

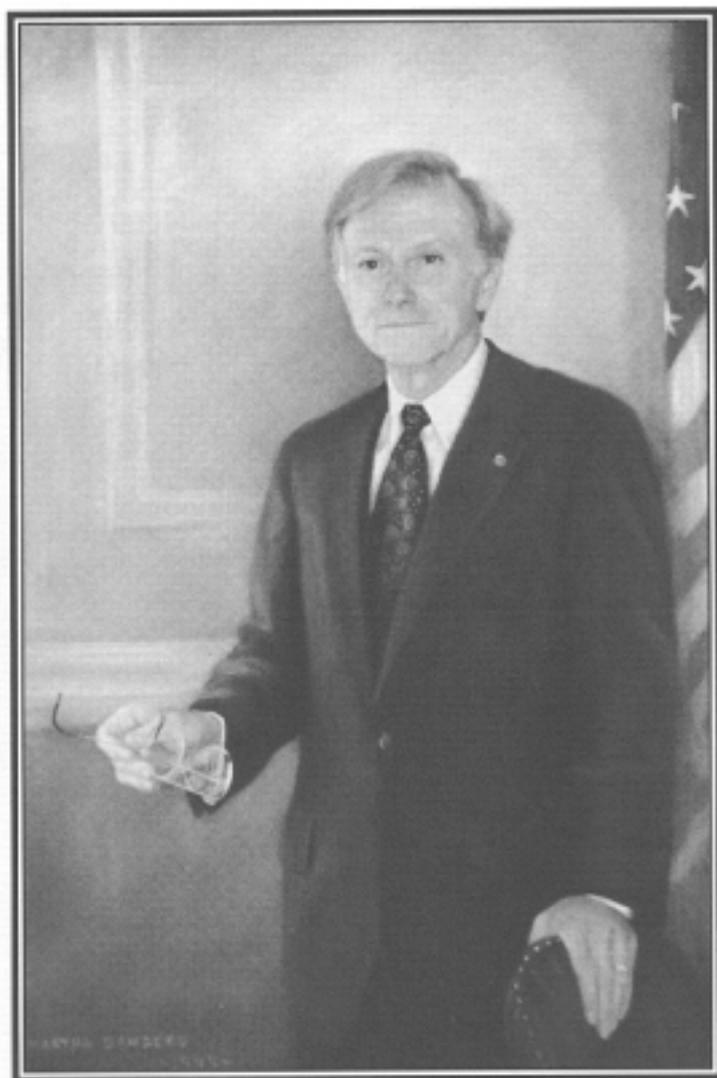
# Paul Douglas Coverdell

LATE A SENATOR FROM  
GEORGIA



MEMORIAL ADDRESSES  
AND OTHER TRIBUTES





Paul Douglas Coverdell

# Memorial Addresses and Other Tributes

HELD IN THE SENATE  
AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
TOGETHER WITH MEMORIAL SERVICE  
IN EULOGY OF

## PAUL DOUGLAS COVERDELL

*Late a Senator from Georgia*

One Hundred Sixth Congress  
Second Session



*Compiled under the direction  
of the  
Joint Committee on Printing*

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# BIOGRAPHY

Senator PAUL DOUGLAS COVERDELL was born in Des Moines, IA, January 20, 1939. He graduated Lee's Summit High School (MO) in 1957 and earned a B.A. in journalism from the University of Missouri in 1961. He subsequently received an honorary Ph.D. in business administration from Piedmont College in 1994 and an honorary J.D. from Mercer University in 1995.

After serving as a captain in the U.S. Army from 1962 to 1964, Senator COVERDELL returned to Georgia to help his parents turn a small family business into a successful, national financial product marketing firm, Coverdell & Company, serving as its president. In 1970, while continuing to run the family business, he was elected to the Georgia State Senate, where he was elected Senate Minority Leader in 1974, a post he held for 15 years. He served as chair of the Georgia Republican Party from 1985 to 1987 and as chair of the Southern Steering Committee, George Bush for President, 1987–1988. In 1989 he became the Director of the U.S. Peace Corps under President George Bush, where during the next 2 years he redefined the agency's mission by addressing the needs created by the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe. His vision is being carried forward by the Peace Corps to this day. Senator COVERDELL was elected as a Republican to the U.S. Senate on November 14, 1992.

After joining the U.S. Senate in 1993, Senator COVERDELL emerged as one of the most ardent defenders of American freedom. In recognition of his hard work on behalf of Georgia and the Nation, Senator COVERDELL was elected by his colleagues to a Senate majority leadership post, giving Georgia an important voice in how the government conducts its business.

Senator COVERDELL believed that our freedom is under attack by the international drug Mafia who pollute and corrupt our children with drugs. As the most recent former Chairman of the Foreign Relations Subcommittee with jurisdiction over international narcotics and terrorism, he led the fight against drugs, winning increased funding for enhanced law enforcement efforts along U.S. borders. At home, he initiated

Operation Drug-Free Georgia, which represents one of the best examples of effective cooperation among parents, teachers, students, and their communities in the Nation.

Senator COVERDELL believed that freedom is nurtured by a well-educated citizenry. He served as Chairman of the Senate Republican Task Force on Education and introduced the Senate Republicans' sweeping education reform bill, The Safe and Affordable Schools Act. That legislation provides schools, communities, and States the tools they need to fight drugs and violence in the classroom, and provides measures to ensure that all children—regardless of income—have access to a good education from kindergarten through college. Earlier this year, Senator COVERDELL's tax relief proposals making college more affordable became law.

Senator COVERDELL believed that the freedom and means to raise, educate and care for families are threatened by a government that takes more than 50 percent of the average family's income in taxes and cost of government. As a member of the Senate Finance Committee and Small Business Committee, Senator COVERDELL consistently fought for lower taxes and a fairer tax code. In August 1997, he won passage of his bill to outlaw the practice by rogue IRS agents of "snooping" through the private tax files of ordinary citizens.

As Chairman of the Agriculture Subcommittee on Marketing, Inspection and Product Promotion, Senator COVERDELL successfully fought for changes that promote Georgia's contribution to this Nation's outstanding tradition of agricultural exports and the family farm. He recently secured passage of his proposal to increase research on how to improve food safety.

Senator COVERDELL believed that freedom is enhanced by ensuring that the decisions that affect our lives are made by families, local communities, and charitable organizations whenever possible and then worked to promote the spirit of volunteerism. His Volunteer Protection Act, which shields volunteers from outrageous lawsuits involving charitable and nonprofit activities, was signed into law by President Clinton in June 1997.

Throughout his years of public service, Senator COVERDELL was honored at local, State, and national levels for his efforts to improve the quality of life for all Americans in the areas of health care, education, tax reform, and small business growth, and for his attention to maintaining the balance between corporate and community interests. Highlights from a long list of awards spanning more than two decades of public

service include: *Second Sidney Marcus Public Service Award* (Atlanta Fulton County League of Women Voters, 1985); *Summa Cum Laude* presentation for public service (Georgia State University, 1987) and the *Legislative Service Award* (Medical Association of Georgia, 1989). In 1990, Senator COVERDELL received the *Man of the Day* award from *Vanity Fair* Magazine, and the *Oklahoma Foundation Award for Excellence*. Recognition followed from the Americans for Tax Reform in 1996 (*Friend of the Taxpayer*) and from the 104th Congress, U.S. Chamber of Commerce 1995–1996 (*Spirit of Enterprise*). The U.S. Chamber of Commerce also presented Senator COVERDELL with the *Taxpayer Appreciation Award* in 1997, and he received the *Guardian of Small Business Award* from the National Federation of Independent Business in 1994, 1996, and in 1998.

Senator COVERDELL died Tuesday, July 18, 2000, after undergoing surgery for a cerebral hemorrhage at an Atlanta hospital. He was married to the former Nancy Nally, of Sandy Springs, Georgia. Their parents and families reside in Atlanta, Decatur, Sandy Springs, and Marietta, Georgia.



MEMORIAL ADDRESSES  
AND  
OTHER TRIBUTES  
FOR  
PAUL DOUGLAS COVERDELL



# Proceedings in the Senate

MONDAY, *July 17, 2000*

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. Thurmond].

## PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

We praise You, dear God. You have promised never to leave or forsake us. Our confidence is in You and not ourselves. We come to You in prayer, not trusting our own goodness but solely in Your grace. You are our joy when we get down, our strength when we are weak, our courage when we vacillate. You are our security in a world of change and turmoil. Even when we forget You in the rush of life, You never forget us. Thank You for Your faithfulness.

At this moment we claim that faithfulness for our friend, Senator PAUL COVERDELL, as he undergoes surgery. Bless him, care for him, and heal him.

And now dear God, filled with wonder, love, and gratitude, we commit this week to live and work for You, inviting the indwelling power of Your spirit. Bless the Senators. Control their minds and give them Your discernment. Give them boldness to take stands for what You have revealed is the application of Your righteousness and justice for our Nation.

Thank You for the privilege of living this week for You. In Your all powerful name. Amen.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I express my appreciation to our Chaplain of the Senate, Lloyd John Ogilvie, for his remembering our friend and my most trusted confidante, most reliable lieutenant, the Senator from Georgia, PAUL COVERDELL. I do not know of a Senator who works any harder or has a more indomitable spirit. I noticed particularly Friday afternoon how happy he was as he took leave of this Chamber because of the vote that we had just taken, realizing that he

would have the opportunity to be home in Georgia on Friday afternoon and on Saturday. Our thoughts and our prayers are with him as he apparently undergoes a surgical procedure at this hour. I thank the Chaplain for his prayer.

Coincidentally, this weekend I also had a little more time than I anticipated and was able to spend some time thinking about our country and reading some books. One of those that I read was "Going For The Max," by Senator Max Cleland, also of Georgia. It is a really inspirational book about his life and his experience as a Vietnam veteran and the recovery period he went through and the inspiration from things he had learned in his life—12 principles of life that he had learned and on which he relies. I talked to him this morning to tell him how much I enjoyed his book; that I was inspired by it. And he said he was at that very moment standing there looking at Piedmont Hospital where our friend, Senator COVERDELL, is, and he was saying a prayer for him. He offered to cover any meetings or appointments that needed to be done today or this week by Senator COVERDELL.

That is the kind of real love and appreciation and bipartisanship we need more of in this institution and in our lives. So I encourage my colleagues in the Senate to get a copy of "Going For The Max." It will be an inspiration to you.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, before I deliver my remarks on the marriage tax penalty, for just a moment, let me say that our colleague, PAUL COVERDELL, is struggling at this moment. Our prayers and thoughts are with him and his wife Nancy as he struggles with his health in an Atlanta hospital. He is a champion of the issue of marriage penalty tax relief.

#### CONCERN FOR SENATOR PAUL COVERDELL

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I want to express the sorrow that is in my heart, and I know in the hearts of all of my colleagues and, indeed, everybody who works in the Senate, about the sad news of the unexpected ill health of our friend and colleague, Senator PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia. My heart and my prayers go out to him, his family, his staff, his constituents, and all of the many people who care so much about our good friend. He will be in our hearts and in our prayers. I know I speak for all of my colleagues when I wish him a speedy recovery.

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Father, You have all authority in Heaven and on Earth. You are sovereign Lord of our lives and of our Nation. We submit to Your authority. Bless the Senators as they serve You together in this Senate Chamber and as they recommit to You all that they do and say this day. Make it a productive day. Give them positive attitudes that exude hope. In each difficult impasse, help them to seek Your guidance. Draw them closer to You in whose presence they will discover that, in spite of differences in particulars, they are here to serve You and our beloved Nation together. Gracious Lord, You have made this Senate a family, and we care for each other. Together we intercede for the needs of our friend, PAUL COVERDELL, and ask You to guide and keep him this day. All praise and glory and honor be to You, Gracious Lord. Amen.

THE DEATH OF SENATOR PAUL COVERDELL, OF GEORGIA

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I have one of the most difficult things to do now that I have had to do since I have served as Majority Leader of the Senate, and that is to announce that our beloved colleague from Georgia, PAUL COVERDELL, passed away today at approximately 6:10 p.m. in the Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta, GA. PAUL has been a close friend and confidant, an outstanding Member of this body, and we will miss him greatly.

At the appropriate time, I will join the rest of my colleagues in trying to make appropriate remarks to pay tribute to PAUL, but for now I cannot do any more than just make this announcement. I do want to say to Nancy Coverdell and the family that we extend our sympathy and our love. Our hearts are breaking also.

Mr. President, I send a resolution to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration; further, that the resolution be read.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be stated by title.

SENATE RESOLUTION 338—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE  
PAUL COVERDELL, A SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF GEORGIA

Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. Daschle, Mr. Abraham, Mr. Akaka, Mr. Allard, Mr. Ashcroft, Mr. Baucus, Mr. Bayh, Mr.

Bennett, Mr. Biden, Mr. Bingaman, Mr. Bond, Mrs. Boxer, Mr. Breaux, Mr. Brownback, Mr. Bryan, Mr. Bunning, Mr. Burns, Mr. Byrd, Mr. Campbell, Mr. L. Chafee, Mr. Cleland, Mr. Cochran, Ms. Collins, Mr. Conrad, Mr. Craig, Mr. Crapo, Mr. DeWine, Mr. Dodd, Mr. Domenici, Mr. Dorgan, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Enzi, Mr. Feingold, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Frist, Mr. Gorton, Mr. Graham, Mr. Gramm, Mr. Grams, Mr. Grassley, Mr. Gregg, Mr. Hagel, Mr. Harkin, Mr. Hatch, Mr. Helms, Mr. Hollings, Mr. Hutchinson, Mrs. Hutchison, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. Inouye, Mr. Jeffords, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Kerrey, Mr. Kerry, Mr. Kohl, Mr. Kyl, Ms. Landrieu, Mr. Lautenberg, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Levin, Mr. Lieberman, Mrs. Lincoln, Mr. Lugar, Mr. Mack, Mr. McCain, Mr. McConnell, Ms. Mikulski, Mr. Moynihan, Mr. Murkowski, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Nickles, Mr. Reed, Mr. Reid, Mr. Robb, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Roth, Mr. Santorum, Mr. Sarbanes, Mr. Schumer, Mr. Sessions, Mr. Shelby, Mr. Smith of New Hampshire, Mr. Smith of Oregon, Ms. Snowe, Mr. Specter, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Thurmond, Mr. Torricelli, Mr. Voinovich, Mr. Warner, Mr. Wellstone, and Mr. Wyden) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 338),

Whereas the Honorable PAUL COVERDELL served Georgia in the United States Senate with devotion and distinction;

Whereas the Honorable PAUL COVERDELL served all the people of the United States as Director of the Peace Corps;

Whereas his efforts on behalf of Georgians and all Americans earned him the esteem and high regard of his colleagues; and

Whereas his tragic and untimely death has deprived his State and Nation of an outstanding lawmaker and public servant: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable PAUL COVERDELL, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all Members of the Senate be made co-sponsors of this resolution, and further that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 338) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, we will announce for the Senate and all those who knew and loved PAUL, the details of the services for him when they are available. We do not have that information at this time. I presume sometime tomorrow we will know that. And also I want colleagues to know that they are encouraged to make statements of sympathy during the proceedings tomorrow when we are in session, if they feel so inclined. But, as is the tradition, we will designate a specific time at a later date so that all Senators will have time to appropriately express their feelings for this fine Senator.

I ask the Assistant Majority Leader to conclude our proceedings this afternoon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, might I join with our distinguished Majority Leader in expressing the grief we all feel for a man of peace who did so much in his life, and brilliantly, as Director of the Peace Corps under President Bush. We know him so well and miss him so much and can only share in the thought that he rests in peace.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, the announcement the Majority Leader just made that our friend and colleague, PAUL COVERDELL, passed away at 6:10 p.m. today is a very sad statement. PAUL COVERDELL was an outstanding Senator from the State of Georgia. This is Georgia's loss, but it is also a loss for all of our country.

I join with my colleagues in expressing our sympathy to Nancy Coverdell, to the Coverdell family, to all the friends and associates of PAUL COVERDELL, for he was truly an outstanding Senator. He served this body with great distinction, with great humor and leadership. Frankly, he was a leader in everything he did, certainly in the Peace Corps and his service in the Senate. He will truly be missed, not just by Georgians but, frankly, by all Americans.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, before we close, I ask that we have a moment of silent prayer for the family of PAUL COVERDELL.

(Moment of silence.)

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I thank my friend and colleague from Kansas, and I wish to reiterate the statement that all of us are praying for the Coverdell family.

Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the provisions of S. Res. 338, out of respect for our colleague, Senator PAUL COVERDELL.

WEDNESDAY, *July 19, 2000*

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Father, we need You. Our hearts are filled with grief over the death of Senator PAUL COVERDELL. The Senate has lost a great friend, fellow leader, distinguished American, and outstanding legislator. We praise You for his intelligence, his integrity, and his intentionality. No one worked harder, longer, with greater commitment than this truly good man. He spelled love l-o-y-a-l-t-y and gained the respect, admiration, and esteem of Senators and staff alike. Lord, we will miss the Senator's smile, his warmth, his caring concern. You have enriched our lives through this kind and gracious Georgian. Bless his wife Nancy. Comfort her and give her courage this morning. Tenderly watch over his dear mother and family. Uplift the Senator's staff whose faithfulness and admiration he was given with such enthusiasm.

Now Father, we reaffirm our conviction that death is not an ending, but a transition in eternal life, and only a small part of the whole of eternity. So help us to live our lives more fully, more selflessly for the cause of democracy, and more completely in trust in You. In You we live and move and have our being—forever. Amen.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I learned shortly before Senator Lott came to the floor last night that Senator COVERDELL had passed away. I felt it was in my best interest to leave at that time and not be present on the floor, as I usually am.

It was unique, in that I am in the minority—Senator COVERDELL was in the majority—that I got to know him as well as I did. I always knew that things were moving along and that we were going to get legislation completed when I would look over and Senator COVERDELL had been called into the Chamber by Senator Lott to help move legislation.

As I look back, I remember the bankruptcy legislation. We started out with a little over 300 amendments on that legislation. Everyone thought it was futile to even try to pass it, but, of course, Senator COVERDELL came in and worked with me and the Senators on his side and my side, and we were able to get that legislation cleared and basically completed. That was the story for many, many different pieces of legislation.

I got to know him. He was very calm and deliberate and extremely courteous and polite—a real gentleman. I think it speaks volumes to recognize that the first person Senator Lott called upon when there was trouble on the floor was PAUL COVERDELL. I think it speaks volumes to indicate that PAUL COVERDELL was Governor Bush's No. 1 person in the Senate.

He was someone whom the people of Georgia will miss; this country will miss; the Senate will miss; and whom I will miss.

I have the honor of working on the minority side to help move legislation along. He was a very good legislator, in addition, obviously, to being such a good friend to everyone.

I express my sympathy to Nancy and his staff. Speaking for the entire minority, we will miss a great legislator.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, when my constituents ask me what the nicest thing is about being a Senator, what I enjoy the most, I have a ready answer: "It is the people, the people we meet, the opportunities we have to interact with some of the most extraordinary individuals throughout the world."

When I say that, my constituents immediately think of the great names: Presidents of the United States, Presidents of other countries, famous Prime Ministers. Schoolchildren look at me and say: "Have you ever met President Clinton?" They are always a little in awe when I say "yes." Then others, when I tell them of having met President Gorbachev, President Mubarak, or Chairman Arafat or some of the other names they read about all the time, say: "Well, we can understand why you think that the people you get to meet is the fun part of the job and the most extraordinary benefit that comes from being a Senator."

That is true—meeting these famous people is something of a trip and a great opportunity.

I always explain to them that the great privilege is not only meeting the famous names. It is meeting my fellow Senators. This is an extraordinary body, filled with extraor-

dinary individuals, many of whose names never get into the headlines beyond their own States or outside of the circle of the beltway, but who bring to this body an incredible background of wisdom, experience, humor, perspective, balance, and understanding that makes it a great privilege and blessing for the rest of us to be with them.

PAUL COVERDELL and I came in the same class. We were sworn in on the same day. We went through the experience of being freshman Senators who did not quite know our way around.

We would get together on a weekly basis, those in that class, and swap stories about how we had foolishly gone to the wrong room, or lost our way in a corridor, or found ourselves buried in the unexpected tide of work, mail, phone calls, and requests. We went through all that together as friends. We decided that, in taking advantage of our situation as freshmen and serving in the minority, we would use the time that comes with that condition—time which more senior and majority Senators do not have—to educate ourselves and prepare ourselves for the service on which we were embarking.

PAUL COVERDELL arranged a trip to Kennebunkport to see his good friends, George and Barbara. The rest of us did not call them George and Barbara. It was Mr. President and Mrs. Bush. PAUL knew them well enough, went back long enough with them, that he arranged for the freshman class of Republicans to go up to Maine and spend a day with the Bushes. It was about 3 or 4 months after President Bush had lost the election. He was full of stories, reflections, and philosophic observations. It was a wonderful time. We also went together, under the sponsorship of Senator Dole, to New Jersey to have a similar day with President Nixon.

PAUL was one of those who would use that, and any other occasion, to learn as much as he could soak up, to prepare himself as much as he could for whatever might come. That was one of the delightful things about him. He was enormously curious, always searching, and always anxious to find out how he could be of greater help.

We finally stopped meeting every week as we got busier ourselves and as we got a little more experienced in the way the Senate works, so that we did not need to commiserate quite so much about our earlier blunders. But our class remained close. We gathered together when Kay Bailey Hutchison was under fire in Texas and gave a little party for her before she left for her trial. We told her we would keep

things straight until she could come back fully exonerated, which, of course, she has done. PAUL was a moving force in putting together that bit of solidarity among the members of our class.

