



CELEBRATING
JOE ROBERT'S
LEGACY
CARING
OF
FOR CHILDREN
& COUNTRY



FOR



Joe Robert was a generous man.

He was also an entrepreneur and a visionary. Just as he built his business with determination, he also carefully built a community of organizations that serve low-income children and strengthen America's role in ensuring peace and stability across the globe. Joe was also a loyal advocate for the men and women who served their country, especially the members of the United States Marine Corps, and their families.

Joe had an uncanny ability to “connect the dots” among the many organizations he supported. He knew that a strong America ultimately depended upon giving all children a great education and access to high quality health care. At the same time, he recognized that the world was getting smaller and more connected. His work across borders fostered meaningful collaboration between organizations in America and those abroad. He was also a master at bringing new resources to the table to solve the most vexing problems.

The stories on the following pages paint a picture of how Joe saw the world and its potential. The impact of these organizations, and the others Joe supported, is a testament to his vision of what the world should be. Because of him, real progress has been made. Low-income children have educational opportunities they would not have had. Children at home and abroad are healthier. And the world is a safer, more stable place.



JOSEPH E. ROBERT, JR.

Joe Robert was the father of two beloved boys, and a wonderful friend to many. Most of all, he was a friend of underprivileged children.

A native of Washington, DC, Joe grew up in Silver Spring, the oldest of five children. He was an amateur boxer who graduated from St. John's College High School. Joe's early experiences in life fashioned his determination to help less fortunate children have a chance at a better life.

Joe raised nearly a billion dollars for children and education. In 1990, he founded Fight For Children, which has raised over \$310 million for children in the Washington, DC area. Joe was also the chairman of the Washington Scholarship Fund, which provided scholarships to children of low-income families in Washington, DC. He was chairman of the \$300 million campaign at Children's National Medical Center, which resulted in the building of the Joseph E. Robert, Jr. Center for Surgical Care. Joe was also instrumental in securing a \$150 million dollar donation from the people of Abu Dhabi that created the Sheikh Zayed Institute for Pediatric Surgery. For his many efforts on behalf of the children of Washington, Joe was given the Keys to the City by Mayor Adrian Fenty.

As a father whose son, Joe III, served in the Marine Corps in Iraq, Joe made it a personal mission to support those who wore the nation's uniform. He created, financed and produced a free welcome home concert at Camp Pendleton attended by 55,000 active duty marines and their families, which was broadcast to 880,000 servicemen and women worldwide. His heart was always with those who served their country in uniform. In recognition of his work for military

families, the Commandant of the Marine Corps made Joe an Honorary Marine, a recognition Joe wore with great pride.

The means of Joe's philanthropy was a self-taught, natural business acumen that led him to found J.E. Robert Companies (JER), which became one of the world's largest private commercial real estate investment and asset management firms. Joe played a pioneering role in securitizing debt through commercial mortgage-backed securities, which is today nearly a trillion dollar industry. Because of his global experience and contacts, Joe served as a leading business voice on national security and economic policies.

Joe was a member of the board of the Business Executives for National Security, the US-UAE Business Council, the Peterson Institute for International Economics, the Atlantic Council, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Quincy Jones Listen Up Foundation, the National Zoo, the National Geographic Society, the Kennedy Center and the National Symphony Orchestra among others.

Among his many, many honors were Honorary Doctorates from St. John's College, Mount Saint Mary's University and the Institute of World Politics. In 2005, Joe received the Horatio Alger award from the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans for serving as a "wonderful example of the American tradition of proving that hard work, perseverance, and integrity are the cornerstones upon which success in our great nation, and the realization of the American dream, is built." He was honored by the EastWest Institute in 2008 for "galvanizing support in the private sector for new approaches to national security issues."

KEEPING
CHILDREN HEALTHY
& SERVING
THOSE MOST
IN NEED

CHILDREN'S NATIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Joe Robert was a successful businessman and a generous philanthropist, but most of all he was a stalwart advocate for children. Nothing was more important to Joe than making children's lives better.

Several decades ago, Dr. Kurt Newman — our current president and CEO and then a surgeon — conducted a complex operation on Joe's son. After his son was at home and recovering, Joe sent Kurt a note that asked simply, "How can I help you?"

