



Stephen E. Donahue
Past Patron, Palestine Chapter No. 114
Worthy Grand Patron

ADDRESS OF THE WORTHY GRAND MATRON
PAULA A BURGE AND
THE WORTHY GRAND PATRON
STEPHEN E. DONAHUE
May 19, 2018

PAULA: Installing Grand Officers, Distinguished Guests, our own Grand Centurions, Centurions, Sisters, Brothers, Family and Friends. Good evening. Thank you for joining us and being part of our Installation.

It is with great pride, humility and excitement that I stand here tonight surrounded by friends and family as your Worthy Grand Matron. This is a dream that I have had for many years. I want to thank this jurisdiction for having the Faith in me by electing me to this High Office. I pledge that I will do everything within my power to promote this beautiful Order and with your love and support, how can we fail?

Stamp Project: The Worthy Grand Matron's Stamp Project has been a successful Fundraiser for our benevolences for many years. I feel it is a way to reach out to all our members in this Jurisdiction, allowing them to contribute by buying the stamps. You will have these beautiful stamps to place on your mail and send the name of Massachusetts Order of the Eastern Star around our State and further.

So please when you receive these stamps in the fall, remember this is but a small way for us to spread our Name and help our Benevolences at the same time. Thank You.

Stephen and I have been a united front from the beginning and that is why we have decided to give this address together.

STEVE: I would also like to give a warm welcome to everyone here. Thank you so much for joining us tonight.

I am humbled and grateful to be standing here as your Worthy Grand Patron. I thank this Grand Jurisdiction for electing me, actually Karen, thank YOU for casting the ballot to elect me. See where a little chocolate and some wine gets you? But seriously, this IS a great honor and I pledge to perform my duties to the best of my ability and fully accept my responsibilities as your Worthy Grand Patron.

PAULA: General Grand Chapter Ambassador, Committee Members, Deputies, Special Appointment, Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons: Brother Steve and I wish to sincerely thank you all for all the love, friendship, support, advice and encouragement. We wish you well as you continue your service to our Beautiful Order.

To Sister Carol W. Mushnick, P.G.M.: Congratulations on the completion of your year of service to Our Grand Chapter. I hope that all your dreams have come true and were fulfilled. Now you can relax and get back up to your camp in Maine. We wish for you good health and happy days ahead.

STEVE: To Brother Daniel E. Violette, Past Grand Patron: That has a nice ring to it doesn't it. You, my friend should be very proud of yourself. You stepped up when this Jurisdiction needed someone to run for Grand Sentinel. As Worthy Grand Patron you showed us what a true leader is all about. I am deeply honored and grateful for all that you have done for Eastern Star and for me. I've told you this before and it bears repeating; Well done faithful and loyal Servant.....Well done. Thank you.

PAULA: To Our Centurions: We want to congratulate you for being installed into the East of your respective Chapters as Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron.

What a privilege and honor it was to install many of you and your officers last month. We are always here for you as your Fraternal Sponsors, as well as your friend. March On!

STEVE: Sister Judy A. Podymaitis Associate Grand Matron and Brother David D. Frizzell Associate Grand Patron: You have developed a bond that grows stronger each day. Judy and David, as you know; with privileges come responsibilities. This next year is your planning year and the reality and impact of your responsibilities will come into focus. You both have proven though the years your love and dedication to our beloved Order. With your knowledge and experience the success of our Order is in good hands. Paula and I look forward to serving with you this coming year and if there's anything you need that we can help with, please don't hesitate to ask us. We love you both and may God bless you and keep you in the palm of his hand.

PAULA: To the Other Elected Grand Officers: The year ahead offers great challenges. May we work together in Unity and Enthusiasm to strengthen our Jurisdiction and Our Beautiful Order. With Courage we will achieve this goal together. Congratulations to each and every one of you.

To Our Grand Centurions: Each of you was chosen for your Dedication, Love and Enthusiasm to our Jurisdiction. We want to congratulate each of you! We know that you will work well together and we have already seen the bond starting to grow between you. Steve and I want to thank each of you for saying “Yes” when asked to be such an intricate part of our Grand Family. Enjoy every journey you take this coming year and we hope it will be the best it can be for each and every one of you.