PAUL is the one who moved on to a leadership position in our class. We were all proud of him, all happy to support him. It goes without saying that we will miss him terribly. But it is my conviction, Mr. President, that as we mourn, we do not mourn for PAUL. I do not know the details of what goes on, but I think it is not out of the question to think that John Chafee may be showing PAUL the ropes now, suggesting to him that "it will work a little better if you go this way," or, "Yes, I tried that when I first got here. PAUL, let me show you the ropes." That may not be happening, but I do not think it is beyond the realm of possibility.

We do not mourn for PAUL; we mourn for ourselves, for the loss we have sustained, not for the problems he faced. The problems he faced are behind him now, as far as this life is concerned. And, knowing PAUL, he will be learning, inquiring, asking questions, trying to find out and progressing still further, as he always did as a Member of the Senate. It is our loss that moves us to tears—the fact that we will no longer have his companionship and his wisdom and his friendship. But just as I suggest John Chafee may be greeting PAUL, we can be confident that whenever the time might be for the rest of us, PAUL will be there to greet us, and that helps lift some of the gloom and sorrow we feel on this occasion.

I extend to Nancy and other members of PAUL's family my deepest sympathy and condolences at this time. And I express gratitude, once again, for the experiences I have had as a Senator of knowing great people, meeting extraordinary individuals, and partaking of their wisdom and guidance. I count PAUL COVERDELL in the first ranks of that group.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Roberts). The Senator from Arizona is recognized.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, except for those who knew PAUL COVERDELL and his constituents in Georgia, I suspect it is very hard for others who may be watching here today or who hear other tributes to PAUL COVERDELL to appreciate the depth of sadness that all of us in this Senate family feel by the loss of Senator PAUL COVERDELL.

PAUL COVERDELL was a special man. He was so active in nearly everything going on in the Senate that it is impossible

to believe he is gone. The images of PAUL smiling, gesturing, counseling, are still so fresh. If there was an indispensable Senator, PAUL COVERDELL was it.

PAUL was a doer, as we all know. He was successful not because of his energy alone—though that was considerable—but because he was trusted by all, and he sought no recognition for himself. His judgment was sound, his intelligence keen. He was always kind and cheerful, never critical. The word “helpful” does not even begin to describe the aid and assistance he was always so ready to provide.

I have lost a real friend and a confidant. Georgia and America have lost a great leader. PAUL’s family’s loss is incalculable, especially for Nancy and his mother. Our sense of grief is tempered only by the faith that the Lord has His own purposes. We take comfort in the wisdom of Abraham Lincoln who said:

Surely God would not have created such a being as man, with an ability to grasp the infinite, to exist only for a day. No, no, man was made for immortality.

Godspeed, Senator PAUL COVERDELL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The distinguished Senator from Tennessee is recognized.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as the American Revolution drew to a close in 1782, a Philadelphian turned to his friend, Dr. Benjamin Rush, and remarked, “It looks as if the battle for independence has been won.”

Dr. Rush replied, “Sir, you are mistaken. The Revolutionary War may be over, but the battle of independence has just begun.”

On the day before he died, as I had the opportunity to spend time with PAUL COVERDELL and his family, I thought about these words, and they have stayed in my mind over the last 48 hours because that idea—that only constant vigilance can keep the flame of freedom from being extinguished—is one that perhaps no one believed in more, at least since I have been in the Senate, or acted upon more decisively than PAUL COVERDELL. With his passing, America has lost one of its most principled leaders and freedom, one of its staunchest friends.

There will be a number of comments made today by people who have known PAUL well, who have observed his commitment, his discipline, and his willingness to do jobs that most people leave to others, jobs he did in a way that was humble, gentle, and gave others the credit. We will hear again and

again today because they were the hallmark of PAUL COVERDELL's work in this wonderful institution called the Senate.

As a Senator from the neighboring State of Tennessee, I had the opportunity to work side by side with PAUL COVERDELL as we addressed issues important to both our States. But if there is one idea, one word, that best summarizes PAUL COVERDELL, his commitment to public service, to family and community, the word is "freedom." PAUL COVERDELL was a relentless, tireless champion of freedom.

I first met PAUL 6 years ago when I was still Bill Frist, the physician who wanted to be a U.S. Senator. PAUL sat down and talked to me about freedom. He came to help me with a campaign event in Chattanooga, TN, and his whole talk—while saying, "Yes, people, come out and support this new guy on the block, Bill Frist"—was about freedom.

And since I have been in the Senate, he continually fought for freedom. He fought for the rights of individuals to raise, educate and provide for their families free of government intervention and excessive taxation. He fought to protect the privacy of individual tax returns. He fought to free local education from too much Federal control. Believing freedom to be under genuine attack from the corrupting influence of drugs, he fought to increase funding for law enforcement, especially along our borders, and created a program to coordinate resistance to drugs among parents, teachers and communities that became a model for the Nation. Understanding, as Jefferson did, that a well-educated citizenry is the surest foundation for freedom and happiness, PAUL COVERDELL fought to ensure that all children, regardless of income, receive the very best education from kindergarten to college.

Perhaps it was his service with the U.S. Army in Okinawa that fanned the flames of freedom that never seemed to diminish in his heart. Perhaps it was his parents' ability—and I got to know his mom over the last 48 hours—to turn a small family business into a successful nationwide enterprise that strengthened his belief in the power of the individual to achieve the American dream. Perhaps it was his experience with emerging democracies as President Bush's Director of the Peace Corps that deepened his resolve to ensure that freedom, once planted, has everything it needs to survive. President Bush and I spoke about that shortly after PAUL was admitted to the hospital. Or perhaps it was his beloved wife, Nancy, who is going through such a difficult time right now, who helped him realize that love and freedom are the

great gifts God has planted in the human heart, and so we must do all we can to preserve them.

Whatever the reasons, PAUL COVERDELL believed in freedom, and he believed in America—the greatest expression of freedom next to man himself. He fought for both America and freedom because he understood, as Justice Brandeis once wrote, that “liberty is the secret of happiness, and courage, the secret of liberty.”

Over the past few years, I had the honor and the privilege of seeing PAUL COVERDELL’s courage up close—in the Senate Republican Working Group on Medicare, where his commitment to our seniors was very apparent; in the Foreign Relations Committee, where he specialized in areas of the world not addressed by others; a commitment that obviously grew out of his work with the Peace Corps; in Republican strategy sessions, where his expert guidance helped us ensure that the American people, as well as our colleagues, understood the importance of the issues before us. It was a quiet courage, characterized not by bluster, but by humility and respect for others.

PAUL COVERDELL knew what was right, and every day on this floor and in strategy sessions behind the scenes, he worked for what was right with all his might. Through men like him, the American Revolution is constantly reborn, the reservoir of freedom continually replenished, and all that is best America preserved for those who will follow.

He was a wonderful husband, a great citizen of Georgia and the United States, an outstanding Senator—as reflected by his position of leadership—and a great patriot. He will be sorely missed by all Members of this body.

May the Lord God who loves us all, shine His perpetual light upon our colleague, and comfort Nancy, his mother, and Nancy’s parents in the days ahead.

Mr. President, I thank the chair and yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The distinguished Senator from South Carolina is recognized.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise to say a few words regarding the death of Senator PAUL COVERDELL.

Winding its way to the sea, the Savannah River forms a natural boundary between South Carolina and the State of Georgia. Yet the river is not a barrier dividing these two States. Rather, its lakes, tributaries, and bridges bring the people of these two States together as neighbors and friends. As neighbors, we share many fine attributes of southern liv-

ing and culture, agriculture, and the values that Americans hold dear. As friends, we work and play together, while raising our families and supporting our communities.

Today, I rise to pay tribute and respect to my neighbor and friend from Georgia, Senator PAUL COVERDELL. Senator COVERDELL was my neighbor. He was more than just a colleague from a neighboring State. For the past 8 years we have walked together and worked in the same corridor of the Russell Senate Office Building.

Senator COVERDELL was also my friend. Everyday, each of us looked forward to his warm smile, kind words, and expressions of care and concern. As I worked with him on regional issues, in the Senate Republican leadership circle, where he served as Republican Conference Secretary, or in more general circumstances, Senator COVERDELL always was thoughtful and considerate of others.

Senator COVERDELL leaves a great legacy. His life was dedicated to serving others and his Nation. After serving in the U.S. Army, he returned to Georgia and built the family business into a successful nationwide company. Elected to the Georgia State Senate, he was chosen by his peers to serve as Senate Minority Leader, a post he held for 15 years. In 1989, President Bush named him as Director of the U.S. Peace Corps, where he redefined the agency's mission to serve the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe.

Since his election in 1992, Senator COVERDELL has worked hard in the Senate as a defender of freedom. He led the fight against international narcotics and terrorism. Understanding that freedom is nurtured by a well-educated citizenry, he introduced education reforms, and served as Chairman of the Senate Republican Task Force on Education. Senator COVERDELL fought to protect the individual economic and political liberty of individuals and families.

We mourn the loss of PAUL COVERDELL. We shall miss his companionship, but we will not forget the bond we had with him. Though his voice is silenced, we shall not forget the encouraging words he had for others. Though he now rests in peace, the impact of his good deeds will be felt for years to come.

Shortly before his death, our former colleague Senator Everett Dirksen, responded to the question which each person faces. It is found in the Bible, in the book of Job: "If a man die, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14.) I quote Senator Dirksen's words published in *U.S. News & World Report*, November 8, 1965, p. 124:

What mortal being, standing on the threshold of infinity, has not pondered what lies beyond the veil which separates the seen from the unseen? What mortal being, responding to that mystical instinct that earthly dissolution is at hand, has not contemplated what lies beyond the grave? What mortal being, upon whom has descended that strange and serene resignation that life's journey is about at an end, has not thought about that eternal destination and what might be there?

If there be a design in this universe and in this world in which we live, there must be a Designer. Who can behold the inexplicable mysteries of the universe without believing that there is a design for all mankind and also a Designer? . . . "If a man die, shall he live again?" Surely he shall, as surely as day follows night, as surely as the stars follow their courses, as surely as the crest of every wave brings its trough.

William Wordsworth, the revered poet, captured in verse a glimpse of this glorious plan and entitled his classic "Ode: Intimations of Immortality from Recollections of Early Childhood":

Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting:  
The Soul that rises with us, our life's Star,  
Hath had elsewhere its setting,  
And cometh from afar:  
Not in entire forgetfulness,  
And not in utter nakedness,  
But trailing clouds of glory do we come  
From God, who is our home:  
Heaven lies about us in our infancy!

PAUL COVERDELL was a bright star in this world. Though it is now out of view, it is not dimmed. We take comfort that he has returned home, to his eternal destination. This day, my thoughts and prayers are with his wife Nancy, his family, his staff, and his constituents. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The distinguished Senator from Wisconsin is recognized.

Mr. KOHL. Last night, as we began consideration of the agricultural appropriations bill, we were informed of the death of Senator COVERDELL. The bill officially is still on the floor this morning for Senators who wish to speak on the bill but more appropriately for Senators who wish to speak about Senator COVERDELL, who we all remember as an outstanding Senator, a good, a kind, and a decent man, a great patriot, and a great American.

We will be officially in session on the bill but more appropriately here to listen to remarks by fellow Senators on his behalf.

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, it has been my honor, and a privilege, to know our distinguished friend and colleague,

PAUL COVERDELL, for a long time. I have had, overnight, the opportunity to think about his life and about his death.

When a man dies, especially a friend, we are inevitably struck by the frailty of life, the speed of death, and the very painful void that is left behind. With the passing of our friend and colleague, PAUL COVERDELL, we are also struck by the promise of a truly brilliant future left unfulfilled.

Alphonse de Lamartine once said: "Sometimes, when one person is absent, the whole world seems less."

Today, that is exactly how I feel. The world seems less today.

PAUL and I worked together for many years. We were sworn into the Georgia State Senate on the same day, in January of 1971. In Georgia, we sit not as partisans, across the aisle, but we sit by numbers of our State Senate districts. Fate had it that Senator PAUL COVERDELL sat right in front of me. So even though he was of one party and I another, we shared space on the floor of the State Senate. We worked together in harmony for 4 years. It was a joyous time. It was a marvelous time to get to know this young talent.

When I came to the U.S. Senate, PAUL had preceded me. PAUL stood on the floor of the Senate here with my parents watching from the balcony as I was sworn in. After that day, he helped me, he guided me, tutored me in the same way we had worked together so beautifully in the early 1970s in the Georgia Senate. From time to time in this body, on different sides of the aisle, we were on different sides of the issues. But he helped me learn. He helped me because he was a good man and a great friend, because he knew it was good for Georgia and for the country.

I watched him work, incredulous—putting in 12- and 14- and 16-hour days. In Georgia, we have a saying: You are either a workhorse or a show horse. He was certainly a workhorse. He fought hard for our State, for our farmers and businesses and the average taxpaying citizen. He used his deep breadth of knowledge in international affairs, which he had gained as Director of the Peace Corps, to fight what he called the most serious threat to America's freedom today—the war on drugs.

Our colleague, Senator Moynihan, yesterday called PAUL COVERDELL a man of peace. I will reiterate that observation. From his time in the Georgia Senate to his post as head of the Peace Corps under President Bush, to his quiet and wonderful leadership in the Senate, PAUL had a peaceful and

resolute efficiency about his work that I think we could all try to emulate. He worked hard. He achieved results. And he did not care who got the credit. To lose a leader of this quality in this body in this day of “gotcha” politics and one-upmanship is a loss for this body and for our country and for Georgia.

PAUL was a leader. He led in his own quiet, positive way. I never heard him speak an ill thought or an ill phrase or a mean-tempered comment about anyone. He was a great legislator and a dear personal friend.

I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife Nancy, whom I have known for almost 30 years. I knew them when they first got married.

Proverbs tell us: Good men must die, but death cannot kill their names.

I think we can all take great comfort in that. Nothing will lessen the impact that PAUL COVERDELL and his legacy have had on the State of Georgia and on this country. It is not the time for political thoughts or words but only words to remember one of the best U.S. Senators this body has ever known. PAUL COVERDELL, U.S. Senator from Georgia, a peach of a guy.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The distinguished Senator from Texas is recognized.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, cheerful, fun, accessible, down to earth, loyal, friend—those are the words you think of immediately when describing PAUL COVERDELL. I am not going to make a long statement today because I know there will be a time set aside for our memorials to PAUL COVERDELL. I have seen some of our friends today—PAUL’s friends, my friends—and many of them do not feel capable of talking about him right now. It is not that he was not one of our greatest friends. They are not here because they cannot talk about him yet.

This is a man who served our country in so many ways, all the things a good citizen should do: He served in the Army; he was the head of the Peace Corps; he was a wonderful Senator, one of our leaders in the majority—the fourth highest ranking among us.

I do want to say more about him later, but for now I think our Majority Leader said it very well last night. All of our hearts are broken for the loss of this wonderful man who will have every tribute that we can give him in the future weeks.

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, this is a sad day for all of us. It is a sad time in the Senate. PAUL COVERDELL was, first of all, our friend. He was someone who, if we took a secret poll in this Senate, I think many Members would say, was their best friend. That tells us something about this man.

He was a kind, he was a gentle, he was a sweet man. This Senate will not be the same without PAUL. It will not be the same because of that kindness, because of that spirit, because of that unbelievable energy he brought to any task he took on, and did he take on the task! Whatever it was, PAUL would do it and do it effectively. He was one of the key people in making this Senate run. Candidly, he was that person not because of his leadership position, which was significant, but the leadership position he obtained was a result of the fact that he was one of the key players in the Senate and he got things done.

That effectiveness came because of his energy, because of his drive, because of his determination, but it also came because he could get along with people on both sides of the aisle. He knew people, he understood them, he liked people and people liked him back, and that made him effective.

He was effective because he did not have a big ego. We all have big egos in the Senate, but PAUL did not seem to have one. He did not seem to care if he got credit; another rarity, I suppose, among politicians. He just got the job done. He was always seeking some way to get it done. He did not seek the limelight. He did not worry about who got the credit.

Each one of us brings different stories or remembers different things about PAUL COVERDELL. I worked with him on Central American issues, Caribbean issues, and Latin American issues. PAUL COVERDELL is from Georgia. It was not necessarily logical that he had to concentrate on this hemisphere or worry about this hemisphere, but he did. He did because he understood it affected the people of Georgia and it affected the people of this country. He brought his passion to deal with the drug problem to that concentration and work on this hemisphere.

I worked with PAUL when we worked on the Caribbean initiative, when we worked on the initial drug bill we passed several years ago on drug interdiction in this hemisphere, and I worked with him when we were able to pass the Colombia aid bill.

I remember on both bills going to PAUL at different times and saying: PAUL, this is not going very well. What do we do?

Not only did the leadership responsibility go to PAUL COVERDELL to get things done, but people who are not in leadership went to PAUL to get things done. I remember PAUL would look at you, as only PAUL could, and say: Well, let's do this. And he would tick off three or four things. Basically then I had the plan. We got it done. That is what we are going to miss in this Senate.

The last time I talked with PAUL was as we were leaving for the weekend. I said: I am worried about what is going on in Colombia. Why don't you and I go down there.

He said: Let's do it. So we were talking about a trip sometime in the next few months to Colombia to look firsthand at the problem.

I know all of us at a later date will have more formal comments to make, but I wanted to pause here for a moment with my colleagues to say thank you for the life of PAUL COVERDELL. He is someone who made a difference every single day he was in the Senate. We will miss him very deeply.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I want to speak about my colleague, Senator COVERDELL. I know other Senators have. I absolutely have nothing rehearsed. There are many Senators who will speak about Senator COVERDELL probably in a more profound and moving way than I can.

There is one moment I want to remember about Senator COVERDELL because this small story tells a large story. We had had a major debate about the Colombia aid package. Senator COVERDELL and I were in a debate. We did not agree. It was a pretty good debate back and forth. I know from time to time during the debate I would reach over and touch his hand and say something to the effect: I just cannot believe you said this; this is wrong—something like that.

At the end of the debate, I said, because I believed it and believe it: Senator COVERDELL is a really good Senator.

He smiled and touched my hand and said: Senator Wellstone is a really good Senator.

I do not know if the latter part is true, but the point is that is the way he was. That is the kind of Senator he was. We talk about civility. He was just a beautiful person. I really enjoyed him. We need a lot of Senators like Senator COVERDELL: PAUL, you might be wrong on the issue but you are a really good person.

The Senate has lost a wonderful person and a wonderful Senator, and the United States of America has lost a wonderful person and a wonderful Senator.

As a Senator from Minnesota, I send my love to PAUL's family.

I will not forget PAUL COVERDELL.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The distinguished Democratic Leader is recognized.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, we are all stunned and saddened by the sudden death of our friend and colleague. Our hearts and prayers are with Senator COVERDELL's wife Nancy, with his parents, with his family members, his many friends, and, I may say, particularly our colleagues on the other side of the aisle who have lost not only a close friend but a gifted leader.

The great English poet Alfred Tennyson wrote of a dear friend who died suddenly: "God's finger touched him, and he slept."

Yesterday, God's hand touched our friend. Now he sleeps. And now we mourn.

PAUL COVERDELL's life was too short in years, but it was long in accomplishments: A husband, a son, a friend, a loyal ally, an honorable opponent, an Army veteran, a business owner, a State Senator, a Peace Corps Director, and a U.S. Senator.

In his 61 years, PAUL COVERDELL filled all of those roles—and more—with dignity.

He spent half his life, and nearly all his adult life, in public service. He and I did not see eye to eye on a lot of matters. To be honest, I can't think of too many times we found ourselves on the same side of the debate. But I cannot think of a single time that he was not fair, that he was not decent, and that he was not honest.

PAUL COVERDELL, above and beyond anything else, was a gentleman. He was a reminder to us that we can all disagree without being disagreeable. He is also a reminder, sadly, that none of us knows how long we will be here; how many more opportunities we will have in this life to right a wrong or to advance a peace or to make a difference.

Last night, I was reading an interview Senator COVERDELL gave a year or so ago. He was asked why he worked so hard on so many tasks, usually with very little public recognition. He replied, characteristically: "If you have been given a moment here, you should not let the dust grow under you."

PAUL COVERDELL felt that in the marrow of his bones. He worked hard every day—to advance the causes he believed

in and to serve the Nation he loved—until God’s finger touched him.

Now he sleeps the sleep of the just. We have lost a good and honorable friend. I will miss him.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The distinguished Senator from Texas is recognized.

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, at this time of shock and loss we tend to focus on PAUL’s death, but it seems to me that it is really a time that we should focus on his life. As we weigh how our lives and the life of our Nation has been diminished by the loss of PAUL COVERDELL, I think it is important that we also reflect on how our lives have been enriched.

I first met PAUL COVERDELL when I went to Georgia. He was campaigning for the Senate. And he was doing an event in a dingy old steel mill about industrial renewal. I had talked to him on the phone, I was chairman of the senatorial committee, but I had not seen him in action. So I got up and spoke, and then PAUL got up and spoke in that squeaky voice, and he sort of had a way of jumping up and down when he was speaking and waving his hands, so I tried to delicately whisper to him, quit jumping up and down, be still, but little did I know at that moment that with all of his outward appearance and the squeaky voice, that this man had the heart of a lion.

He went on and won in that campaign. As chairman of the senatorial committee I was involved in 67 Senate campaigns. And he won the toughest race, defeated an incumbent, was in a runoff after the general election when everybody else would have sat down, given up, gotten tired.

