

Remembering Sen. Kennedy's support for fishermen

By Richard Gaines

Staff Writer

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The late U.S. Sen. Edward M. "Ted" Kennedy now has a permanent place of remembrance at the Gloucester Fishermen's Wives Memorial.

Although he was neither from Gloucester nor lost at sea, "the lion of the Senate," who was felled by cancer last summer, was honored for his unstinting support for the fishing industry and the soft spot in his heart for Gloucester.

The ceremony Saturday morning, which was abbreviated by the bitter cold and winds, featured Kennedy's grand nephew, Joseph P. Kennedy III, whose father Joe Kennedy is a son of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Robert Kennedy, who was murdered while running for president in 1968, was the older brother of the Massachusetts senator.

Members of the late senator's Washington staff also flew in for the dedication of a wide granite paving stone at the east entrance to the Fishermen's Wives memorial park on Stacy Boulevard.

The engraving says: "Senator Edward M. Kennedy — his love of the sea was reflected in his commitment to the commercial fishing industry of Massachusetts and the nation."

About 40 people attended the ceremony. The Rev. Ronald Gariboldi of St. Ann's Roman Catholic Church, gave the blessings.



Mary Muckenhoupt/GDT
Photographer

The inscription was unveiled by Angela Sanfilippo, president of the Gloucester Fishermen's Wives Association, who had a long friendship with the senator.

The memorial was dedicated on Aug. 5, 2001. Kennedy was unable to attend that unveiling but recorded a video tribute, played during the ceremony, in which he spoke of "enormous strength that was so necessary in being able to cope with the tragic loss of a loved one."



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