To the Team Builders: Our counterparts from other states. 3 years ago at the CanAm weekend in Connecticut, we met each other for the first time. We became fast and dear friends. Our Dreams and Goals for our beautiful order were shared with one another. It was amazing to find out that we ALL had the same dreams. As we serve our Jurisdictions as Worthy Grand Matrons and Worthy Grand Patrons, I hope all your dreams come true and all your goals are met. Steve and I will be traveling to your jurisdictions to congratulate and support all of you. Thank you for coming to Massachusetts and supporting Steve and me.

STEVE: To the members of Palestine Chapter No. 114 and Billerica Chapter No. 212: Three years ago Sister Joan got up in each of our Chapters and asked that I be endorsed to run for the Office of Grand Sentinel. I expected some applause and some handshakes. Instead both of my Chapters overwhelmed me with very loud cheers and a standing ovation. I was, to say the least, chocked up when I was thanking each of you for your support. Everything you have done these past three years has been done with excellence, tradition, courtesy and class. I would not be here without your love and support. I am very, very proud to be a member of Palestine and Billerica Chapters and I will do my best to make you proud of me as I will represent you to the best of my ability. Thank You.

To the Galaxy of Stars: As the Team Builders are part of Paula and me, the Galaxy of Stars are part of Sister Joan M. Atkinson and Brother Arthur P. Bennett in the Stars of Hope year in 2009-2010. This group is comprised of the six New England States and four Canadian Provinces. As escort to Sister Joan this group in the long and short of it adopted me and have been following me these past three years with words of support and encouragement. One member, Sister Lynn Hutchins, even came to Lowell to see me installed as Grand Sentinel, then to Boxboro to see me installed as Associate Grand Patron and is here tonight to watch as I was installed as Worthy Grand Patron. Sisters and Brothers, Sister Lynn each time came from New Brunswick, which is no hop, skip, and a jump. I thank you so much Lynn for your coming here and for being such a true and loyal friend to Joan and me. And I thank all of the Galaxy of Stars for taking time out of your busy schedules to be with us tonight. Thank you.

PAULA: To the members of Masona Chapter No. 134 and Brockton Chapter No. 87: Please stand. Words cannot express my love for each and every one of you. You ALL have given me ALL your love and support for the 4 years of my journey to the East of Our Grand Chapter. Everything I needed you all knew in advance and never failed to be there for me. This coming year is going to be a busy one for all of us and I could never have achieved this goal without you. I can't Thank You enough for what you have done for me and what you will be doing for me. I Love each of you so very much. Thank you all.

To the Installing Suite: What a fabulous job each of you have done tonight. Each of you have a special friendship and bond with Brother Steve and me. When we were deciding on our Suite, each of you fit right into the perfect spot.

To Sister Judith A. Johnson, P.G.M., Installing Grand Officer: my first fraternal sponsor, There was no question who I would have Install me as Worthy Grand Matron. I always look up to you and admire you. You have taught me well and I hope I will make you proud. Your wisdom and Knowledge of our Order is amazing. I hope that my goals reflect your goals when you were Worthy Grand Matron and that is "May we go forward with Friendships. We are striving this year for UNITY as we pave our Path of Progress and Happiness and attain our goal of Fulfillment. Thank You so much and I love you!

STEVE: Brother Joseph DeSisto the third, General Grand Chapter Committee Member on Scottish Rite Charities, Installing Grand Patron:

It wasn't too long ago that each of us scoffed at running for Grand Sentinel. I believe we said that we would NEVER run for an elected Grand Office. How did we know the word NEVER is not in the Eastern Star dictionary? Joe, I want to thank you so much for saying yes when I asked you to install me as Worthy Grand Patron. As one of my Mentors, along with Mike Podymaitis, you have guided me through the past years and I appreciate all you have done for me as I went through the Chairs to our Grand East. Not only do I consider you and your entire family, friends, I think of all of you as part of MY family. After all, according to Jean and Joan we ARE Brothers from another Mother. Thank you again Joe and you know I love you.

PAULA: To Sister Joan Atkinson, P.G.M., Installing Grand Chaplain: Good friend, what can I say except Thank you for saying "Yes" when I asked you to be Our Installing Chaplain. You set the right tone to our year with that beautiful prayer. I want to thank you for sharing Steve with me this coming year. I promise to return him to you unharmed. He might have a few battle scars, but they will heal in time

To Carol Jones, G.G.C.C.M., P.G.M., Installing Grand Marshal: Dearest of friends. I can't thank you enough for escorting me to the East of our Grand Chapter. You have always been there for me and I cherish the friendship and bond that we have had for almost 50 years. You are my advisor and confidant. We

talk almost every day about our hopes and dreams for the Order. You, my friend always encourage me to follow my dreams. I can't thank you enough for all you have done for me. I love you my friend.