PAUL COVERDELL did not sit down and give up or get tired. He came to the Senate and we were immediately involved in the Clinton health care debate, and he and John McCain and I traveled all over America. We did 147 events in this crusade to defeat the Clinton health care bill. And in all those events and all that travel—you all know PAUL COVERDELL—he never got tired or never let on he was tired or got irritable.

In the Senate where we all want glory, we all want to be out front, we all want to see our picture in the paper, PAUL was one of those remarkable people who simply wanted to get things done. There was no job too small for PAUL COVERDELL. And there is no job too big for PAUL COVERDELL. PAUL

COVERDELL managed in 8 short years to become absolutely indispensable to the U.S. Senate.

And I am very happy today about one thing—not much I am happy about today, but I am happy about one thing. We often feel something about people—we often love people, but we do not often tell them that. It is especially hard for men to tell other men that they love them. But what I am happy about is the following point. I realized over a year ago that PAUL COVERDELL had become an indispensable Member of the Senate, that he was the greatest Senator from Georgia since Richard Russell. And so I always went to great lengths to say it. Here, in Georgia, and everywhere I got the opportunity to say it.

This is a hard time for the Senate, and I just would like to conclude on the two points I tried to open up with but did not quite get said. In these terrible moments when we are shocked and hurt we tend to think about how someone died. But at these moments it is critical that we focus on how they lived. We tend to look at how our lives and the life of our Nation have been diminished, but it is important that we focus on how our lives were enriched by PAUL COVERDELL. My grandmother used to say that as long as anyone remembers you, that you are not dead. As long as I live, PAUL COVERDELL will be remembered.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Hutchinson). The distinguished Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, yesterday this body lost one of its finest Members. I greet this day with a very heavy heart.

PAUL COVERDELL was not only a good Senator, he was a good and decent man. I found him to be a very nice man. I worked with him closely as an original co-sponsor of his Education Savings and School Excellence Act. I found him very dedicated and very easy to work with. I found him to be above political correctness; he strived to do what he believed would work and would help people.

We shared a common interest. We worked together on many antinarcotics efforts. We debated together on certification. I was his Democratic co-sponsor of the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act. We talked together about what was happening. We tried to plan together. I found him to have a deep and abiding knowledge about Mexico, Central America, and Latin America.

He had a kind of energy, enthusiasm, and dedication well known on both sides of the aisle here in the Senate. He was never one to seek the spotlight, but all of us here know how hard he worked. He was not the proverbial “show horse”—he was a workhorse.

He was a man who served the people of Georgia and this Nation with great distinction. He worked all of his adult life in public service. Simply put, PAUL COVERDELL made this body a better place and a more collegial place. All one really had to do was spend time alone with him in an office and listen to him and his thoughts as he sought to frame and advance an issue.

Senator Harkin was in the elevator as I came up this morning. He said: “It is so hard because on Friday he was alive and well in the Senate and today he simply is not here.”

There is a passage from the Book of Ecclesiastes—chapter 5, verse 12—I will leave with the Senate: “The sleep of a laboring man is sweet.”

PAUL COVERDELL, you have labored hard. Your sleep will be sweet.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, it is with profound sadness and the heaviest of hearts that I come to the floor today to pay tribute to the memory of a friend, a colleague, and a man who brought honor upon the State of Georgia, our country, and the institution of the Senate—PAUL COVERDELL. My deepest sympathies go to his wife Nancy, PAUL’s family, friends, and his staff at this most difficult of times.

It is tragedies like this that remind us that, beyond the policy and the politics and the tremendous gravity of the issues we deliberate—beyond the grandeur of this Chamber and the history we write on a daily basis—we are at heart an institution of individuals—of people. And when one of our own is lost to us forever, all of us are diminished by that loss.

I first met PAUL when I was a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and he came before us as President Bush’s Director of the Peace Corps. I recall being struck not only by his obvious qualifications for the job, but by his warmth and his obvious esteem for the mission he was chosen to fulfill. To help foster the ideals of freedom and democracy for people throughout the world was for PAUL a high and noble calling. And it was one he answered with typical energy and enthusiasm, optimism and hope.

Indeed, when I think about all that PAUL was—all that he symbolized, all that he meant to those who cared about him and the people he served—the single word that comes to my mind is, “decency.” PAUL COVERDELL was many things: a devoted husband, a talented legislator, a strong and principled leader—but above all else, PAUL was simply one of the most decent human beings one could ever hope to know. And any of us should be so fortunate to be remembered as that.

I well remember when I first came to the Senate from the House in 1995, PAUL had of course been here for 2 years, and he knew how difficult it was to get started, to get your feet firmly planted on the ground in these foreign surroundings.

And so he helped us freshmen—and women—to find our way around, to set up offices, to figure out the basics of how things work around here. While it is perhaps true that none of us has ever really figured out that secret, PAUL and his staff certainly did their best to give advice and lend a helping hand. But then, knowing PAUL as I do now, that really comes as no big surprise.

PAUL was always helping people, always contributing to the world around him. From his service in the U.S. Army to the State Legislature to Director of the Peace Corps to U.S. Senator, PAUL believed that to serve others was a privilege, not a burden. He truly believed that he could make a difference in people’s lives. And he was right.

What a lesson his life can teach an often cynical world. We ask ourselves, what can one person do? What kind of a positive impact can government truly have on the lives of others? What happened to the idea of public service as a noble calling?

To those questions there is one simple answer—people like PAUL COVERDELL exist in the world: Good, honorable, trustworthy people who call to our better nature, who exemplify what the framers of this Nation had in mind when they created what they hoped would one day be the greatest deliberative body on earth.

He personified another virtue that often seems in short supply in a world where the volume of one’s indignation is all too frequently the sole measure of one’s passion—and that virtue is civility. PAUL let the weight of his arguments speak for themselves, and where there were disagreements he respected those who disagreed with him. Perhaps that is why he engendered such deep respect in return.

It is little wonder, then, that PAUL rose so rapidly through the ranks of leadership. He had a keen grasp of policy and detail, and nobody worked harder on behalf of his constituents and his party.

He was truly a “legislator’s legislator”—not only creative in developing solutions, but always focused on moving the ball forward, on producing results for the people of Georgia and America whether in the areas of education, keeping drugs out of the hands of our children, or allowing hard-working Americans to keep more of their hard-earned money.

In fact, I remember at one point my staff commented to me that everything we were considering in the Senate seemed to have PAUL’s stamp on it. But that was typical of PAUL. He never stood still—and he never forgot the sacred trust that must exist between elected officials and those they are obliged to serve.

Just as important, PAUL was a man for whom his pledge was his bond—and that only counts for everything in this institution. His words had credibility, his ideas merit, and his actions sincerity. He made me proud to be a Member of the U.S. Senate. He made us all proud.

Once again, my heart goes out to PAUL’s wife Nancy, his family, friends, and all of his staff—whom I know are heart-broken as we all are—and to the people of the State of Georgia, who have lost a great leader and true friend. He will surely be missed by all of us who were fortunate to have known him, but his legacy will just as surely live on in all those whose lives he has touched.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, after watching my colleagues and the depth of concern and personal passion they have at the loss of PAUL COVERDELL, I want to tell them of an experience I had last night. Something came to me when I was at a dinner and we had just heard the news. It was the seventh Beatitude: Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the sons of God.

It occurred to me that this was really PAUL COVERDELL; he was the ultimate peacemaker. It was impossible for PAUL to walk into a roomful of people, whether Democrats, Republicans, liberals, conservatives—hostility, anxiety, it all subsided when PAUL came in.

I remember when I was first elected from the House into the Senate in 1994. PAUL had just arrived here. He did not

give the first impression as being a dynamic person, even an articulate person. You had to know him and know him well. But after you did, he was unlike anyone else we have been exposed to here in this body.

I thought last night about all the things we deal with here in the Senate. It was articulated in Matthew 9, starting with verse 35. It says:

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

This is kind of the way we are. We are dealing with the problems of poverty, the problems of crime—a multitude of problems. So somebody has to be the one to take on those responsibilities.

I read the following verse:

Then he [Jesus] said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out laborers into his harvest field."

When I, last night, thought of that verse, I thought, really, PAUL COVERDELL is the laborer who was sent, was raised up to deal with these problems, and all the problems we deal with on a daily basis, in his own unique way. So I would just say our prayer for PAUL COVERDELL right now is the last verse of the 23d Psalm: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the rest of my days; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. Amen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I come to the floor to express my sadness at the passing of a very kind colleague. I want to say to his family and to his close friends, in Georgia and here in the Senate, who really loved him and who worked with him every day, I send you my strength and my prayers.

PAUL COVERDELL was never afraid to disagree because he came here with beliefs. But he never, ever was disagreeable. I went back through the Record this morning because I remember actually several occasions where he and I were on different sides on issues, tough issues. Gun control, for example, was one of them, where we disagreed on a particular piece of legislation; Education, where we disagreed on a particular piece of legislation. We were yielding time back and forth, and every single time it was "my friend from Georgia," "my friend from California." The disagreement was deep on the issue, but it was always collegial; it was a model for

what should happen here in the Senate where we definitely have deep, heartfelt disagreements but we can disagree in a way that shows respect for one another and caring for one another. And he did that.

I wanted to come to the floor to say that because it is perhaps a quality we do not see enough of, and all of us ought to think about that.

I do not want to repeat what has been said about his contributions to this country. The record shows they were powerful and strong—from the Peace Corps, to serving in the Senate, to helping his party, to helping Governor Bush. He was his key person, as I understand it, in the Senate. People trusted him with these responsibilities.

I wanted to say as a Member from the other side of the aisle that I am stunned and saddened, and I see my colleagues are very affected by this. I feel for everyone who feels this loss in a very personal way. I feel it in a way of someone on the other side of the aisle who really did respect this man and enjoyed the colloquies and debates we had because it never was with animus. It was always done with great respect. He will be missed. Again, I send my sympathy to his family and his friends. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, there is a heavy cloud hanging over the Senate Chamber today. A bouquet of flowers with a black tapestry is on the desk of our departed colleague, Senator PAUL COVERDELL, whose presence will be greatly missed.

There is a saying that in Washington, in Congress, in the government, a great deal could be accomplished if there was less concern—perhaps no concern—for who gets the credit. PAUL COVERDELL epitomized that concept.

He was always in the thick of the action. He was always prepared to help. He did it with conciliation, with good will and accommodation, and in the spirit of compromise; self-effacing and never interested in the credit, not interested in the news reports or the television acclaim or any of what is customarily associated with the politics, the public relations of the Congress in Washington, DC. That kind of effective, quiet Senator behind the scenes is a relative rarity here.

He had a very distinguished career in the Georgia Legislature, in the Georgia State Senate, going back to 1970. He was the Republican Leader. Just this morning I talked with

people who knew him in Georgia. It was the same PAUL COVERDELL 30 years ago whom we saw in Washington heading up the Peace Corps, a nonglamorous but a very important undertaking to project America around the world with young people, and then in his election to the Senate in 1992 and the immediate recognition of his colleagues who knew him well, even though he was not so well known with the television cameras but very well known by his colleagues, and elected to a leadership position, No. 4 in the Republican caucus.

He was the point man for the Republican caucus on education. He brought to that very important subject, a subject of priority second to none in America today and in the world today, again his quiet effectiveness.

I had the opportunity to work with him on the appropriations bills on the subcommittee which I chair which covers, among other agencies, the Department of Education. For the last 2 years, we had a list of a couple hundred amendments, and in the flurry of floor action, PAUL COVERDELL was enormously effective in talking to Senators about their amendments, saying which ones could be accepted, which ones could be accommodated without coming to the floor even for a voice vote, and then narrowing the frame of reference as to which ones had to be debated with time agreements and which ones had to be voted upon.

The management of a Senate appropriations bill is a complicated matter, especially when you have a \$100 billion-plus budget and you have to worry about Head Start, drug-free schools, the National Institutes of Health, worker safety, and the myriad problems. PAUL COVERDELL was an effective man to get that job done.

Senator Bill Frist—Dr. Bill Frist—gave us all a report on the medical aspects of what happened to Senator COVERDELL: that it was not painful, an extraordinary medical incident with problems which simply could not be contained or controlled.

I know every Senator sends sympathies to the Coverdell family, to his wife Nancy. He will be sorely missed for the great contribution which he has made.

There are tough days in the Senate. Last year, in October, we had the passing of our dear friend, John Chafee, and now the passing of PAUL COVERDELL. While we intend to focus on matters of government and high finance, international affairs and war and peace, nothing is more sobering than to

see what is really important with the loss of a very special friend and a really great Senator.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, we celebrate today the life of our friend and colleague, PAUL COVERDELL. On behalf of my wife Elaine, who succeeded PAUL in the job as Director of the Peace Corps, and myself, I extend to Nancy and all of PAUL's friends our sincerest condolences.

I first met PAUL in 1988. I was traveling around the South during the Republican presidential primaries. I was a supporter of then-Vice-President George Bush. I happened to find myself in Georgia, and ran into a State Senator in Georgia named PAUL COVERDELL, who was also active in that campaign. PAUL, as he often did, made an immediate good impression. I recall the people in the Georgia meeting were all quite deferential to him. It was clear he had achieved a level of respect at that point in his career. Having served in the State Senate in Georgia for 18 years, having been the leader of a rather small group of Republicans in that body, he had nevertheless achieved a level of respect at that point.

As we all know, Vice President Bush became President Bush, and the next time I met PAUL COVERDELL, he had been nominated to be Director of the Peace Corps. As many Senators have said, he did an extraordinary job running that well-known agency.

Sometime in 1991, PAUL came into my office and said: I am thinking of running for the Senate. I am going to be running against an incumbent Democrat in the South. I know that is rather difficult to do.

We talked about the experience I had running against an incumbent Democrat in the South. We struck up the beginnings of a real friendship during which we talked off and on during his extraordinary quest for the Senate.

It was indeed an extraordinary quest. Because of the peculiarities of Georgia law, PAUL COVERDELL is surely in the *Guinness Book of Records* because he won four elections in 1 year. I am not certain what the law of Georgia is today. I think it is still the same with regard to primaries. In order to be the nominee of a party in Georgia, you have to get 50.1 percent of the vote. PAUL had a very contested primary for the nomination. He did not get 50.1 percent of the votes, so he was in a runoff in order to achieve the nomination. So it took our good friend two elections to get the nomination.

Then Georgia had—I believe they have since changed this law—a requirement that in the general election, in order to become a U.S. Senator, you had to get 50.1 percent of the vote.

Election day came and went, and neither PAUL nor his opponent, the incumbent, had achieved 50.1 percent of the vote. So there was a runoff for the general election—a hotly contested, spirited contest—in which PAUL came out on top, I believe, in early December of 1992.

So he had won four elections in 1 year in order to find his way to this body. PAUL was indeed tested right from the beginning in his quest to become a Senator.

I remember in the early stages of that campaign, people did not take PAUL very seriously. As I watched his growth and development, almost from the beginning it seemed he was consistently underestimated. But in his extraordinarily effective and friendly manner, he managed to make himself a force in the Senate very quickly, to the point, as many have said already, that he was elected as one of our leaders in his first term.

One of his staffers lives in my neighborhood. I noticed on the back of the car the COVERDELL bumper sticker, which says: “COVERDELL Works.” There may have been another bumper sticker somewhere in America that said: “Someone Works,” but I cannot think of a bumper sticker or, for that matter, a better way to sum up our friend and colleague PAUL COVERDELL than “COVERDELL Works.”

He was ubiquitous. He was everywhere. As all of us who work in the Senate know, in order to make anything happen, you have to develop little groups to work in an area to try to advance the ball in the middle of these 100 substantial egos, each of which has its own goals and aspirations. PAUL was literally ubiquitous, all over the place, in a group here, in a group there, always advancing the cause. He did it in a friendly, effective, and intelligent manner.

No one is irreplaceable. The Senate continues to function. We are functioning today, although probably not very effectively. But if I have ever met somebody about whom I could say he was almost irreplaceable in the Senate, it was PAUL COVERDELL.

So it is with extraordinary sadness, not only personally but in terms of the loss in this institution, that we say goodbye to our good friend, PAUL COVERDELL.

I yield the floor.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise to recognize and celebrate the life of PAUL COVERDELL, as many of my colleagues have today, a beautiful, warm-hearted, deep-souled man who was constantly encouraging and engaging people. I know he is hearing these comments. I wish I would have said them to him physically as well, but we know he is here, as we celebrate a life well lived.

It is a very sad day for us in the Senate. I caught the comments of Senator Gramm earlier wherein he said that instead of staring at the death, we should stare at the life; instead of staring at our loss, we should stare at our gain from having known PAUL COVERDELL. That is a very appropriate way for us to look at and think about it.

PAUL touched so many of us in the Senate in many wonderful ways. One of the things he did for my family that I most remember was sending us a book by a Georgian author. The title of the book was "Lights Along the Way." It was a collection of vignettes of people of faith, acts they had performed—many of them very obscure, some of them well known—to help people along the way. For example, one person had adopted 10 children, and the light this person had been along the way; some of the things Abraham Lincoln had done, a clear light along the way. My daughter and I would frequently read one, maybe two of these stories at night before going to bed. They were uplifting, happy, light, joyous stories of lives well lived, of somebody being a light along the way.

That is exactly what PAUL COVERDELL was, a light along the way. If you saw him during the day, it was never a confrontational meeting. It was always a happy meeting. Even though you may disagree about something, he was always trying to be helpful. He was a peacemaker. As you would pass through your day, he was one of those lights along the way. That is why our grief is so great. When you lose part of that light, it makes it very difficult. He clearly was that. He was one of those people who talked about the Scripture of God working through an individual, and it was God working in him to be that light along the way.

I think PAUL was truly that, a beautiful, deeply caring man. He cared for his country, cared for his friends. He cared for people who were not his friends. I never saw him give a harsh or a cross word to anybody. I never saw him hardly give a frown to anybody, let alone a harsh word. It is those sorts of vignettes of PAUL's life that I remember,

that stick out in my mind, his being such a light along the way.

I hope he is a light we do not forget. I hope he is a light we learn from. Light cleanses. Light shows us the way. Light points to where we ought to be and where we ought to go. Many times, it is a point of light in the distance that we seek, toward which we aim, whether it is a lighthouse or a distant shining light.

That is what PAUL is to us now, one of those lights we seek and aim toward, hoping that in some way, at some time in our life, we will be able to draw closer, move toward it, be purer, be a greater light; that when we enter a room, people will react as they did when PAUL entered a room. You can enter a room and there are shadows that come out, frowns, or you can enter a room and people start to smile and be happy, even though they are not exactly sure why you are there. PAUL was one of those where the room started to light up rather than get darker when he entered.

I hope his is a light we will always remember. As we mourn today, we celebrate that light among us, a light for us to aim toward. He was a great man.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I want to spend a few minutes today to join in paying tribute to our former colleague, PAUL COVERDELL. Memories of PAUL consistently paint a picture of a hardworking, even-tempered consensus builder. He sought results, not headlines. He was not one who basked in a national spotlight, but his quiet influence within this body has made a profound impact on public policy affecting all Americans.

My last opportunity to work with PAUL was during consideration of the Educational Opportunities Act this spring. It is fitting that our final work together addressed the subject of education, as this is an area where we had many dealings over the years. We did not always agree on the specifics, but the one thing about which we wholeheartedly agreed is the importance of education.

During the S. 2 debate, PAUL made a compelling case for the need to assure a good education for all of our citizens. He said:

From our very founding, we have understood that a core component of maintaining a free society is that the population is educated. To the extent that any among us who are citizens do not have the fundamental skills, the basic education, they are truly not free. They cannot enjoy the full benefits of American citizenship because they are denied the ability to think for themselves, for their families, for their communities, for the Nation.

In all my work with PAUL, I found him to be fair and accommodating. He was always one to search for the areas of consensus, and he was enormously successful in finding ways to reach accommodation to move things forward. His persistence and his commitment to making things happen—no matter how many obstacles were placed in the path—earned him the respect of all who had the privilege to work with him.

I join in extending my deepest sympathy to his wife Nancy. I also offer my condolences to members of his staff, who have lost not just an employer but an inspiring example of the work and rewards of a life devoted to public service.

We will miss PAUL, but his inspiration to me and to all the others of this body will continue until we are gone from here also. I join all my colleagues in the deep sympathy that we feel at this moment.

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to join my colleagues in expressing our condolences to PAUL COVERDELL's wife Nancy and all the members of his family.

I think that anybody who has watched the expressions and condolences that have already been offered would recognize immediately the extent to which Senator COVERDELL touched all of us in the Senate and the extent to which he was a beloved colleague and friend.

PAUL's life achievement, in so many different ways, obviously deserves the tributes we are paying today. I wish to comment on some of those achievements. First, PAUL COVERDELL was one of the really remarkable leaders of our time. He began his political career in the Georgia Legislature and rose up to the leadership position in the Republican Party in the Georgia State Senate. He then came to Washington and made his mark as the Director of the Peace Corps. He was very instrumental in expanding and successfully helping the Peace Corps to transition into a new era.

PAUL was a leader in his party. He served as chairman of the Georgia Republican Party at a time when there weren't a lot of Republicans in Georgia. But thanks to him, the party grew in strength. That is when I actually first became acquainted with him, because I chaired the Republican Party in Michigan at that time and we met in the context of national party meetings. Then, of course, PAUL was elected to this body in 1992. I think everybody here is aware of how effective and how competent and able he was. He moved into the leadership of this Chamber fairly quickly—in, I think, his first term in the Senate. That does not happen too often

in a place where seniority counts so much. But his observable abilities, talents, and incredible work ethic brought him to the attention of all of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle. On our side of the aisle, it resulted in him being put in a leadership role early in his career.