That question led to a close friendship and partnership, as well as a number of philanthropic investments that have advanced pediatric surgery to help children. Joe's first gift of \$25 million helped create the Joseph E. Robert, Jr. Center for Surgical Care at Children's National. He was also instrumental in shaping the vision and building support for the Sheikh Zayed Institute for Pediatric Surgical Innovation, which was created in 2009 with a \$150 million gift from the Government of Abu Dhabi.

When we first showed Joe our plans for the Institute, he said he wanted something bigger — something that would truly transform the surgical experience for children. That was how Joe operated — he thought big and inspired others to think bigger and differently. His passion for making children's lives better was infectious. He brought together people from all walks of life and inspired, prodded, and cajoled them to do what was right for kids.

Joe's involvement went far beyond his generous financial support. When he was fighting brain cancer, he lost his hair during his chemotherapy treatment. Instead of thinking of himself, he thought about how hard it must be for children going through the same experience. So just as his hair began growing back, he eagerly volunteered to have his head shaved for "Be Brave and Shave" — an event in which men, women, and children shaved their heads to raise money and show support for children with cancer.

Joe's generosity, vision, and leadership will impact generations of children all over the world. His life was an example of how we can all be better.

Children's National Medical Center
111 Michigan Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20010
202-476-5000
www.childrensnational.org
www.facebook.com/childrensnational



PROJECT HOPE

Joe Robert was a champion for children's causes around the world. Through Project HOPE, a global health education and humanitarian assistance organization, Joe learned of a dire need for the children of Iraq.

As the result of an exploratory mission in 2003 at the request of then-First Lady Laura Bush, John P. Howe, III, M.D., President and CEO of Project HOPE, discovered that the incidence of childhood cancers in Iraq was four times higher than in the West. To make matters worse, the prevalence in Basrah was ten times that in the previous decade.

Joe immediately pledged his support to give Iraqi children a fighting chance against childhood cancers. Personally, Joe was one of the largest contributors to the development of the Basrah Children's Hospital, a hospital that would address the oncology needs of children throughout the country. In addition, Joe rallied the support of the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, who donated \$7 million for medical equipment at the hospital.

Because of Joe's passion for children, Iraqi children now have access to a 160,000-square foot facility that includes 101 beds, four intensive care units, three special procedure rooms, three clinics, two operating rooms, an emergency room and one dental suite – and a highly trained medical and technical support staff.

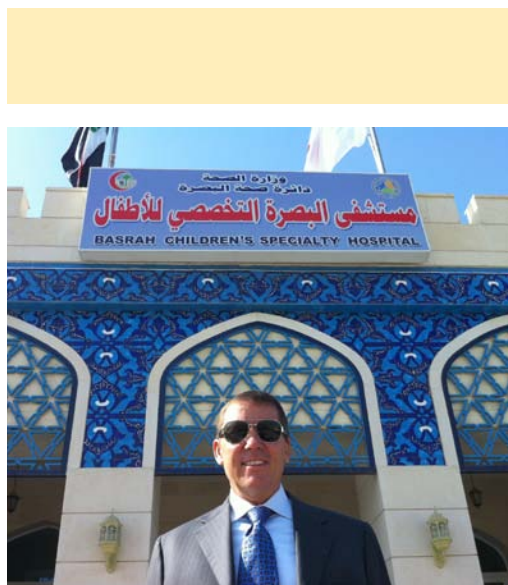
Despite his own health challenges, Joe traveled to Basrah to attend the hospital's opening on October 21, 2010. The Basrah Children's Hospital is the first hospital to be built in Iraq since 1978.

In the words of former First Lady Laura Bush, "the work of Basrah Children's Hospital will be a beacon of hope for families throughout Iraq and the Middle East."

Joe's caring for the children of the world did not end in Iraq. He also was a generous supporter of Project HOPE's unique partnership with the U.S. Navy. Joe made it possible for literally hundreds of HOPE volunteers to travel on U.S. Navy ships to deliver humanitarian assistance and care to hundreds of thousands of children in more than 34 countries.

Thanks to Joe's tireless and selfless efforts on behalf of children everywhere, many children have received and continue to receive care that previously would not have been possible. Joe brought hope to children and their families throughout the world.

Project HOPE
255 Carter Hall Lane
Millwood, VA 22646
1-800-544-HOPE
www.projecthope.org





SIBLEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

At Sibley Memorial's Hospital's infusion center, we knew Joe Robert as a down-to-earth guy, who looked you in the eye and talked to anyone who sat in the infusion chair next to his. Over a two-year period, he came for treatment relaxed and wearing cool sneakers and jeans. He loved pizza and juice.

