for his neighbors at his home in Alexandria, VA, while serving as House minority leader.

President FORD's charm and likability were shown all over the country, but away from his home State and the microscope of Washington, DC, GERALD FORD and his family also touched Colorado. As a Congressman from Michigan, the Ford family visited Colorado to ski in 1968 and since then have remained a constant presence in that community. He skied there, he built a house in nearby Beaver Creek, and he hosted a golf tournament for 20 years.

Following President FORD's passing, more than 2,500 people gathered at the base of Vail Mountain to witness a touching tribute to the President that included 500 ski instructors and a torchlight parade on Vail's Golden Peak. In Vail, like many other communities, President FORD was regarded as a tremendous asset and a man who treated everyone as an equal. Several residents remarked that one would never know he was a former President.

As a lasting tribute to this tremendous man, I cannot think of a more appropriate honor than to have Vail's post office bear the name of GERALD R. FORD, JR. A post office is the point in every community that brings all people together, and there is no better way to symbolize the virtues President FORD demonstrated through his public and private life. I encourage the Senate to pass legislation entitled "Senate Bill 194" in recognition of President FORD and his contributions to Vail, CO.

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Hon. Orrin G. Hatch

OF UTAH

Mr. President, even as we usher in a new Congress, Americans have said farewell to one of our Chief Executives, President GERALD R. FORD. President FORD was a man of character and integrity, a leader of hope and purpose. I hope and pray that the outpouring of support for President FORD in recent days will be a source of comfort and strength for his family and especially for his beloved wife, First Lady Betty Ford.

The people of Michigan's Fifth District loved their Congressman JERRY FORD. They sent him to the House of Representatives by large margins 13 times. In fact, Congressman FORD's reelection percentages over nearly a quarter century did not vary by more than a few points. His constituents supported him as he served them, consistently and solidly.

It is easy to see why his constituents felt such a connection with him. JERRY FORD grew up in Grand Rapids, MI. He achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and, in high school, joined the honor society and was named to all-city and all-state football teams. At the University of Michigan, he played center on two national championship football teams and was named most valuable player in 1934.

Early in life, JERRY FORD's values and basic good sense helped him see past the excitement of the moment. He passed up opportunities to use his athletic prowess for the Detroit Lions and Green Bay Packers and instead decided to coach boxing and football at Yale University, where he realized his goal of attending law school. He returned to Grand Rapids to begin practicing law and, after serving in the Navy during World War II, returned again to practice law and seek election to Congress in 1948. Somehow in all that activity, he found time to court Elizabeth Bloomer. She must have been a very understanding woman because he even campaigned on their wedding day. President FORD would later say that his most valued advice was that which came from his wife. They spent 58 years together and had four wonderful children.

The qualities that endeared Congressman FORD to his constituents also inspired trust in his colleagues in the House, who elected him Republican Conference chairman in 1963 and then Republican leader in 1965. In fact, Congressman FORD was so well regarded that President Lyndon Johnson named him to the Warren Commission which investigated the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and President Richard Nixon tapped him to replace the resigned Vice President Spiro Agnew.

GERALD FORD loved the House of Representatives, and his personal political goal was to become Speaker of the House. He declined invitations to run for the Senate and for Governor. Ironically, while the Republicans' minority status kept him from leading that Chamber, his appointment as Vice President allowed him to become President of the Senate.

The FORD Presidency was brief, just 29 months long, but broke significant new political ground. He was the only occupant of the Oval Office who was never elected either President or Vice President. Former New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller's appointment as Vice President meant that, for the first time in American history, neither of the Nation's two top officers had been elected to either office. The FORD and Rockefeller appointments were the first handled under the procedures established by the 25th amendment to the Constitution, ratified less than a decade earlier. And, of course, President FORD presided over our Nation's bicentennial in 1976.

The passage of even a few years, let alone a few decades, can easily change memories and perspectives. In recent years, the majority party has held either House of Congress by a modest margin. In this body today, the balance of power could rest on one Senator. At one point during GERALD FORD's service in the House, however, Democrats outnumbered Republicans by more than 2 to 1. Even under those difficult circumstances, Congressman FORD found ways of reaching across the aisle, working productively with the other party to find solutions to the Nation's problems.

