

Services for
Patricia Ryan Nixon

The Amphitheater
THE RICHARD NIXON LIBRARY & BIRTHPLACE

Saturday, June 26th, 1993
10:00 am

Admit One

Present to Usher
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*"I believe that even when people can't speak your language, they
can tell if you have love in your heart."*

— Pat Nixon

PROGRAM

Concerto for Two Trumpets
Vivaldi



"America"



Dr. Billy Graham
Officiant



"For All the Saints, Who From Their Labors Rest"
How - Vaughan Williams



Lt. General James D. Hughes, USAF (Retired)



Cynthia Hardin Milligan



"This Is My Song"
Stone - Sibelius



Governor Pete Wilson



Senator Robert Dole



"You'll Never Walk Alone"
Rodgers and Hammerstein



Sermon: Dr. Graham



"America the Beautiful"

*Refreshments will be served in the lobby following the services.
The museum, including the Pat Nixon Gallery, will be open
for those guests who wish to view the exhibits.*

Thelma Catherine Ryan was born on March 16, 1912, the day before St. Patrick's Day, in Ely, Nevada to Will and Kate Halberstadt Ryan. Many years later, asked by her daughters, Tricia and Julie, why she went by the name of Pat, she replied, "Patricia was my father's favorite name. I was his 'St. Patrick's Babe in the morning'." The Ryans moved to a farm in Artesia, California before her first birthday. At 13, she lost her mother to cancer, and Will Ryan and her two brothers came to rely upon her instead. Pat was much like Kate, her brothers said, because she had a big, generous heart.

She would work the fields at their side and did all the household chores, but as she sat up reading far into the night, her dreams ranged far and wide. After she had put herself through the University of Southern California, she moved to Whittier and went to work as a teacher. One day the young attorney she had been dating, Richard Nixon, wrote to her of the "vagabond within you that makes you want to go to far places and see great things." They were married in 1940. Once he had returned from World War II, Mrs. Nixon became his partner in races for Congress and then the Senate, the Vice Presidency, and the White House. In public life she indeed saw all the marvels of America and the world, and she touched millions of hearts with her infinite and special grace.

Her work in the White House flowed from her boundless compassion for humanity. She was the first First Lady to champion volunteerism. She blazed the literacy trail with her "Right to Read" program. She pushed to establish new recreational areas in or near big cities for those who could not afford to visit distant national parks.

She was a confident player on the world stage, traveling to the Soviet Union and China with the President and undertaking solo missions to Africa and South America. He called her "Madame Ambassador." On her trips she kept luncheons, banquets, and formal receptions to a minimum so she could visit schools, hospitals, orphanages, old people's homes, and even a leper colony in Panama. During the Nixons' 1969 trip to South Vietnam, she became the first First Lady to visit a combat zone, in an open helicopter and accompanied by Secret Service agents draped with bandoleers.

At home, Mrs. Nixon reached out to the American people by inviting them into the people's house and taking special care, in a singular partnership with White House Curator Clement Conger, to preserve and enhance it. "The Nixon era was the greatest single period of collecting in White House history," historian William Seale said. "The great collection of White House Americana today is the long shadow of Mrs. Nixon. The impulse, the idea, and the energy were hers." She arranged the first White House tours for the visually and hearing impaired and inaugurated the famous candlelight tours for people who worked during the day. And she believed that the house into which she brought so much light should be lit at night like Washington's other monuments, so she made all the arrangements and surprised the President by having the floodlights turned on for the first time as they arrived back at the White House one evening by helicopter.

In retirement, Mrs. Nixon was a devoted grandmother to Jennie, Christopher, Alex Richard, and Melanie. Although she kept her public appearances to a minimum, polls showed that she remained one of America's most admired women. Thus does the First Lady who spoke the language of the heart still touch the heart of America.

The Richard Nixon Library & Birthplace extends its appreciation to the City of Yorba Linda, the Yorba Linda Friends Church, and Dr. William Hall and the musicians and singers of Chapman University and the Master Chorale of Orange County.



