

IN TRIBUTE TO WALTER P.
KENNEDY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month we in the House received heartbreaking news about the death of Walter P. Kennedy Jr.

Walter was Minority Sergeant of Arms when I began my career here in 1973. He was always willing and eager to help out fledgling freshman Members, and was of incalculable help in assisting us learn the ins and outs of life in the Congress. Much of the advice he gave us saved hours of time as he showed us

the short cuts so crucial to us as we assumed the burdens of office.

When Walter retired in 1993, he was concluding a highly successful 43 year career in the House, which began when he was appointed Administrative Assistant to Rep. Gordon Canfield of New Jersey. Eventually, Walter moved on to the leadership offices where he served as minority Sergeant at Arms under four Minority Leaders—Charles Halleck, Gerald Ford, John Rhodes, and Bob Michel.

Walter led a full, productive life, devoting countless hours to the Boy Scouts, to the Catholic Committee on Scouting, to various parish activities at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, and the Knights of Columbus. After retiring from the House, Walter began a new career as Chairman and CEO of The Kennedy

Group Companies, a political consulting, fundraising and public relations firm.

Walter was born in England to Irish parents 78 years ago, and came with his family to Paterson, New Jersey at the age of 3. He served with distinction in World War II as an army medic in the European theater. He subsequently graduated from Seton Hall University and the Georgetown University law school.

Walter married Ana L. Bou of Kensington, Maryland, in 1946. Ana and Walter remained together until his death, enjoying a 53 year union which produced seven children, and 12 grandchildren.

To Walter's extended family, Mr. Speaker, we extend our deepest condolences, with the recognition that his loss is felt by many of us whose lives Walter P. Kennedy had touched.