

Welcome everyone. Thank you for coming -- Richmond, Northern Virginia, Maryland, DC, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, California, Oregon, Wisconsin, Missouri, others I am sure, plus parts of Europe and elsewhere. We've got much of the USA and parts of Europe represented here in this Indian restaurant. Kathy would love this -- right down her ally -- diversity, broad inclusion, international and one of her favorite cuisines.

And a warm welcome to all of you that are viewing the live stream.

Let's make a lot of noise to let her know we are all here!

And again!

I want to start by saying a few words about the flyer my kids prepared for this celebratory event, with a little input from me. I hope you have a copy. We will see that it is posted on her website.

The cover is a charcoal sketch of Kathy, drawn from a 2023 photo by our dear artist friend Laila Zarif. Leila lives near our Villa Ndio. We saw Leila often and Kathy routinely met her for coffee in the nearby village. The content of the flyer spells out some of the highlights of Kathy's life and career, touching on her time growing up in India followed by her rising in the ranks of academia in US universities, where she obtained two doctorates, one in International politics and another in law then going on to become a full professor at Guilford College, all the while undertaking political pursuits as a three term State Senator in North Carolina. Her stint as a White House Fellow during the Carter Administration followed, before she was engaged as a lobbyist on Capitol Hill representing AT&T. And then there was her appointment to the position of Deputy Director of the United Nations International Labor Organization. We can read about her career topping chapter as CEO of her own consulting company combined with CEO of an NGO that she established. It's all sketched out there. I suspect that if you read through it you will learn some things about this amazing woman that you did not already know.

And then there are loving remarks about her successors. Her sisters and their daughters, great nieces and nephews. And me, her grieving and very proud husband, my daughter and Kathy's step daughter Becky, our children Kristina and PJ. And my grandchildren, Kristina's son Remy and daughter Kaia. And of course their wonderful spouses Scott, Julian and Sarah. It's all there in the flyer, and much to Kathy's delight and mine, almost all of us are here today.

Now on to the back cover of the flyer. Many of you know that I am a semi-professional photographer. I have taken many photographs of butterflies and other creatures big and small; and other subjects. I am proud to say some are award winners. Yet Kathy is my favorite muse. The photo here is of her walking away over a hill near our home. She loved taking walks and she is taking a long one now. I will follow her as she takes me forward.

As for the butterfly mosaic I would like to share the backstory. Kathy passed two months ago, on 20 July, just 20 days shy of our 40th wedding anniversary. She was almost two years into

recovery from a stroke that traumatized the left side of her body as well as her speech and vision. Much of the paralysis dissipated quickly. From some she recovered completely. Her progress in recovering her speech and balance was impressive. She was just as determined in her recovery as she was determined in everything else she set out to do. We were optimistic for a near full recovery. I was optimistic, her doctors were optimistic, SHE was optimistic. But in the end the stroke took its toll in ways that we could not have anticipated. Her challenged lungs and heart, and her oxygen-deprived left leg conspired to form the perfect storm that her body could not overcome.

She died in my arms with PJ and Kristina on either side. She was cremated 6 days later at 7 in the morning, at a crematorium about halfway between our beloved Villa Ndio and the Mediterranean Sea. That morning at 6:30 Kristina, PJ and I drove up to the village of Cabris, a promontory with a broad view overlooking our house, nearby villages, the mountains and the sea. We could pick out the crematorium down below.

Now I am not a very religious person but I am very spiritual and my emotions are intense and packed tightly like a powder keg. So at the 7th hour I truly felt her spirit emerge as I did when she died in my arms at the hospital. I believe PJ and Kristina did as well. We lingered awhile, taking in the enormity of the impact on our hearts and our souls.

We decided to stop by the nearby village of St. Cezaire for a coffee and croissant. There was a weekly Saturday market setting up. It was festive and friendly. We got our pastries. Heading back to the car I was stopped in my tracks when I spotted the butterfly mosaic on the wall of a residence along the narrow street. I felt certain Kathy steered me that way so I would see her message of love as she rose to the ever after.

But that is not what I am here to talk about. After all, most of it is written up in the flyer and the various obituaries found here and there.

I want to focus on Kathy's future: her legacy.

Throughout her career Kathy stood on the shoulders of giants -- giants of academia, giants in the civil rights movement, giants in women's rights, giants in government, industry and international relations.

She was a devotee of civil rights leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr, Jesse Jackson, and Susan B Anthony. She greatly admired Gloria Steinem, Bella Abzug, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg for promoting and fighting for women's rights. She consumed the writings of Thomas Jefferson and she was a strong supporter of Barack Obama, campaigning for him in both of his successful bids for the White House.

