

January 3, 1966

San Diego Junior Chamber of Commerce
947 Columbia Street
San Diego, California 92101

RE: Outstanding Young Man of the Year

Gentlemen:

I am writing to place in nomination the name of Judge Earl B. Gilliam for Outstanding Young Man of the Year in San Diego.

Having in the past served on the committee to judge recipients of this award, I feel keenly the responsibility of the award and its meaning, not only to the recipient, but the Junior Chamber. I can assure you that I unhesitatingly place Judge Gilliam's name before you as being worthy and deserving of your consideration.

Since his appointment to the San Diego Municipal Court, he has distinguished himself by his display of judicial temperament, patience and keen sense of justice. He was a good lawyer and he is an excellent judge.

I find it interesting that he has not confined his extra curricular activities to those connected in some fashion with his profession but that he has always found time to become a member of community activities, not just serving in name only but in becoming an integral part of whatever project he has committed himself to. His biographical sketch speaks eloquently in this regard and for that reason, I have included same as part of this letter of nomination.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

He was born August 17, 1931 in Clovis, New Mexico, to Lula Mae and James Earl Gilliam. The family moved to San Diego in October of 1941. He attended Logan Elementary School and Stockton Elementary School and Memorial Junior High School. During that time he played drums in the School Band and participated in sports at the Boys' Club, taking part in basketball, baseball and track.

He entered San Diego High School in September 1946 where he was a member of the Key Club and Varsity Club and participated in football and track. He majored in mathematics and graduated in June 1949.

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In September 1949 he entered San Diego State College and graduated in June 1953 with a BA degree, a Business major, with sub-field of Accounting and a Minor in Economics. While there, he was one of five founders of Delta Epsilon, Chapter of K A P Fraternity; a member of Tau Sigma, Business and Economic Fraternity.

In September of 1953 he entered Hastings College of the Law, University of California, San Francisco and obtained his LLB and graduated June 1957.

He married Barbara Jean in 1956, his senior year in Law School and her senior year at San Francisco State. Their first son, Kenneth Earl was born July 12, 1957 in San Francisco and Derrick James was born July 15, 1963 in San Diego.

Judge Gilliam took the California bar examination September 1957 and, while awaiting the results, worked as an investigator with the San Diego County District Attorney's Office.

On December 17, 1957, he was admitted to the practice of law in California and began working as a Deputy District Attorney. In June of 1961 he resigned from this employment and entered private practice.

On December 27, 1963, he was appointed by the Governor as Judge of the Municipal Court.

Yours faithfully,

Earl J. Cantos, Judge

EJC:eh

J. J. KIMBROUGH, D. D. S.

245 - 25TH STREET

SAN DIEGO 2, CALIFORNIA

January 6, 1966

San Diego Junior Chamber of Commerce
947 Columbia Street
San Diego, California 92101

Gentlemen:

One of the most frequently heard remarks about Judge Gilliam is: "But, he seems so young to be a Judge". The evident assumption is that certain of his judicial virtues, such as tolerance, understanding, charity and wisdom could only come with age. It is an obvious truth that many people nearing their allotted four score and ten have never possessed nor should they be expected to possess all these virtues. The truth that is often apparent, and happily so, is the wise plan of nature which subjects some of her children to great stress during their early years. Some break under her pressure but those who pass her tests become greater in maturity, courage and stature.

Earl Gilliam was born in the small town of Clovis, New Mexico August 17, 1931. His parents were poor and the family knew little of the advantages which today's society feels is so necessary for the full development of our youth. The fact is, Earl kept himself so busy working and studying that he did not realize that he was missing the advantages. He wasted no time going thru Logan Grammar, Memorial Junior High and San Diego High School. He went from San Diego High to San Diego State College from which he graduated in 1953 with an A.B. degree. Although he worked all during his school years earning money to help defray the expense of his education, he still found time for extra curricular activities during all his school years. After graduation from San Diego State he went on to Hastings College of Law, University of California, from which he earned an L.L.B. degree in June 1957. In December 1957 he was admitted to the practice of law in California.

Earl instinctively read the American character correctly. He knew that this fresh, young, vigorous nation still had great need and love for the individual of personal worth and dignity. He knew that America was the one place where every man, regardless of race, creed or station in life, had the God given opportunity to work out his own destiny.

He worked at it and found that America's promise was a true promise. The door to progress was not held open with a mere permissive gesture, but the arms of America were also held open with cordiality, and warmth and affection and sincerity. Because America knows that in honoring all those who struggle upward in our society and achieve success in spite of great obstacles, greater honor is conferred upon the American way of life which affords everyone this opportunity.

Very early in life Earl exhibited many of the qualities which are dominant in his character today. He was never too proud or too vain to work at any honest job which would help him to reach his educational goals. Today, his lack of foolish pride and vanity, gives him greater judicial stature, for these are human weaknesses which often prevent men from admitting to any error and persuades them to continue following the wrong paths once they are started upon.

