

We are gathered together this morning to honor Eugene Calabrese, Jr ... beloved husband, father, son, brother, uncle, cousin, nephew and physician.

He died at the young age of 56. Yet in terms of history, 56 years can seem like a long time.

56 years ago, Alaska was admitted as the 49th U.S. state, and Hawaii as the 50th.

Motown Records is founded by Berry Gordy, Jr. Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and The Big Bopper die in a plane crash near Clear Lake, Iowa

Pope John XXIII announces that the Second Vatican Council will be convened in Rome.

Disney released its 16th animated film, Sleeping Beauty. And Rod Serling's The Twilight Zone premiered on CBS.

The first Barbie dolls were sold.

NASA named the first 7 U.S. astronauts who were known as the Mercury Seven. Xerox introduces the first plain paper copier to the public

The Saint Lawrence Seaway officially opened to shipping.

Time changes things. The world changes. People change. We have changed.

And for Eugene, life is changed, not ended. And so we accompany him with our prayers. Knowing that the ties of love that bind us in this life are not severed with death.

Well done, good and faithful servant. Come share your master's joy.

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord.