

Kennedy's Advocacy Senator Kept Dream Alive

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"We have to get another advocate like him. It's going to be a long, hard time to find somebody new," he said.

"That was a great man," added Minnie Brown. "I liked him."

Robert Glen, found in a hallway at the Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard center, said that he appreciated that Kennedy came from a wealthy and privileged family, but still stood by those less advantaged.

"For him to think of the common guy, that's a good thing," he said.

Political leaders in the local African American community also paid their respects to Kennedy's legacy.

"America, not just poor people and minorities, have lost a great champion," said former Oregon State Sen. Margaret Carter, D-Portland, the state's first African American woman to be elected to the Legislature who recently stepped down to take a job with the Department

of Health and Human Services.

"No wonder he was called the Lion, he was not afraid to stand up for the issues he cared about and the beneficiaries of those benefits," said Carter, who also lauded Kennedy for coming out early in support for Barack Obama's election as president of the United States.

Former Oregon State Sen. Avel Gordly, D-Portland, who now teaches at Portland State University, praised Kennedy's leadership on a number of fronts, including education reform, economic justice, and voting rights for African Americans.

Gordly expressed particular admiration for Kennedy on an issue also dear to her during her time in the Legislature: expanding mental health coverage and protecting the rights of the mentally ill.

"Senator Kennedy provided an example of public service at its finest and as a noble calling and profession," she said.



Christopher Nzewwa holds a sign thanking Sen. Edward Kennedy close to the Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, the Boston church where his funeral was taking place.

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many wrongs as the years would allow," Obama said in a eulogy that also gently made mention of Kennedy's "personal failings and setbacks."

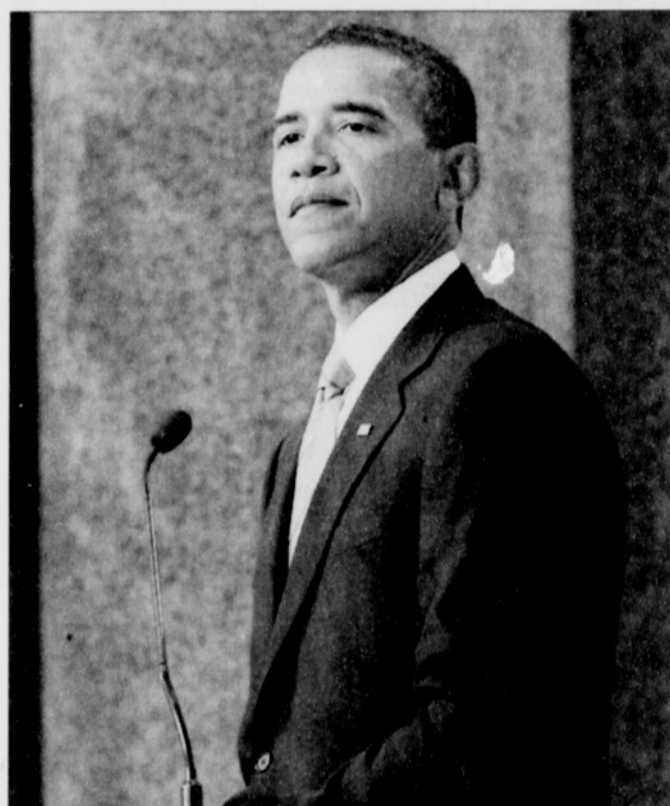
As a member of the Senate, Kennedy was a "veritable force of nature," the president said. But more than that, the "baby of the family who became its patriarch, the restless dreamer who became its rock."

Those left behind to mourn "grieve his passing with the memories he gave, the good he did, the dream he kept alive" Obama said inside the packed

church. Saturday's events marked the end of four days of public and private mourning meant to emphasize Kennedy's 47 years in the Senate from Massachusetts, his standing as the foremost liberal Democrat of the late 20th century yet a legislator who courted compromise with Republicans, a family man and last heir to a dynasty that began in the years after World War II.

Saturday's ceremony evoked the funerals of Kennedy's slain brothers. It was at RFK's rites in 1968 that Edward Kennedy famously memorialized Robert.

"My brother need not be idealized, or enlarged in death beyond what he was in life; to be remembered simply as a good and decent man, who saw wrong and tried to right it, saw suffering and tried to heal it, saw war and tried to stop it."



President Barack Obama pauses as he delivers a eulogy during the funeral Mass for Sen. Edward Kennedy.

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Former Governor May Run Again

Friends say Kitzhaber's ready to jump in

(AP) -- Speculation is mounting that former Democratic Gov. John Kitzhaber will announce this week he's going to run for an unprecedented third term as Oregon's top leader.

Kitzhaber is keeping mum for now, but friends believe he's ready to jump in.

One of them -- former state Sen. Tony Corcoran of Cottage Grove -- said Kitzhaber remains extremely popular with Oregon Democrats who are excited about the prospect of him becoming Oregon's governor again.

"I'm thinking he will run," Corcoran said Monday. "John was a very good governor. I think most people genuinely



John Kitzhaber

has made it known to friends and supporters that he might be interested in a return to the Oregon governor's office.

Steve Marks, Kitzhaber's former chief of staff and longtime political spokesman, on Monday declined to comment on Kitzhaber's political plans.

But state Sen. Mark Hass, a Beaverton Democrat, said he's talked with Kitzhaber several times this summer and thinks the former governor is ready to take the plunge.

"He does sound like a candidate," Hass said. "I'm hoping he will run. By and large, a majority of Democrats think he's the guy who has the vision and the background" to be Oregon's future governor.

Portland pollster Tim Hibbitts said Kitzhaber would be a frontrunning candidate.

"He's got a style that most people like -- an independent, cowboy boot-wearing kind of guy," Hibbitts said.

would be happy to have him back in."

Kitzhaber is a former emergency room physician and state legislator. He made his mark in the governor's office as a defender of the environment and an advocate for expanded health care.

Under Oregon law, governors are limited to two consecutive terms. So Kitzhaber, who served two terms and then was succeeded by Ted Kulongoski, has the right to run in 2010.

For months now, Kitzhaber

People in Recovery to Celebrate Success

Thousands are expected celebrate freedom from alcohol and other drug addiction in the eighth annual Hands Across the Bridge and Oxfest Celebration on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 7.

People in recovery and those supporting others will gather from 10 a.m. to noon, joining hands across the Interstate Bridge connecting Portland and Vancouver.

The Oxfest Celebration will follow from noon until 7 p.m. at Esther Short Park in downtown Vancouver. Live music, recovery resources, food vendors and more will be featured.

The Hands Across the

Bridge project is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to creating a vehicle for people in recovery to speak out and challenge the stigma on substance abuse related issues.

"On Labor Day we will all stand together to show that the bridge to recovery is the bridge to our transformed lives at home, at work, and in our neighborhoods," said co-organizer, Patty Katz.

"Recovery and treatment programs create healthier families and a more productive workforce, while lowering health care costs and reducing crime rates. Recovery is real and communities heal," she said.

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