Joe was a courageous fighter with the heart of a champion. Robert L. Sloan, President and CEO of Sibley, remembers, "He was an inspiration to all who knew him and if you spent any time at all with Joe, you left with a desire to be better, to do more for others, to reach higher."

He treated the staff like we were V.I.P.s; one would never guess his accomplishments and stature in the community. On several occasions, he sent staff special gifts. One day after receiving treatment, he left before saying good bye and sent flowers as an apology.

Joe was a very spiritual man. A Catholic priest would visit him during his treatments and serve communion and Joe would invite the staff to join him. Open to new ideas, he returned from a trip to Africa wearing a special healing bracelet.

The children of the staff that cared for Joe did not know him, but they learned about his rescue of an abused dog when he was a student at Saint Mary's College. To them (and all of us), Joe was a hero and a true humanitarian. He was a champion for the underdog.

Sibley Memorial Hospital
5255 Loughboro Road NW
Washington, DC 20016
202-537-4680
www.sibley.org

GIVING KIDS
A GREAT EDUCATION
& A CHANCE
AT A BRIGHT
FUTURE



ALEXANDRIA BOXING CLUB

Joe Robert's contribution to the community through the Alexandria Boxing Club has made a huge difference in the lives of so many children. Many of the kids who come into the club come from broken homes, with nowhere to go, and no direction in life. They come to find a sanctuary, and to belong to a sport that is as entertaining as it is challenging, a sport that teaches hard work and discipline. To never give up and believe in yourself. The Alexandria Boxing Club provides these life lessons to kids in need with the help of Joe. He left a footprint that will resonate for many years to come.

Boxing is a sport that requires ten times as much mental strength as it does physical strength. Giving underprivileged youth the opportunity to harness these life skills is what Joe was passionate about. We look forward to honoring his passion and legacy through our hard work and dedication to the kids he cared so much about.

Alexandria Boxing Club
901 Wythe Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-838-4234

BEST FRIENDS FOUNDATION

The Best Friends Foundation works with at-risk middle and high school students to promote self-respect through the practice of self-control. Best Friends gives young people the skills they need to reject violence and illegal drug and alcohol use. It fosters a positive environment that raises aspirations and promotes achievement. Joe Robert believed the work of the Best Friends Foundation was a critical part of giving children a chance at a bright future.

In the winter of 2004, we decided to hold our very first auction at our annual benefit, “Do You Remember when Rock Was Young?” To encourage our guests to “dig a little deeper” and add an additional element of fun to the evening, we decided to auction a red Corvette. Our goal was to remember our own youth and the joys and challenges of our teen years, as we raised needed funds for our programs that help at risk youth navigate theirs.



As we thought about who might buy the Corvette, Joe Robert's name instantly sprang to mind. I reached out to him to gauge his interest, and his response was classic Joe, “Absolutely, I want that car.” He explained, “When my mother was desperately trying to get me to stay in college, she promised me if I graduated she would buy me a red Corvette. Well, I never did graduate, but I did eventually get an honorary degree. As I walked in the processional that graduation day, my mother gave me a little box with toy red Corvette inside. It always symbolized so much to me, and I would like to buy her a real one now.”

The night of the auction, the Saturday before Mother's Day, Joe was sitting with his mother, who was unaware of what he had planned. Of course, Joe beat out his friends and won the car. There were tears trickling down his mother's cheeks as she understood what he had just done. Just as Joe's mother had always been there for Joe during the tough times of his youth, Joe was always there for the young people we serve at the Best Friends Foundation. I will always remember Joe for his loyal support and his perfect Mother's Day gift!

– Elayne Bennett, President and Founder

Best Friends Foundation
5335 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Suite 440
Washington, DC 20015
202-478-9685
www.bestfriendsfoundation.org



CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

I first met Joe Robert in the early 1980s. John Ricca, one of Joe's high school friends, introduced us, knowing Joe would be interested in the work of the Catholic Youth Organization, where I was director at the time. Joe loved sports, and as we all know he was a Golden Gloves boxer. He loved to see young people grow and advance not only athletically, but also in leadership and maturity.

Our friendship grew over the next 30 years, and we spent a lot of time talking about the needs of children in our area. It pained us that many kids weren't receiving the education they deserved. Joe got me heavily involved with School Night, an annual fundraiser for Fight for Children. He was also a strong supporter of the work of the Shepherd Foundation, one of my favorite charities, which helps with tuition and financial assistance for children attending Catholic schools. Together, we worked to encourage the Archdiocese of Washington to help provide quality care and education for our youth. It was a cause close to both of our hearts.