When GERALD FORD took up residence at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue, there were times when he had to stand up to Congress. He issued an astounding 66 vetoes in fewer than 3 years, and Congress was able to override just a few.

President FORD served during one of the most trying times in American history, facing troubles at home and abroad. At home, there was the Watergate scandal that had resulted in the FORD Presidency. In 1975, unemployment reached a level nearly twice what it is today. Inflation was in double digits. Fears of energy shortages persisted. Elsewhere in the world, President FORD faced the war in Vietnam and crises in the Middle East and the continued threat posed by the former Soviet Union. And on top of all of that, he shouldered the burden of restoring Americans' faith in their leaders and in democracy itself. Last week in his eulogy, Dr. Henry Kissinger, President FORD's Secretary of State, put it this way: "Unassuming and without guile, GERALD FORD undertook to restore the confidence of Americans in their political institutions and purposes."

He made decisions, some of which were unpopular at the time, that he felt were necessary for the good of the Nation. Some say that these contributed to his narrow loss to Jimmy Carter. At the same time, from opinion polls after the political conventions showing the incumbent trailing by nearly 30 points, President FORD closed the gap to make the 1976 election one of the closest in American history.

We are all thankful President FORD did not simply retire from public life when he left the White House. For nearly three decades, he remained active as a statesman and involved in important issues. He founded, and for many years chaired, the World Forum conducted by the American Enterprise Institute, and he continued writing about some of the political and social challenges of our day. In 2001, he authored a poignant column which appeared in the *Washington Post* and endorsed legislation to promote regenerative therapies that can give hope to Americans suffering from chronic diseases. As a cosponsor of that legislation, I was moved and grateful for President FORD's wisdom and support.

For these and so many other activities and contributions, President FORD received the Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian award, in 1999 and the Profiles in Courage Award from the Kennedy Foundation in 2001. In 1999, he and Mrs. Ford received the Congressional Gold Medal for their dedicated public service and humanitarian contributions.

As great as President FORD was, he was always the first to acknowledge his wonderful spouse, and I would be remiss, if I did not say a few words about Betty Ford. She was such a model of grace and dignity, inspiring us with her love and devotion to her family. Betty Ford was a bold First Lady, candidly sharing with the Nation her struggles with cancer and chemical dependency. She did not, however, stop there but turned those struggles into a crusade to help others. She served as cochairman of the Susan G. Komen Foundation when it was founded in 1982. Each year she presents the Betty Ford Award from that foundation to a champion in the fight against breast cancer. The Betty Ford Center, which she

founded in 1982, is today one of the leading treatment facilities in America, perhaps the world, and Mrs. Ford continues to serve as its board chairman.

As recently as last week, Betty and her four children, Steve, Mike, Jack, and Susan, showed us their tremendous devotion and kindness as they stood in the Capitol Rotunda for hours on end greeting every visitor who came to pay their respects to President FORD. Even in the face of tragedy, Betty and her children are gracious.

President FORD believed that most people were mostly good most of the time. That optimistic attitude led him once to say that while he had many adversaries in his political life, he could not remember having a single enemy. When he took the oath of office on August 9, 1974, he offered not an inaugural address but what he called just a little straight talk among friends. He made a commitment, a compact, with his fellow Americans, in which he said:

> You have not elected me as your President by your ballots and so I ask you to confirm me as your President with your prayers . . . I have not sought this enormous responsibility, but I will not shirk it . . . Our Constitution works; our great republic is a government of laws and not of men. Here the people rule . . . God helping me, I will not let you down.

Those words so reflected the character and vision of President FORD that they were printed in the opening pages of the commemorative program distributed when the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum was dedicated in September 1981 in Grand Rapids. It is there, along the Grand River, that thousands of Americans, many waiting for hours in the cold, paid a final tribute to our 38th President. And it is nearby, in the city he loved and that loved him, that President FORD was laid to rest.

GERALD FORD did not let us down. It is fitting that on the gravestone of this remarkable man, this distinguished public servant, this healer of our Nation, are the simple words: "Lives Committed to God, Country, and Love."

