

**NOTES FOR MAYOR FUREY**  
**45TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET**  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 | 6:30PM**  
**CREST HOTEL KASHIWA**

Kombanwa (Comb-bahn-wah)!

Good evening, and thank you all so much for your most gracious welcome.

I am so pleased to be back in Kashiwa, seeing many old friends as well as meeting new ones! It is great seeing the familiar faces of those who traveled to Torrance this past February in celebration of this milestone.

It is my pleasure to introduce to you the elected officials and their guests who I am accompanied by on this spectacular trip:

- **Councilman George Chen and his wife Amy**
- **Councilman Mike Griffiths and Cecilia Geronimo**
- **Councilman Milton Herring and his wife Cinda**
- **Councilman Aurelio Mattucci**
- **City Treasurer Dana Cortez**

**And of course my lovely wife Terry.**

**Also traveling with us is our Fire Chief Martin Serna and his wife Maria, and Cultural Services Manager Eve Rappoport**

What a phenomenal experience this has already been for each of us. From the friendly people and warm greetings we receive everywhere we go, to the engaging activities; from the wonderful accommodations to the fabulous food—I know I speak for the entire delegation when I say how grateful we are to you for your hospitality. Thank you all so much.

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This is my second trip to Kashiwa and I want you to know what an honor it is to be leading the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Delegation with TSCA President Hazel Taniguchi. Our cities have accomplished so much during our history and I look forward to ensuring that our relationship continues to strengthen in the future. I feel so fortunate, as do my colleagues on the City Council, to be a part of it all. This is a very special reunion indeed.

Again, I thank all of you so much for all you are doing to make this 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary trip such a special experience for us. The tireless efforts each of you has contributed on our behalf are greatly appreciated by the entire Torrance delegation. Domo arigato (Doe-moe a-ree-gah-tow)!