

forward. But there is something in Gavin's character—there is something in the American character—that will always triumph. Leaving here, you carry with you the respect of your fellow citizens. You will represent a nation with history and hope on our side. Your charge now is not only to protect our country, but to do what is right and just. As your Commander in Chief, I know you will.

May God bless you, may God bless our men and women in uniform, and may God bless the United States of America.

Statement on the Death of Maya Angelou *May 28, 2014*

When her friend Nelson Mandela passed away last year, Maya Angelou wrote that “No sun outlasts its sunset, but will rise again, and bring the dawn.”

Today Michelle and I join millions around the world in remembering one of the brightest lights of our time: a brilliant writer, a fierce friend, and a truly phenomenal woman. Over the course of her remarkable life, Maya was many things: an author, poet, civil rights activist, playwright, actress, director, composer, singer, and dancer. But above all, she was a storyteller, and her greatest stories were true. A childhood of suffering and abuse actually drove her to stop speaking, but the voice she found helped generations of Americans find their rainbow amidst the clouds and inspired

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:22 a.m. in Michie Stadium. In his remarks, he referred to Lt. Gen. Robert L. Caslen, Jr., USA, Superintendent, Brig. Gen. Timothy E. Trainor, USA, Dean of the Academic Board, and Brig. Gen. Richard D. Clarke, USA, Commandant of the U.S. Corps of Cadets, U.S. Military Academy; Josh Herbeck, guard, Army West Point men's basketball team; Palm Harbor, FL, resident Joe DeMoss, father of 2014 cadet James DeMoss; President Bashar al-Asad of Syria; and President-elect Petro Poroshenko of Ukraine.

the rest of us to be our best selves. In fact, she inspired my own mother to name my sister Maya.

Like so many others, Michelle and I will always cherish the time we were privileged to spend with Maya. With a kind word and a strong embrace, she had the ability to remind us that we are all God's children, that we all have something to offer. And while Maya's day may be done, we take comfort in knowing that her song will continue, “flung up to heaven,” and we celebrate the dawn that Maya Angelou helped bring.

NOTE: The statement referred to the President's sister Maya Soetoro-Ng.

Remarks at the White House Healthy Kids and Safe Sports Concussion Summit *May 29, 2014*

As a dad, when you—Tori's parents are here. And I have to imagine, they are awfully proud of this remarkable young lady, and we really appreciate you taking the time to introduce me.

I want to welcome everybody here to the White House. I want to thank Members of Congress who are here. We've got leaders from America's sports and medical communities, especially young people here like Tori,

who did such a great job sharing her story today.

All across the country, there are millions of young athletes just like Tori who spend their weekends and summers on baseball diamonds and soccer pitches. And they put in extra practice so they can make the varsity or maybe even earn a college scholarship. Most of them are not as good as Tori was at her sport. I certainly wasn't, although I had the same