More than being an effective leader, PAUL was a tremendous colleague when it came time to needing some assistance on a project. I cannot think of one important piece of legislation that I have worked on in the time I have been in the Senate when PAUL COVERDELL was not helping me in some fashion to get it through. I remember coming here in my very first couple of legislative efforts on amendments and bills as a freshman Member who did not know how this place worked and looking to him, who was a slightly more senior Member, for guidance and help; he was always there. He has been there for all of us. That is why I think today is such a tough day. It would not really matter what the issue was, he was somebody who would try to help you. His staff was built by him to be of similar assistance.

Of course, for all of us, probably the principal thing we would acknowledge in terms of PAUL's attributes was the tremendous friendship he offered to all of us who were his friends. I had a unique relationship with him in the sense that he served as a mentor and friend to me in my first couple of years. When he sought a leadership position, I was proud of the fact that he asked me to place his name in nomination for that. I did so on the second occasion he sought to be in the leadership of our party. When you are asked to nominate somebody for one of these jobs, it obviously means a lot to you and tells you that you are well regarded by that person. I have to say it means an unbelievable amount to me to think that Senator PAUL COVERDELL thought of me as someone who he would want to play that role in his political career.

As I said earlier, the reaction of his colleagues today demonstrates that others share my high opinion of PAUL. So many have given statements already, and I know more will follow that will move us all. We have seen people express themselves in ways we never thought we would see. People who are known to come to the Senate floor and wage verbal debates back and forth on serious topics have already come here today and demonstrated, in the most human way, that they were so close to and touched by PAUL COVERDELL, and that all of the partisanship and the political debate is really

second to them in importance to describing the friendship he provided all of us.

So as I close we pray for the best for PAUL's wife and family. We give thanks for having been able to share his friendship. On a personal level, I say: Goodbye, PAUL, we will never forget you. You were a key part of all we have done here, and you will continue to play a role as our memories of you continue.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah is recognized.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, many years ago William Wordsworth wrote a wonderful poem entitled "Ode: Intimations of Immortality from Recollections of Early Childhood," in which he said:

Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting:  
The Soul that rises with us, our life's Star,  
Hath had elsewhere its setting,  
And cometh from afar:  
Not in entire forgetfulness,  
And not in utter nakedness,  
But trailing clouds of glory do we come  
From God, who is our home. . . .

I feel particularly bereft today because of the loss of PAUL COVERDELL.

I have served here for 24 years and I have seen great people come and go. There are people in this body who are just as great as the Founding Fathers were. There may not be many, but there are people here who by any measure qualify as great leaders.

These great people, who are able to cross party lines and bring people together, make this body the greatest legislative body in the world. PAUL was one of those people.

He was kind, he was considerate, a good listener; he was wise and he was a person with whom you would want to counsel if you had any concerns.

But PAUL was more than that. He was politically astute. He knew when to get tough about matters and stand up for what he believed. But there was also a kindness, a softness, a decency about him that is going to live long after today.

I know that "our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting," and that we come "from God, who is our home."

I know that PAUL was one of God's chosen people. He was given the privilege of coming here to be with us in the Senate. We had the privilege of knowing him.

William Cullen Bryant once said:

So live that when thy summons comes to join  
The innumerable caravan that moves  
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take  
His chamber in the silent halls of death,  
Thou go not, like a quarry-slave at night,  
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed  
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave  
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch  
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.

PAUL was like that. We are all going to miss him. The fact that he died such a quick and unfathomable death has made a mournful impression on all of us.

PAUL was one of those people who could move mountains because of his personality, because of his intelligence, because of his background, because of his experience, because of his kindness, because of his love, because of his fairness, and because of his leadership.

I could go through all of his leadership qualities, all of the things he was working on and the accomplishments he made. Right now, I am thinking more of the mourning and the sense of loss we feel in losing PAUL COVERDELL.

Tennyson wrote this wonderful poem called "Crossing the Bar."

Sunset and evening star,  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar,  
When I put out to sea,  
  
But such a tide as moving seems asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless deep  
Turns again home.  
  
Twilight and evening bell,  
And after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness of farewell,  
When I embark;  
  
For though from out our bourne of Time and Place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crossed the bar.

I have no doubt that PAUL is going to see his pilot face to face. I have no doubt that he does not want any moaning of the bar as he puts out to sea. I know he does not want any sadness or farewell now that he has embarked on this next phase of eternity.

Let us today concentrate on all the good that PAUL stood for on all his amazing accomplishments, not only as a Senator, but also as a man.

We all know about PAUL's love for education—he led our caucus on that issue—and all the work he did as chairman of the Senate Republican Task Force on Education to encourage learning opportunities for America's schoolchildren.

PAUL worked hard to make sure that every parent, every child, and every teacher could devote enough time throughout each year to educational matters. He made encouraging a love of reading his special priority for students, pupils, and teachers alike. He was a leader in formulating "A+" tax-free accounts for education. His landmark Safe and Affordable Schools Act has been widely regarded as a model program to improve our country's education policies. PAUL authored bills to make sure we appreciate the hard work of our Nation's teachers, something we tend to forget so easily when formulating education policy.

PAUL must also be memorialized for his steadfast work to lower taxes and make our tax policies more fair. Many times PAUL reminded us of his belief that the freedom and means to raise, educate and care for our families are threatened by a government that takes more than 50 percent of an average family's income in taxes and cost of government. PAUL was very proud of his work on tax issues and in particular, of the law he authored to stop unscrupulous IRS workers from rummaging through the tax files of private citizens. It is many ways so ironic that the last vote he cast was on repealing the death tax, an important policy change he had worked so hard to advocate.

I worked closely with PAUL on his antidrug efforts, his work to stop narcotics trafficking, and his efforts to make the workplace drug free. All of these things PAUL did, and he did them well.

PAUL never forgot the needs of his home State, whether it was through his work as chairman of the Agriculture Subcommittee on Marketing, Inspection and Product Promotion, or through his work as a member of the Finance Committee and the Small Business Committee. His record is replete with accomplishments that benefited his constituents back home.

Of course, there were so many other legislative things I would like to mention, but let me leave it at that.

Another side of PAUL was his love for baseball. He was as excited as anybody I have ever seen when Hank Aaron broke Babe Ruth's Major League home run record as a beloved Atlanta Brave.

I am deeply saddened by his passing. I am going to miss him very much.

One of my favorite poets is a poet named Sara Teasdale who wrote an interesting poem. Although this was surely a love poem, I think it applies to our memories of PAUL as this poem is called "The Beloved."

It is enough of honor for one lifetime  
To have known you better than the rest have known,  
The shadows and the colors of your voice,  
Your will, immutable and still as stone.  
The shy heart,

Which PAUL had—

so lonely and so gay,  
The sad laughter and the pride of pride,  
The tenderness, the depth of tenderness  
Rich as the earth, and wide as heaven is wide.

I like that. Even though it was meant for someone else, I think it applies to a large degree to PAUL COVERDELL.

PAUL was a good man. He did the right things. He set a good example. He was a good colleague here. He was one of the most respected Senators in this body for all of these qualities, qualities that very few people can come close to matching.

I wish PAUL the best in his afterlife.

My sympathy and heartfelt feelings to Nancy, his wife, and to the rest of his family who are mourning him.

I thank God for the privilege of knowing PAUL, working with PAUL, accomplishing things with PAUL, laughing with PAUL.

I am grateful for our colleagues in this body on both sides of the floor. We do learn that these people are here for a very important reason. They have been selected by their respective constituents to do good things. I can say as one who has been here long enough to know that PAUL COVERDELL did good things while he was here and that his legacy will be that all of us need to do better in the things we have been and are doing. All of us need to follow and emulate his example so that we can hopefully be as good as he was.

My sympathy and my best to Nancy and other members of his family, and to my fellow colleagues who are mourning PAUL COVERDELL this day.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I join with all of my fellow Senators today to express our feelings and mourn the death of our colleague, Senator PAUL COVERDELL.

I always find these kinds of circumstances difficult to speak to, to find the appropriate words to reflect my emotions or to in some way express my love for a man such as PAUL COVERDELL and the way he worked for all of us and for his country.

I grew up in a ranching environment in the State of Idaho. Oftentimes I think back to those experiences when I am caught in emotion or when I cause myself to sit down and contemplate how to deal with an issue or a situation. My experience with PAUL was largely a part of our time in the Senate, a leadership time.

I was one of four Senators elected by the Republican majority to lead them in the 106th Congress; PAUL COVERDELL was a part of that leadership team. He was Secretary of what we call our Republican Conference, or all Members on the Republican side. It was through that relationship that I grew to know PAUL and to appreciate the tremendous talents that he had. We all know he was an activist on the floor on many occasions, in pursuit of what the leadership team and ultimately the Republican Conference decided was a direction we ought to head in or an issue we ought to debate. He did it with phenomenal energy and talent.

When I think of that relationship, I can only come to this analysis; I think it so well fits PAUL: A team approach, as in a western ranching environment. We all remember the great cattle drives that used to come out of the Southwest into the Plains of the West to graze, thousands of head of renegade cattle moving all in one direction. The reason they were moving in one direction was because there was a trail boss who headed up this drive. There were a group of wranglers on horseback who were out there working day to day to keep that drive shaped and headed in the direction in which the trail boss wanted them to head.

There is no question that in the Senate Trent Lott is our trail boss. He decides the direction with the consent of the herd, if you will, and head Members. There is a group who are the wranglers, who work with that herd, to help shape it and keep it moving. PAUL COVERDELL was one of those wranglers and probably the best among us. He was constantly out there from daylight until dark and, if it were on the range, we would say in all kinds of weather because he was doing what he was asked to do but more importantly be-

cause he believed in what he was doing and he was very passionate about it.

All of us are here for a reason; some of us for larger reasons than others. Clearly, to be here with the kind of passion and energy that PAUL COVERDELL from the State of Georgia came here with is unique. As a result, he was selected to be one of those wranglers, to follow the leadership, to follow the directions of the trail boss, to make sure that we all stayed headed in the right direction.

I will miss him. I will miss his talents as a wrangler. He was a great American and history will record that. He has made his mark. But never once in the business of making that mark, or leading, shaping the herd, or wrangling the herd, did he ever do it for PAUL. He did it for his country and for what he believed was the right cause and the right belief.

PAUL, I think God has called you to a different trail herd. He obviously needed a hell of a good wrangler, and He's got one. We will miss you. We love you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I join my colleagues in rising to offer my sympathies and condolences to Nancy and the Coverdell family.

Today, we all grieve PAUL's passing, but we also celebrate his life. What a life it was; a life of achievement, a life of incredible service and accomplishment.

I did not know PAUL COVERDELL until I came to the Senate in 1996. I followed his career, as many Americans did. I followed with interest and admiration his campaign for the Senate and his election to the Senate from Georgia. It was only when I arrived at this institution that I got to know PAUL COVERDELL, the man.

Much has already been said this morning and yesterday and has been said well. He was ubiquitous. It seemed PAUL was everywhere. The breadth and number of issues he was involved in takes your breath away. It was amazing how much he knew and how much he was willing to invest his time and energy. He was incredibly hard working and willing to do what others did not want to do, did not have time to do. He made time and he was willing to take on the non-glamorous jobs. He did not seek glory and he did not seek adulation. He gave credit away freely because he did not seek it for himself. He was a consensus builder; he was a

doer. If you wanted it accomplished, you gave the task to PAUL COVERDELL.

One quality which I as a junior Member of the Senate especially appreciated and admired was his deep respect for his fellow man and his deep respect for his colleagues, regardless of their rank or status. I served on the education task force with PAUL. We had a lot of strategy meetings. We had meetings in Senator Lott's office in which we would talk over the education issue and discuss not only how we would communicate our message but how we would pass legislation. There were a lot of senior Members on the task force. They were always quick and bold to speak out and give their opinion. What I noticed about PAUL COVERDELL was that he was always observing who had spoken and who had not, who had expressed their opinion and who had not. At every meeting he said: Tim, you have not said anything yet. What are your thoughts? Do you have an opinion?

Or he would see Susan Collins and say: Susan, how do you feel about this issue?

He always included junior Members. He included everyone because he respected not only their opinion, but he respected them as human beings.

He epitomized what service is all about. I think that PAUL COVERDELL provides the lasting role model of what a U.S. Senator should be, what a public servant should be.

Many of my colleagues have struggled to find words and to find Scripture and verses to express what they felt about PAUL COVERDELL. I have found a verse that I think applies most appropriately to PAUL. It is Mark 10:31. Jesus said: But many that are first shall be last; and the last first. PAUL was a leader. But he was a leader among us because he was servant of all of us.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to join my colleagues in paying tribute to the life and legacy of a man I considered a friend first, a Senator second, and a great American above all.

Senator COVERDELL was everything that those of us who were blessed to serve with him strive to be: effective, committed, compassionate, and tenacious when it meant doing right by the people of Georgia and the American taxpayers he revered.

PAUL was a voice for families, for children, for the Nation's workers, and every individual seeking to build a better life for themselves, their family, and generations to come.

Of all my colleagues, I think I spent more of my working hours with PAUL COVERDELL, in meetings, strategy sessions, and casual conversations.

I considered him to be the "sparkplug of the Senate" because of the life and energy he brought to this body.

As others have said, very little went on here that PAUL was not somehow involved in, and he was the man I went to when I needed a friendly ear. I did not always hear what I wanted to hear, or get the sympathy I thought I needed, of course, but I always received the counsel of a man who spoke from the heart.

He leaves behind a remarkable legacy of service, and not just here in the Senate. Other colleagues have spoken of his leadership of the Peace Corps, his 16 years in the Georgia State Senate, his military service, his real-world experience in business.

In this Chamber he will be especially remembered for his unyielding dedication to working Americans, whether through his work on education, and in particular his education savings accounts, leading the fight against illegal drugs, promoting volunteerism, and lifting up America's farmers.

I think, though, that PAUL will be remembered foremost as an ardent defender of freedom.

The highest tribute one can pay to colleagues is to say that, day in and day out, they got the job done. Senator PAUL COVERDELL got the job done, with humility, with enthusiasm, and always with good humor.

With PAUL's passing, the State of Georgia has lost a leader, the Senate has lost its sparkplug, many of us have lost our best friend, and the Coverdell family has lost a truly exceptional man. My prayers, and the prayers of our colleagues and our staffs, are with Nancy and her entire family during this difficult, difficult time.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I join my many colleagues here in the Senate today expressing my sympathies to the Coverdell family and telling them our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time. A poet once said: There is no joy life gives like that it takes away.

I expect the Coverdell family and all who loved PAUL and understand the hurt and anguish at his passing, today know well what that verse means.

This is an unusual place, this Senate. There are 100 of us, men and women from all parts of the country. We have days where we have pretty aggressive debates and fights about public policy. PAUL COVERDELL was in the middle of many of those. I never heard PAUL COVERDELL say a mean word to anyone in the Senate. I told him one day at the end of a rather lengthy debate in which I was on the other side and the vote was called and we were standing in the well: "You and I don't agree on this issue, but you are a very good Senator."

We served in different political parties. We, in many cases, believed differently about issues. But PAUL COVERDELL was a very good Senator and served this country well.

The important part about PAUL was, though he felt great passion about public policy and the issues he brought to the floor of the Senate, again, he never uttered a mean word about anyone in debate. You can always disagree in this country without being disagreeable. PAUL COVERDELL demonstrated that every day in his pursuit of the public policy he believed was important for this country.

We are so busy and our schedules have us on our way here and there and everywhere all week, and then often to our respective homes in the 50 States on weekends, so it is hard to get to know each other very well. But each day, as we move around in this Capitol, all of us in the Senate exchange greetings and words, occasionally a story or two. Last week, I was in the elevator with Senator COVERDELL. We laughed a bit about his being compared, from time to time, in his presentation, to George Bush. I always used to kid him about that, that sometimes he had a cadence that reminded me of the ex-President.

He sort of kidded me and said someone told him he was doing Dana Carvey who was doing George Bush, so he was two steps away from the impression. We laughed about that.

Last Friday, as we were having a long series of votes, toward the end of the votes I visited with Senator COVERDELL because Georgia has been a State hardest hit by drought. I told him we had been hit so severely with respect to floods. On behalf of our farmers, I was trying to see if we could put together a piece of legislation that would deal with crops that had been flooded out, destroyed by water, and crops in Georgia and elsewhere that were being destroyed by drought. On Friday morning, PAUL indicated he wanted to join me in an amendment to this bill, the agriculture appropriations bill that is being considered in the Senate, to pro-

vide some assistance for family farmers who were victims of the drought that was occurring in his State and throughout the South.

He was always available to talk about public policy and what was happening; always especially available and concerned to talk about the people of his State of Georgia. I wanted to come today to say the Senate will miss PAUL COVERDELL. He was not only a good Senator, but he served this country very well. He was a friend to all of us. My thoughts and prayers go to his wife and his family. We say thank you to his memory.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, in the 211-year history of the Senate, the State of Georgia has one of the richest and most storied legacies. Since the formation of the Senate, and that was in 1789, Georgia has sent to the Senate 62 individuals as Senators. I have had the distinct privilege of serving with six of them, including our beloved PAUL COVERDELL. When the people of Georgia elected PAUL COVERDELL to represent them here in the Senate 8 years ago, they sent to Washington a unique, especially talented, and gracious gentleman; a gentleman of the South, I say to those of us who are privileged to come from that region.

PAUL began his service to the Nation nearly 30 years ago when he served his Nation in the U.S. Army, stationed in Okinawa, Taiwan, and Korea, and he never stopped in his quest to serve the people. He was truly a public servant.

He gave almost half his life to serving the Nation and the State of Georgia. It is no overstatement to say that his presence in public life has made this Nation more prosperous and more secure. He was a leader in the fight against drugs and the fight for better education and the struggle to keep this Nation strong, both economically and militarily.

We have a saying around the Senate: There are show horses and workhorses. We know for sure PAUL was no show horse; He was a workhorse. He worked hard and often he worked behind the scenes. He did not seek the headlines. PAUL COVERDELL did not seek the headlines. He would seek results—he wanted to get the job done, let others take the credit—and always results that were in the best interests of our Nation. That was his guide; that was his compass.

All of us here, before we cast the first vote, before we discharge the first responsibility, take the oath of office. We sol-

emly commit “to support and defend the Constitution against all enemies.” We commit “to bear true faith and allegiance.” We undertake “to faithfully discharge” our duties.

PAUL COVERDELL fulfilled each of those constitutional obligations under the oath of office. He was a man of his word and he has lived his life in the Senate true to his principles and true to that oath.

He was a quiet man. His office was right across the hall from mine in the old Russell Building. How often we would meet walking to and from the votes. Those are the moments when Senators do not have staffs around them, constituents are waiting somewhere, and you share those private thoughts, comments, and ideas. How often I shared them with this giant of a Senator.

The Nation lost a true patriot, a true gentleman, a true statesman. But his memory and his legacy will remain with us forever.

May God bless his family. God blessed America with this man’s service.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I join my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have come today to express sorrow and deep regret over the loss of a treasured friend and colleague. I have watched many of the tributes that have been made to PAUL COVERDELL this morning. There is very little I can say to add to some of the wonderful comments that have been made about this truly remarkable American.

I want to talk for a minute about my personal relationship with PAUL COVERDELL.

When he was running for the Senate for the first time, he was running against an incumbent Senator who was popular in his State. I came to the State of Georgia and campaigned for him. Before I arrived, I thought I was doing what a lot of us in politics do, and that is doing what is necessary for a losing cause. But after spending a few days with PAUL COVERDELL, I could see this man was going to win his election because he was a man of integrity; he was a man who knew the issues, a man who was dedicated to the concept and belief of public service, a man who had served his country in other capacities and had prepared himself over many years of public life to serve the Nation as a Senator from the State of Georgia.

As we all know, he won a very close race, perhaps one of the closest races in the history of certainly the State of Georgia, if not the entire Senate, which required a runoff election. Then he was reelected rather handily.

Again I went down to Georgia to help him in his reelection, and I saw that during his first term, PAUL COVERDELL had established a unique relationship with his constituents. Everyplace I went with him, they recognized him, they showed their appreciation for him, and whether they were Republican or Democrat, they respected him for his strongly held values and views.

As I talked to his citizenry around the State of Georgia, it was clear, whether they were going to support his candidacy for reelection or not, they held him in the highest regard because they knew, as we who have had the privilege and honor of working with him and serving with him in the Senate know, that he was a man who worked incredibly hard, a man of firmly established values and ideals, and one who believed and acted in the public interest.

As all of us experience deep emotion and sorrow over the loss of a dear friend, I am sometimes reminded that we should also celebrate the fact that we were blessed to have the opportunity to know and appreciate a man of such enormous and wonderful qualities, and the people of his State and the people of this Nation, including my own State of Arizona, were honored to be in the presence of and have the service of this dedicated, wonderful American.

As our best wishes and condolences go out to the Coverdell family and friends, we also offer our hardest celebration for a life well lived and one which is written in the pages of America's history, in the history of the Senate, bright pages filled with the Coverdell name in the State of Georgia with glory.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, as I enter the Chamber and look to the rear to the seat occupied by our dear friend, the late Senator PAUL COVERDELL, it reminds me of the reality of the fragility of the lives we lead. The message is one of taking stock of what our real priorities are. Life is so short, so fragile, and our period on Earth is so temporary.

