



The Celebration of Brian O'Neill's Life was organized by the National Park Service and Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy with very generous staff and logistical support from the Presidio Trust. The family of Brian O'Neill is truly grateful to these three partner institutions and the community of people who have provided their thoughts, prayers, and support.



A fund has been established at the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy to sustain Brian's legacy. The Brian O'Neill Youth Leaders Fund will support young conservation and environmental leaders working in concert with the Golden Gate National Parks. To learn more about the Fund, its purpose, and how to contribute, visit the Parks Conservancy website: [www.parksconservancy.org](http://www.parksconservancy.org) or contact Kathryn Morelli at (415) 561-3050.

To post your thoughts and reflections about Brian—or to take action for our parks in his honor, visit [www.parksconservancy.org](http://www.parksconservancy.org) or <http://www.incelebrationofbrianoneill.blogspot.com>.

We extend a special thanks to artist Michael Schwab for the beautiful rendering of Brian O'Neill on the cover of this program. Michael has been a long-time friend of the Golden Gate National Parks, creating the stunning park images that depict the many sites of this vast national park.

This program was produced by the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. Printed digitally on 100% recycled paper.



Copies of this program in enlarged type are available; simply ask one of our on-site hosts.

# A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF BRIAN O'NEILL

MAY 29, 2009 • CRISSY FIELD, PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARKS

How do we celebrate the life of someone bigger than life?

How do we sustain the legacy of a truly visionary public servant?

How do we hold on to the happiness that this joyful person brought into our lives?

**T**HESE ARE THE QUESTIONS that Brian's family, friends, colleagues and community are addressing as we remember the wonderful qualities of this amazing human being and the positive impact he had on all who knew him. For whether you knew Brian for many years or met him only briefly, the impression he left was instantaneous, inspiring, and lasting. Brian generously shared his exuberant joy every day—and with every person he knew.

This joy has spread around the globe. To his family who has loved him as a son, brother, husband, father, and grandfather. To his park and conservation colleagues who have been inspired and led by his vision and mentorship. To the Bay Area community that has benefited so much from the

generosity of his time and talents. To the nation and world that sought him out as an innovator, big thinker, and force for good.

Everyone who Brian touched was made a better person through that experience. And so we turn to our better selves to sustain his legacy. To love those dear to us. To bring laughter and joy to those around us. To inspire and encourage those learning their way. To cherish and steward our public spaces. To give back to our community. To boldly and persistently pursue our collective vision for a better world.

By carrying on with these convictions, we carry Brian with us—and joy and fulfillment will be our friend, just like he was.

## *America the Beautiful*

Marcus and Martin Scott  
*National Park Service, Golden Gate National Parks*

## WELCOME

Doug McConnell  
*Bay Area Backroads and OpenRoad.TV*

Mai-Liis Bartling  
*Acting Superintendent, Golden Gate National Parks*

## HIS FAMILY

Kim Lear & Brent O'Neill

Alan O'Neill

## HIS PARK

Amy Meyer  
*Co-Chair, People for a Golden Gate National Recreation Area*

Howard Levitt  
*Chief of Interpretation and Education, Golden Gate National Parks*

## HIS PARTNERS

Greg Moore  
*Executive Director, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy*

## HIS CIRCLES OF FRIENDS

Doug McConnell and the Many Friends of Brian O'Neill

## *When Irish Eyes Are Smiling*

Michael Black

## HIS CAREER

Dan Wenk  
*Acting Director, National Park Service*

## HIS PUBLIC SERVICE

Dan Bernal  
*District Director for Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (CA-08)*  
*Speaker of the House*

Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey  
*US House of Representatives (CA-06)*

## HIS LEGACY

Ernesto Pepito  
*High School Program Manager, Crissy Field Center*  
*Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy*

## *What A Wonderful World*

Marcus and Martin Scott  
*National Park Service, Golden Gate National Parks*

Reception to follow in the Crissy Field tent.

Public walk along Crissy Field to Fort Point in Brian's honor at 2 PM led by bagpiper David Winter.