



Congressman Ben Cardin

Maryland's Third District



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Dear Friends,

I am very pleased that on July 22nd, the U.S. House of Representatives passed by unanimous consent a resolution I offered expressing the nation's sadness at the death of Mattie Stepanek. Mattie, who lived in Rockville, MD, was only 13-years-old in June when he lost his courageous fight against a rare form of muscular dystrophy.

Mattie was honored by the House because of his bravery, generosity and determination to focus national attention on muscular dystrophy. As the Muscular Dystrophy Association's National Goodwill Ambassador from 2002-2004, Mattie knew about loss and suffering. His three older siblings died of the disease in early childhood and his mother, Jeni, suffers from the adult form of the disease.

During his short life, Mattie wrote five books of poetry, selling more than 500,000 copies. He started writing at age three as a way to cope with his brother's death. I would like to share with you one of his poems.

"Prayer for a Journey"

Thank You, God,
Not just for life,
But for our journey through life.
Life is a miracle,
And a journey through life
is so full of so many more miracles
If we travel with our Heartsongs.
Thank You, God,
For blessing me with the
Gift of Heartsongs,
So that I can enjoy my miracles.

At Mattie's funeral, former President Jimmy Carter eulogized him as "the most extraordinary person I have ever known." I think you will agree with me that Mattie was a remarkable young man and his courage and determination was an inspiration to all of us.

Sincerely,

Benjamin L. Cardin
Member of Congress



Congressman Cardin and Senator Sarbanes Announce New Funding for Environmental Educational Programs

Congressman Cardin and Maryland Senator Paul Sarbanes presented the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the Living Classrooms Foundation each with checks for almost \$174,000 from the U.S. Department of Education. The goal is to provide hands-on environmental learning experiences for school-age children while helping them improve their overall academic performance. They were joined by 5th grade students from Germantown Elementary School in Annapolis. For more information about this program, [click here](#).

Previous Survey Question Results

Should Congress cap the amount of federal funds spent on the Medicare program?

Answer	Percent
Yes	30.76%
No	69.44%
Totals	100%

New Survey Question

Congressman Cardin Wants To Hear From You

Do you favor increased federal support for stem cell research ?

- Yes
 No

Submit

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

*** Wednesday, Sept. 1 at 9:30 a.m.**

Overlea-Fullerton Senior Center
4314 Fullerton Ave.

*** Wednesday, Sept. 1 at 12 p.m.**

Joseph Senior Life Center
430 South Broadway,
Baltimore City

*** Wednesday, Sept. 1 at 1:30 p.m.**

John Booth Senior Center
229-1/2 S. Eaton St.,
Baltimore City

*** Thursday, Sept. 2 at 1 p.m.**

Myerberg NW Senior Center
3101 Fallstaff Rd.,
Baltimore City

*** Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 11 a.m.**

Bykota Senior Center
611 Central Ave.,
Towson

Contact Information

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