

Imperial Council

Shriners International

Office of the Imperial Potentate
Douglas E. Maxwell

My Fellow Nobles,

On Jan 15, 2009, at 10:30 am, a “Memorial Service”, for Deputy Imperial Potentate, Imperial Sir Terrence E. McGuire, was held at Oxford Methodist Church, San Antonio, Texas. As you can imagine, the church was filled with hundreds of friends and family members of Terry.

I would like to share the words I was privileged to speak... on your behalf... at the service. Please keep Charlene and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Charlene, I speak to you this morning with a heart that is heavy – yet filled with love and admiration for Terry and yourself.

To your family, and to the many friends of Terry,
I speak as the voice of the Board of Directors of Shriners International
and the Boards of Directors and Trustees of Shriners Hospitals for Children – organizations
which Terry has cherished for their mission toward humanity.

Because of his participation in the organizations, and his determination and dedication, the lives of thousands of children who were born with crippling infirmities or who, in later life, sustained consuming burns, have been given a second opportunity to fulfill their dreams by the magic of our temples of mercy known as.... “Shriners Hospitals for Children”.

I remember Terry as a consummate humanitarian.

In today’s colloquialism, “He walked the walk.”

Dearest Charlene and family,

Good men must die, but death can never kill their name.

Terry will live forever, as long as he is remembered.

How could a man, such as he, not be remembered.

A loving husband, father and grandfather, this Charlene already knows.

Charlene also knows how much he was loved and respected within the Shrine.

Men who serve others with their deeds and with their hearts do not come our way every day.

We are all very fortunate that Terry came our way.

Terry was a man of deep conviction and of passion.

He knew that service to others was a special calling.

He knew that he... indeed... had a special gift to offer the Shrine and our hospitals.

Men who have great hearts and souls know there will be sacrifice to serve others. Terry did not... nor would not ever shirk... the duties he saw as just...to help children who could not help themselves.

Terry was an honorable man, and respected by all who knew him, he has left a mark that is visible in the wonderful family he has raised.

His good deeds will continue to go forth, that is his living legacy

He too has left his mark within the Shrine, no one who serves as he has... will ever be forgotten.

The tears flow at this time, but in the future you will remember things that he did that will make you laugh.

It will be good to laugh and remember in that remembering you will find comfort. The way he stood with his arms folded the drawl he had when he was thinking extra hard about something the casual way he put his hands in his pockets.

These are the soft memories of an everyday man, who achieved honor among his peers, love from his family and respect from those who knew him. I will not, nor could not...ever forget my friend... my brother.

I now say our farewell, I speak words that, perhaps Terry would have said to us:

Remember me – To the living, I am gone.
To the sorrowful – I will never return.
To the angry – I was cheated.
But to the happy – I am at peace.
And to the faithful – I have never left.
I can not speak – but I can listen.
I can not be seen – but I can be heard.
So as you stand upon a shore, gazing at a beautiful sea –
As you look upon a flower and admire its simplicity –
Think of me.

Remember me in your heart, your thoughts and your memories.
Of the times we loved,
The times we cried,
The times we fought,
The times we laughed.
For, if you think of me, I will never have gone.
Remember me.

Till We Meet Again.....Farewell my Brother

God Bless Terry McGuire

Douglas E. Maxwell
Imperial Potentate