Throughout Joe's three-year struggle with brain cancer, I was blessed to spend a great deal of time with him. I was in his room at NIH soon after he first learned of his tumor, and for the following three years I visited him on a regular basis, bringing him the gift of the Sacraments, most

often the Eucharist. Those who witnessed his faith and his desire to receive the gift of Jesus in Communion were blessed by the example of his life, of his hope, and his great love for God.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, like so many other organizations, has been a beneficiary of Joe's love and support. While the grants, the donations, and the funds that Joe directed toward us are important, his most precious gift to us was his advice, support, and inspiration.

Since his death, I've dedicated so many days and projects to his intercession. I truly believe he's in heaven, a saint in his own right, and that he watches over all of us, our charities, and our service organizations from a special place close to God. Yes, Joe is watching over all of us from Heaven.

– Monsignor John Enzler, President & CEO

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington
924 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-772-4300
www.catholiccharitiesdc.org



FIGHT FOR CHILDREN

Joe Robert once said, “My passion is kids. They can’t support themselves; and they can’t change the school system; and they can’t argue with the politicians who don’t give enough money. A little kid can’t do those things...somebody who really cares needs to do it for them.” So Joe founded Fight For Children almost twenty three years ago because he knew that children needed someone to fight for them.

He believed that Fight For Children could make the biggest impact on the most number of kids by changing failing systems. Seeing how ineffective traditional public schools in DC had become, Fight For Children helped launch the charter school movement in the mid-1990s. Today, 40% of public school kids attend a DC charter school. Joe was also a strong believer in school choice. Ten years ago, he marshaled the resources of Fight For Children and other organizations to fight for the creation of the Opportunity Scholarship Fund, the only federally funded program of its kind in the country. Since that time, over \$275 million in federal funds have come to DC that otherwise would not have. These funds helped jumpstart reform in traditional public and charter schools and allowed over 5,000 students to leave failing public schools and attend the independent school of their choice.

In recent years, as these efforts and others pushed school reform forward in DC, Fight For Children began to actively support innovation in DC Public Schools. We provided the seed capital for IMPACT, the nationally-recognized professional evaluation program for employees of DC Public Schools and financially supported the city’s successful 2010 Race to the Top application to the US Department of Education. Fight For Children also encourages cross-sector collaboration among school leaders through our Quality Schools Initiative and recently launched Ready to Learn DC, a long-term initiative to ensure that all DC children are ready to learn when they begin kindergarten. Alongside our education work, we have also stayed true to our long-time commitment to children’s health, an issue of great importance to Joe. We currently collaborate with Children’s National Medical Center to reduce rates of childhood obesity in Ward 7 and increase dental health among public school children.

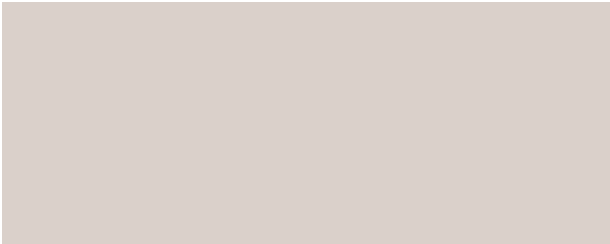
Joe’s passion to help kids will continue to be the inspiration and fuel behind Fight For Children as we carry on his legacy and strive to ensure all kids in DC receive a great education and stay healthy so they can learn.

Fight For Children
1726 M Street NW, Suite 202
Washington, DC 20036
202-772-0400
www.fightforchildren.org

GONZAGA COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Gonzaga College High School is one of the many organizations who benefited from Joe Robert's loyalty and support. Joe was a firm believer in Gonzaga's Jesuit mission to build "Men for Others." Joe especially admired the school's longstanding commitment to provide educational opportunities for deserving boys whose families would otherwise be unable to afford the tuition. Gonzaga is proud to call Joe Robert a friend and is proud to count his son, Joe III, among its alumni.

Gonzaga College High School
19 Eye Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-336-7144
www.gonzaga.org





LATINO STUDENT FUND

It was in the early nineties when I met Joe. I was attending an event at his home in McLean where other community leaders involved in education, like me, had been invited.

