

**CONGRESSMAN GEORGE E. BROWN REMEMBERED**  
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Riverside, Calif., members on Dec. 12 held a tribute to the late congressman George E. Brown, a great friend of the SGI organization. Known as Mr. Science in Congress, due to his strong interest in how science can contribute to a peaceful world society, Congressman Brown was very supportive of the SGI-cosponsored "Linus Pauling and the Twentieth Century" exhibition, delivering a speech in Congress describing it last year.

A champion of civil rights and a fierce opponent of the Vietnam war, Congressman Brown, who died in July at age 79, was also the first elected official in the world to oppose High Priest Nikken's destruction of the Grand Main Temple. In his protest letter to Nikken, Congressman Brown deemed the razing of the Grand Main Temple a crime against humanity.

Near his life's end, the congressman began a correspondence with SGI President Ikeda. The two hoped to hold a dialogue on science and religion.

To commemorate July 3, Day of Mentor and Disciple, Congressman Brown sent the SGI president a commemorative medal of President John F. Kennedy along with a picture of himself meeting Kennedy, whom he considered a mentor. He wrote to President Ikeda: "I find the Buddhist concept of mentor and disciple to be very profound. In life, having a mentor or someone you can deeply respect is always a springboard for growth."

President Ikeda responded, "I think it is quite remarkable that this day [the Day of Mentor and Disciple] should be the day prior to your Independence Day, a time when Americans remember and return to the original spirit of the Founders, seeking new lessons for the future from these great mentors of humankind."

The Brown family was presented the Soka University Award of Highest Honor and the SGI-USA Liberty Award at the Dec. 12 ceremony. The Brown family presented Soka University of America with a postcard discovered in the Library of Congress sent to first Soka Gakkai president Tsu-nesaburo Makiguchi from the Nichiren Shoshu head temple. The postcard was inserted in five volumes of *The Essential Teachings of the Fuji School* Mr. Makiguchi had requested from the head temple, which were later confiscated by the Japanese government and eventually wound up in the Library of Congress.