Patricia Ryan Nixon

MARCH 16, 1912 ★ JUNE 22, 1993

Services
Saturday, June 26th, 1993

THE RICHARD NIXON LIBRARY & BIRTHPLACE
Yorba Linda ★ California

This Is My Song

LLOYD STONE, 1912

STANZA 3, GEORGIA HARNESS, 1891

*This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

*My country's skies are bluer than the ocean
And sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.*

*This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:
Thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
And hearts united learn to live as one.
O hear my prayer, thou God of all the nations;
Myself I give thee; let thy will be done.
Amen.*

SENATOR BOB DOLE
SERVICES FOR PAT NIXON
JUNE 26, 1993

**WHEN THE DOORS OF THIS
BEAUTIFUL LIBRARY AND
MUSEUM WERE OPENED TO THE
PUBLIC THREE YEARS AGO, MR.
PRESIDENT, YOU TOLD A STORY
WHICH BEARS REPEATING
TODAY.**

**YOU RECALLED A CAMPAIGN
STOP YOU ONCE MADE IN
KANSAS. MY PREDECESSOR,
SENATOR FRANK CARLSON,
TOLD YOU WITH TYPICAL
KANSAS BLUNTNESS, "DICK,
YOU'RE CONTROVERSIAL, BUT
EVERYBODY LOVES PAT."**

**THE OUTPOURING OF
AFFECTION AND ADMIRATION
FROM ACROSS AMERICA AND
AROUND THE WORLD OVER THE
PAST FEW DAYS HAS
UNDERScoreD THE TRUTH OF
THOSE WORDS. EVERYBODY DID
LOVE PAT.**

**THEY LOVED HER FOR HER
GRACE. FOR HER GRIT. FOR**

HER HEART. FOR HER
STEADFASTNESS TO HER
FAMILY. THEY LOVED HER
BECAUSE THEY KNEW SHE
CARED.

WASHINGTON, D.C. IS A TOWN
WHERE THE MONUMENTS ARE
TALL, AND THE EGOS EVEN
TALLER.

EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE,
HOWEVER, THERE COMES
ALONG A RARE SPIRIT LIKE PAT,
WHO DISPELS THE CYNICISM
AND REMINDS US THAT
COMPASSION NEED NOT BE
LEGISLATED, IT NEED ONLY BE
FELT--AND THEN EXPRESSED: BY
HUGGING A CHILD,
COMFORTING A VICTIM OF A

**NATURAL DISASTER, OR JUST
PERSONALLY ANSWERING A
LETTER FROM ONE OF THE
COUNTLESS REAL PEOPLE WHO
TURN TO 1600 PENNSYLVANIA
AVENUE WHEN ALL OTHER
AVENUES SEEM CLOSED.**

**IN AN AGE SATURATED WITH
THE FALSE VALUES OF
CELEBRITY, PAT NIXON WAS AS**

**GENUINE AS THOSE
SIGNATURES SHE INSISTED ON
SIGNING ON HER LETTERS.**

**SHE WOULD STAND IN A
RECEIVING LINE FOR HOURS,
AWARE THAT FOR HER GUESTS,
THIS MIGHT BE THEIR ONLY
WHITE HOUSE EVENING. AS A
FRIEND OF HERS TOLD ME THIS**

**WEEK, "PAT TREATED EVERYONE
LIKE A HEAD OF STATE."**

**I'M REMINDED OF THE STORY
IN JULIE'S BIOGRAPHY OF HER
MOTHER ABOUT A POSTER
CHILD WHO WAS BROUGHT TO
THE WHITE HOUSE TO MEET
MRS. NIXON.**

**THE FRIGHTENED AND
NERVOUS YOUNG BOY LOOKED**

AT PAT AND DECLARED THAT
THIS COULDN'T BE HER HOUSE,
BECAUSE HE DIDN'T SEE A
WASHING MACHINE.

SO--THE STORY GOES--PAT
TOOK HIM BY THE HAND. THEY
RODE AN ELEVATOR TO THE
THIRD FLOOR, WALKED DOWN
THE HALLWAY INTO THE
LAUNDRY ROOMS, WHERE PAT

SHOWED HIM HER WASHING
MACHINE.

HIS PARENTS WERE
SURPRISED. THEIR SON HAD
NEVER BEFORE GONE OFF WITH
A STRANGER.