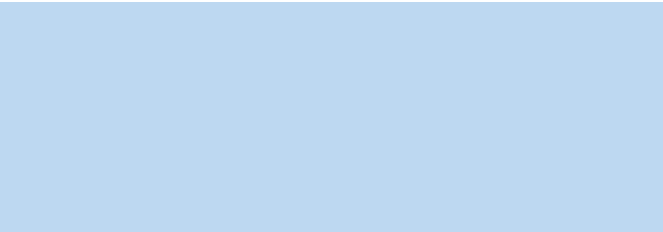
“So tell me what you are doing,” he said. I proceeded to tell him about my vision of creating opportunity for Latino/Hispanic children from the lowest rung of the economic ladder. The Latino Student Fund was a baby at the time, only about two years old as I recall, and I knew it had great potential to give these bright children the best education possible. I continued telling Joe that I was a full time teacher at the National Cathedral School, but that I had the will and the energy to really make a difference in these children’s lives.

Joe told me he had asked around to find out who was working with these very children, and someone said he should talk to me. We talked and talked, and Joe saw the power of our vision. He was a generous donor to the Latino Student Fund over many years. The Latino Student Fund remains dedicated to providing Latino families with the tools they need to thrive. We support students in grades PreK-12 and their families through scholarships, academic support services, and informational outreach.

Joe was not only a friend to the Latino Student Fund, he was also a friend and a mentor to me. He encouraged me at age 67 to pursue my dream and enter the master’s program at Harvard University Kennedy School, where I am now mid-way in my journey to earn a master’s in public administration. Just as Joe cared about me, I know he cared deeply for the children we serve.

– Rosalia Miller, Founder and Board Chair

Latino Student Fund
P.O. Box 5403
Washington, DC 20016
202-244-3438
www.latinostudentfund.org



THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

"I am certain that after the dust of centuries has passed over our cities, we, too, will be remembered not for victories or defeats in battle or in politics, but for our contribution to the human spirit." – President John F. Kennedy

As a living memorial to President Kennedy, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts strives to realize this sentiment every day. It is through our contributions to the arts, education, and culture that we are able to affect the human spirit. Of course, all of this would not be possible without the support of our "family" — the people we rely upon to help us fulfill our vision — and certainly Joe Robert was at the top of this list.

It is with great sadness that we at the Kennedy Center mark the passing of Joe Robert, a man who left an indelible mark on our community and all who met him. As a vital part of the Kennedy Center family, Joe was a stalwart supporter of the Center, both personally and professionally. His dedication to us, and to his many charitable efforts, was an inspiration to all, but particularly to the thousands of children he helped along the way.

As an advocate of our *Community Partnerships* initiative, Joe was instrumental in building a relationship between the Center and Fight for Children, helping us bring the power of the performing arts to thousands of underserved students across the Washington, DC area. His commitment to this initiative ensured that students would have the opportunity to work with highly regarded performing artists and teaching artists through in-school lectures, demonstrations, and artistic residencies. Joe's support of *Community Partnerships* also helped to guarantee that students from local schools were able to witness the powerful aspect of the performing arts firsthand, by attending performances at the Center specifically produced for young audiences. Through this generous patronage, Joe helped foster the next generation of arts educators, performers, and enthusiasts.

We at the Kennedy Center were extremely fortunate to have Joe "in our corner," and will remain forever grateful for his altruism, dedication, and the philanthropic legacy he left behind.

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
2700 F Street NW
Washington, DC 20566
202-467-4600
www.kennedy-center.org



SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Joe Robert thought the Smithsonian's National Zoo was the most beautiful place in Washington. As a lover of the Zoo, he was often spotted in the park with his sons Joe Jr. and Luke, visiting the elephants, pandas, and big cats. Over time, he became increasingly involved in the life of the Zoo, serving for six years on the Zoo Advisory Board. He was a champion for the Zoo's work and responsible for introducing its important initiatives to other animal lovers, conservationists, and local philanthropic leaders.

In addition to dedicating his time and energy, Joe was a generous donor to the Zoo. His contribution to the Elephant Barn as part of the new Elephant Trails exhibit, allows the Zoo's elephants to flourish in a state-of-the-art habitat that provides a physically and socially enriching environment for a multi-generational herd of Asian elephants. This exhibit is not only one of the top attractions for the millions of visitors to the zoo each year, it's an important part of the Zoo's pioneering work in elephant breeding and understanding Asian Elephant ecology in the wild. Joe's support was integral to continuing this work.

