



The Jackson Brothers accompany the casket into the memorial service Tuesday for Michael Jackson at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. (AP photo)

# Jackson Farewell

continued ▲ from Front  
"This is a moment that I wished I didn't live to see," Stevie Wonder said before his performance. Usher broke down

*[despite] some sad times and maybe some questionable decisions on his part...I think he is simply the greatest entertainer that ever lived.*

— Berry Gordy Jr., Motown music mogul

in tears after singing "Gone Too Soon." Although the event was billed as a celebration, some speakers took the occasion to

come to the defense of Jackson, whose life was marked as much by criticism and scorn as scintillating talent. Gordy said that despite what he called "some sad times and

maybe some questionable decisions on his part," the title King of Pop wasn't good enough for Jackson. "I think he is simply the greatest enter-

tainer that ever lived," Gordy said. Emotions rose when Sharpton delivered a fiery eulogy highlighting all the barriers Jackson broke and the troubles he faced. "Every time he got knocked down, he got back up," Sharpton said, and the applauding crowd jumped to its feet.

Sharpton rode the moment, building to a crescendo. "There was 't nothing strange about your daddy," he said later, addressing Jackson's three children in the front row. "It was strange what your daddy had to deal with!" After he left the stage, chants of "Mi-chael! Mi-chael!" filled the arena.

The ceremony wrapped up with group performances of "We Are the World" and "Heal



Michael Jackson's father Joe Jackson rides in the lead car as family and friends depart the Jackson family home Tuesday in the Encino section of Los Angeles to the Forest Lawn Cemetery in the Hollywood Hills. (AP photo)

the World" sung by Lionel Richie, Hudson and Jackson family members — including his children — before a backdrop of symbols of religions from around the world. They were joined onstage by children in white and several other people who had participated in the ceremony. Then members of Jackson's family took the stage to thank the crowd and share their own thoughts, barely able to hide their emotion as they hugged in the ceremony's final moments.

An estimated 20,000 people were in the Staples Center as Jackson's flower-draped casket was brought to the venue in a motorcade under law enforcement escort. Those who gathered constituted a visual representation of Jackson's life: black, white and everything in between, wearing fedoras and African headdresses, sequins and surgical masks.

Fans with a ticket wore gold wristbands and picked up a metallic gold program guide on their way in. Acting as pallbearers, Jackson's brothers each wore a gold necktie and, in a touch borrowed from their brother, a single spangly white glove and sunglasses.

Brother Jermaine Jackson took the stage and sang the standard "Smile" as he fought back tears.

Jackson's hearse had been part of a motorcade that smoothly whisked his body 10 miles across closed freeways from a private service at a Hollywood Hills cemetery to his public memorial and awaiting fans.

The traffic snarls and logistical nightmares that had been feared by police and city offi-

cialists did not materialize. Traffic was actually considered by police to be lighter than normal.

"I think people got the message to stay home," said California Highway Patrol Officer Miguel Luevano.

Deputy Police Chief Sergio Diaz, operations chief for the event, said authorities had expected a crowd of 250,000. Besides reporters and those with tickets to the memorial service, the crowd around the Staples Center perimeter numbered only about 1,000, he said.

Outside the Staples Center, Claudia Hernandez, 29, said she loved Jackson's music as a girl

And in death, they become even larger," President Barack Obama told CBS while in Moscow. "Now, I have to admit that it's also fed by a 24/7 media that is insatiable."

The city of Los Angeles set up a Web site Tuesday to allow fans to contribute money to help the city pay for his Staples Center memorial service. Mayoral spokesman Matt Szabo estimated the service will cost \$1.5 million to \$4 million.

It was not clear what will happen to Jackson's body. The Forest Lawn Memorial Park Hollywood Hills cemetery is the final resting place for such stars

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— President Barack Obama

growing up in Mexico. Now a day-care teaching assistant in Los Angeles, Hernandez said she cried watching TV coverage of his death.

"I'm trying to hold in my emotions," said Hernandez, wearing a wristband to allow her admittance to the service and holding a framed photograph of Jackson. "I know right now he's teaching the angels to dance."

More than 1.6 million people registered for the lottery for free tickets to Jackson's memorial. A total of 8,750 were chosen to receive two tickets each.

"There are certain people in our popular culture that just capture people's imaginations.

as Bette Davis, Andy Gibb, Freddie Prinze, Liberace and recently deceased David Carradine and Ed McMahon.

Jermaine Jackson has expressed a desire to have him buried someday at Neverland, his estate in Southern California.

Midway during the memorial service, police Officer April Harding told the media gathered at the gates of Forest Lawn to disperse. Asked if Jackson's body was going to be returned to the cemetery after the memorial, she replied: "His body is not going to be returned here" She did not say where it would be taken.



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## Census: No Head Left Uncounted

continued ▲ from Front Bureau.

The reason people ignore the Census vary, said Luna. Some people might have one too many people living in their house. Some might be wanted for minor offenses, or might be late on taxes. Others are distrustful of the government.

A major concern this year for the bureau is the legions of people displaced by the recession,

said Luna.

The bureau stresses to people uneasy about interacting with the government that nothing they put on the Census can be traced back to them. Even the president can't take a peek.

Luna explains that the bureau's strategy in 2000 wasn't similar, but is just stepping it up this year.

"Word of mouth is much more effective than other kinds of

advertising," said Luna.

The Census Bureau has partnered with about 30,000 organizations nationwide to assuage fears about the Census. The bureau also has more outreach workers on the ground to make sure people are counted. Luna said that the bureau has done some preliminary groundwork in the Pacific Northwest to see if the addresses it has on file even exist, and has similar plans for the fall.