

HONORING THE KEISER UNIVERSITY MEN'S SWIMMING TEAM ON WINNING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS NATIONAL TITLE

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Keiser University men's swimming team and their coach Adam Epstein on winning the 2019 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) national title.

Coach Epstein leads by example. His dedication to Keiser University and its swimming program is truly commendable. Not only has Coach Epstein been named Coach of the Year for the second time, since forming his team in 2017, but in just three seasons he has led the Seahawks to two NAIA national titles.

This year's championship team had many standout swimmers. Junior Marcel Nagy won three events and was named the NAIA Swimmer of the Year. Freshman Pol Roch won the 500 meter free-style and set a national record in winning the 400 meter individual medley. Lukan Macek and Joel Hanson made their teammates proud with their respective performances in the 200 breaststroke, and Jan Suchan won his third national championship in the 100 meter breaststroke. The Seahawks won all five relays in the competition and totaled 622 points to win the national title.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Dr. Arthur and Mrs. Belinda Keiser, the Keiser University Seahawks' Swim Team, and Coach Adam Epstein on this momentous win. It is my distinct honor to be the University's representative in Congress. I wish Keiser University and its swimming program many more years of continued success.

HONORING WYOMING GAME AND FISH DIRECTOR SCOTT TALBOTT'S RETIREMENT

HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Scott Talbott on his retirement as Director of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Talbott for many years, and his tireless work to ensure hunting and recreation in Wyoming remains available and open to the public is much appreciated.

A third-generation Wyoming native, Mr. Talbott spent much of his adult life working to protect and preserve wildlife in Wyoming. During his 34 years at the department, Mr. Talbott has served in several positions working his way up to eventually serve as Director. It has been a privilege working with Mr. Talbott to ensure stewardship of Wyoming's world-class wildlife.

Again, Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate and thank Scott Talbott for his years of dedicated service to the people and wildlife of Wyoming.

HONORING FATHER P. MARTIN "MARTY" DONNELLY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, it is with deepest sorrow, highest esteem, and abiding gratitude that I include in the RECORD the tribute delivered by Father Tony Gallagher in honor of the life of Reverend Paul Martin "Marty" Donnelly on February 1, 2019 at the Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Toledo, Ohio. Father Marty will be dearly remembered as a faithful Roman Catholic priest, a servant of God, who gave his unselfish and purposeful life to the people of Greater Toledo. Following the tribute is Father Donnelly's obituary.

HOMILY: MARTY'S FUNERAL MASS (EXCERPTS)
(Isaiah 61:1-11, Psalm 27, Acts 10:34-43, Luke 10:25-37)

A giant among us has left us. Reverend Marty Donnelly has transitioned to the joy of eternal glory, but hurt in our pain of loss.

First and understandably, we all offer special and prayerful sympathy to those closest to Marty: Pat, his only brother-in-law; his devoted nieces and nephews; his close friend Tom Landgraff; and his beloved cousins, particularly his second cousin Dorothy Taylor (I always found it awkward to call her "Buck"). Unquestionably, Buck warrants the deep gratitude of all of us for her many, many years of extraordinary, dedicated, and unselfish caretaking for Marty right up to the end.

But what is the end? What is death? Here is my version of another better-phrased story: freighter fully loaded leaving a dock at Toledo Terminal on the Maumee River—dock workers shout "There she goes" as the ship is seen as a speck between the water of the bay and the sky—fully, loaded the ship is observed by someone on Put-in-Bay who shouts "Here she comes"—the loaded ship is the same, the absence or change is in the Toledo workers—and that is death.

Today we grieve the absence of Marty Donnelly. Yet we believe that angels have already shouted "Here he comes." Marty Donnelly knew that if life has the last word, then love must overcome negativity and discord, forgiveness must overcome bitterness, and generosity must overcome greed.

Marty had such faith. Yet, with great zest he appealingly owned his own humanity and was clearly animated by a profound prayer life, by the teachings of Vatican II and Pope Francis, and by a continued embrace of Sacred Scripture.

Consider our first reading from Isaiah: the lowly hear good news, the broken-hearted are healed; captives are set free; prisoners are released; mourners are comforted and given happiness, fancy attire, and called oaks of justice; ancient ruins are rebuilt; ruined cities are restored; everlasting joy will be with people who will be in a covenant with the Lord.

In his meaningful and large life Marty understood this mission. He remained, in his own words, "terminally hopeful." In that light he was one of 27 co-founders of the Association of U.S. Catholic Priests during a retreat in August 2011 and an active member of its local chapter's Social Justice Subcommittee. The intended vision of that new Association, now numbering some 1,200 nationally, is to be a voice of priests for the complete teachings of Vatican II.

Fearless in his dedication to the social dimension of the WHOLE Gospel, particularly

as a very public voice in and for our African American community. Impressive was his commitment to that community AND to their youth. Noteworthy was his vision in education in his many years at Central Catholic, where he assembled an enormously gifted staff committed to the Catholic social justice tradition. His education vision continued in the Central City's Martin de Porres Parish. With the generous support of his high school classmate, he implemented a renovation of the Bancroft-Detroit campus and created the Pacesetter Program which provided some 100 Central City youth scholarships first to Central Catholic and then to Xavier University. When St. Ann School had to close, he and his classmate imaginatively created a Charter School called The Peace Academy to carry on Gospel-based values in a creative and legal way.

You and I are here today to celebrate the powerful witness that Marty himself gave us. Marty wanted us to be in a life-giving movement that is about demonstrating God's goodness, God's mercy and compassion, God's love—demonstrating those to the larger societal movement. Marty realized that we could do all sorts of pious things and still not actually follow Jesus.

Marty uncompromisingly and generously lived as a Good Samaritan. You, I, and our faith communities could profitably do an honest reality check about our own efforts to dress wounds, bring to an inn, offer care, and cover expenses for those in our area who are somehow stripped, beaten, and left half-dead.

We knew that Marty was not perfect . . . my goodness, his fussing and fuming on a golf course was a spectacle. However, he dared to dream big, out loud and in public. He intervened with grand imagination. He emphasized Gospel-based action, not self-reverential pieties. Marty invited us to move doctrines and teachings to the level of actual experiences and an authentically Christian lifestyle.

Although Marty creatively forged new paths of service in Toledo and received many honors, he himself lived as a serf, not a prince. He never constructed a clerical pedestal for himself.

As Christ did, Marty pointed to the Kingdom of God already in our midst. And he did this even as his brain functions slowly worsened over the years. When his usually fine words could not do so he did this by actions, to the end. To observe Marty in any phase of his adult life was to know God's Kingdom hiding in plain sight.

Wow!! What a remarkable friend and family man!! What an authentic servant leader!! What a genuine man of God and of the people!! If each of us would follow Jesus Christ the way Marty did, our faith communities may actually be "field hospitals."

Now, in our celebration of Eucharist we join together with Christ in gratitude to our loving, gracious Father for the beautiful gift of Paul Martin Donnelly. We thank God for who he was to us, for what he was to us, and for how he was to us. Then, fed by the Eucharist, we are missioned to go live the Gospel in our own lives.

May our gracious God give eternal peace and joy to our noble Good Samaritan we endearingly called Marty.

Amen.

FATHER P. MARTIN "MARTY" DONNELLY

Father P. Martin "Marty" Donnelly was sent by God on August 16, 1938, which began a lifelong walk in service to others. This journey touched many in the greater Northwest Ohio community. Fr. Marty's journey of service ended when he passed away January 27, 2019, surrounded by family and friends. A life well done!