She stood on their shoulders, espoused their philosophies, and became a giant herself. She was Professor Sebo (having taken the name of her first husband back then). She was Senator Kathy Sebo, known throughout North Carolina as one of the first female legislators, where one of her largest constituent groups were African Americans. She was Katherine Hagen, White

House Fellow, influenced by and influencing in return the Carter presidency and serving along with her classmates as ambassadors to several middle eastern nations, where they interacted with heads of state. She was Katherine Hagen, Vice President, AT&T, advocating for liberalization of pension and family leave policies. She was Deputy Director of the International Labor Organization advocating for more than tripartitism, championing women's rights child protection, and pushing for tripartite plus. She was Katherine Hagen, CEO of Hagen Resources International and CEO of the Global Social Observatory. She promoted multisectoral and multilateral approaches to addressing policies affecting the lives, the health, the liberties of people everywhere. She studied problems of conflicts of interest between and among the private sector, NGOs, government agencies, academics and private individuals, and developed tools and procedures to address those conflicts.

She became a giant. She was my giant. Her professional legacy is well established, and many of her contributions are recognized and incorporated into procedures and policies of the institutions, organizations and individual professionals that came to know her.

And then there are her family and friends. Her legacy is well entrenched in me of course. After nearly 40 years together she is my heart and soul. We became one. She is my hair follicles, my fingertips, my knee caps, my backbone, my everything. She goes forward with me as I take her with me wherever I go. She and I instilled her legacy in our children and our grandchildren. Most even have her DNA to help it along. You can see us in this photo from the marriage of PJ and Sarah in April 2022. Kathy is the beautiful and darling Grand Dame near the middle, with me on her right. Left to right her primary core family promoters of her legacy are son-in-law Julian holding grandson Remy, then me, then Kathy the Giant, then our son PJ, and his wife Sarah, then son-in-law Scott, stepdaughter Becky, and daughter Kristina holding granddaughter Kaia. Kathy and I are thrilled that ALL of the core family of legacies are here today.

And then there are the extended families on both sides. Kathy's two sisters are here. You will be hearing from them shortly. Muriel Elizabeth, the elder sister has two daughters; Deborah with two children Matthew and Anika; and Karen with her daughter Charlie. Some of them are here today. Almost all share Kathy's DNA through Kathy's mother and father. And all carry her legacy forward having watched her career and having interacted directly over the years.

On my side there is an amusing backstory. Does someone here have the so-called "All 28" photo? Please hold it up for all to see and then pass it around. I won't go through the whole id process except to say that all of my siblings (Carol, Larry, Tony, Gina and Niko) and their children are included. My parents Clint and Trudy are front and center. The photo was taken in 1992 on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Kathy and I are also there along with our three children. PJ was but one year old. Seven years earlier Kathy knew many of these Doggetts but she and I had never met.

Now Kathy was a classmate of my sister Carol at Oberlin during the 1960s. Carol married the brother of Kathy's sister's husband. So on Thanksgiving and other holiday gatherings Kathy

came to know my parents and various other Doggetts long before Kathy and I met. By and by, in late January 1986 Carol introduced me to Kathy. And 6 months later we got married. Where? At the Jefferson Memorial below his famous quotations, at 6:30 in the morning.

The folks in this photo are carriers of Kathy's legacy. All of them.

From Kathy's days as Senator Kathy Sebo in North Carolina, her campaign staff has stuck together and reunited every or every other year. Her legacy is furthered through this terrific group of highly capable political activists that I am lucky to call friends. We will be hearing from one of the so-called famby members shortly.

We also will hear from one of Kathy's White House Fellows classmates. The Fellows class of 1979 has stayed close over the years. They are a diverse group made up of professionals from all sectors of American business, government, military, academia and private sector organizations. A multilateral multisectoral mix right down Kathy's alley. She especially cherished her experiences with the group and held them in high esteem as they did her. They carry her legacy forward to lofty heights.

Finally I want to acknowledge some special friends who are here today because they have come to know and love Kathy. Some are among my own dear high-school friends who know Kathy through my on-going connections with them. Many have become great friends of hers. They carry her legacy with their fond memories of her.

There are some friends here also from our time in Geneva, and others who have come from Washington, Colorado and Canada. She loved you all.

I love the whole lot of you and I am so honored that you came here today. You are the core members of the Team Kathy Legacy. Go forth with her and carry her legacy forward. Bless you all.

And a quick footnote. In her time in New York working for AT&T. She fell in love with The Big Apple, and ever since she has been collecting ornamental apples of all kinds shapes colors and sizes. It has made it easy for the rest of us to decide on what to give her for her birthday and on holidays. She has amassed literally hundreds of these. Please please choose one from the collection we have brought here from our home in France. Take one in her memory. A reminder of her legacy.

Thank you.