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Hugh Kalich bids farewell to friends

By Dennis Auvil, Demogram Editor

A memorial service for the youngest of seven children born to Joseph and Annie (Noble) Kalich 70 years ago was held Oct. 27 at the Toledo High School.

Hugh "Bud" Kalich, was born June 6, 1921, at the Kalich family farm 12 miles from Toledo at Windham. He died the afternoon of Oct. 23, 1991, at Centralia Providence Hospital with family at his side.

Known as "Hugh" or "Bud" to his friends, Kalich suffered from a bone marrow disease that robbed him of the ability to replenish red blood cells. When he was first diagnosed with the disease, doctors gave him five more years to live. He lasted 17, sustained by frequent blood transfusions and determination to make each day he lived both enjoyable and productive.

He liked people. He made friends easily. He considered life a gift to be used well and enjoyed, but not wasted.

He is survived by his wife Mildred, his sons Gary and Gordon, his grandsons Clint and Craig, many other relatives, and legions of friends from both political parties. Many of them attended Bud's memorial service and filled the Toledo High School auditorium.

Bud Kalich anticipated his own passing, and planned most of his own arrangements well in advance. He knew he would be called, but he could not be quite certain when. Several times in recent years, Bud's heart stopped pumping, apparently the result of drugs he was taking to fight his bone marrow disease.

On one occasion, he was revived by medics from the Chehalis Fire Department, who arrived at his home to revive him before his wife Mildred could hang up the phone. Bud knew he might be departing at any moment. When the day did come, he had prepared the occasion to be a happy gathering of friends, rather than sad occasion.

One of Bud's good friends, Alan Thompson, related amusing stories and rumors that made the name Kalich a household word in Olympia: Kalich's encounter with Game Director John Biggs, the time Kalich put Vodka in a water pitcher used by the House Speaker and the times he wore a turtleneck shirt on the House floor and persuaded a male secretary to wear a skirt - protests against what was then the legislature's dress code.

In July of 1990, Bud recorded his final message, thinking to prepare family and friends for the day that he knew would arrive soon. That final message, with Bud speaking in his familiar, strong baritone voice, was played Oct. 27 at the Toledo Auditorium with upwards of 400 people gathered to bid him farewell.

Final message of Hugh "Bud" Kalich

Hello everybody ... And welcome to today's program. We have all come here today ... to celebrate the train ride of life.

I boarded the train many years ago ... before most of you had even checked into the train stations along the way.

I remember the train would slow ... and the conductor would collect tickets ... and then more young travelers would climb aboard. I am glad you were able to ride along with me for awhile.

As we celebrate this afternoon, I hope we don't see any tears of sorrow. If there are tears, let them be tears of joy that we were able to remain together all this time.

I have seen and done many, many things along the way. And it has truly been a pleasant and joyful ride for me. The good Lord has been favorable to me all these many years and miles.

But my ride, like all journeys, was meant to come to an end one day. And so I stepped off our train the other day when the conductor handed me a new ticket. It was a transfer slip to board the next train. Where it is taking me only I know.

And I hope that all of you, when your transfer slips arrive, will remember to look me up. I'll be a passenger on the next train down the line.

Until then, I wish for you all to enjoy the celebration this afternoon. I know the celebration is a little different than usual. But I've always been a little bit different, I guess, while I've ridden the train of life.

So, let's begin a program of joy, not sorrow.

Hugh Kalich quotes:

- "A good public office holder votes for what he thinks is right, not necessarily what is popular."
- "If you're going to be a Democrat, be a good Democrat. And be proud of it."
- "I've come to the conclusion you can listen to these conservative Republicans all you want. They think God's a conservative Republican. I know he's a Democrat."
- "The Democratic Party is a house of many rooms. There's room enough for all different ideas in there."
- (Kalich paraphrasing from John F. Kennedy speech)
"Let the word go forth from this time and place that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Lewis County Democrats, hardened by a cold and hostile newspaper, and tempered by a community that has been adverse to Democrats all these many years."

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Chappell seeks legislative post

Centralia Democrat Dave Chappell officially became a candidate for the House of Representatives when papers were filed with the Public Disclosure Commission on Sept. 25.

Chappell, who will be running from the 20th Legislative District, has not indicated which of the two 20th District positions he will seek.

Born and raised in Centralia, Chappell is currently a high school teacher in Chehalis and reserve police officer in Centralia, where he also serves as a Spanish interpreter for the city.

Chappell also serves on the Centralia Planning Commission and the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee.

The primary issues which prompted him to run for office, Chappell said, are issues relating to families, education and crime.

Chappell and his wife Joan have two children, aged 2 and 4, and reside in Centralia.

Coming Events:

Nov. 21, 1991, 7 p.m.

Lewis County Democratic Central Committee, King Solomon Rest., Centralia (meeting moved up one week due to Thanksgiving).

Nov. 25, 1991, 7 p.m.

Thurston County Democratic Central Committee, Thurston County Courthouse, Olympia

Dec. 5, 1991, 7 p.m.

20th Legislative District Committee, Hacienda Restaurant, Grand Mound

Dec. 7, 1991, 8 p.m.

Lewis County Democratic Christmas Party, home of Ed & Wyn Smethers, Centralia. Phone 736-6486 to let Ed and Wyn know how many of us are coming. Food, refreshments, fine company, entertaining conversation, better than a summer vacation to Hawaii - all provided. Come 'cause Ed and Wyn are counting on it. No charge for Christmas, guaranteed.

However, spontaneous donations to the Democratic Party of Lewis County, will be accepted. Guaranteed. Be sure to attend so Democrats can have fun on Dec. 7. Mark it on your calendar too, Dec. 7.