Since his graduation from Law College he has given freely of his time to civic affairs, the activities of his church and to many political and humanitarian endeavors. Although one of the busiest men in the Community he always seems to be able to find time to give help where it is needed. He has been active in the Y.M.C.A. for several years and is a source of inspiration to the boys and young men of the community. His personal achievements has knocked on the door of imagination of the young and like Paul Revere it has told them that their opportunity is coming. Get Ready!

Like all men of great talent, Earl Gilliam is difficult to describe in brief terms because he is so much to so many people. But like all men of great courage he is a gentle man, and in this area of gentleness may be found the source of his strength. The love his parents gave and taught him to give flows on into his warm, richly rewarding family life. His lovely young wife, Barbara Jean, a graduate of San Francisco State College, has infinite patience and understanding for the many demands made upon his time. She well knows that Earl would rather be at home with her and their two active young sons, so she manages to make his time at home doubly happy through her own sweet disposition and willingness to share his wisdom and strength with those in need.

Judge Earl Gilliam is not just an outstanding young man for 1965. He will be outstanding for all his years. His personality and character have been shaped through the years by his energy, integrity and intelligence. Like Pericles, the great Grecian Sculptor, he has given to this inner creation the qualities which will withstand the test of time.

Sincerely yours,

Jack J. Kimbrough, D.D.S.

DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

FOURTH APPELLATE DISTRICT

8010 STATE BUILDING

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101

January 6, 1966

San Diego Junior Chamber of Commerce
947 Columbia Street
San Diego, California 92101

Gentlemen:

It is my pleasure to recommend to you for your award as Outstanding Young Man of the Year in San Diego the Honorable Earl B. Gilliam, Judge of the Municipal Court of the San Diego Judicial District.

Judge Gilliam is an outstanding example of one who has taken advantage of the opportunities offered in our American society to make his way through perseverance, unceasing industry, devotion to duty and willingness to make use of available educational benefits.

From the fifth grade on, he has been a product of the San Diego School System and of San Diego State College.

At San Diego High School, he was a member of the Key Club and Varsity Club; he demonstrated there, also, an ability in athletics which he earlier demonstrated while a member of the Boys Club of San Diego during his primary school days.

When he entered San Diego State College in September of 1949, it was natural, since he had majored in mathematics in high school, that he should major in business, specializing in accounting.

While at San Diego State, he was one of the five founders of Delta Epsilon, Chapter of K A P Fraternity, was a member of Tau Sigma, Business and Economic Fraternity, and was active in the Dramatic Society.

Following his graduation from San Diego State in June of 1953 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, he entered Hastings College of the Law, University of California, at San Francisco, from which he was graduated in June of 1957 with a degree of Bachelor of Laws.

During all of this period of high school, college and law school, he worked with his parents in their business while he

DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

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was in San Diego; and while at law school in San Francisco he manifested his energy, industry and determination by working in several occupations.

Also, in his last year of law school, he married his wife, Barbara Jean, who was then a senior at San Francisco State College.

After graduation from law school in June of 1957, he successfully took the Bar examination in September of that year; and until sworn in as a member of the Bar on December 17, 1957, he worked as an investigator for the San Diego County District Attorney.

Following his admittance to the Bar, he was employed in the District Attorney's office as a deputy until June of 1961 when he resigned to enter private practice.

He was appointed a Judge of the Municipal Court of the San Diego Judicial District on December 27, 1963, where he continues to serve.

He is the father of two sons, Kenneth Earl and Derrick James.

During the time that I was a Judge of the Superior Court, the now Judge Gilliam prosecuted on behalf of the District Attorney a number of cases in the Criminal Department where I sat in 1961 and 1963; he appeared as defense counsel in a number of criminal cases in the same department after he entered private practice; and while I served as Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, he appeared before me in a number of civil matters until his elevation to the bench.

In all of those matters, he showed the ability, the lawyer-like qualities, and the good character which have qualified him to be a judge.

Yours sincerely,

Vincent A. Whelan

VAW/paw



County of San Diego



CIVIC CENTER BUILDING

January 7, 1966

San Diego Junior Chamber of Commerce
947 Columbia Street
San Diego, California 92102

Attention: The Young Man of The Year Committee

Gentlemen:

As chairman of the Juvenile Justice Commission of the County of San Diego, there is no way that I could be more honored than to be asked to second the nomination of Judge Earl Gilliam as the outstanding young man of the year.

Earl has served for two years on the Juvenile Justice Commission and has been one of the outstanding members of the of the Commission who has attended every meeting and served with distinction.

To give you some idea as to the Commission's deep feeling and trust in Judge Gilliam; the Commission sent a unanimous letter of approval to the governor of the state of California when Earl was appointed to the bench. To make this letter even more impressive, the large majority of the Commission are members of the opposing political party.

As a commissioner, Earl has taken on every responsibility that I, as chairman, have delegated to him. Even more important, he has completed the assignment no matter how much time and effort it might have taken from his very busy schedule.

Earl's deep feeling for his fellow man, his ability to ferret out and solve problems and the deep respect that each and every member of the Commission has for him, proves once and for all that there is no ethnic barrier to true leadership. Yes, I know, Earl Gilliam is the outstanding young man of 1965.

Sincerely yours,

Albert L. Anderson, Chairman
Juvenile Justice Commission
County of San Diego

ALA:cp