

1980s and 1990s he returned to teaching, returning to teach at his alma maters, the University of Notre Dame, where he helped found the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, and the University of Cincinnati College of Law. But even in academia, Jack remained active in politics and public service. In 1999, at the age of 78, the former Congressman-turned-Governor served on the Board of Education for Cincinnati Public Schools.

And throughout his commitment to public service, Jack Gilligan has remained a steadfast family man. He married Katie Dixon, with whom he raised four children before she died in 1996. He since remarried to Susan Freemont, a family practice physician from Cincinnati.

As the family patriarch, he has inspired his children Donald, Kathleen, John, and Ellen to pursue the public good. Kathleen now serves as U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, having previously served as Governor of Kansas the only time in our Nation's history that a father and daughter have served as Governors. Secretary Sebelius helped pass the most important health care law since the creation of Medicare and Medicaid, enacted with the help of her father nearly 50 years earlier. To Jack's family, thank you for sharing him with a grateful State and a grateful Nation.

2011 marks the 90th birthday of John "Jack" Gilligan's and the 40th anniversary of his leadership as Ohio's Governor. To Jack, I thank you for your service and for your counsel. And thank you for your continued belief that the fight for social and economic justice is always worth it, so long as we remember who we fight for and what we stand for.

Happy Birthday, Governor.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING ROY ESTESS

• Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I wish today to celebrate and commemorate the life and legacy of Roy Estess, who served as the Director of Stennis Space Center from 1989 until 2002.

Roy passed away in June 2010, and his life will be honored at a ceremony at Stennis Space Center on May 2, 2011.

I will always remember Roy as a son of Mississippi whose personal qualities contributed greatly to the growth of NASA and its presence in our State. Today, we recognize Roy Estess as one of the giants in NASA history because of his leadership, intellect, integrity and vision.

It was always a pleasure to visit with Roy in Washington or at the Stennis Space Center because he was both a visionary and a pragmatist. He was a great friend and a trusted source of good advice and counsel for me throughout my career.

I continue to marvel at the growth of Stennis, which came to be known as

the "Federal City," and at the national and international scope of work taking place there every day. Stennis is an essential part of NASA's mission today, due largely to Roy's commitment for over 40 years. His footprints will long remain along the paths and roads of that center, which has become a unique asset for our Nation.

Roy Estess' legacy continues to influence the future of Stennis and the gulf coast with the construction of the INFINITY Science Center. This project was his vision and dream, and one that will carry on his effective, but unassuming, way of inspiring passion for science, education and space exploration.

Roy Estess was a true leader who left an indelible mark on me, on the State of Mississippi, and on our Nation and the world.●

TRIBUTE TO RAMON C. CORTINES

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to honor Ramon C. Cortines, his distinguished career and his dedication to improving our Nation's schools. Cortines is retiring today after 55 years in public education.

I know Ramon, or "Ray," as the superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District in Los Angeles, CA—the Nation's second largest school district. I applaud Ray for being a zealous advocate on behalf of the Los Angeles Unified School District and the State of California. His tireless efforts helped to bring Federal funding and reform to its schools, especially during this difficult time of budget cuts and teacher layoffs.

Ray has committed himself to educating young minds. His career started with humble beginnings as a teacher in elementary, middle and high schools. After his first teaching job in Aptos, Ray became a teacher and administrator in Covina, CA.

His career flourished, taking him to administrative positions of principal, assistant superintendent, administrative director and superintendent. Ray became an administrator for 4 years and superintendent of schools for 11 years in Pasadena, CA; superintendent in San Jose, CA, for 2 years; superintendent in San Francisco for 6 years; and New York City Schools chancellor for 2 years.

Ray also recognizes the importance of higher education. He has acted as a consultant to the University of California, the California State University and the California Community College systems.

Ray's leadership didn't stop at the local level. In December 1992, he chaired a U.S. Department of Education transition team for then-President-elect Clinton. Ray served as a senior adviser to former U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley. He was also nominated to serve as Assistant Secretary of Education for Intergovernmental Affairs by President Bill Clinton. He served on numerous task forces

and committees with the California Department of Education, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Ray isn't afraid to fight for California schools. He has advocated on behalf of teachers and students in California by testifying on Capitol Hill about the importance of increasing funding for title I and special education programs, as well as saving teachers' jobs.

Ray dedicated himself to serving his country in other ways. He served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955.

I admire Ray's hard work, dedication and commitment to raising academic achievement and turning around low-performing schools. As Los Angeles Unified School District Superintendent, Ray concentrated on improving instruction and teacher quality. Under his leadership, the district experienced a 16-point increase on the 2010 California Academic Performance Index. The district's overall score topped the 700 threshold for the first time. Ray restructured the first school in the district—Fremont High School. Ray's leadership style is no-nonsense and I applaud him for what he has accomplished.

All of us who care about providing every student with a quality education will miss him.

I congratulate Ray on his years of remarkable service to our Nation and to our State's education system. We are grateful to him for his leadership and commitment to making the classroom a better place for our students. I am sure that his students and colleagues will always remember the impact he made on their lives and their communities.●

REMEMBERING RICHARD "DICK" ELIASON

• Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, today I honor the life and service of Richard "Dick" Eliason. Dick passed away on April 3, 2011. He will be remembered for his decades of service to Alaska and his steadfast commitment to sensible, long-term management of Alaska's fisheries. Dick was the first Alaskan nominated to the 2006 Wild Salmon Hall of Fame at the Pacific Northwest Salmon Center for his leadership primarily in banning fin fish farming in Alaska and his work on the "Wild Stock Priority."

Dick was born in Seattle, WA, on October 14, 1925. As an only child he spent his childhood fishing between Washington and Port Alexander with his parents, George and Elsie Eliason. The family decided to move to Sitka in 1939 where he attended Sitka High School. Following high school, during World War II Dick spent 3 years aboard a sub chaser in the Navy patrolling the Hawaiian Islands.

In 1950, Dick met Nurse Betty Gemmell from Montana and married her. Together they had five children; Greta, George, Ida, Richard, Jr. and