## Congress votes Wayne medal

WASHINGTON (AP)-John Wayne, who conquered the American West singlehandedly and won World War II dozens of times, is taking Congress without a struggle. The Duke, 71, hospitalized for treatment of cancer, will have a congressional gold medal struck in his

The Senate already has approved the idea, and the House of Representatives is certain to do the same. The legislation would authorize the president to present the gold medal to Wayne and authorize the Treasury Department to strike bronze replicas for sale to the public.

Only 83 Americans have been so honored. And most of them-George Washington and Andrew Jackson to name two-didn't make movies about wars and the West. They lived them.

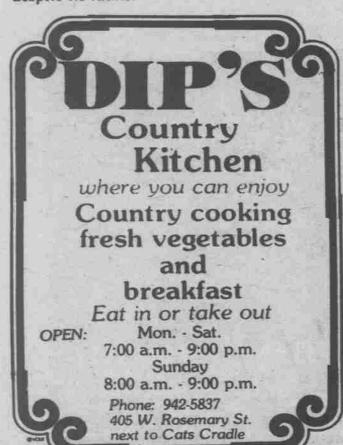
A House banking subcommittee met Monday to kick around the idea of a medal for Wayne. It wasn't a hearing, it was a love

Rep. Thomas Evans, R-Del., remembered shelling out 11 cents to watch John Wayne on the big screen as a kid in Seaford, Del. "I learned a lot from John Wayne and I think America learned a lot. He set the standard for American manhood," he said. Evans, 47, was born three years after The Duke made the first of his 200 films.

Other notables expressing their sentiments about The Duke:

From the President of the United States, in a letter to Rep. Frank Annunzio, D-III., subcommittee chairman: John Wayne's "true grit helped win the West, World War II, and the hearts of thousands of us across the country and the world."

From Rep. Barry Goldwater, R-Calif., sponsor of the medal legislation in the House: "Suffice it to say that this award will represent a sincere 'thank you' from his government and fellow citizens for a lifetime of loving his country with a fierce loyalty and more than a little pride in its goodness and despite its faults."





John Wayne

From a tearful Maureen O'Hara, actress, for 39 years a friend of Wayne, and his costar in The Quiet Man: "To the people of the world. John Wayne is not just an actor, and a very fine actor. He is the United States of America."

From Elizabeth Taylor: "He's tough as an old nut, soft as a yellow ribbon .... Kids today and myself talk about cool. Well, Big John is one cool cat. He is a giant and he will be with







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