

Gen. EISENHOWER

Fri, Mar. 28-64,

Delight David Eisenhower - Like George Washington, the  
father of our country - "First in war, first in peace, first  
in the hearts of his countrymen." A feat he accomplished -  
Good Evening Everybody: It is not easy to do  
this broadcast. The news <sup>you</sup>  
~~The news tonight as you of course~~ know by now,

~~how~~ <sup>now</sup> the ~~end~~ <sup>came</sup> shortly past noon today at Walter Reed  
Hospital. At age seventy-eight with his family at his

bedside - the General who commanded the greatest army

- or armies - in all history - thirty-fourth President

of the United States - succumbed at last after his

thirteen year battle with heart disease. Tonight - a

nation mourns. As do the nations who were our allies,

and others too. so many generals & it was called "the class

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long and hard with plenty of setbacks.

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## OBITUARY

Dwight David Eisenhower - Iike George Washington, the father of our country - "first in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen." A feat he accomplished - in the best American tradition - the hard way.

Young Ike - the third of <sup>seven</sup> ~~five~~ brothers; born October, Eighteen-Ninety, at Denison, Texas - raised at Abilene, Kansas. Later recalling he had so much fun - he never knew he was poor until years later.

As for his Army career - it started almost by accident.

Ike applying for admission first to Annapolis - when he was turned down there - turning to West Point. At the U.S. Military Academy West Point - a member of the class of Nineteen-Fifteen; the one that turned out so many generals & it was called "the class the stars fell on." But for Ike - the road to success was long and hard with plenty of detours.

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best, frustrating for an ambitious soldier. Until finally -  
in Nineteen-Thirty-Three - his first real break - when  
he was appointed an aide to General MacArthur. There  
attracting the eye of Chief of Staff General Marshall - who  
recalled him to Washington in ~~1941~~ Nineteen-Forty as chief  
of the Army's War Plans Division.

The rest - history; as Ike was appointed by President  
Roosevelt - supreme commander for the Allied invasion of  
Africa. *This with the hearty approval of T.M. Churchill,*  
*was backed him as* Moving on to become Supreme Commander of the Allied  
Expeditionary Force; - then, Normandy, the Bulge, Berlin; ~~and~~  
*for a* ~~time-out at Columbia~~ *Univ. then* his election as President of  
the United States; in Nineteen-Fifty-Two - and again in Fifty-  
six.

The sum total of his life - perhaps best expressed in  
the chant that followed him wherever he went. Over and over-  
the crowds shouting: "I like Ike. I like Ike. ~~I like Ike.~~"  
As, indeed, we all did.

NIXON

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Among the first to receive the news of ~~Ike's death~~ -  
President Nixon - who arrived at the hospital a few  
minutes later. His first concern, of course - for the  
General's family. Then - the final arrangements; with the  
President declaring next Monday - a day of national mourning;  
also, ordering U.S. flags - at half-staff for thirty days.

At the same time - a formal statement. The President  
asserting that General Ike "held a unique place in America's  
history - and its heart, and in the hearts of people the  
world over." "For a quarter of a century" - the President  
went on - "he spoke with a moral authority seldom equalled  
in American public life; not only because he held the nation's  
highest military and its highest civilian office - but more  
importantly because of the kind of a man he was - a man of  
great strength, wisdom and quality."

Mr. Nixon adding of Ike: "As President - I salute  
him for his services as soldier, stat<sup>3</sup>eman, peacemaker;

as one who was privileged to serve for eight years as his  
vice president - I pay tribute to him as an inspiring  
leader and a great teacher; as a person who is proud to have  
been his friend and is proud to have seen our families united -  
I join with my fellow Americans in mourning his death - in  
offering my condolences."

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PRIVACY FOLLOW NIXON

Later - in comparative privacy - the President recalling a little-known facet of the General's career. His decision on D-Day, Nineteen-Forty-Four, that if anything <sup>went</sup> wrong - if the Allied forces were hurled back into the sea - he and he alone would take full responsibility.

That was typical of Ike - a man willing to face the consequences of decision - said the President. Adding: "It always seemed to me that two qualities stood out above all - in both his public and private life; one was an unwavering sense of duty - and the other was that whatever he did - he did because he believed it was right."

And then the President said softly: "He was both a great man - and a good man."

TRIBUTE FOLLOW PRIVACY

Meanwhile, tributes to the fallen leader - were pouring in from all over the world. At Austin, Texas - former President Johnson saying: "A giant of our age is gone - a soldier of war, a crusader for peace." At Key West - vacationing Harry Truman noting that he and Ike <sup>had</sup> ended <sup>at</sup> political odds. "But before that" - said he - "we were comrades in arms; and I cannot forget his services to his country - and to Western Civilization."

At the United Nations and overseas at London, Paris, Bonn, Rome and so on - similar expressions of grief. Perhaps the most moving of all from Ike's World War <sup>Two</sup> colleague - Field Marshal Montgomery of Britain - who said of the General: "He was an old friend - and I am very upset at the news!" ~~And then he added "All my old friends are dying."~~

<sup>(fortunate in being)</sup>  
I myself was with him on the final day of the war in Europe. All who spent any time at all with him regarded him as a warm personal friend. He was that kind of a man ~~was~~.

## OTHERS FOLLOW TRIBUTE

Then there's the story of Ike the politician - angered at charges that he was really a rank amateur. Said Ike: "You don't get to be Army Chief of Staff and a five-star general - without being a damned good politician." And later - when an Eisenhower-endorsed candidate was beaten badly - Ike saying: "He was a Republican - but he deserved to lose; he was trying to get into office on my coattails with nothing else to commend him - and the voters of his state sized him up pretty well."

As for his personal life - Ike calling his greatest tragedy - the sudden death of his first-born son in Korean-Teutony. Delight David Eisenhower - a victim of scarlet fever at age two years and three months. He that as it may - their happiest years - said Ike and Mamie - "these last ones."

And now - until Monday.



MEMORIES FOLLOW OTHERS

*When Gen Ike*  
~~In the same vein - Ike himself~~ was recently asked

to catalog some of his own memories; This - on the occasion of his and Mamie's fiftieth wedding anniversary, *he* ~~The General~~ recalling his "toughest" act as President: "Urging France, Britain and Israel - not to attack Egypt" during the Suez crisis of Nineteen-Fifty-Six. He felt then - said he - that such an attack would have been "destructive to the United Nations." And his "saddest" act - said Ike - having to send troops to Little Rock in Fifty-Seven.

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