At this time we join together in grieving with the family of our beloved colleague who passed away Tuesday evening. Our thoughts and prayers are certainly with his wife Nancy and the family during their time of extraordinary grief.

We all share in the reality that this was a tragic and unexpected loss. We all feel it in this Chamber, in the halls of the Senate office buildings and, of course, in PAUL's beloved State of Georgia. But we cannot be blinded by grief to the point that we fail to recognize and celebrate the life of this outstanding public servant.

He was an extraordinary public servant. I listened to some of the comments made last night after we learned of his passing. The Senator from New York said he was a man of peace. Reflecting on PAUL's public service, he served his country in the Army, with deployments in Okinawa, Korea, and the Republic of China, came home to Georgia, joined the family business, helped it thrive and grow and then, beginning in 1970, served his State in the Legislature, serving as Minority Leader for a period of 15 years. In 1989, he continued his commitment to peace as Director of the Peace Corps. In this capacity, PAUL saw the fall of the Berlin Wall, the end of the cold war. He seized the opportunity to place Peace Corps volunteers in former Eastern bloc nations in an effort to speed their transition to democracy and peace.

The wise people of Georgia, in 1992, elected PAUL to the U.S. Senate. I vividly recall that this genuine, quiet man made an immediate impression upon all of us. As we got to know PAUL, we found him to be deeply thoughtful, hard working, and utterly unconcerned about the limelight. His Republican colleagues recognized his efforts and selected him to the leadership post of Republican Conference Secretary.

As a U.S. Senator, PAUL did superb work in the issues of education, food safety, protecting our children from drugs, promoting volunteerism, lowering the tax burden on working families and small business, and protecting the rights of citizens in their dealings with the Internal Revenue Service.

We were all privileged to know PAUL. He enriched our lives. My prayers and thoughts are with PAUL's family, especially his wife Nancy. The Senate will miss his work ethic and thoughtfulness. The Nation will miss his ideas and his example.

Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, I rise, as have some of our colleagues today, to express my deepest sympathy to Senator PAUL COVERDELL's friends, family, and to his wife Nancy, as others throughout the State of Georgia as well as throughout this country mourn the passing of one of our colleagues who, indeed, was a very special person.

I think when we reflect on the times we had and the opportunity we had to spend with PAUL COVERDELL, we will certainly remember him as a Senator's Senator; by that I mean a person who was really interested not so much in the message of the day but, rather, in actually working together to bring to this floor and to the American people legislative products that were appropriate to get the job done.

I think all of us, when we see our legislative branches becoming more and more partisan and more and more separated by imaginary aisles that separate us, can think back and remember PAUL COVERDELL as a person who was willing to work with anyone who was willing to work with him in order to accomplish legislation that was in the interest of this whole country.

I had the opportunity, as so many of our colleagues did, to work with him on education. I think his approach to that major legislative effort was one from which we can all learn a great deal—how he handled the product he was trying to get passed into law.

What I mean by that was he was willing to sit and talk with Democrats as well as his Republican colleagues to try to fashion a compromise that could accomplish the reform of our legislative system. Far too often, that is sort of unique and different in the way things are done—both in this body and in the other body across the Capitol.

I think as we remember the experiences and good times we had with him, we can take with us the admiration and respect all of us have expressed of him, but also, at the same time, the lesson he taught us by his actions. That lesson, in my mind, was how we work together to accomplish good things for the American people. He did that. We can remember and we can learn from his actions. That is how I want to remember the good times I had and the privilege of experiencing it with him during the legislative process.

He will be missed, of course, by his family and close friends back home. He will be missed by the people of Georgia. He will, indeed, be missed by the people of America—those Americans who think that the function of this body and our Congress in general is to do whatever we can, working together, to make lives better for all American citizens. That is what PAUL COVERDELL attempted to do as he was able to accomplish so many things in that fashion.

He will be particularly missed by this institution and by everyone who wants to make government work better for the American people. PAUL COVERDELL represented that type of Senator. He, indeed, was a Senator's Senator. He will be sorely missed but very fondly remembered.

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, as have so many of my colleagues, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend, PAUL COVERDELL.

It is very difficult to look at those flowers, which are silent. As my colleagues do, I find it difficult to deal with. It is something that is very hard for all of us to understand.

We are here to pay tribute to PAUL COVERDELL and to express our sincerest condolences to Nancy and his entire family.

They say true friends are there when you need them most. We know PAUL COVERDELL was there when we needed counsel. I remember about a year ago I went through some rather difficult times on the floor of the Senate. PAUL was there to counsel me and to give me a lot of advice through all that—for which I will always be grateful—in a political world often poisoned by partisanship. PAUL was always there for counsel and friendship. He was there for all. He was not a partisan person. He could be partisan when he had to be. There is a difference between being partisan and being mean.

The *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* said it best when they said there is a lot of meanness in politics. But he was not one of the mean people. I do not think it can be said much better than that. He was a fierce partisan on the battlefield of ideas but not among friends. We are 100 people here who are friends. Even though we have our partisan differences from time to time, we do not take it off the floor. PAUL was certainly a stalwart in leading the way in that. He knew what friendship was and what it meant. Friendship to PAUL could not be obscured by any party label or disagreement or an argument.

That is why so many of our colleagues have been here today to make tributes. It is also one of the reasons why history will record PAUL COVERDELL as a great Senator. I remember vividly the first time I came to the well and signed the book, being joined with a very distinguished few individuals, a little over 2,000 people throughout the course of our country who have become U.S. Senators. Senator Robert Byrd came over to me and said: "Don't ever forget that. That is something that they can never take away from you."

When you think through the years of all those people, PAUL will be remembered in that way as one of the best in terms of friendship, in terms of his own issues he felt so passionately about—drugs, what drugs were doing to our society, especially to our young people, and education for which he fought so hard.

He was a passionate man, a caring man. I do not believe anyone who has ever served here who was not compassionate

and did not care could ever be considered an outstanding Senator. PAUL was the best when it came to that.

He had the disarming personality, the humor, the quick mind. He had rock solid philosophical groundings. These are traits that made for a great and potent legislator. Most important, if he gave you his word, that was it. You could trust his judgment. You could trust his instincts. Most of all, you could trust his motivations were right. They were heartfelt; they were sincere; they were honorable. I think that is the most important.

There is a campaign slogan that Senator COVERDELL had: Coverdell works. Those who worked with him every day knew he was tireless. He was working on the day that he was stricken. He was a hard worker. He worked hard for his State and he worked hard for his country and the people in whom he believed.

In 1732, when the colonists came to PAUL's great State of Georgia, they came onshore, touched the shore, they kneeled down and said: Our end in leaving our native country is not to gain riches and honor but singly this—to live in the glory of God.

I think PAUL COVERDELL has lived up to that about as well as any human being could, certainly as well as any Georgian could. You can certainly be proud of this Georgian.

Abraham Lincoln, on the passing of Henry Clay, said about the ardent patriot and profound statesman: "He had a quality possessed by few of the gifted on Earth. His eloquence has not been surpassed in the effective power to move the heart of man." PAUL COVERDELL was without an equal. I think I agree with Abraham Lincoln on that.

We all have vivid memories of the last time we spoke to PAUL COVERDELL. I remember on the Senate floor, with all the confusion of the votes on Friday, all the things going on, and although I cannot recall a specific conversation, you can always remember PAUL engaging somebody in a conversation.

The worst part for me, when I reflect on a sudden death, is that if I had the chance to say goodbye, what would I have said? I also find myself wishing I had known so I could take the time to say goodbye. I did not get that opportunity to say goodbye to a friend that I loved and respected, but if I had the chance, I would have thanked him for his friendship because it means more than anything else here. I would have said: Thanks, PAUL, for being there for me.

In his letter to Mrs. Fairbanks, Mark Twain wrote about friendship:

. . . I remember you and recall you without effort, without exercise of will; that is, by natural impulse, undictated by a sense of duty or of obligation. And that, I take it, is the only sort of remembering worth having. When we think of friends, and call their faces out of the shadows, and their voices out of the echoes that faint along the corridors of memory, and do it without knowing why save that we love to do it, we can content ourselves that that friendship is a Reality, and not a Fancy, that it is built upon a rock and not upon the sands that dissolve away with the ebbing tides and carry their monuments with them.

That is how I feel about PAUL COVERDELL today.

The second thing I would have thanked PAUL for, if I had had the chance to say goodbye, was his sense of humor. He had a great sense of humor. Lord knows, one needs a sense of humor serving in this place. It gets intense from time to time. I remember two cases, one recent and one a long time ago, which I will recall. I will take the long time ago first.

Some of my colleagues will remember PAUL had a very interesting election. Georgia, at that time, had a law that candidates had to get 50 percent of the vote to win. PAUL got a little less than that. His opponent got a little bit more than PAUL but less than 50 percent. So PAUL was here and he was talking to Members, saying: I want to join you guys, but I need a little help, a few contributions. We need to have another election and I have to face this guy again with the third guy out.

I said: I will help you, but I am not sure that law is right. Maybe the other guy should have won; he got more votes than you the first time.

PAUL said: Well, it is all right to change but not yet.

I remember that. PAUL said that in his gregarious way, not meaning anything malicious.

The second memory I have of his humor was more recent, about 2 or 3 weeks ago. PAUL, who is the Conference Secretary, came out with this little card. He held the card up proudly. He wanted people to have this for the Fourth of July recess. It proudly boasted "The Republican Priorities for the Surplus," and he went down through the list. We all looked at them and after he finished, Senator after Senator stood up and said: I do not know where you got that, that is not my priority. Who gave you this? And on and on and on for 10 minutes. PAUL took it well.

After it was over, I walked up to him and I said: Do you regret you printed the card?

He said: "Were those guys drinking something? What was going on here?"

It was a fond memory, but so typical. There was no animosity, no anger, just rolling with the punches.

He said: "Next time, I will check with a few people before I print the card."

If I had the chance to say goodbye, I would have thanked PAUL for that.

Let me close by referring to comments that were made several years ago on this floor by our distinguished colleague, Robert Byrd, who was talking about the death of William Fulbright. He quoted Longfellow. In quoting Longfellow, Senator Byrd said:

There is no death! What seems so is transition;  
The life of mortal breath  
Is but a suburb of the life Elysian,  
Whose portal we call death.

Then he went on to say about William Fulbright the same thing I would say right now about PAUL COVERDELL:

Life is only a narrow isthmus between the boundless oceans of two eternities. All of us who travel that narrow isthmus today, must one day board our little frail barque and hoist its white sails for the journey on that vast unknown sea where we shall sail alone into the boundless ocean of eternity, there to meet our Creator face to face in a land where the rose never withers and the rainbow never fades. To that bourne, from which no traveler ever returns, [PAUL COVERDELL] has now gone to be reunited with others who once trod these marble halls, and whose voices once rang in this Chamber—voices in this earthly life that have now been stilled forever. Peace be to his ashes!

PAUL COVERDELL loved his God; he loved his country; he loved his native Georgia; he loved Nancy and his family. He served them all, and he did it well. I am proud to be called a friend of Senator PAUL COVERDELL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, often the most difficult moments we have on this floor are not when we're trying to advocate a political philosophy, or debate a legislative initiative, but when we pause to remember friends and colleagues who have left us. Words, which come easily on most occasions, seem suddenly inadequate to express the feelings we have stirring in our hearts—the fond recollections, the abiding respect, and the sudden, overwhelming feelings of loss.

PAUL COVERDELL was a friend to each of us, a leader with a spirit that was as buoyant as it was inspiring. His vision and ability to get things done elevated him quickly into in-

creasingly more important roles in this distinguished body. As a leader, he was unwavering in this dedication to freedom, his support for the bedrock of liberty—family, community, education, and personal responsibility.

I fondly remember the many occasions we worked together, the discussions we had, and the ever-increasing sentiment that in PAUL I had found something of a kindred political spirit. In fact, I was in Atlanta on Monday, at an event he sponsored on my behalf. As always, it was tremendously successful, indicative of how well PAUL is regarded by those he serves.

It is easy to understand why. From efforts to make education more affordable, to reforming the Internal Revenue Service, to working to roll back the tax burden, PAUL has been a leader, as articulate and convincing as he was constant and unwavering.

He intuitively understood the values that bless America. His background and upbringing groomed him to understand the importance of family, the concerns of small business owners, the value of learning, and the ability of government to promote an environment that supports these areas. Just as important, PAUL understood the necessity of service and the blessings that come through service.

Not only was he a distinguished soldier, but after the Army—as PAUL succeeded in business—he gave back through his service in the Georgia State Senate, where he served for many years as the Minority Leader. His service continued as he led the Peace Corps under President Bush and focused that important organization on building and sustaining the fundamentals of freedom in the emerging democracies of Central and Eastern Europe.

Because of his service, PAUL was well prepared when he came to the Senate in 1993. He knew what he would do here, and I can think of no one with whom I have served who accomplished more than he did in the time he spent among us. His work will remain his legacy. His memory will continue to inspire. And the successes he achieved here will bless the lives and brighten the futures of families and children for years to come.

At this time I express my appreciation for PAUL and his leadership, and I want to express my condolences to Nancy and the family, along with my gratitude for their willingness to share a great man with all of us.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise to join my colleagues in paying tribute to our departed friend and colleague, PAUL COVERDELL.

The Senate today is a very sad place, it is a shaken place, because of the suddenness of PAUL's death. It is also a day on which I think we, by this tragic event, are reminded that underneath the headlines and the great debates and the partisan divides and all the rest of the sound and the fury, ultimately this institution, as so many others across America, is 100 people coming to work every day, trying to get a job done. It is the hundreds and hundreds of others who work with us here, our staffs and support personnel, who constitute what to me has always seemed to be a small town.

Today we are saddened and we are shaken by the loss of one of the prominent people in this small town of ours on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC, United States of America, Senator PAUL COVERDELL.

My wife said to me once: "Remember that being a Senator is just your job; it's not you. It's a great job. It's an honor to hold it. It is an extraordinary opportunity. But ultimately there is a 'you' there."

That personal side of all of us comes home today as we confront, and try to absorb and deal with, the death of our friend, our colleague, our co-worker, PAUL COVERDELL.

It reminds us, of course, of the limits of human understanding and human capacities. As great as we are as a species, as high as we have gone, as exciting as the reaches of technology are today, ultimately we reach a point of human limitation. It is the point where we meet up with faith in God that, hopefully, transcends those limits, capacities, and doubts and moves us forward.

Thinking about PAUL COVERDELL's death and his life, there are two quite disparate thoughts that came to my mind—but both of them, I think, fit him. I remember when I first came to Washington—this is an old expression—somebody said to me: "Remember that there is no limit to what you can accomplish in Washington if you are not looking for credit." In so many ways that have been testified to here on the Senate floor today, that wisdom fits the career of PAUL COVERDELL. He was a quiet and gentlemanly person, not looking for headlines but committed and anxious to be part of making this place work.

The second sentiment is something I heard from my own beloved mother, and I will bet everybody heard it from their mother, which is, when I was growing up, she always said to my sisters and me: "You know, it never hurts to be kind to people. You gain nothing by being harsh."

That, too, is a very apt description of PAUL COVERDELL: a very fine human being, a very kind human being. In the normal interactions of this extraordinary place where we work together trying to get things done, PAUL always had a smile, always a kind word. Even in the partisan moments we all are involved in on the floor, they never seemed to become personal with him. That, in both senses, is the way it should be.

It is, of course, sad but always true: We tend to appreciate people more when they are gone and speak more openly of them when they are gone. I think that is the case of this quiet, strong, decent, productive man. I have a sense, in listening to the comments made, of the critical role he played in this Chamber within the Republican caucus, to transcend the divisions that exist in any group of people, particularly any group of political people, and the critical role he played helping the Senate Majority Leader in trying to keep the place moving and getting some things done.

I can testify, of course, to the fact that PAUL was clearly a proud Republican loyal to his party. He was not hesitant to reach across party lines to look for support for something in which he believed or to offer support to someone on our side of the aisle for something in which he believed and felt was right and necessary.

I had the greatest opportunity to work side by side with PAUL COVERDELL as a co-sponsor of the pioneering, progressive, very important education savings account proposal he made which would have taken the basic idea of higher education savings accounts and expanded them to cover K-12 education to help parents support the improvement of their children's education. There is nothing we can do in this Chamber that is much more important than facilitating a better education for all of our children.

It was easy to work with PAUL. He was obviously very bright, he was understanding, and he was energetic and steadfast. It is an idea I hope those of us on both sides who support it will carry on because it is a good idea, but it is also a tribute to him.

I was thinking earlier this year about a proposal that became associated with the Clinton administration; namely,

the aid package to Colombia to deter and diminish the problem of drugs coming in from that country. PAUL stepped forward and gave sturdy, steadfast, effective support, which ultimately resulted in its adoption with bipartisan backing of a problem that is obviously complex and indeed cannot but help us as we go forward.

We all think of Nancy today and PAUL's family. We extend to them our condolences, and we hope, of course, that they are strengthened and, in some measure, comforted at this difficult time by good personal memories of their time too short with PAUL, and I am sure they are strengthened and comforted by the pride they should feel and the extraordinary record of public service that was PAUL COVERDELL's life, and hopefully given ultimate strength by their faith in God. The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, the State of Georgia and the United States of America lost a great, decent leader yesterday. PAUL COVERDELL was one of the quiet heroes of this Senate Chamber. He was not showy; he was not proud; he was not here for the credit or the prestige or the power. He was a gentle man in every sense of the word and in every aspect of his being.

He was here because he loved his State and loved his Nation. He was here because he wanted to improve education. It was a profound concern of his. He was here because he wanted to end drug abuse and the scourge of drugs among young people. He was here because he wanted to protect our national security and secure our children's future and open America's promise to all of those he served. He fought for all these things with a humble dignity and a quiet passion that touched each one of us.

In a way, PAUL was the Senate peacemaker. We get a lot of contentious issues around here. We are all human beings. Tempers flare. Voices rise. It seems as if you are never going to get together with people again across the aisles. PAUL COVERDELL could step in and work his way back and forth and calm things down.

Recently, we had the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education bill up. I am the ranking member on that subcommittee. The chairman is Senator Specter from Pennsylvania. It seems that every year when that bill comes up the

debate gets hotter. The decibel level goes up a little bit. We seemed to be locked in a week-long struggle on that bill, and I had a chance, once again, to watch PAUL COVERDELL at work in soothing the tensions on both sides, of reaching across to Democrats and his own Republicans to find that common ground and just calm things down. He was really good at that. I watched him work. I said once to Senator Specter: "I am sure glad we have PAUL COVERDELL around here because he was able to keep things calm."

He helped us reach the compromises, as we must do around here, and to find a common ground between people.

I also served with PAUL on the Agriculture Committee. We shared a common love of farmers and rural people. Again, in his own quiet way, I saw the determination and the grit of PAUL COVERDELL in fighting for his farmers in Georgia during many deliberations on the Agriculture Committee and especially in the passage of the last farm bill.

A lot of people do not know this—but PAUL and I talked about it often—he was born in Des Moines, IA, not more than 10 miles from where I was born and reared.

It is an honor that I represent a State that produced someone as good and as decent as PAUL COVERDELL. He was one of the finest leaders this body has ever seen.

Standing here and looking over at his desk and looking at the black cloth and the flowers on the desk cannot help but remind each of us of the transitory nature of human life. Just last week—it seems like yesterday—I was on the floor talking with PAUL COVERDELL about an issue, asking for some help and seeing if he could work some things out. He was as alive and as vibrant and as engaged and committed to the smooth functioning of this institution as anyone else. Four days later, he passed on.

Looking at his desk, and thinking about seeing him just a few days ago, being alive and vibrant and full of health, and looking forward, not only makes us think about the transitory nature of human life but it also should serve to remind us we should make every day count—make every day count in emulating the kindness and the gentleness and the caring nature of a PAUL COVERDELL.

One of my political heroes, Hubert Humphrey, once said: "To be a leader means a willingness to risk—and a willingness to love. One must ask: Has the leader given you something from the heart?"

PAUL COVERDELL had the guts and the courage to take risks. He had a great will to love. And to that question by

Hubert Humphrey, I can say yes about PAUL COVERDELL. He gave us all something from that wonderful heart of his.

So I join with my friends and colleagues in extending to Nancy and to his family our profound sorrow. We share your sorrow. But we hope you take comfort, as we do, in knowing that the kind and gentle and caring life of PAUL COVERDELL is now rewarded by the kind and gentle and caring hand of Almighty God.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I, like most of my colleagues today, have listened carefully to the remarks made about our colleague, PAUL COVERDELL. What it has been is a weaving together of a magnificent tapestry representing the life of a unique and complete human being—PAUL COVERDELL.

PAUL COVERDELL was a complete human being. We are all judged by many facets of our lives. In the end, what is really most important is: Did you leave the world better than you found it? That question has been answered rather assuredly today in the case of our friend PAUL COVERDELL.

I found part of a speech that President Ronald Reagan gave. As a matter of fact, it was the last speech that he gave before the United Nations in September of 1988, before he left office. I think it captures, rather well, PAUL COVERDELL—a man who served his country in uniform, a man who served his country as head of the Peace Corps, who truly touched the world and made the world better, who served his country as a Senator, who helped all of us as a friend, and who was a faithful and wonderful and loving husband.

These words—that I would like to recite in closing my remarks about PAUL COVERDELL—truly capture the essence of this remarkable colleague and friend of ours. As President Reagan ended his speech to the United Nations on September 26, 1988, he said—and we hear the echo of PAUL COVERDELL in these words—

. . . when we grow weary of the world and its troubles, when our faith in humanity falters, it is then that we must seek comfort and refreshment of spirit, in a deeper source of wisdom, one greater than ourselves.

