

"Famous Journal Reporter," the note's formal title announces. "Susan Landon with David Starkey—covering story when irrigation ditch wall broke in South Valley, flooding 4 homes."

I don't remember how long it's been since that first time she showed me the photograph. After that conversation, I never said anything more about it, though I thought of it often because its message was so clear and irrefutable.

Then one day a few weeks ago, after it became clear that she would lose the fight against the cancer that attacked her, Susan handed me the picture and said, "I want you to have this."

Susan Landon was smart and fair and irreverent and compassionate and tough—all the things a reporter should be.

She was a native New Mexican who knew and loved the state and its people. She had an unerring ability to cut through rhetoric and get to the heart of a matter, regardless of its camouflage.

She was painfully shy and militantly private, but she never backed away from the demands of the job. At her core lay a righteous anger, a philosophic pilot light ready to ignite when confronted with inequity; the flame burned especially hot when she encountered a bully abusing power.

She spent the final years of her newspaper career as an editorial writer, but when she spoke of what she missed most it had nothing to do with the inside of the building.

"I miss the reservation," she once said, looking back to the years she covered the Navajo Nation. "I miss being out there talking to the people. I miss writing about them. It was the best time for me."

When she gave me the photograph, it occurred to me that it should be made into a poster and pinned up on the bulletin boards of journalism schools all over the country. It is a clean, pure image of what this job is supposed to be.

Each time I looked at it. I thought about the peripheral circus that follows us these days: Seminars and focus groups and dazzling graphics and endless analysis; the Internet and Web pages and cyberspace prophets issuing incessant revelations predicting the printed world's imminent doom.

Then I look again at Susan's photograph and I am reminded of what the job is supposed to be—any job, not just ours. The photograph transcends journalism, its simple eloquence unable to be contained within the confines of a single endeavor.

This image of Susan with her pen and note pad is the image of a woman doing the job with no complaints, no excuses, no sleight of hand, no gimmicks.

It speaks to anyone engaged in any undertaking. It says the only thing that really counts is getting the job done. Anything else is just an excuse and deep in our hearts we all know it.

My dear friend, Susan, has died and left a gift that at first glance seems to be a photograph but is much more. Susan left us a compass. It points to true north.●

CHALDEAN FEDERATION OF AMERICA DINNER

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge an important event which is taking place in the State of Michigan. On this day, October 14, 1997, many have gathered to celebrate the Chaldean Federation of America's fifth annual dinner and awards banquet. Each of the individuals in attendance deserve special recognition for their commitment and

steadfast support of the Chaldean community.

I am pleased to recognize the recipients of tonight's awards: Dr. Nathima Atchoo—Humanitarian Award, Mayor Gerald Naftaly—Civic Humanitarian Award, Hayat Jajonie and Salim Sarafa—Community Service Awards, Janan Senawi—Volunteer Recognition Award, Ismael Ahmed and Sargon Lewie—CFA President's Award, Isam Yaldo—Business/Community Award, and Deacon Sadik Barno—Cultural Award. Each of these recipients should take great pride in receiving these distinguished awards.

While it is important to pay special tribute to the awardees, it is also essential to honor each citizen of the Chaldean community. In many respects, the Chaldean community of Michigan is a true example of a thriving community. Through strong economic growth, inspiring leaders, and unwavering dedication, the State of Michigan has greatly benefited from Chaldean-Americans. One such organization that has exemplified the spirit of the Chaldean community is the International Relief Association.

The International Relief Association [IRA] continues to assist in supplying humanitarian relief to the children of Iraq. This association which is based in St. Louis Clair Shores, MI, has been a tireless advocate for the innocent individuals which have been so deeply affected by the trade embargo imposed on Iraq since 1990. According to the United Nations International Children's Education Fund, it is estimated that some 4,500 children are dying each month from malnutrition and the shortage of much-needed supplies. I commend the IRA for its active participation in the lives of the people of Iraq.

While the IRA continues to help to support the people of Iraq, I believe that each of us must examine what role we can play. It is essential that collectively we begin to raise awareness concerning this region of the world. Again, I am deeply honored to lend my support to the work of the IRA and to the countless individuals whose own private efforts often go unnoticed.

To the Chaldean-American community and to the awardees, I send my sincere best wishes and may the spirit of this evening continue to inspire each of you.●

TRIBUTE TO THE ST. THOMAS AQUINAS SCHOOL

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President I rise today to honor the St. Thomas Aquinas School in Drew, NH, for receiving the State Champion Award for the President's Challenge on Physical Fitness.

The State Champion Award is presented to schools with the highest number of students scoring at or above the 85th percentile on the President's Challenge.

The five assessments of the President's Challenge measure four compo-

nents of physical fitness: a 1-mile run/walk for heart and lung endurance, curl-ups for abdominal strength and endurance, a "sit and reach" stretch for muscular flexibility, pull-ups for upper body strength and endurance, and a shuttle run for agility.

St. Thomas Aquinas is a private Catholic school filled with 300 students in grades kindergarten through 8.

Excelling in physical fitness is a positive step toward making healthy lifestyle choices that will provide lifelong benefits. I am very proud of the students at St. Thomas Aquinas for their accomplishments and applaud the efforts and dedication of the school.●

THE FIFTH ANNUAL AMERICAN ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BANQUET

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, today I rise to extend my best wishes for the American Arab Chamber of Commerce-Michigan's annual banquet on October 19. The American Arab Chamber of Commerce-Michigan will again hold this yearly event which recognizes individuals and their contributions in helping to promote a strong Michigan economy.

This year's banquet is an especially notable event. October 19 marks the fifth year for the chamber of commerce's banquet. While this is worthy of note, I am especially honored to have the opportunity to welcome His Royal Highness Crown Prince El-Hasan bin Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Detroit. Attending the event with His Royal Highness will be several members of the Jordanian Cabinet and His Excellency Dr. Marwan Muasher, Ambassador to the United States. The participation of Crown Prince Hassan and the other Jordanian emissaries affords everyone the opportunity to learn of new business and cultural possibilities between Michigan and Jordan. Furthermore, as the keynote speaker, Crown Prince Hassan will provide valuable insight for the American Arab Chamber of Commerce-Michigan on the trade relationship between the United States and Jordan.

I am proud of the Arab-American community's continual efforts to foster relationships of goodwill. These efforts will go far in enhancing and promoting the community's image and understanding throughout the United States and beyond.

We can all be proud of these efforts. I also take pride in the American-Arab Chamber of Commerce's efforts to include the entire spectrum of businesses in Michigan. Members of the chamber of commerce range in size from small entrepreneurial companies to large international corporations, with every individual committed to promoting Michigan's economic vitality. This vibrant community adds a great deal to Michigan, and I am very pleased to have the opportunity to recognize the chamber's efforts.●