Hon. Chuck Hagel

OF NEBRASKA

Mr. President, President GERALD FORD had a distinguished career of public service marked by his exceptional personal qualities, and his passing is a sad moment for all Americans.

President FORD was born in Omaha, NE, in 1913 and grew up in Grand Rapids, MI. As a student at the University of Michigan, FORD was an all-star football player and became an assistant football coach at Yale University while he earned his law degree. During his service in World War II, he attained the rank of lieutenant commander in the Navy.

President FORD was first elected to Congress in 1948 and served for 25 years, 8 as the minority leader. He was selected to serve as Vice President and became President because he was a man who could restore integrity to the Presidency and hope in America, and bridge partisan divides in Congress.

I first met GERALD FORD when he was the House minority leader and I was chief of staff for Congressman John Y. McCollister from Omaha. I have never met a person in politics who was a more decent and more complete individual than President FORD. He earned the trust and confidence of the American people through his character, competency and common decency.

I had the honor of attending his Capitol memorial service in the Rotunda last week with my daughter, Allyn, and son, Ziller. I am grateful and proud that they had the opportunity to hear President FORD remembered and eulogized with eloquence, grace, and honesty. America is a better place because of President GERALD FORD. He will be greatly missed.

Wednesday, January 10, 2007

Hon. Charles E. Schumer

OF NEW YORK

Mr. President, it is with great sadness but great honor that I rise to commemorate the life and actions of GERALD R. FORD, the 38th President of the United States. President FORD led our country through turbulent and uncertain times and did so with a kind of strong modesty that he was known for his entire life. From his days as a star of the University of Michigan football team to serving as minority leader in the U.S. House of Representatives, GERALD FORD's ability to lead was apparent to all. Aside from his leadership qualities, President FORD was a man beyond reproach and respected by all. These qualities made him Richard Nixon's choice to replace his first Vice President, Spiro Agnew. Following President Nixon's resignation, GERALD FORD returned honor to the office of the President and restored the country's confidence in our leaders. GERALD FORD exemplified the best of America and served the country in every way. From his heroism in World War II to his Presidency and graceful retirement, he harkens back to a day when love of country and bipartisanship were paramount.

Hon. Elizabeth Dole

OF NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart that I join with all North Carolinians and all Americans in mourning the passing of President GERALD FORD. I was privileged to call President FORD a dear friend for more than 30 years, and my husband Bob and I continue to keep Betty and the entire Ford family in our thoughts and prayers.

President FORD presided over America during some of her most difficult and challenging times. Immediately upon entering the Oval Office, President FORD was confronted with a myriad of problems—a faltering economy, energy shortages, international disputes, and a Nation disheartened and disillusioned by scandal. He confronted these challenges head on, and he did so with honesty, integrity, common sense, and decency. He was a true American patriot who never failed to put the interests of his country above his own political interests. And, to me, that is the embodiment of a true leader.

Long before entering the White House, President FORD had a distinguished and successful career. He diligently represented the people of Michigan in the U.S. House of Representatives for 25 years, including 8 years serving as House minority leader. Throughout each chapter of his career, President FORD displayed extraordinary care and thoughtfulness as he worked tirelessly to bring together his colleagues—from both sides of the ideological spectrum—for the betterment of our Nation. And in turn, his colleagues respected him, relied on his wise judgment, and valued his leadership.

As my husband Bob says, President FORD was the type of person you would want as your next-door neighbor. He was humble, down-to-earth, and accessible. What you saw with President FORD was what you got.

In addition to having the honor of serving in President FORD's administration as a Federal Trade Commissioner, I had the privilege of spending a good bit of time with President FORD and his dear wife Betty when my husband campaigned as his running mate in 1976. During this time, I saw a side of the

President that I wish every American could have seen.

I will never forget the day when President FORD announced that Bob would be his running mate. We were in Bob's hometown of Russell, KS, and my mother-in-law wanted very much to serve a home-cooked fried chicken dinner to the President. But when President FORD and Bob arrived at her home, they discovered that Mrs. Dole had accidentally locked herself out of the house. So there was the President of the United States standing on the front stoop patiently waiting for Mrs. Dole to find the spare key. She was a nervous wreck, but the President didn't mind one bit—instead, he kindly offered to help her find the key, so together they searched until they found it behind a drainpipe. I have always thought this story about a small kindness truly speaks volumes about the sterling character of a man I have long respected and admired. Even as President FORD had the weight of the world on his shoulders, he always treated his fellow man with kindness, respect, and personal modesty.