And so if future generations do say of us that, in our time, peace came closer, that we did bring about new seasons of truth and justice, it will be cause for great pride. But it shall be a cause of greater pride still, if it is also said that we were wise enough to know the deliberations of great leaders and great bodies are but overture; that the truly majestic music—the music of freedom, of justice, of peace—is the music made in forgetting self and seeking in silence the will of Him who made us.

Thank you for your hospitality over the years. I bid you now farewell. And God bless you.

We bid farewell to PAUL COVERDELL. And God bless PAUL COVERDELL.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, none of us knows precisely when the hereafter begins, when the life of one of the Lord's servants ends. I myself have lost an unusually large number of good friends during the past few weeks. But I find it helpful to imagine that I can visualize each of them sitting on some sort of Cloud Nine up there, listening to those of us who are mourning the loss of good friends.

Yes, I do have a hunch that PAUL COVERDELL is up there, cheerfully and busily lending a hand to Saint Peter. For me, it serves the purpose of reassuring that PAUL is all right—in fact, better off than he has ever been before.

We all remember a hundred different personal vignettes at times like this. In PAUL's case, my first acquaintance with him was very early in the morning the day after he was first elected to the Senate in 1992.

I had gone quietly into the den of our Raleigh home and turned on the television set—the volume very low, so as not to awaken Mrs. Helms. I wanted to catch up on the late returns from the election the day before.

I heard a voice; and I was intrigued and impressed by that voice. Then I looked carefully. I did not recognize the young man who was speaking. It was PAUL COVERDELL. I saw the picture of him that appeared on the screen. It was a live interview. PAUL had not yet gone to bed. He had been up for about 36 or 40 hours.

There he was fielding questions politely, intelligently, and with that inevitable smile on his face.

That was the moment my respect and admiration—and affection—for Senator COVERDELL began.

Now fast forward: Like most, if not all, other Senators, I realize today that I will forever have special memories of PAUL COVERDELL. He was a good man, an honorable man, a dedicated man with whom I shared a great affection for today's young people—the responsible ones, the ones who understand their good fortune of living in this country—those who, as PAUL COVERDELL once put it, understand that the

strength and the goodness and the very future of America will shortly be in their hands.

I have sat and listened to others who have spoken so eloquently today of the Senator's rapid rise in the leadership of the Republican Party in the Senate. That happened because PAUL believed in the Senate. He believed in the meaning of the U.S. Senate, and he believed that we have a duty to endeavor to achieve a spirit of cooperation and understanding—including the realization that we have the duty to make the tripartite system work.

So, PAUL, if that is you whom I think I am looking at on Cloud Nine, you know that we are missing you and that we are so dearly grateful for the years that we enjoyed working with you. I have a notion that the Lord will be blessing you for being His good and faithful servant while you were among us.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I thank Senator Helms. He asked if he could speak before me. I said, of course, and that permitted me to hear what he had to say. It was beautiful, and I was privileged to hear it.

Most of us are privileged to believe in a hereafter. Frankly, it is difficult for me to conceive of an adult human being with a mind and a heart, difficult for me to see how they do not all believe there is a hereafter. But there is no doubt in my mind that what I believe by faith is true, and there is no doubt in my mind that PAUL COVERDELL is in the hereafter.

I did not come to the floor today to speak about matters of great depth or of religion or faith or hope. I came to talk about the PAUL COVERDELL I knew day by day.

Let me first say it is very difficult to put the flowers and the cloth where they actually belong, because PAUL COVERDELL is not known as much for being at that desk as he is being in this aisle and taking somebody's place in this chair. For most of his time in the Senate, he was either putting together a group of Senators to address an issue or he was trying to get the Senate's work done, because he was asked either by a chairman or by the leader to do it. The more difficult the task, the more it was given to him.

When you had an education bill with 200 amendments or a Labor-Health and Human Services appropriations bill with, at one point, 270 amendments, somebody quietly asked

that one of our Senators help. It was almost always PAUL COVERDELL who was asked. He was so good at it and so friendly and could bring people together so well that the chairman willingly accepted his help. I can see the last time he pulled up his coat and was given, after he accepted the assignment, a list with hundreds of amendments on it. The task was: Narrow them down. By the end of the day, they were talking optimistically about finishing. And by the next day, PAUL COVERDELL, not at that desk but walking these aisles and sitting with Senators everywhere, was getting the work done, always being considerate, kind, and understanding.

Sometimes we herald Senators because they have been here a long time. I suggest that PAUL COVERDELL and his wife Nancy and those who knew him, those who elected him, and those who supported him must know by now that he was a wonderful Senator. That was not measured by his having four or five terms as Senator, as I have been lucky to do, or my friend, Thad Cochran, who sits here, from the State of Mississippi. But he, in a few years, captured all of our hearts and all of our hopes for success. We would transplant them over to him.

I came with no speech but with a letter. Two days, three days before he died, I arrived at my desk and found a letter. My staff had taken it out of the mail and put it on my desk. Frankly, I left it there not knowing he would die. I was going to read it in due course. Surely, the day that he died, I sat down at my desk and read his letter.

The letter is not profound. The letter is PAUL COVERDELL. It is the PAUL COVERDELL who is so considerate that after coming to my office and spending an hour and a half of his time with a staffer of his and two of mine, he had asked me if I would be of help. He did a job for the Republicans in preparing something we needed, and then he wrote a letter on top of all that he was doing—the labor, the work. He wrote this letter:

DEAR PETE: Thanks again for meeting to discuss our recess communication efforts. As always, your insight has been quite helpful in determining how to craft a credible short term message on the surplus. Bill Hoagland and Jim Capretta of your staff were of invaluable assistance to us as well. Thanks again.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. COVERDELL

I submit there are not too many of us who would be so considerate that when we wrote a Senator to say it was good to be with you, would mention the staff people who really got

the work done because they knew more about it than we did. But here is PAUL COVERDELL, the last sentence of his letter, thanking Bill Hoagland and Jim Capretta by name. He puts it in here. How many Senators are that considerate as to add the names of staffers who they meet in another Senator's office? Some of us are not considerate enough to say: "Would you please repeat your name because I would actually like to know your name."

I believe this is typical of PAUL COVERDELL. I surmise that for his whole life, certainly while he was in the Peace Corps, and the public service part of his life, he was always considerate.

Let me suggest that being considerate does not mean being weak. Being considerate does not mean you do not get something done. Being considerate does not mean you cave in. Being considerate is being like PAUL COVERDELL.

As I indicated, I will never remember him in that seat that we honor him by today because that is his assigned seat. I will remember him as more the epitome of a Senator who worked on the floor of the Senate. That is a very special kind of Senator. First of all, most of us do not know how to do it. Second, most of us are not asked to do it. He was asked. He knew how to do it in terms of helping people bring difficult matters to a head, to solutions, and helping his party with great insights on strategy.

Mr. President, I say to his wife Nancy and his beloved: We do not know how to explain this to any of you. We are incapable of doing that. But, clearly, if you do not know it now, in very short order you will understand that he lived a very great life as a Senator, and the respect and admiration that has been shown, and will be shown, is probably an indication that he was as close to all of us as any Senator around.

With that, I say goodbye, PAUL; God bless you and your family.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, our colleagues have spoken so well about PAUL COVERDELL as a gentleman, as a person who was thoughtful and persuasive. As Senator Domenici said, he worked the aisles indefatigably with the ideals that he held.

First of all, it is fundamental that PAUL COVERDELL was elected to the Senate. It was a very difficult contest—one not decided on election day, the day of his first election. He was

an extraordinarily experienced politician and statesman in the State of Georgia, with remarkable legislative experience as a leader throughout much of his tenure. But those from our party in Georgia have a very difficult time with that, and that was the case for PAUL. It was a very close contest. He won graciously, came to the Senate, and had a difficult reelection contest for which he began to prepare early and in which he asked many of us to participate. But he did it all so gracefully, so thoughtfully, so constructively, that we rarely think of PAUL COVERDELL as a very tough political competitor and someone who was in a difficult arena. It took great courage to make those races to begin with and remarkable tenacity to follow through to success.

My own first impressions of PAUL COVERDELL came during the often commented period in which he served as head of the Peace Corps. PAUL COVERDELL was in Latin America and various other places where some of us tried to work for democracy in those days. They were remarkable days—the 1980s—in which all of the countries of our hemisphere finally landed on their feet with democratic institutions. That was true of countries in Asia and countries elsewhere around the world. PAUL COVERDELL's tenure in the Peace Corps is distinguished by the fact that the Peace Corps had matured, literally.

Many members of the Corps were now very mature individuals, not young persons out of college, or in some type of transition before they went into another professional career. As a matter of fact, under PAUL's tenure, the Peace Corps evolved into a group of teachers, environmentalists, and farm experts, in addition to, still, a very strong component of young idealistic people. It was this combination of people that gave sustenance to democracy, helped the economy, helped the pushing forward of intellectual pursuits, and likewise forged an increasing friendship and reverence for the United States and for our traditions.

Therefore, it was with great excitement that I welcomed PAUL COVERDELL to the Foreign Relations Committee. That is a committee on which he belonged. He made huge contributions on that committee. We focused frequently on Latin America, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean—areas with which he was well acquainted from previous times when he had observed first hand the beginning of the evolution of many democratic propositions. I sat next to him in the committee through the markups, through the hearings. He was always cheerful. He was always thoughtful

in exchanging views in a very forthright way. I admired and I listened to PAUL. He made a very strong contribution day by day in the work of the committee.

But my close association with PAUL came in the Agriculture Committee. I will mention that PAUL was chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Subcommittee on Marketing, Inspection and Product Promotion. He did a great job. We have just four subcommittees in the Agriculture Committee. These are committees that have opportunities to hold hearings independently, or to contribute to the body as a whole as they may wish. PAUL COVERDELL had a broad philosophical view of agriculture that included freedom—freedom for the farmers whom he represented to make decisions with regard to management of their land and their crops and their livestock, and the prospects for their communities. He championed that idea without apology. But he also was very much in tune with the very specific problems of Georgia farmers.

They included an interest in peanuts. PAUL and I had disagreements about the peanut program. In fact, it has either been my fate or privilege for many years to suggest reform. PAUL always feared that those reforms would come during his time, and he tried to dissuade me and, having failed in that respect, to at least bring me up to date on what the actual problems of peanut farmers were, how they could be helped, and how the legislation I was suggesting could be brought before the committee and modified, and ways to be helpful to the overall policy and to the constituents whom he saw very much in need of his support.

Mr. President, he prevailed in that area. We made reforms. But I think they were reforms that were very heavily influenced by the hand of PAUL COVERDELL. Due to the fact that he did his homework, he was persuasive, and he knew the farmers. He spoke for them.

In addition to the peanut situation, which was always with him, in recent years, severe drought—and this is one of those years in Georgia—occupied much of PAUL COVERDELL's time, working with specific landowners and communities, with much of his State in the throes of a very difficult predicament. As I looked at the weather map just last week, I saw how the drought problem has shifted just in a very few weeks in our country from patches that covered much of the area of the United States to very isolated situations. Unfortunately, Georgia is one of those situations. It is especially cruel because the rains have come to the Midwest and to

many of the Plains States with isolated problems still—in some parts of Nebraska, Iowa, and the Dakotas.

But PAUL, in his own way, always made certain we knew about Georgia and the very specific problems there. So when we had the large debates that we were privileged to have on the floor, dealing with risk management, dealing with payments to farmers to supplement their income in a very difficult year, and with specific emergencies, PAUL was very active in that debate. He was successful in that debate.

As Senator Domenici pointed out in his beautiful statement, PAUL COVERDELL was always one who thanked everybody involved and made certain that they knew of his care and attention and appreciation. It was my privilege to receive one of those notes after the debate which we had here. It is very difficult to try to think about the representation of that State without thinking of PAUL COVERDELL. He was so good, so faithful and, really, so effective and articulate. He was such a good friend. We will miss him. Our thoughts are with him and with Nancy.

I yield the floor.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I join my colleagues today in expressing my sadness over the loss of a valued colleague. I think we have lost a great friend.

I was looking over some of the correspondence I had with Senator COVERDELL. He sent me some Vidalia onions and told me they had a punch. He had a way of writing that was very interesting, in fact.

I think Senator COVERDELL grew in stature every year he was here.

I remember so well when he came to us. We had known him as part of the Peace Corps group. I believe his wife was a Delta stewardess at the time. He came around to visit each one of us. He told me a little bit about some of his background. I knew then that we had a person who was going to be outgoing because not many Senators do that. He took time to visit with each one of us as he came to the Senate.

I think the skills he developed as a mediator will be missed in this Senate. I remember some of the bills he worked on even just this year—the Health and Human Services bill, for instance—bills with so many amendments, and it took committed work on the floor of the Senate.

PAUL COVERDELL was a volunteer. He volunteered himself for the task; he worked with Senator Reid from Nevada. I think he assisted members of our committee on an enormous

number of disputes. Without his help and without his skills, I think we would still be involved in some of those bills.

He also came to us with some educational background from his life in Georgia. He brought us some educational concepts that are going to last, I hope, for years to come. His education savings account program, for instance, is one.

He also helped us in the field of general education because of his approach. He prodded us, I think Senator Specter would agree, to not only meet but to exceed the President's request this year on educational funding.

He was a very interesting and complex man. He was an advocate for keeping drugs out of the hands of children. He saw the appropriations process—as Senator Cochran and others who work with me on appropriations know—as a means to try to solve problems through the proper use of public funds.

As chairman of the Defense Subcommittee of our Appropriations Committee, I met with him often on problems of military families in his State. I know of no person who was a more vigorous advocate for production from a State than PAUL COVERDELL. When it came to the C-130 aircraft, he was a workhorse and not a show horse. I do not remember seeing PAUL COVERDELL's name in the paper in terms of some who sought publicity, but I saw in him a great deal as a man who sought results.

I say to the Senate that we lost a great friend and a valued colleague. I join in expressing my sadness over his loss.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to join my colleagues in expressing my sadness and my condolences on behalf of the family of PAUL COVERDELL.

In the more than 3 years that I have had the privilege of serving in the Senate, he was someone who was respected for his work, for his effort, and for his sincere commitment to ensuring that all the viewpoints were heard, and that we moved forward and acted for the people of this country.

He was particularly protective, obviously, of his State of Georgia and his constituents because he felt deeply for their needs. He worked hard to achieve benefits for his constituents. He had talent, personality, and character. You could disagree with him, but he was not a disagreeable person. He was a consummate gentleman. He was polite. He was civil. He was approachable. He had those personal qualities that

endeared him to all who serve in this body. He was someone respected by all of us. We all admired him.

Other colleagues have talked about his many efforts in educational policy, such as his efforts to ensure appropriate response for our military posture around the world.

I had the occasion just briefly in the last debate about Colombia to work with him and speak with him. He was committed to ensuring that our policy in that part of the world was not only consistent with our ideals as a democratic nation but also helped decisively stem the tide of drugs that has weakened this country. He did it in his typical fashion—quietly, diligently, without a lot of fanfare but with great success and great results.

We shall miss his temperament. We shall miss his commitment to this process. We shall miss his character and his contribution to the country.

To his family I offer my sincerest condolences.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I rise with my colleagues to express my deepest sympathy for Nancy and PAUL's family.

I had the great good fortune to come to the Senate with PAUL COVERDELL, as did the Senator from North Dakota, who I see sitting across the aisle.

PAUL was a special individual. He brought to this Senate an infectious enthusiasm and gracious energy which dominated the institution and those of us who worked with him. He always had a smile. He always had an idea. He always had a purpose. The purpose was tied to making this country a better place to live—for all of us and for our children.

He used to wander around this institution with a styrofoam cup that had "Waffle House" on it. That was one of the great mysteries to me in this institution—how PAUL COVERDELL managed to get Waffle House coffee sent all the way from Georgia.

It was a great promotor of Georgia. He never missed an opportunity to promote Georgia. That was only one of the minor ways he did it.

He was a great friend, also. I had lots of discussions with him. We worked on lots of issues—our concerns about the original health care proposal put forward by this administration, to when we set up the first aggressive, active task force that I got involved in and that he was also involved in. Even

at the time we were both new to this institution, he had an incredible amount of ideas and initiatives on ways to address the issues. He was always tactically two or three steps ahead of the rest of us. He understood the way the institution worked long before some of us—I put myself in that category—who did not fully understand the institution. He had an intuitive sense about the Senate—a feel for it and a love of it. He knew how to work an issue, to address an issue in order to produce better policy and better government for our country. I worked with him on that.

It seemed almost all of the time we were working on an answer with PAUL COVERDELL because he was involved in about every issue that came through the institution that had significance. The last major issue I worked with him on, of course, was education. We had a task force on our side to put forward what I thought was an extremely positive educational agenda, much of which came from his thought processes, which I was proud to support.

We worked a lot, of course, on Governor Bush's campaign. I had a discussion last Friday with him about that. He was working hard on an issue having to do with that campaign, and he was very hopeful that Governor Bush would become the next President.

He also had, as I mentioned, a deep regard for this body.

I think one of the discussions I will remember fondly occurred last week when we were sitting in my office. Some of the offices in the Russell Building have unique marble fireplaces. Many offices have unique desks. He was very concerned that we did not really have a historical database of where these desks came from, who had these desks, and we did not have a historical database of where the marble, for example, of the fireplaces came from; We had not, as a Senate, done our job of maintaining our own traditions and our own history as well as we might. We got to talking about that and the history of the Senate. His love of the institution was exuberant.

What a huge impact he had in such a short time. We only came here 8 years ago—the two of us. At that time, I think there were 11 after the class finally got settled in. He took a while to get here because he confronted a number of races, but with his perseverance he was totally committed and won them all. In that time, he left a huge mark.

One of the true strengths of our democracy is that it totally exceeds any individual. This institution includes Daniel Webster, Calhoun, Clay; people in our century who had a

huge impact, including Taft, Bob Dole. When they leave, the institution goes on; it functions. It functions extraordinarily well for a democratic body—as well as a democratic body can function. It produces governance for our people which is fair and honest and committed to a better life.

Recognizing that the institution goes on, there are still people who leave a mark. There are still people whose memory will be there, and will be there for a considerable amount of time. PAUL certainly falls in that category. It will be hard for me to turn and look at that door and not see PAUL standing by it, working on some issue. That is where he usually worked from, the pillar back there, addressing some concern, planning some initiative, all of which was directed at one single purpose: Preserving and keeping our democracy.

We will miss him.

I yield the floor.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Senator PAUL COVERDELL. His passing has shocked and saddened us all. It has left a void in the Senate and in our Nation.

For Senator COVERDELL, public service was his profession and his passion. After serving in the Army, he began his public life as a member of the Georgia State Senate where he served as Minority Leader. After working in the private sector, he was appointed Director of the Peace Corps. In this important position he worked to spread American values around the world. This experience helped him when he later served on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where he was a leader in our international effort to strengthen our antidrug efforts.

In the Senate, Senator COVERDELL was known as a hard worker who often reached across the aisle to build coalitions. Senator COVERDELL fought hard for his principles. We did not always agree on policy—but he always treated those on the other side with dignity and respect. He knew that despite our different views, we all shared a common goal. We all want to do what is best for our constituents and our Nation. He understood that we can get more done with civility than with contention.

Senator COVERDELL will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to address the terrible loss the Senate suffered yesterday, when PAUL COVERDELL left this Earth. I was truly shocked by the news.

Just last week, PAUL was on the floor of the Senate, working in his quiet and nonassuming way. Yesterday, I was writing him a get well card. Today, he is gone.

PAUL was a dedicated public servant. He served the State of Georgia and this Nation in the Army, the Legislature, as a businessman, as the head of the Peace Corps and in the U.S. Senate. The respect he had earned from his colleagues here is evident in his appointment to numerous task forces and his election to a leadership position. His passing is a major loss to this body and this great country.

Since I am also from a State where agriculture is an important part of the economy, PAUL was a valuable ally in ensuring the family farms do not disappear. I also admired his work to keep our children safe from drugs and crime, a priority he and I shared. PAUL represented the best of America: a belief that people flourish when they have the freedom to work and make their own decisions.

PAUL will truly be missed. He stood out in the Senate for the simple reason that he never drew attention to himself. In a business where egos can run rampant, PAUL did not display one. He preferred to get things done.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Nancy, and their family. They have some tough days ahead of them. I hope they can look back, as I do, at the impressive record of PAUL's work with a sense of pride. I am thankful for the chance to know such a man.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to join my colleagues in mourning the sudden and untimely death of our colleague from Georgia, PAUL COVERDELL.

Senator COVERDELL had a long and distinguished career of public service, capped by his dedicated service in the U.S. Senate. Senator COVERDELL served his country in the U.S. Army in Japan, Taiwan and Korea. In 1970, he embarked on a career in politics in his native Georgia, serving as a State Senator and chairman of the State Republican Party. In 1989 he was selected by President Bush to lead the Peace Corps.

We here in the Senate, though, knew PAUL COVERDELL as a friend and as a real gentleman. We did not always agree on the issues, but PAUL COVERDELL never took policy disagreements personally and never let them affect his relationships with other Senators. Senator COVERDELL was always very positive, very upbeat. On every issue, even when we disagreed, I found PAUL to be fair, decent, and, above all, honest.

