



He did it his way

"You could not have selected an honoree I admire more and a man in whose name we gather tonight. I love Simon Wiesenthal with all my heart. I respect Simon Wiesenthal and I am proud to call him friend, and prouder still that he calls me friend.

His life has compensated for all of those lives who are wasted. His dedication to his fellow man stands as a very definition of the word. His courage is written boldly across our history as no other man has before in the history of the world.

His decency is engraved in our hearts where it remains a symbol of man's capability of loving his fellow man. Simon is more than his brother's keeper, much more, he is his friend's keeper, and more than that he is a stranger's keeper. And nowhere in the good book does G-d ask more of his children. I've met an army of good people as I've stumbled through life, but none whose call to arms rivals Mr. Wiesenthal's.

In conclusion of my own remarks, let me share with you this statement of truth, I would gladly give up every song I ever met to rest my head on the pillow of his accomplishments. I salute you. You are living proof that G-d knew what he was doing when he experimented making the rest of us until he perfected the image in you."

Frank Sinatra was an early member of the Board of Trustees of the Simon Wiesenthal Center until his death in 1998. He chaired many Wiesenthal Center events, including the 1981 world premiere of the film *Genocide*, narrated by Elizabeth Taylor and Orson Wells, which won the Academy Award® for Best Documentary Feature in 1981. It was the first film on the Holocaust to win an Oscar®.

Simon Wiesenthal – the Conscience of the Holocaust – helped bring more than 1,100 Nazi war criminals to justice, including the officer who arrested Anne Frank.