President FORD served the United States with courage and distinction, and he provided a shining example for all public servants to follow. I am so proud to have known this man of character, strength, and intellect. I will miss my friend, and I wish the best to Betty, his children Michael, John, Steven, and Susan, and the entire Ford family.

Hon. Olympia J. Snowe

OF MAINE

Mr. President, I rise today to state how proud I was to support Senate Resolution 19, celebrating the life of the late President GERALD R. FORD.

It was an honor to commemorate the extraordinary legacy of the 38th President of the United States, GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, as we have mourned the loss of a treasured national leader and exceptional public servant.

President FORD will forever be remembered for his unassailable integrity and decency at a most difficult and challenging time. He was truly a great American who devoted his life not only to the Nation he loved but also to the finest and most ennobling ideals of public service. Throughout the years, President FORD represented a voice of civility and problem solving—of consensus building—and healing. History will record that his contribution to America's story was both indispensable and irrefutable.

When our Nation looked to him for assurance, his stalwart character, disposition, and judgment instilled a quiet and renewed confidence in our country. He restored the public trust in the Presidency and in our Government, reminded us of the strength and durability of our Constitution, and engendered a hope that tempered our anxieties and turned our attention once again to the future.

During his distinguished 25 years as both a Member and later minority leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, then-Congressman GERALD FORD never sought the office of Vice President or President, but when in 1974 he faced the daunting task of assuming the highest office in the land, his steadfast dedication to the bedrock principles of hard work, common sense, and duty—so emblematic of his upbringing and his remarkable career in Congress—prepared him to occupy the White House and served him well over the course of his brief but historic tenure.

With an unwavering moral compass, a certain grasp of purpose, and an always-steady resolve, President FORD guided us out of conflict abroad and quelled our concerns here at home and in doing so brought honor to the Oval Office and reassurance to Americans. It is fitting that in football as well as in his public life, GERALD FORD was ever the keystone, the center that held those around him to-

gether, who exemplified the essential underpinning that made progress possible.

On a personal note, last summer I had the esteemed privilege of cosponsoring—along with Senators Warner, Stevens, and Levin—an amendment offered by Senator John Warner to the 2007 defense authorization bill that would name our Nation's newest carrier the U.S.S. *Gerald R. Ford*. In fact, the Navy's entire class of future carriers would be known as the Ford class—in honor of the President we praise.

Later this month, that accolade—which the Senate passed unanimously—is expected to come to fruition. Such a bestowal by Navy Secretary Winter would be an appropriate tribute to then-Lieutenant FORD, who, as a sailor in December 1944, encountered a typhoon while aboard the carrier U.S.S. *Monterey* and demonstrated the virtues that would emerge as the hallmark of his unflagging service and sacrifice to our Nation, such as calm and courage amid turmoil, presence of mind to act decisively despite confusion and chaos, and an unflinching will of spirit to help others, even at great personal peril.

It has been recounted in the Bob Drury and Tom Clavin book "Halsey's Typhoon: The True Story of a Fighting Admiral, an Epic Storm, and an Untold Rescue" that Lieutenant FORD rescued wounded comrades, beat back raging fires, and helped salvage a ship that was ordered to be abandoned. GERALD FORD was integral to the effort driven by the simple belief of the skipper, Captain Ingersoll, that "we can fix this." As part of Admiral Halsey's Third Fleet, they did not give up the U.S.S. *Monterey* in what reportedly was "one of the worst natural disasters in U.S. military history," a disaster where much of the fleet was decimated and more men were purportedly killed than in the Battle of Midway.