March 7, 1992 (date tentative)

Lewis County Democratic Auction, coming in March 1992. Remember to be gathering up good stuff for the auction.

Japan resisting ban on driftnets

By Jolene Unsoeld

We're making headway in the battle to ban destructive driftnet fishing. One piece of proof is a full-scale campaign by Japan to claim these curtains of death are not harmful to the marine environment.

Japan and its hired public relations (PR) gun are in New York with a UN resolution proclaiming the need to keep studying the impact of large-scale driftnet fishing.

The Japanese would have us believe that killing of millions of non-targeted fish with a nearly invisible net that would stretch from Olympia to Chehalis is a conservation plan.

The daily destruction of marine resources on the high seas, which comes at the expense of our fishermen, our economy and our fish enhancement programs, tells me we don't need to study driftnets any longer. We need to ban them.

That's why I was pleased with the latest U.N. anti-driftnet resolution proposed by the U.S. and supported by many of the world's nations. It would remove a loophole that allows Japan and others to argue they are developing adequate conservation programs, the exact argument Japan is making now.

I was also pleased with our House Merchant and Marine Fisheries bill that requires mandatory sanctions on fish products and fish products brought in by driftnetting nations.

Thomas legacy could prove painful

By Ed Smethers, State Committeeman

The Clarence Thomas, Anita Hill hearings are at best past history. The legacy of Judge Thomas as a Supreme Court Judge is yet to unfold, but that legacy could prove painful to many of us in the ensuing years.

For what they are worth, here are a few of the off the cuff remarks about the Thomas, Hill hearings - which turned out to be a well-orchestrated operation to discredit Miss Hill.

The general public was probably provided more information on John Doggett III during his short appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee than had been divulged about Judge Thomas since his nomination on July 1. Who provided all the information on John Doggett?

Non other than John Doggett himself. Who was John Doggett? Doggett was one of four black lawyers (one of the heavy hitters brought in by the Bush Administration) to discredit Anita Hill. He was a very verbal, almost with the assurance that he was God's gift to women.

He testified that Miss Hill had once expressed an unrealistic romantic interest in him. Senator Joe Biden was not buying that assertion. With some deft questioning, he quickly established a different conclusion - that perhaps it was Doggett doing the fantasizing instead of Miss Hill.

Phyllis Berry was another witness with a vindictive tongue who was called in to discredit Miss Hill. She testified that she was placed in the EEOC (Equal Employment & Opportunities Commission) office of Thomas by the Republican National Committee. She was office manager in charge of staff appointments and assignments.

One could logically surmise that Thomas was being groomed for a court appointment, and that Berry was placed there to see that he did not screw up.

When I first saw her on television, Berry looked vaguely familiar. After a little thought, I concluded I had never seen her before. But she reminded me of comedian Flip Wilson. How could that be?

Wilson performs his "Geraldine" routine dressed as a woman. Wilson's favorite expression when performing as Geraldine is, "The devil made me do it."

It is my understanding that Miss Hill's charge of harassment was contained in the original FBI reports to the Judiciary Committee. With all the Republican members and at least one Democrat not wishing to pursue the matter, it is small wonder the Hill charge received no attention until placed before the public by a leak to the media.

There on the judiciary panel were all the Republicans, wrapped in holier-than-thou attitudes and expressing deep concerns about the leak. Whoever done the dastardly deed must be found. What hypocrisy!

It is a well-known fact that leaks in government, both by the Congress and the White House, are used from time to time to promote some particular political agenda. I cannot believe that all those Senators are so lily white that the use of this tactic has not at some time been used for their own political self interest.

Thomas hearings raised awareness

I believe the Thomas hearings, despite their short comings, will leave a positive mark on history. They have certainly created an awareness of a problem that has not been adequately addressed in the past. This is good.

No woman should be subjected to aggressive sexual behavior. Neither should they be made uncomfortable by sexual overtones or innuendos. As a result of the Thomas hearings, some women have come forward to divulge a grievance of the past.

There is, however, a flip side to the coin. The treatment of Anita Hill received in those hearings may be a deterrent to women who are presently having problems. Women now may have second thoughts about subjecting themselves to the treatment that Anita Hill encountered. That is another problem that somehow must be overcome.

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Accomplishments of Hugh "Bud" Kalich

(June 6, 1921 - Oct. 23, 1991)

- 1921 - Hugh Edward Kalich is born June 6
- 1943 - Hugh Kalich and Mildred Taylor are married
- 1944 - Kalich enlists in Army, goes to Europe
- 1946 - Kalich returns from war and starts logging business
- 1952 - Kalich elected to Toledo Town Council
- 1954 - Kalich elected Lewis County Democratic Committeeman
- 1958 - Kalich elected Lewis County Commissioner
- 1959 - Kalich elected Democratic State Committeeman
- 1960 - Kalich elected District C

- Zone Chair, Lions International
- 1960 - Kalich, Ray Davis lobby U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee to restore Chehalis River Basin funds
- 1961 - Kalich endorses proposal for Lewis County Port District
- 1962 - Kalich defeated
- 1964 - Kalich elected to Washington State Legislature
- 1969 - Kalich strongly supports state income tax
- 1970 - Kalich defeated in bid for fourth term
- 1972 - Kalich re-elected to Washington State Legislature
- 1975 - Kalich introduces bill to legalize prostitution
- 1976 - Kalich defeated in bid for sixth term
- 1980 - Kalich appointed Lewis County Commissioner
- 1986 - Kalich chosen Democrat of the Year
- 1989 - Kalich and George Murdock tapped as Toledo "Big Cheeses"
- 1990 - Kalich honored as Lewis County Democrat of the Century
- 1991 - Kalich called to higher office