Joe provided much-needed momentum to the Zoo's continuing efforts to raise awareness and funding for the Zoo. While we will greatly miss his energy and dedication to the Zoo, the efforts he made have long-lasting impact. And, Joe's memory will live on at the Zoo because Luke the lion, the king of our lion pride and sire to the Zoo's seven lion cubs, bears the name of one of Joe's sons.

Smithsonian National Zoological Park
3001 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20008
202-633-3022
www.nationalzoo.si.edu



ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

St. John's College High School was honored to have Joe Robert '70 as an alumnus. Jeffrey Mancabelli, President of St. John's, said that Joe was a man who not only supported good causes financially, but also became "passionately engaged" in them.

As one of the most notable Washington, DC philanthropists, Joe truly embodied the Christian Brothers' ideals of leadership and mission, which call students to enter to learn and leave to serve. "It's one thing we continually stress here at St. John's," Mancabelli said. "Your success is meaningless unless you are concerned with the welfare of others."

In addition to Joe's many charitable efforts throughout Washington, DC, Joe donated \$1 million to St. John's for a state-of-the-art science wing that is named in his honor.

Joe's living legacy at his alma mater is experienced each school day by students attending classes in this technology-enhanced science wing. As St. John's students walk through the Robert Science Hall, they pass a plaque commending Joseph Robert for his generosity and stating "for future generations of St. John's students to have the best quality science facilities and curriculum."

St. John's prayer for Joe is the same as the message that the founder of the Christian Brothers wrote to his fellow Brothers on their day of judgment:

"Ah! What a thrill of joy you [Joe] will have when you hear the voices of those whom you have led as if by the hand into heaven, who will say to you on the day of judgment... this man is a servant of the great God.... Then they will represent the good you have done for them."

- John Baptist de La Salle

St. John's College High School
2607 Military Road NW
Washington, DC 20015-1009
202-364-0229
www.stjohns-chs.org





TEACH FOR AMERICA – DC REGION

Teach For America works to ensure that one day, all children in this nation have the opportunity to attain an excellent education. Through his generous support of education causes in the DC Region, including Teach For America, Joe Robert helped take us steps closer to making this “one day” possible. Joe Robert directly supported the work of three Teach For America corps members and more than 150 students through his contributions, and also helped fuel our work through making thoughtful connections with local education advocates.

We thank Joe Robert for his work in our community, and celebrate his legacy.

Teach For America - DC Region
1411 K Street NW, 12th Floor
Washington, DC 20005
202-465-7800
www.teachforamerica.org



VENTURE PHILANTHROPY PARTNERS

As the wonderful stories in the *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, and scores of other articles, blogs, and postings celebrated the extraordinary life of this visionary leader, global businessman, and quintessential philanthropist last December, the loss was even more personal for those of us who were directly and profoundly influenced by Joe.

I didn't know Joe nearly as well as I would have liked, but I believe that we were friends. I first met him in the mid-'90s through his good friend Jim Kimsey when I attended one of the "CEO Dinners" Joe and others organized to shine a spotlight on the plight of education for children in Washington, DC. This was the quintessential Joe — bringing people together to make something good happen for a worthy cause. To this end, we were very grateful for his support of Venture Philanthropy Partners. Over the years, Joe and I got to know each other better, coming closest to doing something together when he advanced his three-pronged approach for public, charter, and parochial schools to improve K-12 education in the District.

In those days, Joe and I agreed in general terms, but we weren't always in agreement on some of the details. However, I quickly came to respect and admire him and what he was doing to help others. He thought big, he was bright and clever, he used his charm and influence well, he made things happen, and he cared — immensely!

Joe loved — really loved — his family, his country, and children who were at risk of falling through the cracks (like he almost did). He wanted all kids to have a chance and he wanted to level the playing field to ensure they did. As a philanthropist, Joe (more than anyone else I know) made this a reality. Michela English, who leads Joe's Fight for Children, summed it up well: "It is not an overstatement to say that tens of thousands of low-income children in the District of Columbia are better off today because of Joe Robert."

Joe had figured out what mattered and then tightly held onto his beliefs. The children of Washington, DC, our regional community, and the world are in a better place because of Joe, as are the many so lucky to have had him in our lives.

He will always be in our memory and hearts. Every time one more child or youth in DC grows into a thoughtful young adult, you can be assured we'll remember him.

