

## EULOGY FOR JOE BEYRLLE

Arlington National Cemetery, April 22, 2005

We cannot be reminded often enough about the extraordinary things that seemingly ordinary Americans have done to protect our country and our freedoms.

A short year after Joe Beyrle graduated from Muskegon's Saint Joseph High School in June of 1942, he found himself on the way to England as an elite paratrooper in the storied Screaming Eagles of the 101st Airborne Division. And that is when Joe Beyrle, like other members of the Greatest Generation, came face to face with unimaginable challenges, and went from being seemingly ordinary to extraordinary.

I knew Joe and JoAnne, and I knew of Joe's wartime exploits, long before Tom Taylor's wonderful book about Joe was published. What makes that book so special for me is that now everyone can be inspired by the amazing story of Joe's service during World War II: the rigorous training that made "Jumpin' Joe" such an expert paratrooper that he was selected for clandestine drops in occupied France before D-Day to supply the French resistance with gold; his dogged determination after his capture on D-Day by the Germans to escape and rejoin his unit; his courageous decision to fight with the Russian Army after he finally escaped the German POW camp—even helping to liberate the very POW camp from which he had escaped—making him the only American soldier to fight for both the United States and the Russians against Nazi Germany; and the remarkable story of his travel after he was wounded to the American Embassy in Moscow, where American officials at first thought he was a spy because his dog tags had been found on a dead soldier thought to be him two years earlier.

And of course who can forget the story of Joe marrying JoAnne in September, 1946—in a ceremony conducted by the same priest who had conducted a funeral mass for the presumed killed-in-action Joe Beyrle a few years before.

And what a memorable moment it was in 1994 when President Clinton and President Yeltsin honored Joe simultaneously in the White House Rose Garden as part of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of D-Day.

Joe's indomitable spirit, love of country and will to survive come through every page of his remarkable story, a story that reads more like fiction than history. One of my favorite examples of the legendary Beyrle tenacity—Joe would probably call it bull-headedness—took place at the end of the story when Joe was being held in custody in Moscow until the American Embassy officials could establish his true identity.

In a feverish and woozy state from his wounds, Joe decided to overpower the Marine guarding his room and escape again—to rejoin the Russian Army and get home by way of Berlin! Even Joe admitted: "Of all my escape plans, this was the wildest and dumbest of all!"

It is said that courage isn't the absence of fear but the presence of faith. Joe was a man of courage because he had such a vast reservoir of faith—faith in himself; faith in the cause that his country asked him to fight for; and faith in his Creator.

Shortly after Tom Taylor's book about Joe was published, I hosted a reception for Joe and his family and Tom Taylor in the hearing room of the Senate Armed Services Committee. The Secretary of the Army, the Army Vice Chief of Staff, and the Russian Ambassador attended out of respect for Joe. Joe was in his element that day, passing out Screaming Eagle lapel pins and replicas of the paratrooper's crickets used by the Screaming Eagles on D-Day to identify one

another behind enemy lines. I still have the one he gave me. Listen.

When I referred to Joe Beyrle at the reception as a hero, Joe said that "the real heroes are buried in Europe." There are indeed a lot of American heroes buried in Europe. But surely some of America's greatest heroes are here at Arlington, visited each day by a hushed and awestruck multitude of their grateful fellow citizens whose freedom was defended by their sacrifices.

There is no more hallowed ground than where we stand today. And there is no hero more deserving of resting here than Joe Beyrle. Let us all honor Joe by resolving in this sacred place to live by his example of selfless service. The highest tribute we can pay to this extraordinary American is to make sure that the Simple Sounds of Freedom always resonate in this great country that he loved so much.

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 ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS
 

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## HONORING THE INDIANA SPORTS CORPORATION

• Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise today to call to the attention of my colleagues a signal anniversary occurring on May 3, 2005, the 25th Anniversary of the Indiana Sports Corporation, ISC.

Over the past quarter of a century, the ISC has been a tremendous contributor to the city of Indianapolis, providing economic stimulus, volunteer and community involvement opportunities, and most importantly, working to identify our capital city as a worthy destination for amateur sporting events. I have been pleased to work with the ISC through the Dick Lugar Community Run, Walk and Corporate Challenge, an event I look forward to every year.

Since 1979, the ISC has hosted more than 400 national and international sporting events. These events include: NCAA Championships, highlighted with four NCAA Division 1 Men's Basketball Final Fours, 1980, 1991, 1997, 2000; the 1987 Pan American Games; the 1982 U.S. Olympic Festival, the 2001 World Police and Fire Games; World Championships in track and field, 1987, gymnastics 1991, rowing 1994, basketball 2002 and swimming, 2004. Additionally, they have hosted U.S. Olympic trials and other National Governing Body, NGB, national championships in canoe/kayak, diving, gymnastics, judo, rowing, swimming, synchronized swimming, table tennis, track and field, and volleyball.

It is likewise noteworthy that since 1988, the ISC has awarded over \$2.5 million to more than 200 youth service organizations across the State of Indiana, and 132 Olympic hopefuls through its CHAMPS and Future Olympians grant programs respectively.

I am pleased to join the vast number of individuals who have been touched by the efforts of the Indiana Sports Corporation over the years in congratulating them on this signal anniversary.●

## 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF MOORE'S LAW

• Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, 40 years ago, when having a computer in your home was inconceivable and being able to hold a miniature computer in the palm of your hand was the stuff of science fiction, Gordon Moore, then a young engineer with Fairchild Semiconductor, had a revolutionary idea.

In the April 19, 1965, issue of Electronics Magazine, Moore first articulated what would come to be known as Moore's law: that the number of transistors on a computer chip would double in power approximately every 18 months but the price would actually decrease. Moore's law was revolutionary because it said that computer power improves essentially for free. Not only did this mean technology could be accessible and affordable for all Americans, it set the stage for increases in productivity unheard of since the Industrial Revolution.

Today, Moore's 40-year-old prediction is not just the thought of a dreamer, written for the benefit of a few early high-tech pioneers; it is the metronome of the technology industry. The drive to keep up with the drumbeat of Moore's law has meant unparalleled innovation in the high-tech industry. It has resulted in quality, high-paying jobs and contributed to our Nation's economic stability. The growth of computer technology in the U.S. has brought countless benefits to consumers and businesses throughout this country.

We are proud in my home State of Oregon to be part of the high-tech engine that helped build the digital economy. We are happy to be home to companies like Intel Corporation, which Moore helped found in 1974. Intel, which employs 15,500 people and has invested approximately \$11 billion in Oregon, is an important contributor to our economy and an example of the impact that leadership in technology can have at the local level.

Oregon's high-tech industry continues to be a vital and growing part of the State's economy, creating jobs, fueling the growth of small and large businesses, and driving the innovation necessary to keep pace with Moore's law today.

The fulfillment of Moore's 40-year-old prediction will continue to lead to advances in virtually every aspect of our lives. It means smaller and more affordable computers, and cameras the size of pills that can be swallowed to explore our insides without surgery. It also means family and friends can overcome great distances, connecting in an instant over the digital airwaves.

Though his prediction has held true, Gordon Moore could not have foreseen the power and influence of his observation. I'm proud today to pay tribute to his contributions and recognize the impact Moore's law has had on our economy and our world.●