BUT THEN, PAT NIXON WAS
NEVER REALLY A STRANGER TO
ANYONE. SHE MADE FRIENDS
WHEREVER SHE WENT--NOT

**ONLY IN AMERICA, BUT AFRICA,
ASIA, EUROPE, AND SOUTH
AMERICA.**

**TIME AND AGAIN SHE SET
NEW PRECEDENTS IN
DIPLOMACY, BY DISREGARDING
PROTOCOL, GOING TO WHERE
THE PEOPLE WERE, AND
REACHING OUT TO THOSE
OVERLOOKED BY**

**CONVENTIONAL OFFICIAL
VISITORS.**

**WHEREVER MRS. NIXON
WENT, SHE NEVER FORGOT
WHERE SHE CAME FROM. WHEN
SHE PRESIDED OVER THE WHITE
HOUSE, SHE WAS STILL THE
SAME PERSON WHO NURSED
BOTH HER PARENTS THROUGH
THEIR FINAL ILLNESSES, AND**

**WHO SCRUBBED FLOORS IN A
BANK SO THAT SHE MIGHT
ATTEND COLLEGE.**

**AS FIRST LADY, PAT NIXON
WAS A PATRON OF AMERICAN
CULTURE WHO NEVER
PATRONIZED HER COUNTRYMEN.**

**SHE LOVED THE WHITE
HOUSE, NOT FOR ITS POWER,
BUT FOR ITS BEAUTY AND ITS**

HISTORY. SO SHE RESTORED IT
WITH HUNDREDS OF ORIGINAL
FURNISHINGS. AND SHE DID IT
HER WAY--QUIETLY,
PROFESSIONALLY, WITH TOTAL
INVOLVEMENT, AND MINIMUM
PUBLICITY.

MR. PRESIDENT, YOU ARE
FOND OF TEDDY ROOSEVELT,
AND ESPECIALLY FOND OF HIS

**REFERENCE TO THE POLITICAL
WORLD AS "THE ARENA."**

**THOSE OF US PRIVILEGED TO
SERVE IN THAT ARENA KNOW
THAT WE ARE NOT THERE
ALONE. OUR FAMILY IS THERE.**

**OUR BATTLES ARE THEIR
BATTLES.**

**OUR VICTORIES, THEIR
VICTORIES.**

**OUR DEFEATS, THEIR
DEFEATS.**

OUR DREAMS, THEIR DREAMS.

**THERE ARE TIMES WHEN THE
ARENA IS NOT A PLEASANT
PLACE. AND WHILE MRS. NIXON
HATED THE CRUELITIES OF
POLITICS, SHE WOULD NEVER
YIELD TO A FALSEHOOD OR A
SMEAR.**

**IN 1952, WHEN SOME SOUGHT
TO FORCE YOU OFF THE
NATIONAL TICKET, PAT SPOKE
THE WORDS YOU DESPERATELY
NEEDED TO HEAR, TELLING YOU
TO "FIGHT IT THROUGH TO THE
END."**

**HER STRENGTH AND SPIRIT
WERE CALLED UPON AGAIN
DURING THE MOST DIFFICULT**

**DAYS OF YOUR PRESIDENCY,
WHEN SHE WOULD ENCOURAGE
STAFF AND FRIENDS BY ENDING
CONVERSATIONS WITH THE
WORDS "ONWARD AND
UPWARD."**

**HALF A CENTURY AFTER YOU
AND THE WOMAN YOU LOVINGLY
CALLED "MISS VAGABOND"
EMBARKED ON YOUR LIFE'S**

**JOURNEY, MR. PRESIDENT, WE
CAN SAY WITH ASSURANCE AND
WITH PRIDE THAT THE WORLD IS
A MUCH BETTER PLACE
BECAUSE YOU WERE IN THE
ARENA TOGETHER.**

‘ ‘ ‘

**MR. PRESIDENT: OF ALL THE
CHALLENGES YOU HAVE FACED,
ENDURING THE PAIN AND LOSS**

**OF YOUR LIFE'S PARTNER MUST
BE THE MOST DIFFICULT.**

**OUR PRAYERS AND
THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU,
JULIE, TRICIA, AND THEIR
FAMILIES, AS YOU CONTINUE
ONWARD AND
UPWARD...ALWAYS FIGHTING IT
THROUGH TO THE END, JUST AS
PAT WOULD HAVE WANTED IT.**

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