– Mario Morino, Chairman

Venture Philanthropy Partners
1201 15th Street NW, Suite 420
Washington, DC 20005
www.vppartners.org

BUILDING A
STRONG NATION &
SUPPORTING THOSE
WHO FIGHT FOR
OUR COUNTRY



BUSINESS EXECUTIVES FOR NATIONAL SECURITY

For more than a quarter century, Business Executives for National Security (BENS) has brought together the best minds from across business, government and the military to solve some of the most complex national security challenges.

We were honored to have had Joseph E. Robert, Jr., lead BENS as our Chairman of the Board from 2007-2011, and then as Chairman Emeritus. Joe was an outstanding entrepreneur who had a burning passion for the public good, the father of a son who served in Iraq, a one-time amateur boxer who raised hundreds of millions of dollars for health and scholarship programs benefitting underprivileged children, and a tireless supporter, leader, and contributor to fulfilling BENS' mission.

In Joe's own words:

"Since the Civil War, every male in six generations of my family has worn the country's uniform, including my son, Joe III, who served in a Marine reconnaissance battalion in Iraq. Every generation, that is, except my own. Although I'd sponsored a welcome home celebration for Marines at Camp Pendleton, I wanted to do something more meaningful. For me and so many others, BENS is our chance to do just that.

We can't all wear a uniform. But we can all do our part to help those who do. Keeping our country safe and strong isn't just a job for the military or government. Now more than ever, national security is everybody's business.

As Americans, each of us has the responsibility to serve and give back to our country. As business leaders, we have a special responsibility to use our professional expertise to help make our country safer and stronger. We have an obligation to help by sharing our successes in managing organizations, adapting to change and innovating for the future. As BENS members, we have the opportunity to fulfill both of these responsibilities — as citizens and as professionals."

Last May BENS awarded Joe our highest honor, the Eisenhower Award, for his commitment to improving the lives of our men and women in uniform and championing the generous goals for American leadership in the world and the "alert and knowledgeable citizenry" at home. Joe truly exemplified the ideals that President Eisenhower called for — "so that security and liberty may prosper together."

Joe was more than a successful entrepreneur, champion for children, dynamic diplomat, and caring father — he was a true patriot. We in BENS miss him greatly.

Business Executives for National Security
1030 15th Street NW, Suite 200E
Washington, DC 20005
202-296-2125
www.bens.org



CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

The entire CSIS family reflects with gratitude on the life and service of Joe Robert. Joe was a genuine internationalist. He saw the good that America has done and can do in the world. He understood the crucial role of good strategy in shaping a wise American foreign and security policy. And he understood that America could not isolate itself in an increasingly connected world. Joe built many bridges between America and other partner countries. We were pleased that he chose CSIS as one of his primary vehicles for his policy interests.

During Joe's last board meeting, he relayed to his colleagues the impressions he gained from a recent trip to North Korea. He was typically insightful and engaging.

We all are diminished by his passing. But Joe would not have us dwell in sorry. He would call us to move ahead and solve pressing problems in the world. This is the best tribute we can give to remember this remarkable man.

Center for Strategic and International Studies
1800 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20006
202-887-0200
www.csis.org



EASTER SEALS GREATER WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE REGION



Fourteen years ago, Easter Seals Greater Washington-Baltimore Region started hosting “Bright Stars,” a private showing of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus for children and adults with disabilities, including wounded warriors, active duty and military veterans, and their families in the nation’s capital. For each of those 14 years, Joe Robert has been at the epicenter of our fundraising efforts. Just last year, Joe raised more than \$22,000 and helped Bright Stars raise just over \$200,000.

Joe Robert’s efforts truly changed and improved the lives of countless children and adults with disabilities and their families during his service on the committee. Like many others that knew Joe, we were truly inspired by him.

Joe was especially interested in helping those who are fighting for our country to make it the place of hope and opportunity for us all. Thus, we are especially pleased that we are expanding Easter Seals’ services for wounded warriors, active duty military personnel, and veterans and their families as they work to reintegrate back home after deployment. We are helping them train for and find jobs, keeping them out of nursing homes, building strong families with respite services, and ensuring their young children will be prepared for kindergarten with the best early childhood education services available.

His efforts have gone to help families like the Holberts. Mark is a wounded warrior, who was injured a year and a half ago serving his country. Since then, his family has relocated to the Washington area so that he can rehabilitate at Walter Reed. Through Easter Seals Little Warriors Program, his four-year-old daughter Isabelle has had social interaction with children her own age while receiving a top-notch early childhood education. It would have been difficult for her to receive either without Easter Seals...and Joe Robert has helped make that happen!