STEVE: To Sister Bonnie J. Studley-- General Grand Chapter Ambassador to Hawaii; Floral Star Point Narrator:

Thank you so much for your uplifting and wonderful Star Point Ceremony. You are my first Fraternal Mom and helped to start me on my way to this fantastic journey. You and Bump are very close friends to Joan and me. We all miss Brother Craig, but I know that we continue our three two two dinners, just not that often this year. Here's to you my dear friend and Thank you.

PAULA: To the Floral Star Points and Floral Marshal: I was a member of each of your Associations. I consider each of you my friend and want to thank you all for saying "yes" when I asked you to be part of my Installation. I cherish our friendship and appreciate all your advice and counsel. Thank you!

STEVE: Brother Michael S. Podymaitis, General Grand Chapter Committee Member on Shiners Charities: Confirmation of the Deputies Narrator: Thank you for a beautiful ceremony that will start our Deputies on their journey together. You and Judy are very close friends of Joan and me. Because of our commitments we haven't been able to socialize as much, but we always look forward to hanging out and relaxing with the two of you. Thank you for being one of my Mentors, along with Joe DeSisto. Your knowledge and experience has greatly enhanced my understandings of what I need to know to help lead our Order and your help is very much appreciated. Thank you my friend.

PAULA: To the Confirmation Marshals: Brother John and Brother Art: Thank you both for agreeing to be Marshals. Each of you have a very special place in my heart. Brother John, I have known you since we were teenagers in Brockton Rainbow and DeMolay. You and Margaret are very dear friends to Gerry and I. Brother Art, You have opened your heart and home to the Centurions. I can't thank you enough for all you do for the Centurions. I wanted each of you to be part of this special evening. Thank you!

To Sister Susan Repucci, Sister Carolyn Greene and Sister Deanne Moreau: The flowers, decorations and the Centurion Banner are all beautiful. Your talents are much appreciated and I knew that everything would be perfect. Thank You!

STEVE: To my Daughters Lisa and Kate, my Son-in-Law John, Granddaughter Kayla and my Brother Walter:

I want to thank you so much for coming tonight. You all mean the world to me and your being here is so very awesome. I know that you don't know a lot about The Order of the Eastern Star but, as you can see, we are a loving, benevolent and close knit organization. Due to my commitments this year I may not be with you as much as I would like, but rest assured, we will be spending more time together

soon. Thank you again for being here and I love you all so very much.

To Sister Joan: When all is well you are at my side. When things go bad I don't see you. You haven't gone away. That's when you are behind me in case I fall, because I know you will be there to catch me. We stand by each other in our Journey of life. Your love and support for me is awesome. Without you I would never be in this position. You are an amazing person, not only to me, but for everyone in our Order. You say you've been out of the East too long to be helpful to anyone in Eastern Star. But day in and day out I watch as countless members of our Order come to you for advice and consul. Why? Because they know as well as I do that you will give them a truthful and honest answer and it may not be the answer they are looking for. I thank you for being you and I love you from the bottom of my heart.

PAULA: To my Family and Friends: First to my husband, Gerry, who I think most of you already know. You are my rock. You are always there for me in good times and in sad times. You are my sounding board and I would not have achieved my dream without you behind me. You are always there when I need entertainment and boy do you love to entertain us all. Thank you for all your love and dedication to the Centurion Association and this beautiful Order. I know you will always be there for me! I love you to the moon and back!

To My Son, Chip, Daughter in Law, Jaime and Grandsons, Joshua, Reese and Christopher: I want to thank you for understanding when I haven't been able to be with you. I also want to thank you all for being here tonight. It means the world to me. The people here tonight are most of my Eastern Star friends that we talk about in Massachusetts. I don't expect you to remember their names, but remember they are all my Sisters and Brothers. I Love you all!

To my Sisters, Brother in Law, Niece, Cousins, and Dear Friends: I want to thank you all for sharing this wonderful evening with me. Your love and support have meant a lot to me. I am looking forward to the relaxing camp fires and laughs with each of you. Thank You for coming tonight!

PAULA: Brother Steve, Worthy Grand Patron, How does that sound? 2 years ago you were elected Grand Sentinel of the Grand Jurisdiction. How excited I was that you would be joining the Centurion family.