In this body, some Senators are known as “workhorses.” Others are known as “show horses.” There is no question that PAUL COVERDELL was a workhorse. He was not flashy. He did not seek the media spotlight. PAUL COVERDELL worked tirelessly with the leadership on his side of the aisle on some of the toughest issues facing the Senate. He was interested in getting results, not credit. His focus, his determination, and his willingness to bring other Senators together to get things done served the Senate well, served Georgia well, and served our country well. His spirit and energy will be sorely missed in this body.

Put simply, I liked and respected PAUL COVERDELL. We will miss him. My thoughts and prayers go to his wife, Nancy, his family and friends, and his staff.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I join all of my colleagues, the staff of the Senate, the people of Georgia, citizens across America and around the world in mourning the death of PAUL COVERDELL.

A thoroughly decent human being, he worked long and hard for what he thought was right. His career reflected the combination of principle and effective leadership that were characteristic of the way he did business. In his quiet way, he managed to navigate some very difficult waters, keeping his equanimity and dignity intact, while gaining not only his goal, but the respect of all who associated with him.

Many in the Senate can claim friendships with him that extend to several decades. I met him only after he was elected to the Senate in 1992, but from the first, I was impressed by the same things his friends loved and admired in him—his kindness, his sense of humor, and his work ethic. A skilled legislator, he was often asked by the leadership to help move matters along. He did this in concert with colleagues on both sides of the aisle, always managing to “disagree without being disagreeable.” He was a public servant of the highest order.

His family, friends, staff, constituents, and colleagues certainly know what has been lost for we know what he was and what he did with his life. He will be missed in so many circles, but his influence and his good works will continue.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I want to join with my colleagues in expressing my deep sorrow at the loss of our friend and colleague, PAUL COVERDELL. During this difficult time, I want to extend my thoughts and prayers to Nancy and all of his family.

PAUL and I both came to Washington, DC, in January of 1993. In the years that I've known PAUL, I've always been impressed by his thoughtfulness and his work ethic.

I always had the utmost respect for him because of his quiet demeanor. He did not seek headlines, and he did not seek credit. Whether it was fighting illegal drugs or working on education or tax policy, he simply did his work with a quiet determination, an open heart, and a kind word for anyone who crossed his path.

My predecessor in the Senate, Warren Magnuson, had a phrase for someone like that—"a workhorse not a show horse."

PAUL COVERDELL was a workhorse in the finest sense.

PAUL earned the respect of everyone here because he treated everyone else with respect and dignity.

PAUL's work here in the U.S. Senate was really just an extension of a lifetime of service. Whether it was serving his country in the U.S. Army, serving the people of Georgia as a State Senator, or helping people around the world through his work as Director of the U.S. Peace Corps, PAUL brought his generous spirit and his determination to everything he undertook.

Mr. President, the people of Georgia are fortunate to have been served by a person of PAUL's character and skills.

Those of us who worked with him here in the U.S. Senate were fortunate to have him as a friend and colleague. His passing is a loss to our Senate, to Georgia and to the Nation. I will miss him as a friend and colleague.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring a distinguished public servant and a valued Member of the U.S. Senate, Senator PAUL COVERDELL, who died Tuesday evening at the Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia.

Senator COVERDELL was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1992 and served as the Republican Conference Secretary since December 1996. He was a member of the Senate Finance, Foreign Relations, and Small Business Committees and chaired the Agriculture Committee's Subcommittee on Marketing, Inspection and Product Promotion.

Before entering public life, Senator COVERDELL served in the U.S. Army in Okinawa, Taiwan and Korea. He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri before returning to Georgia to work in his family's business.

PAUL COVERDELL's political career began in 1970 when he was elected to the Georgia State Senate serving as Minority Leader for 14 years. In 1989, he accepted President Bush's appointment as Director of the Peace Corps, where he refined the agency's mission to serve the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe.

While Senator COVERDELL and I rarely agreed on the many issues that came before the Senate for consideration, I greatly respected his hard work and his unfailing courtesy and civility. He was a modest man who valued results more than he valued headlines. Indeed, PAUL COVERDELL was well-respected by every Member of this body, engendering the affection of all those with whom he served.

Senator COVERDELL served the citizens of Georgia and the Nation well and we are all deeply saddened by his untimely death. I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to him and to extend my deepest and heartfelt sympathies to his family.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to join some of my fellow Senators in remembering the extraordinary life and service of our friend and colleague, PAUL COVERDELL.

It is a somber day in the Senate Chamber, as we deal with this loss. PAUL COVERDELL served the people of Georgia with distinction for over 30 years. His passing leaves a significant mark on the many lives he has touched over his lifetime. On behalf of myself and my wife Annette, I offer my condolences to PAUL's wife Nancy and his family.

Anyone who dealt with PAUL COVERDELL over the years came to respect him. He was honest, loyal, and dedicated to public service. It was these characteristics that PAUL brought to the table every day in his life. PAUL's vision as a legislator and commitment to the principles and values for which he truly believed were demonstrated time after time in this Chamber. His commitment to improving education in the United States sets a high standard for all public officials. His hard work in the Republican leadership and his vision of a prosperous future for all Americans deserves tremendous praise.

Personally, it was truly my privilege to know and work with PAUL over the years. We sat next to each other recently in the Senate, as can be seen.

He will be remembered as a dedicated American who gave much of his life in service to his Nation. I offer my thoughts and prayers to those close to PAUL in this difficult time, especially to his family.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. President, I rise today to deliver some remarks upon the death of our beloved colleague, PAUL COVERDELL.

It is no exaggeration to say that the whole Senate is in a state of shock that we no longer have PAUL with us. Just last week, Senator COVERDELL was among us on the Senate floor debating legislation, visiting with us in the Cloakroom, speaking up in our weekly Republican Conference. And now, only a short period later, he is no longer with us. To my knowledge, PAUL never seemed to have had any health problems. He certainly seemed fine last week.

My last remembrance of him is just how happy he was when we adjourned on Friday afternoon after we passed that landmark legislation repealing the death tax. I guess the fact that PAUL is no longer with us reminds us all that we need to keep life in perspective.

I met Senator COVERDELL when I was first campaigning for the Senate 2 or 3 years ago. From that first time I met him, I came away with a very powerful impression that he was a most sincere and decent and friendly person. In all my dealings with him in my year and a half in the Senate, that impression never changed. PAUL was always in a good, cheerful mood. He was always positive and upbeat. I never once saw him raise his voice or get angry at anybody. He was unfailingly polite and courteous at all times and to everyone. He was the quintessential southern gentleman and a delight to know.

In the Senate, we debate issues of great moment to our country: war and peace, the economy, education policy. I guess it is sometimes the little, personal, seemingly inconsequential gestures of friendship that one remembers. I used to sit next to Senator COVERDELL every week in our Wednesday Republican luncheons. I got to know PAUL that way, not only as a colleague but as a person. Every week PAUL would gently rib me for eating my main course before I ate my salad. Week after week he would comment on that. I think finally he just concluded that that was a peculiar habit of midwesterners.

I will always remember the smile and the twinkle in PAUL COVERDELL's eyes, and I will not easily forget him or my friendship with him.

PAUL, I am proud to have served with you. I am going to miss you. We are all going to miss you. You enriched this Senate, the State of Georgia, and the whole country by your service. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your

wonderful wife Nancy and your family. May God bless you and keep you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I join my colleague from Illinois in paying tribute to our fallen colleague, Senator PAUL COVERDELL.

I have been in the Senate for 4 years and have worked with many colleagues on both sides of the aisle. I agree completely with Senator Fitzgerald: Senator COVERDELL brought to this floor a certain dignity and demeanor to which we all aspire. He was a person of good humor. I think it may be difficult for many people who follow the debates in the Senate to believe that a Democrat who believes very strongly in his party and a Republican who believes very strongly can be engaged in a hot debate on the floor of the Senate and then, as soon as the debate is over, meet each other in the corridor or the well or at another time and be friends. That was the case with PAUL COVERDELL.

We disagreed on many issues, but I never found him to be lacking a smile and always looking for some common ground where we might come together. I recall the last conversation I had with him several weeks ago, he walked all the way across the floor to the Democratic side of the aisle and came right up to me. I was wondering what this could be.

He said: "I need your help."

I said: "What is it, PAUL?"

He said: "I want to try to secure a gold medal for Ronald and Nancy Reagan; will you help me?"

I knew he was from Illinois. I said: "Of course, I will."

I signed onto it. That is the kind of person he was. As different as we might be politically, he was always trying to reach out and find some common ground. I think when we get caught up so much in the political debate and the furor here, we forget many times how important it is to have a person such as PAUL COVERDELL here to remind us time and again that after the debates are finished, we are all basically human beings trying to do our very best in the Senate.

I agree with my colleague from Illinois: It is hard to imagine that only a few days ago he was standing in the well and smiling and walking around as he always did as a member of the Republican leadership team and then stricken on Sunday, operated on on Monday and passed away. It is a sad day for the Senate.

I have noted, interestingly enough, today, as many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have come to the microphone, some have known PAUL COVERDELL for a long time. Some have known him in many different roles in life, some for a very short time. Everyone from both sides has a very positive take on what PAUL COVERDELL meant to each of us and meant to this institution.

It is a great loss, not only for the Senate but for the State of Georgia and for the Nation, which he served in so many different ways so well.

I extend my sympathies to his wife Nancy and all his family and friends in this moment of grief. The Senate has lost a fine Senator. I am honored to have called him a friend.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I join with my colleagues to pay tribute to PAUL COVERDELL. I have listened to a lot of tributes today. There have been so many themes, including cheerfulness, optimism, a welcome hand, no rancor, no bitterness. We all know that to be PAUL COVERDELL. I want to mention one incident which, for me, encapsulates it all. It is going to be the incident that is defining for me. Whenever I think of PAUL, I always think of this incident, and I always will.

This outfit—the Senate—tends to be a little partisan. Over the years, it has become too partisan, almost as two armed camps, one over there and one over here. It is regrettable, but that is something that has occurred and evolved up here in the Senate.

Not too many years ago, I was in Atlanta, GA, speaking at an event. I neglected, as is a common courtesy, to tell Senator COVERDELL I was there. Sam Nunn was a Senator at the time. I did not tell PAUL I was having an event in Georgia, his home State. I felt kind of bad about it. But like a lot of us, I kind of pushed it to the side and rationalized that it was not that important.

Lo and behold, at that same hotel, PAUL was speaking about three or four rooms away, and I heard about it. I said to myself: Oh, my gosh, Max, how stupid you are; why didn't you tell him? How guilty I felt. Oh, my gosh, here I am in PAUL's home State and he doesn't even know I am here. I am in his State and he is just down the hall. I thought: You blew it, Max.

When I finished, I was walking out in the hall and PAUL happened to be coming up. He bounced up to me and said,

“Hey, Max, how are you? Welcome to Georgia. I hope you’re having a good time.”

That was PAUL—positive, upbeat, cheerful, with a smile and a good attitude and a gleam in his eye. That made me feel even smaller and more guilty, but it made me feel even better about PAUL. That is the PAUL COVERDELL I will always remember.

Mr. President, Wanda and I send our deepest sympathies to Nancy and the family. Life is fickle, unpredictable. There but for the grace of God go any of us. People with the personal qualities of PAUL COVERDELL are the ones we will treasure here. I know the people of Georgia will treasure the same qualities in PAUL COVERDELL. He was a great man.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan is recognized.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I join with all of my colleagues today in praising the life and celebrating the life and grieving the loss of PAUL COVERDELL. He was a friend and someone whom I trusted. I think we all trust each other here because we are family. But I had a special fondness and a special trust for PAUL COVERDELL. He was a man of tremendous integrity, directness, and modesty.

There are many instances over our time period together that come to mind. But one in particular is perhaps the most recent one. I had a matter that was of great personal concern to me. It was an issue where he and I differed philosophically but where I needed his help in order to get my position heard. He agreed it should be heard, even though he disagreed with it. I went to him and asked him whether or not he might assist me in that process, and he said, “Carl, I don’t agree with you on this issue, but this is a matter of great importance for this country and your views clearly should be considered by the decisionmaker here. I am going to do everything I can to make sure that in fact those views are considered.”

That said a lot about this man and about this place. Although we disagreed on an issue, he believed that the principle of having both sides heard was more important than the specifics of the issue. His integrity was indisputable and undoubted. We came to rely on him in so many ways. His background made him particularly able to make a special contribution to this Senate. He had great skills as a legislative craftsman and tactician. He, of course, had a wonderful

background in the Peace Corps, and there were so many other ways he was able to contribute as a very special force in the deliberations on this floor.

PAUL COVERDELL rose to leadership in a very short period of time, which reflected the deep respect and regard that he had among his Republican colleagues. That special affection and regard was matched on this side of the aisle. The death of this very fine and gentle man is a terrible loss to the people of Georgia. I consider it to be a great loss to the people of Michigan and all of America, and a great personal loss to me as well.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma is recognized.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I appreciate the comments by my friend and colleague from Michigan regarding the death of our friend and colleague, PAUL COVERDELL.

Yesterday was a very, very sad day for the Senate. I was at this desk when the Majority Leader announced that PAUL COVERDELL passed away at 6:10 yesterday. Majority Leader Trent Lott was a very close friend of PAUL, as was I and many other Senators. This is a tough, trying time because we lost a very good friend and an outstanding Senator. It is sad to see the vacant chair right behind me that PAUL COVERDELL sat in. It demonstrates an enormous void his death leaves behind here in our body.

I had the pleasure of getting to know PAUL COVERDELL for the last 8 years. He did an outstanding job. PAUL COVERDELL was the type of Senator who would do any work assigned, and oftentimes, work not assigned. He was the type of Senator who could enlighten the room, the type who could work with all Members and make things happen. He was the type of person who would be willing to take on tough tasks and always say yes, and take them across the finish line. He was the kind of person you would want to have on your team at all times.

PAUL was the kind of person who really added a lot to this institution. It makes me proud to say he was my colleague. He contributed so much in so many ways. His death is an almost unspeakable loss for us, for the State of Georgia, and for the country.

He showed great leadership on a lot of issues, with a hallmark brand of analysis and execution that identified a challenge for our conference, pulled out all the views among our

colleagues, and built consensus and success to the betterment of not just our party, but our country. For example, take primary and secondary education—something overlooked for many years. He focused on that in the last few years, and headed up a task force that cut across committee lines, seniority lines, and philosophical lines, to bring us together. He wanted us to do positive things to improve education across the Nation. He successfully blended our different viewpoints together, and together we painted a vision on education that many Americans support. That vision holds out real hope for change and improvement when it comes to educating our kids for the challenges of the 21st century. Further, many elements of his efforts brought along our colleagues across the aisle.

Or, take our war on drugs. Senator COVERDELL has worked hard with colleagues to address this challenge, here in the United States, and with the House and the administration to carry the fight overseas. In waging those battles, we came to realize that he was intense, he was serious, dedicated, and sincere. He was also successful, and many families today and in the future should be gratified in his success.

And these are just a few examples of the many areas where PAUL placed his tremendous energies. He was so involved in so many different issues, I even teased him last year. I said, “We are enacting all Coverdell legislation, all the time” because he had his name and fingerprints all over so many things were doing, because he was so proactive in trying to come up with positive solutions to challenging problems in education, or fighting the war on drugs here and overseas, or spending the country’s money wisely, or returning the tax surplus to the people.

PAUL also did not hesitate to join us in standing up on behalf of the Constitution, our system of checks and balances, or keeping the order we stand to defend. From the beginning to the end of his time in the Senate, rarely a day went by when he did not cast a thoughtful eye on the activism and activities of the executive, cognizant of the vision of our Founders who believed in a limited central government.

When you got to know him, you would discover that he had a real intensity, a keen curiosity to learn, understand, grapple with issues great and small. And he had such a great, congenial working spirit that made all of us better, that built us all up. His personality was infectious, his en-

ergy was admirable, his thoughtfulness was considerable, and his friendship was valuable.

We want to let PAUL's wife Nancy know that she is very much in our thoughts and prayers. We are comforted by the fact and have great confidence in the fact that PAUL COVERDELL now resides in a wonderful mansion, eternally. Our sympathies and prayers go with Nancy, and to the Coverdell family.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Oklahoma for his comments. We celebrate the wonderful life of PAUL COVERDELL. I have a heavy heart, and I miss him. He was a great Senator. He contributed to this Nation in extraordinary ways.

He was a good friend to me, and a good friend to many others.

Yes, he was modest, self-effacing, encouraging, positive, and unifying—all of those things. But he was a courageous and positive leader for values that this Nation holds dear. He advocated them with such a winsome and effective way. We will miss him. I will miss him.

I say to the family and to Nancy particularly how sorry we are, and I express my sympathy. Maybe next week I will be better able to express my admiration and feelings for PAUL COVERDELL. I feel his loss deeply. So many of us do. I wanted to share those thoughts at this time.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise this evening, along with my colleagues, as we talk about and remember and celebrate the life of PAUL COVERDELL. He was born in Des Moines, IA. He was a graduate of the University of Missouri. That is where I went to school. PAUL COVERDELL was a person who came to the Senate with a history of being a doer. He was a workhorse in this Senate.

Early on, he demonstrated that he could be relied upon to take on the essential but unspectacular tasks for the good of the Senate and this Nation. He was rewarded for that when he was elected by his fellow Senators to be the Secretary of the Senate Republican Conference. I know something about that because he beat me. I could not have lost to a better man.

He had his little mannerisms. He could put you in a box, put a cap on you, do a lot of things. But his quiet demeanor

and lack of fuss in tackling whatever tasks were assigned to him were characteristic of his effectiveness.

He served President Bush as Director of the Peace Corps. He was a man of peace. He served as leader of the Republican Party in the Georgia Senate for 15 years, from 1974 to 1989, skillfully guiding that body through some difficult but rewarding years.

His leadership really surfaced when he came to the Senate. We have talked about him as a stalwart on national defense and on taxes, but I think he had his best vision and his best grasp of this business in reforming public education because he always referred to his vision for the next generation. He always thought about the next generation. As a proponent of equal education opportunities, he introduced sweeping education and tax reform bills. The list of his achievements in the Senate is substantial, indeed.

PAUL COVERDELL holds a special place in our hearts as we say goodbye to a brother, and a Member of this body, who has shown us the way in the tradition of the Senate. We are all better just for having known him.

THURSDAY, *July 20, 2000*

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to PAUL COVERDELL, our friend and colleague. PAUL was an extraordinary human being who really cared. He looked at his opportunity to serve in the Senate as a way to make a difference in the lives of his fellow man.

I will never forget PAUL COVERDELL. He was one of the first people who reached out to me when I first came to this body, greeting me with a warm welcome and caring advice. Although he was in leadership and had many demands on his time, he always had time for me and truly listened to what I had to say. He had common sense and a common touch. I have truly enjoyed working with him on several legislative initiatives, particularly education and the Ed-Flex bill we passed last year [The Education Flexibility Partnership Act of 1999, P.L. 106–25].

PAUL had a wonderful knack for being able to work with people and to get things done. He led by example. He understood that to be a leader one had to serve. There was no job so small that he would not take it. His commitment and ability always made you want to be on his team. His enthusiasm

was contagious. He made you feel good just being around him.

My regret is that because of my short tenure in the Senate, I did not get to know PAUL or spend as much time with him as many of my colleagues did.

He gave witness to his Christian faith every day. He will continue to be my role model in the Senate. PAUL COVERDELL will be missed by all of us, but my faith tells me that he is eternally happy with our Father in Heaven. I pray that thought will give comfort to his wife Nancy and the members of his family.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, as have so many of my colleagues, I speak with a sense of loss and sadness about the passing of our friend, PAUL COVERDELL. Over the years serving in the Senate, I have seen too often the flowers on a Senator's desk and known, by that unique tradition of our body, the reflection that we have lost somebody in an untimely fashion—no one more untimely than the Senator from Georgia.

I have had the honor to serve with many Senators during the time the people of Vermont have been kind enough to let me be here. Each of these Senators has brought special qualities. It might be a knack for fiery oration or professorial intelligence. But PAUL COVERDELL brought a special formula of kindness and quiet persistence.

I first knew PAUL when he was Director of the Peace Corps. I was chairman of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee which handled his budget. I recall times when there would be an issue that would come up of some contention. I remember President Bush calling and saying: "Pat, sit down with PAUL. I assure you you can work it out."

We would sit quietly in my office. We would go over the issues, and we would work it out. We would work it out because I knew that PAUL COVERDELL would keep his word; he knew I would mine. I also knew that neither of us would read about the intricacies of our agreements in the paper the next day. We would keep each other's confidence.

When he came to the Senate, he was first and foremost a tireless champion for the interests of the people of Georgia. We all remember his relentless advocacy for some of the military bases in his home State and how proud he was to represent the State that hosted the Olympic games in 1996. In that regard he entered the sometimes messy realm of appropriations to bring full Federal support to that gigantic effort.

In many ways, these efforts were an embodiment of the people of Georgia, possessing a boundless energy, ambition, and generosity.

What I remember most, though, about PAUL COVERDELL—and so many of our colleagues have said the same thing—is how he worked on everything with a paradoxically quiet energy. He was not one to seek the cameras and head to the floor to yell about every disagreement. If he had a disagreement, he would call you. He would go and work with you face to face. He was often convincing. I know he changed my mind on issues.

I think one of the reasons he was so convincing is that he was always openminded and attentive. I do not think there is any case more obvious about that than the Senate's recent consideration of the supplemental appropriation for antidrug assistance in Colombia.

There were many disagreements on this aid package. But everybody, whether they were on his side or on the opposite side, admired the strength of his conviction and the depth of the knowledge of the region.

