



President Eisenhower and Pope John shared a joke during a special audience in the pontiff's library. With the President were his interpreter, Lt. Col. Vernon Walters, and his daughter-in-law, Mrs. John Eisenhower. The visit marked the start of the President's world-wide tour in 1959. (RNS)

Gen. Eisenhower

'A Great and a Good Man'



President Eisenhower and the future Pope Paul were both honored by the University of Notre Dame in June 1960. Giovanni Cardinal Montini, the then Archbishop of Milan, was visiting the U.S. Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., the university's president is in the center. (RNS)



In 1958 Mr. Eisenhower is seen leaving St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington with Mrs. Clare Booth Luce and the then Archbishop Patrick O'Boyle after a Solemn Requiem Mass for Pope Pius XII. (RNS)

Personal Friend of Mamie

Local Woman Recalls Meeting with President

By ARTHUR FARREN

Among Rochesterians for whom the Eisenhower rites this week had special significance was Miss Frances Dolan, 109 Wellington Ave., a former chief nurse at the hospital at West Point.

It was there, in 1943, that she first met Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower, who had come to visit her cadet son, John. When Mrs. Eisenhower became ill with a virus infection and was hospitalized there for two weeks, Miss Dolan became not only nurse but friend.

Since that time she has received scores of personal notes signed "with warm regards" or "affectionately, Mamie Eisenhower."

Invited to the White House for the former President's first inaugural, Miss Dolan, on arrival was invited immediately to the private quarters, where Mrs. Eisenhower presented her to the President. Recalling the West Point story, President Eisenhower told her: "Mamie said she would have died without you."

Annual Christmas and other greetings since that time have included among Miss Dolan's memoirs a painting of "An Old Barn" by Dwight D. Eisenhower, and several replicas of others of his paintings. There were, also, invitations that she visit them at their Gettysburg farm — a trip she planned but did not make, because she fell ill at the time.

At Mrs. Eisenhower's request during the 1952 presidential campaign, Miss Dolan rode with Mamie on the presidential train from Rochester to Batavia.

Born in Leicester, Miss Dolan entered nurse training at St. Mary's Hospital in 1919, serving for many years as a county Public Health Nurse. Among assignments were Aquinas Institute and Corpus Christi and St. Monica's Schools. Her 6½ years as Army nurse were mostly at West Point, but included also a year with the Army of Occupation in Bavaria.

Miss Dolan's remembrances of Mamie Eisenhower brought some tears this week as she watched the former First Lady on television.

She recalled Mrs. Eisenhower's "very gracious gratitude for small favors," her "constant concern for her husband and son," and "her love for people." She noted that Mamie's many handwritten letters — she has two scrapbooks full, sometimes interspersed with typewritten ones — "because we're so busy right now" — constantly referred to her husband as "the General," or "my beau."

Miss Dolan, who retired in 1965, lives with a sister, Anne. They are parishioners of St. Peter and Paul Church. Another sister, Mrs. Cecelia Tully, lives at 585 South Ave.

Washington — (RNS) — Though Dwight David Eisenhower wasn't baptized into the Christian church until after he was inaugurated president of the United States, his entire life bespoke that of a sincerely religious man.

In paying tribute to the fallen leader at Washington ceremonies earlier this week, President characterized him as a "great and a good man."

Gen. Eisenhower died March 28 in Walter Reed Hospital after suffering a series of heart attacks. He was 78. The 34th President was the only Chief Executive to be baptized a Christian after his inauguration. Not having formal church membership earlier, he chose the denomination United Presbyterian, of his wife and was baptized at the National Presbyterian Church in 1953.

He was a regular attendee at public worship, taking with him to church world luminaries as Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain. Friends recall the importance of prayer in his private and public life. His speeches often employed religious and Biblical imagery.

In his farewell address to the nation in 1961, the President prayed "that people of all faiths, all races, all nations may have their great human needs satisfied, that those now denied opportunity shall come to enjoy it to the full."

His life after the White House was relatively quiet. He made a triumphal world tour in 1959 — visiting with Pope John — and in 1964 he returned to Normandy to visit the American Cemetery at Laurent where 9,000 war dead are buried.

Although a military man by profession, Mr. Eisenhower spent great energy as President fostering the cause of world peace. It was mainly through this stress that he had extensive contact with religious leaders.

Mr. Eisenhower compared the perils of the day with those facing the world when Jesus Christ was born. On Christmas 1960, he told the American people: "I deeply believe in the Christmas message of 'peace on earth, goodwill toward men.' This is the highest goal of mankind. It requires our finest efforts. It promises the greatest reward. Moreover, the peace of the world is the absolute necessity of our time."

The key to peace, he said, is brotherhood. He spoke out sharply against the injection of the religious issue by some in the Presidential race between John F. Kennedy and Mr. Nixon in 1960. He pressed Congress to enact civil rights legislation.

In 1966, the National Conference of Christians and Jews honored the former President with the Charles Evans Hughes Award for courageous leadership in governmental service. The citation lauded his crusade against the evils of fascism and nazism, segregation in the armed forces and religious bigotry.

He was honored with a Family of Man Award by the Protestant Council of the City of New York, and stood alongside Giovanni Battista Cardinal Montini when he and the future Pope Paul VI received honorary degrees from Notre Dame University.

After 1960 he devoted considerable time to the development of the National Presbyterian Center in Washington, and along with former President Truman championed the cause of planned parenthood.

Mrs. Eisenhower and the family asked that friends and citizens give memorial gifts to charities loved by the President rather than sending flowers to the funeral. One of those causes is Eisenhower College, Seneca Falls, N.Y., a college launched in 1965 with United Presbyterian affiliation and recently opened.

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