

Rudyard Kipling once wrote:

“If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run  
Yours is the Earth and everything that’s in  
it,  
And—which is more—you’ll be a Man my  
son!”

Well, from May 31st, 1951 until May 4th 2010, the Man—John Vincent Pangelinan Gerber—ran the distance everyday and filled every unforgiving, unyielding minute of his life with action, passion and commitment. John nurtured his earth and everyone who was in it, and today we Marines extend our collective devotion and gratitude to John for having been one of us—our friend, our standard-bearer and Guam’s most devoted Marine.

Now, it’s a tragic misunderstanding that some may think that Marines aren’t prone to poetry (and don’t worry—I didn’t write one), but John Gerber was a fan of poetry—his favorite poem being one of the greatest ever written—“The Marines Hymn.” And we Marines will be coming to attention for that later today in John’s honor. But I do want to end with a beautiful sonnet written by the Anglo-American Poet John Gillespie Magee that eulogized the laying to rest of the famous World War I English poet Rupert Brooke, who died on his way to the Battle of Gallipoli. As I read it, please think of John Gerber, all that he is, and all that he has achieved in his wonderfully productive life on earth.

“We laid him in a cool and shadowed grove  
One evening in the dreamy scent of thyme  
Where leaves were green, and whispered high  
above—

A grave as humble as it was sublime;  
There, dreaming in the fading deeps of  
light—

The hands that thrilled to touch a woman’s  
hair;

Brown eyes, that loved the Day, and looked  
on Night,

A soul that found at last its answered Pray-  
er. . .

There daylight, as a dust, slips through the  
trees.

And drifting, gilds the fern around his  
grave—

Where even now, perhaps, the evening breeze  
Steals shyly past the tomb of him who gave  
New sight to blinded eyes; who sometimes  
wept—

A short time dearly loved; and after,—slept.”  
Rest in Peace, John. Mission Accom-  
plished.

Semper Fidelis Marine.

IN RECOGNITION OF WALT L.  
HANLINE, ED.D.

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 26, 2010*

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career and service of Dr. Walt L. Hanline upon his retirement as the Superintendent of the Ceres Unified School District.

Throughout his 35-year career, Dr. Hanline has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to the development of the highest standards for the education of all children, modeling through his daily interactions with staff and the community his passion for doing what is right, including the creation of smaller learning communities for Ceres students through an unprecedented school facility building project val-

ued at over \$166 million and resulting in five new elementary schools and a new high school campus. His dedication to the highest level of integrity and service resulted in his distinguished recognition as the 2007 State Superintendent of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators for his positive influences and successes in education, in proving that all students can succeed when high standards are set. In addition, Dr. Hanline’s commitment to the community in which he serves, is evidenced by his award as the 2008 Citizen of the Year by the Ceres Chamber of Commerce, as a result of his successes in building positive working relationships between the City of Ceres and the Ceres Unified School District, co-founding the CUSD Foundation to provide supplemental educational opportunities to Ceres students and teachers, and actively serving in the Ceres community through the Ceres Community Collaborative. He has served as a mentor to future educational leaders through his position as adjunct professor at the California State University, Stanislaus, presenting at numerous education summits and workshops throughout the United States.

Dr. Hanline has dedicated himself for over 35 years to education, as a teacher, a principal, and a superintendent, serving the past 9 years as superintendent of the Ceres Unified School District. He has shown himself to be a leader who has vision and determination to achieve the goals he sets for both the District and the community for which he serves. It is my distinguished pleasure to recognize Dr. Walt Hanline for his achievements and to honor him as my friend. I wish both he and his wife, Edith, the best as they embark on this new chapter in their lives.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVER-  
SARY OF THE ST. DAVID’S SOCI-  
ETY OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 26, 2010*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the 100-year anniversary of the St. David’s Society of Lackawanna County.

The St. David’s Society of Lackawanna County was founded in 1910 to promote, preserve and hold sacred the Welsh traditions of Lackawanna County in northeastern Pennsylvania and foster friendship among all ethnic groups in the region.

The Society is a non-profit, non-sectarian and non-political organization.

Northeastern Pennsylvania has a strong Welsh tradition dating back to the 18th century when Welsh made up about one-third of Pennsylvania’s colonial population.

After the discovery of coal in the region during the 1800s, a new wave of Welsh immigrants descended on northeastern Pennsylvania. By the early 20th century, Welsh-born immigrants were heavily settled in the city of Scranton.

Today, Pennsylvania maintains one of the highest populations of Welsh ancestry in the country.

Over the past 100 years, the St. David’s Society of Lackawanna County has worked to preserve Welsh history throughout the region.

Last year, the Society commemorated the 140th anniversary of the 1869 Avondale coal mine disaster by completing a restoration project at the Washburn Street Cemetery in Scranton where 60 Welsh miners were buried.

Each year, the Society celebrates St. David’s Day on March 1 with an annual dinner in honor of the patron saint of Wales and as a yearly celebration of Welsh heritage in the region.

This year’s centennial celebration began on March 1 with flag raisings in Carbondale and Clarks Summit, PA.

To commemorate this historic anniversary, the Society has also organized a special Welsh Heritage Exhibit at the Anthracite Heritage Museum in Scranton to promote the Welsh influence in the coal industry in northeastern Pennsylvania.

On May 29, 2010, the Society will celebrate its 100th anniversary with a dinner and concert in Dickson City, PA.

This year’s dinner and concert will feature the Ystradgynlais Male Voice Choir who will be traveling from Wales to take part in the festivities. Catrin Brace of the Welsh Assembly Government in New York will serve as the keynote speaker.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the St. David’s Society of Lackawanna County on this historic occasion. In the years to come, I am confident they will continue to foster a rich ethnic appreciation for the next generation of northeastern Pennsylvania residents.

TRIBUTE TO CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 26, 2010*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished higher education institution in South Carolina’s Sixth Congressional District that is celebrating its 140th anniversary. Claflin University, a Methodist affiliated institution, was founded in 1869 and is the oldest historically black college in South Carolina.

In 1869, Dr. Alonzo Webster, a minister and educator from Vermont, secured a charter for Claflin University. This charter was unique in that it forbade the discrimination of any sort among faculty, staff and students, making the college the first in South Carolina to open its doors to students regardless of race, class or gender. The school took its name from Boston philanthropist Lee Claflin and his son, Massachusetts Governor William Claflin, who provided the financing for the purchase of the Orangeburg campus.

Dr. Webster served as Claflin’s first president. He was a trained theologian, who originally came to South Carolina to teach at the Baker Biblical Institute in Charleston, which was established by the South Carolina Mission Conference of 1866 for the Methodist Episcopal Church to educate African American ministers. In 1870, the Baker Biblical Institute merged with Claflin and moved to Orangeburg.

Two years later, the South Carolina General Assembly designated the South Carolina State Agricultural and Mechanical Institute as part of Claflin University. Then in 1896, the General Assembly voted to separate the two institutions, and South Carolina State became a