Easter Seals Greater Washington-Baltimore Region
1420 Spring Street
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-588-8700
www.esgwbr.easterseals.com





MARINE CORPS HERITAGE FOUNDATION

The support the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation received from Joe Robert in our effort to develop the National Museum of the Marine Corps and the Marine Corps Heritage Center at Quantico, Virginia, was of considerable importance in moving our early vision to tangible reality. His early gifts paved the way for the creation of a truly world-class museum that tells the story of our beloved Marine Corps. In addition, Joe's leadership and guidance in the early stages of the National Museum's concept was essential in the structure that stands today. His contributions in building a lasting monument to the Corps is a wonderful example to all Marines of his dedication to our core values and inspired others to take pride in the service of our military.

Marine Corps Heritage Foundation
3800 Fettle Park Drive, Suite 104
Dumfries, VA 22025
703-649-2775
www.marineheritage.org





MARINE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Honor, Courage, Commitment. As an honorary Marine and the father of a veteran Marine, Joe Robert exemplified daily these tenants which the Marine Corps holds so dear. He lived with honor, and a resolute dedication to serving others. His courage in the face of many challenges throughout his life only increased his momentum. Combined, these qualities generated a legendary commitment to making lives better for thousands of children – particularly those at home.

It is because of these traits that Joe was presented with the Semper Fidelis Award in 2010 by the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, whose mission is to Honor Marines by Educating Their Children. This award recognizes individuals whose service to our Nation exemplifies the Marine Corps motto to remain “Always Faithful.” Recipients have demonstrated reoccurring commitment — and decades of selfless service — to an effort which contributes to the betterment of our society. Past recipients include former Presidents and Secretaries, and notable sports and entertainment figures. With the addition of Joe Robert to this esteemed group, they were in good company.

In addition, support that evening benefited the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation which will assist the sons and daughters of Marines in financial need pursue their dreams of a college education. In helping to create our nation’s next generation of leaders and heroes, Joe Robert, his family, and his friends are building a legacy that will reap rewards for today and tomorrow’s Marines as well as for our great country for many decades to come.

General Michael Hagee USMC (Ret.), a good friend and 33rd Commandant of the Marine Corps, had the privilege of introducing Joe and presenting him with the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation’s Semper Fidelis Award. His remarks were appropriately glowing, highlighting Joe’s decades of selfless service to others, and how closely this nature aligned with the values of the Marine Corps. It was obvious to everyone in attendance that they were paying tribute to a man who deserved the Semper Fidelis Award as much as any Marine in the room. Appropriately, Joe was presented with a Marine Corps’ Officer’s sword in recognition of this honor.

As the Marine Corps hymn — the most hallowed tribute to Leathernecks past and present — states “If the Army and the Navy/Ever look on Heaven’s scenes/They will find the streets are guarded/By The United States Marines.” While Joe is greatly missed, we find comfort in knowing he is home with his Marines — his brothers and sisters in Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation
909 N. Washington Street, Suite 400
Alexandria, VA 22314
7030-549-0060
www.mcsf.org



PETERSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Joe Robert is best known for his local work and charities in the District of Columbia. He is also remembered for his national activities across the United States. But he also cared deeply about global affairs and played an active role as a Director, member of the Executive Committee and generous supporter of the Peterson Institute for International Economics from 1999 until his recent death.

Joe attended many meetings at the Institute to discuss global economic issues with leaders of the US and foreign governments. I joined him at numerous sessions of the World Economic Forum at Davos and the Trilateral Commission. Joe's unique ability to bring together people from all walks of life, and in this context many different countries, was as apparent in the international settings as in his activities much closer to home.

Joe never graduated from college but played a leadership role in helping guide the intellectual program of the two dozen PhDs at the Peterson Institute who are widely regarded as the top group of economists at any such institution in the world. He greatly enjoyed brainstorming with the team and drew deeply on their expertise in planning and conducting many other facets of his life. I and many of my colleagues were privileged to discourse with him on global economic topics for hours on end.

Joe Robert was a true citizen of the world as well as a patriotic American and devoted Washingtonian. His many friends in Europe, Latin America, the Middle East and Russia will fondly remember Joe and his many good works.

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THANK YOU JOE FOR ALL YOU DID

YOU INSPIRE US TO
CONTINUE TO MOVE YOUR
WORK FORWARD