We have formed a great team and the Journey for both of us to the East of Our Grand Chapter has been amazing with you by my side. You are not only my Partner in Eastern Star, but a true and loyal friend. I am so looking forward to this coming year. You always look out for me and are always there to listen to me praise or complain with your smile. We have had a lot of laughs and I know the Laughs will continue. Like I have said many times "You are the Big Brother I've always wanted" I wish you nothing but the very best and know that we entered this journey as friends and will remain friends forever! "A friend like

you is a special gift worth more than the finest gold. You know my thoughts before I speak, we share our hopes and fears and when life brings us joy and grief, we share our smiles and tears. You're generous with your time and love, always there with a hand to lend. Life wouldn't be as rich without you. I'm so happy to call you my friend" Love you!

PAULA: Sister Janet E. Stevens, Installing Grand Organist and Sister Caryn Holmgren-Barker, Installing Grand Soloist, what a beautiful team you make. I want to thank you for your talent that you shared with our Grand Jurisdiction tonight. And I know after hearing both of you, you will be getting a lot of calls. Thank you again for all you did for Steve and me and this Grand Jurisdiction.

STEVE: Sister Paula, Worthy Grand Matron: Paula, I love being with you. You are a loving, kind and thoughtful young lady. We are constantly bouncing different ideas off each other in an effort to make our jurisdiction stronger. By the nature of the Order I am not its Chief Officer but you have always let me in on all of the decisions and we are both willing to compromise if needed. You are a true leader and we know that our Centurion Family is in good hands. Thank you again for asking me to consider running for Grand Sentinel and Forest Gump?... You can stop running. We've reached the pinnacle of our journey. We are IN the Grand East of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts Order of the Eastern Star. Paula, I love you and may God be with you, me and our Grand Jurisdiction as we continue our Journey.

PAULA: SPECIAL PROJECT: Brother Steve and I have decided to have one Special Project this coming year. I have known what my special project was going to be even before I was elected Associate Grand Conductress and Steve has graciously agreed to share my dream. Most of you know that Gerry and I lost our Daughter, Rachel in 2008. She had just celebrated her 30th birthday. Her love of life and especially her beautiful son, Joshua inspired many. She had many treatments and was cared for by the wonderful staff at Dana Farber Cancer Institute. They made us all feel like family and they always gave us Love and HOPE while we were all fighting for Rachel and all the beautiful patients at the Institute. We know that Rachel would be very happy and proud to know that we are making Dana Farber Cancer Institute our special project. We want to help them, help more people with the LOVE and HOPE that someday there will be a cure for all Cancers. We are all touched by this disease and we pray that there will be a cure in our life time. The "Mission of Dana Farber Cancer Institute is to provide expert, compassionate care to children and adults with cancer while advancing the understanding diagnosis, treatment, cure and prevention of cancer and related diseases." We will be selling beautiful "Love and Hope" Special Project pins for \$10 each. We hope you will ALL help "Dana Farber Cancer Institute" find a cure!! Thank You !!!

STEVE: I have to tell you that I never thought that I would ever get cancer. No one in my Family as well as my Mother and Father's family ever had cancer. I had nothing to worry about. Then during a routine physical my doctor said that I should get my prostate checked. So I went to another doctor and she said it was probably nothing but they could give me a test to make sure. A few days after the test I went to the doctor's office and when she told me I had prostate cancer you could have knocked me over with a feather. The prostate was removed and the cancer had not spread and I have been cancer free now for ten years. This is why Paula and I ask you, our Sisters and Brothers, to help Dana Farber in their quest to rid the world of this hideous disease.

Sisters and Brothers, I am very proud of our Jurisdiction and all of its accomplishments over the years. In my opinion we are second to none when it comes to the Dedication and Commitment of our Members. We do need however to strive to maintain and hopefully increase our membership. Our Grand Chapter numbers have diminished over the years, but not our Spirit. We must work together, to keep our membership strong and vibrant. Contact those members who don't attend meetings for whatever reason. Maybe it only takes a phone call or maybe offering them a ride to a meeting. Electa our distinguished Heroine put into practice the second great law laid down by Christ; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Sisters and Brothers, let us love one another.

Once again I would like to thank everyone for coming to our Installation. God bless you all and on this Armed Forces Day, lest we forget, God bless and keep safe our Military Men and Women all over the world. Thank you and good night.

PAULA: At this time, Grand Secretary will you announce the Appointments, Receptions, Schools of Instruction and Association Meetings.