Mr. President, this story in many ways embodies the essence of this great son of Michigan. The story of the U.S.S. *Monterey* is telling in that—like President FORD—it has for years taken a humble and unassuming place in the American narrative—and yet over time has rightfully grown in stature and acclaim. We also see a disposition and valor in a young sailor that would be brought to bear later in life as a statesman. Lieutenant FORD's reaction to conflagration and crisis was to take action and help tamp it down. GERALD FORD helped bring under control the flames that imperiled the U.S.S. *Monterey*. He would do similarly as President when charged to guide the Ship of State—which he did with a fearless, unflappable demeanor. And which he did, to paraphrase President Lincoln, "with firmness in the right as God [gave him] to see the right." And through his eloquence of action, GERALD FORD moved us all to "strive on to finish the work we [were] in" and helped "to bind up the nation's wounds." And for that we are eternally grateful.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with First Lady Betty Ford, their children, and the entire Ford family. May God bless and keep President GERALD R. FORD and may God bless the United States of America he so ably led.

Thursday, February 15, 2007

Hon. Richard J. Durbin

OF ILLINOIS

Mr. President, like his hero, Abraham Lincoln, GERALD FORD helped heal our Nation. His calm leadership and fundamental decency helped hold our Nation together at a time when the forces of war and scandal threatened to tear it apart.

When he took the oath of office on August 9, 1974, President FORD declared, "This is an hour of history that troubles our minds and hurts our hearts." During his Presidency, he worked to ease our minds, comfort our hearts, and restore our faith in our Government.

In his first official remarks as President, GERALD FORD promised America:

> In all my public and private acts as your president, I expect to follow my instincts of openness and candor with full confidence that honesty is always the best policy at hand.

Those were not just words to GERALD FORD, as he proved on October 17, 1974, when he appeared voluntarily before Congress to give sworn testimony—the only time a sitting President has done so about his pardon of Richard Nixon.

GERALD FORD believed that pardoning Richard Nixon was the only way to end the long national nightmare of Watergate. He also believed that it might end his political career. And he did pay a high price at the time in lost public approval and public trust.

Over time, however, many people came to see the Nixon pardon not as an act of collusion, but of courage and conciliation. In 2001, the Kennedy Library Foundation awarded President FORD its John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award.

GERALD FORD believed in hard work and duty to one's country. At the University of Michigan, he washed dishes at his fraternity house to earn money for college expenses. After graduating in the top quarter of his class from Yale Law School, he returned home to Grand Rapids, MI, to practice law—but Pearl Harbor was attacked. Like so many young men of his generation, GERALD FORD put his life on hold. He enlisted in the Navy and spent the next 4 years in the service.

After the war, GERALD FORD decided to run for Congress and was supported by Michigan's legendary Senator Arthur Vandenberg, one of the architects of American internationalism. His experience in World War II and his friendship with Senator Vandenberg helped turn him away from isolationism.

As President, he described himself as "a moderate in domestic affairs, a conservative in fiscal affairs, and a dyed-in-the-wool internationalist in foreign affairs."

In the 2½ years of his Presidency, he ended America's involvement in the war in Vietnam. He helped mediate a cease-fire agreement between Israel and Egypt, signed the Helsinki human rights convention with the Soviet Union and traveled to Vladivostok to sign an arms limitation agreement with Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet President.

But what earned GERALD FORD the respect and gratitude of our Nation was not only what he accomplished but how he accomplished those things. He was a master of consensus building, cooperation, and honorable compromise.

It is notable that one of the first calls he made after becoming Vice President was to his old golfing buddy, Tip O'Neill. He set a standard for bipartisanship that we would all do well to follow.

He was a good and honorable man who served this Nation well. He will be missed.

WEDNESDAY, *May 23, 2007*

Hon. Ken Salazar

OF COLORADO

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 128, just received from the House, and which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 128) authorizing the printing of a commemorative document in memory of the late President of the United States, GERALD RUDOLPH FORD.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 128) was agreed to.

TUESDAY, *July 17, 2007*

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy

OF MASSACHUSETTS

. . . Not only do we have an obligation to help those who have helped us, we have a precedent for action. As the war in Vietnam drew to a close, President FORD emphasized America's duty to rescue those who had helped and assisted us. He called our response to that refugee crisis a reaffirmation of America's awareness of the roots and ideals of our society, and he personally greeted Vietnamese refugees on their arrival here.

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