



Gene Ziegler

Octogenarian Time Capsule

## Lincoln's Update

*What could go wrong?*

Two years and many months ago our electoral college brought forth, on this continent, a new nation, conceived in ignorance, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are *not* created equal. Now we are engaged in a cultural civil war, testing whether that misguided nation, or any nation so conceived, and so dedicated, can long endure.

The media has become the great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate an inordinate portion of our national discourse as a final resting-place for truth, civility, honor, and the rule of law. We have dishonored and discarded men and women who dedicated their careers and professional lives so that that nation might thrive. We have dishonored the brave men and women who have struggled, especially those who gave their lives, to preserve the cherished values and traditions of the American way of life.

We cannot abdicate, we cannot conciliate, we cannot honor this aberration. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should resist this. We call upon our representatives in congress to honor their oath to preserve and protect our constitutional democracy and execute their power to add or detract. It is for us the voters, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought for us have thus far so nobly advanced.

It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these dishonored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

*Gene Ziegler, Chandler Arizona, October 2019*