I was privileged to work closely with him on a resolution on a recent presidential election in Peru. Senator COVERDELL and I believed strongly that it was important for the United States to send a strong message throughout the hemisphere in support of democracy and to condemn the blatant subversion of democracy by the Fujimori government. Again, it was the strength of PAUL's convictions and willingness to stand for the most important principles this country stands for. That is why the resolution was there.

Our mutual concern for international human rights extended to the effort to establish a global ban of antipersonnel landmines. I was so pleased to work with PAUL on this issue. He would always consider my proposals thoughtfully and thoroughly. He brought a very special perspective. For him, banning landmines was about protecting Peace Corps volunteers and the communities they served. He had this unique way of looking at an issue that went way beyond warring parties. He was concerned about innocent civilians.

PAUL took part in these debates and worked behind the scenes with a big-hearted kindness. He was one of the kindest people to grace this floor, and there was a certain peacefulness about him that was always pleasantly contagious. In a sometimes very divisive Senate, that peacefulness was so respected.

That is why when I look at the flowers, like many of us who have served here a long time, I think we have seen those flowers too often. But it is hard to think of a time when both Republicans and Democrats have felt the pain more than on this occasion. PAUL, we will all miss you.

I yield the floor.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, all of us are saddened by the death in our Senate family. I join Senators on both sides of the aisle in mourning the loss of our colleague and friend, PAUL COVERDELL, and I extend my deepest condolences to the members of his family.

Senator COVERDELL and I differed on many of the major issues of the day. But it was obvious to all of us who served with him that he was a leader of genuine conviction, deep principle, great ability, and high purpose.

His commitment to public service was extraordinary. It was always a privilege to work with him.

I especially admired his dedication to seeking common ground—to exploring every aspect of every issue, and to learn as much as possible about it—to going the extra mile to achieve worthwhile compromise instead of confrontation—and above all to finding practical answers to the many serious challenges we face together in the Senate.

He was deeply committed to enhancing the quality of life for all Americans. We both shared a strong commitment to improving education in all of the Nation's schools. I am saddened that he will no longer be with us as the Senate turns again in coming days to the important debate on support for elementary and secondary education in schools and communities across the country.

I also particularly admired PAUL COVERDELL's leadership role as Director of the Peace Corps in the Bush administration from 1989 to 1991, before he came to the Senate.

Over the years, the Peace Corps has had special meaning for all of us in the Kennedy family, because it is one of the finest legacies of President Kennedy. I know that my brother would have been proud of PAUL COVERDELL's commitment to the Peace Corps and its ideals and its service to peoples in need in many different lands.

In a very real sense, the campaign slogan that PAUL COVERDELL used so effectively in his successful Senate reelection campaign in Georgia 2 years ago sums up his extraordinary career, and tells why he had so much respect and friendship from all of us. That slogan consisted of two simple words—"COVERDELL Works." And it was true, in

every sense of the word. PAUL COVERDELL served the Senate well, the Nation well, and the people of Georgia well, and we will miss him very much.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, Howell Raines, editorial page editor of the *New York Times* has written a warm and wonderful tribute to PAUL COVERDELL, recalling his career in the Georgia State Senate in the 1970s. It is part of his life story that is not widely known here in Washington—certainly not by me—and helps to account for the great affection and respect in which he was held here in the U.S. Senate. Withal this adds a touch to our mourning, we are much indeed indebted to Mr. Raines' memoir.

I ask unanimous consent that the "Editorial Notebook" from this morning's *New York Times* be printed in full in the Record.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

[From the *New York Times*, July 20, 2000]

#### A QUIET MAN IN A NOISY TRADE

(By Howell Raines)

#### PAUL COVERDELL'S LEAP TO THE SENATE MARKED A SHIFT IN SOUTHERN POLITICS

Senator PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia was a mild-mannered Republican seasoned in political obscurity. As minority leader of the Georgia State Senate in the 1970's, he was part of a legislative bloc so small and impotent that it was ignored, steamrolled and sometimes openly ridiculed by the Democrats who controlled the legislature as if by birthright. None of us covering the Georgia Capitol in those days would have picked Mr. COVERDELL, who died Tuesday at age 61, as a future United States senator. Now, in retrospect, we can see him as part of the second of two transforming waves that swept Georgia politics in the last third of the 20th century.

The first wave of change was driven by law. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 brought hundreds of black Democrats into office. The second wave of change was demographic, as exemplified by fast-growing Atlanta. Georgia's progressive Democrats had long dreamed of the day when Atlanta would be big enough to outvote the state's rural conservatives. What they had not foreseen was that thousands of the newcomers flooding into the Atlanta suburbs would be out-of-state Republicans who rejected both the Democratic power structure and the Goldwater Republicans then in control of the Southern G.O.P.

They created a ready-made constituency for Mr. COVERDELL, a classic mainstream Republican who was fiscally conservative yet moderate on social issues. "That was what made the Republican Party attractive to these people who came in," said Bill Shipp, a veteran political commentator from Atlanta. "Until COVERDELL and Johnny Isakson [another Atlanta moderate] came along, Georgia Republicans were disgruntled segregationist Democrats."

Unlike the sprinkling of ultraconservative Republicans elected during the Goldwater boom, Mr. COVERDELL was not hostile to black aspirations. Indeed, by the time he left the Georgia Senate in 1989, he had gained enough influence to make his mark as a reliable legislative advocate for Atlanta's black mayors. He was known as a policy wonk and a nice guy, traits that would mark his service as director of the Peace Corps under President George Bush. He worked hard in that position to promote a program that is unpopular with many Republicans because of its identification with President John F. Kennedy.

A similar earnestness would mark Mr. COVERDELL's career in the United States Senate, but he did not get there by wearing a halo or emphasizing his credentials as a moderate. He won his seat from Wyche Fowler, a Democrat popular with liberals, by running to the right, especially on the abortion issue.

It is, of course, always tricky to define political moderation among Southern Republicans. By any measure, Mr. Coverdell, a big booster of tax cuts and school vouchers, was plenty conservative. Lately he had grown close to Trent Lott, the Senate's tough-guy majority leader. But his primary alliances were with less hard-edged types like President Bush and his son George W. Bush, the Texas governor. He helped plan the coming Republican Convention. In the event of a Republican victory, according to Senator Max Cleland of Georgia, a Democrat, Mr. COVERDELL, "would have played a big role in a Bush administration, in the cabinet or as a special adviser." But in a region that still tends to celebrate pols who are loud and flashy, Mr. COVERDELL will be remembered for his general decency, his serious interest in good government and his unlikely leap from the back benches of the Georgia Capitol.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today to remember our friend PAUL COVERDELL. The State of Georgia and the United States have lost a talented and dedicated statesman.

Senator COVERDELL's workmanlike approach to government was a breath of fresh air in today's atmosphere of glamour politics. He did not aspire to be in the spotlight, but he fought tirelessly to spotlight the issues in which he believed. Whether you agreed with his position on those issues or not, you admired his style—his lack of pretense, willingness to complete tedious, but important tasks, and pleasant demeanor during a tough debate.

His office was one floor above mine in the Russell Building and we often rode the subway together over to the Capitol. His easygoing nature always struck me as particularly Southern. We shared a love for that slow, gracious lifestyle of our home States and enjoyed working together when it served the similar needs of our constituents.

PAUL had a deep appreciation for the office of U.S. Senator having persevered in his quest for a Senate seat in 1992 despite a highly competitive race that featured two runoffs. For the next 8 years, he never took the privilege of serving the

people of Georgia or the Nation lightly. We can all learn something from his example.

Service was an evolving theme in PAUL COVERDELL's life, beginning with an overseas stint in the U.S. Army, later followed by almost two decades in the Georgia State Senate and a post in President Bush's administration as Director of the U.S. Peace Corps. He was well prepared when he arrived in the Senate Chamber and used his experience to advance an aggressive legislative agenda. It was a pleasure to serve in the U.S. Senate with PAUL COVERDELL. He fought fairly, was gracious in victory and honorable in defeat.

My sympathy goes out to his wife, Nancy, and other family members and to the people of Georgia.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the senior Senator from Georgia, PAUL COVERDELL, who passed away Tuesday in Atlanta.

While Senator COVERDELL and I came from different political parties and ideologies, we shared several things in common. We both served our country in the U.S. Army, and after our service we both returned home to run successful businesses. With our military and business background we decided to turn our attention to serving the public, and Senator COVERDELL had an impressive record of public service.

Senator COVERDELL served in the Georgia State Senate—rising to the position of Minority Leader. He then served as Director of the Peace Corps under President Bush, focusing on the critical task of serving the emerging democracies of post-Soviet Eastern Europe. In 1992, he was elected to serve in the U.S. Senate.

Although we failed to agree on many issues before this body, Senator COVERDELL always demonstrated honor and dignity in this Chamber. He argued seriously for the positions he believed in. When he pushed legislation to fight illegal drugs or promote volunteerism, it was obvious that his heart was always in it. And his motivation was sincere and simple—to help the people of Georgia and the Nation.

I send my deepest sympathies to his wife Nancy, his parents, and the entire Coverdell family. I also extend my sympathy to the people of Georgia.

We will all miss Senator PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia.

Mr. L. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I rise today to express my sympathy to the Coverdell family and my own sorrow at the death of Senator PAUL COVERDELL. May his family find solace in their memory of PAUL's many contributions to a better

Georgia, a better United States, and a better world. I followed PAUL onto the Foreign Relations Committee and also into his chair of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee. I will do my best to carry on your good work there, PAUL.

As many people have said, PAUL COVERDELL was a gifted communicator. To every organization those skills are valuable and especially here in Congress. Perhaps PAUL learned those skills at the prestigious Missouri School of Journalism from which he graduated. But I suspect, despite having known him only a short time, that PAUL's easy manner and obvious kindness were inherent traits. He was a natural communicator and we mourn his loss.

Once again, my heartfelt sympathy to Nancy and all of PAUL COVERDELL's family and friends.

Rest in peace.

Ms. COLLINS. Senator PAUL COVERDELL was a rare and wonderful man—and a spectacular Senator. Anyone who had the good fortune to work with him left more hopeful, more committed, more convinced we could all make a difference.

Much is being said about his extraordinary ability to get things done; I would like to talk about how he was able to accomplish so much. Senator COVERDELL had many talents, but perhaps the secret to his success was high ability to bring people together. In times of friction, fractiousness, and pressure, he was always the one who remained focused and calm in the eye of the legislative storm.

It was common for him to hold meetings in his office where conservatives and moderates, strategists and ideologues, listened to each other, shared ideas and figured out not just ways of accomplishing diverse goals, but also what those goals really should be. And his energy and willingness to take on the most difficult task with little public recognition or thanks was legendary.

Senator COVERDELL was a man who listened. He listened to Senators and staff and policy experts. He listened to those he agreed with and those he did not—and merged it all into a comprehensive, concise and workable plan. He respected all individuals with an honesty and sincerity that set the tone for working together.

Most of all, and through it all, Senator COVERDELL was kind and gracious in his dealings with everyone. The country, his State, and all of us who have been privileged to know him will miss him terribly. We join in praying for his family as they suffer his loss. We have all lost a very good friend.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise to join my colleagues in honoring the memory of our dear friend and colleague, Senator PAUL COVERDELL. My deepest condolences and prayers go out to Nancy, his family, staff, and the people of Georgia.

PAUL COVERDELL's career in public service as a State Senator in Georgia, as Director of the U.S. Peace Corps, and as a U.S. Senator stand as an enduring tribute to his fine character, many talents, and boundless energy and commitment for his work. They also serve to remind us how one individual, working quietly and resourcefully, can accomplish so much in an all too brief period of time.

In his public life, PAUL COVERDELL was a vigorous and congenial advocate for initiatives and issues he cared deeply about and an effective leader in the Senate and for his party. While I did not have many opportunities to work closely with Senator COVERDELL, we share a commitment to quality education for our Nation's young people and appreciation for the importance of agriculture to our respective States' economies. Peanut farmers and sugar growers are frequent allies when commodity issues came before the Senate, and Senator COVERDELL was a strong voice for Georgia farmers and his State's agricultural interests. On educational initiatives, PAUL COVERDELL and I rarely agreed; but he was never disagreeable. I admired his passion and tenacity on education issues, and appreciated the courtesy and humanity that characterized his work here in the Senate.

PAUL COVERDELL has left a mark for the better in the lives of millions of people, in America and around the world. He served his country and constituents conscientiously, earning our respect, admiration, and affection. We grieve for his passing from this life. I am reassured that we will find comfort in his splendid legacy of public service and the knowledge that death is a transition to life eternal and he is now with God. As we bid our dear friend and colleague one last fond farewell, I am reminded of the passage from Scriptures, from Matthew 25:23:

His Master said unto him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been good and faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Now enter into the joy of your Master."

May God bless Nancy, the Coverdell family and staff.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, it has been a difficult week working in the Senate. All of us have had a heavy heart, missing PAUL COVERDELL. My office is in the immediate vi-

cinity of his, and I keep thinking he will pop out the door on my way to a vote or back.

In the Bible, there is a famous story about a man named PAUL. God had a special mission for him. Though PAUL was not aware of it, God made His presence known when He needed him and called him into service. That PAUL had no choice. He answered the call and did as he was asked. God calls us all like that, though some of us never hear it. God called PAUL COVERDELL like that, too. When PAUL heard the call, he listened and he answered.

First, He called him to work in the Peace Corps, as there was a need and someone had to fill it. During his service there, he made a difference in a lot of lives. God must have been very pleased with him because then He decided to put him in charge of greater things.

Those greater things led him to serve in the Senate. Again, there was a need and, again, PAUL was there to answer the call. He was a remarkable force here, an incredible powerhouse of principles and ideas, and they were all in motion whenever he would speak. He had an infectious enthusiasm that seemed to emanate from every fiber of his being as he made his points. His gestures and his facial expressions always drew the listener in and caught their attention as he spoke with passion about his philosophy and his politics.

He was a great strategist because he could put himself in someone else's shoes and understand how someone else thought and felt about the issues that came up for debate and discussion. He could see many perspectives, and all at once he had an innate sense of how they would all interplay, how they would connect and collide. That was why he always seemed to have the answers. He knew what his opponents were thinking before they were even thinking it.

But the biggest reason for his successes in the Senate was his great devotion to the principles of common sense. He knew that the best answer was the one that made the most sense. All of his hard work and determined effort was aimed at one target: finding common ground, working with his colleagues, and creating a consensus that led to a solution to the problem.

When I arrived in the Senate, I found myself on the last rung of the seniority ladder, No. 100. I did not know how lucky I was. After the room selections were made, I got the office that was left, and it turned out to be a great office in disguise. My staff and I moved in, added a few touches to make it more like home, and then greeted our neighbors.

PAUL COVERDELL was the neighbor, along with his staff. He was right next door, so we got to see him often. He and his staff were always walking by or on their way out, and I would see PAUL as he left to go home. He was a regular and a welcome sight to all of us.

When the bells would ring for us to vote, we seemed to answer that call at the same time. We often came out of our doors at the same time and walked over together. We had a lot of interesting discussions about politics and legislative strategy. I lapped it all up. I was an eager and ready student, and he was a tremendous mentor.

Our staffs seemed to bond, too. We were all in this together, and the camaraderie that developed among us helped us take on some issues that needed to be addressed. It is a tradition I have adopted from him that I hope to continue through my years of service in the Senate.

Through the years, I remember the times we spent in difficult meetings with emotions running high and pressure coming down from all sides to get something done. That is when Trent Lott would say: "Let's let Mikey do it." I was always relieved to see that he was talking about PAUL. I never knew Trent was making a reference to an old-time television commercial, but I knew he meant PAUL and not me, which was a relief because PAUL always got the job done.

PAUL COVERDELL had a lot of jobs to do in the Senate, and he took them all on eagerly and with enthusiasm because he loved legislating; he loved serving the people of Georgia, the people of this Nation, and his neighbors around the world because he cared so very deeply about each and every person.

I heard it said that there is no higher calling than public service. It must be true because it caught PAUL COVERDELL's attention. In all he did in his life, there is no question that he was a remarkable public servant by any standard.

Unfortunately, he will not get to a lot of the landmarks we cherish around here, like casting 10,000 votes, but every vote he did cast was with the greatest thought, consideration, and reflection, and that is the true mark of a legislator.

He lived every day with great enthusiasm, energy, focus, concern, and imagination. In fact, I think of him as an "imagineer." That is someone who can see a problem as a challenge and then use a great reservoir of talent, skill, and a little luck to solve it. That is the true mark of a great human being and great friend. Someday when we leave the Senate and return home to begin another adventure in each of our lives, I have no doubt we will take with us at least

one or two special memories of PAUL that we will cherish for a lifetime.

As mortals we cannot see the great plan of the Master's hand for the universe, so we cannot understand why He works the way He does. The word "why" does not even appear in the Bible, and there is good reason for that. It is not for us to know the why; it is for us to hear the word of our Lord and to answer the call when it comes.

At 6:10 p.m. on Tuesday, July 18, PAUL COVERDELL heard that call for the last time, and once again he answered it. The only understanding I have is that God must have needed somebody with special talents and abilities, and so He sent for PAUL. Now heaven is richer for his having gone home, and we are all richer for having known him and been able to share his life. He will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by us all.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the Senior Senator from Georgia, PAUL COVERDELL, who passed away Tuesday in Atlanta.

Mr. President, while Senator COVERDELL and I came from different political parties and ideologies, we shared several things in common. We both served our country in the U.S. Army, and after our service we both returned home to run successful businesses.

With our military and business background we decided to turn our attention to serving the public, and Senator COVERDELL had an impressive record of public service.

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I send my deepest sympathies to his wife Nancy, his parents, and the entire Coverdell family. I also extend my sympathy to the people of Georgia.

We will all miss Senator PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia.

I yield the floor.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I was deeply saddened to hear of PAUL COVERDELL's untimely passing. PAUL was a man of such energy and determination, it is difficult to imagine this body without him. PAUL was a skilled legislator and one of the hardest working legislators among us. I had the highest admiration for the way he conducted himself here—how committed he was to the people of his State, and to his many duties here in the Senate.

We did not agree on a lot of policy matters, but that couldn't be less important as I stand here today, Mr. President. We've all lost a colleague and a friend, who was taken from this earth far too soon. At 61, PAUL had served his country in more ways than most Americans can hope to in a lifetime. From his service in the Armed Forces to the Peace Corps to the Foreign Relations Committee, where we served together, PAUL had a keen understanding of foreign affairs. He was also a natural leader, despite his soft-spoken personality and his habit of avoiding the limelight. He served as the Minority Leader in the Georgia State Senate from 1974 to 1989, attaining that post just 4 years after he was elected to the State Senate in 1970.

PAUL and I were both first elected to the Senate in 1992, Mr. President. We arrived here at the same time, both former State Senators who had the honor of coming here and learning the ways of this Senate. And learn them PAUL did. He quickly rose through the ranks to a top leadership post. And along the way he won the respect and admiration of all who knew him. The Nation has lost a skilled leader, and all of us have lost an honorable colleague and friend. I join my colleagues in mourning his passing, and in paying tribute to his memory. To his wife Nancy, his family, his staff and his many friends, I offer my condolences and my deepest sympathies. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise to share in the memory of one of this body's most esteemed colleagues, Senator PAUL COVERDELL. His untimely death Tuesday was a shock to us all. My prayers and condolences go to his family at their time of mourning.

It so happens that Senator COVERDELL was born in my home State of Iowa—in Des Moines. That made him an honorary constituent of mine. For that reason, he was always a special colleague to me.

We in this body knew of his background in the Peace Corps just before he was elected to the Senate. He very quickly began to show his outstanding leadership skills. He built a respect among his colleagues because of his hard work and his dedication to those issues most dear to him—especially education and the war on drugs.

Senator COVERDELL did almost all of his work behind the scenes, work that the public never knew about. But we knew, because we worked with him. His interest was not the limelight. You rarely saw his name in the papers. Instead, it was rolling up his sleeves and working one-on-one with his colleagues in an effective way. No one among us had such energy, enthusiasm for public service, and organizing ability.

I worked closest with him on international narcotics issues, as chairman of the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control. He was chairman of the Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps, Narcotics and Terrorism. We worked very closely together on narcotics matters. We would hold joint hearings on fighting drug cartels in Colombia and other countries. No one felt stronger about stopping the scourge of drugs in this country than he did. He cared deeply about the debilitating effect drugs have had on the future of our country and our youth.

It was a real privilege to work with PAUL COVERDELL in the U.S. Senate. He was a statesman, a public servant in the true sense of the word. And he was a good friend. I join my colleagues in expressing how much we will miss his energy, enthusiasm and friendship. His presence will be greatly missed in the Senate. I wish all the best to his family, knowing of their profound grief at their loss.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise to express my thoughts and views about our good friend and colleague, PAUL COVERDELL. I commend my colleague from Wyoming for his very thoughtful and appropriate remarks about PAUL COVERDELL.

I do not have a long set of prepared remarks about my colleague, but I wanted to take a couple of minutes and express some feelings about this fine man from Georgia whom I got to know back in the Bush administration.

I was chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere. President Bush nominated PAUL COVERDELL to be the Director of the Peace Corps. Because I chaired the committee with jurisdiction over the Peace Corps and the

fact I was a former Peace Corps volunteer—I think the only one in this body to have served in the Peace Corps—PAUL and I developed a very quick and close relationship. I helped him through the confirmation process, and over the next number of years, as he served as Director and traveled the world expanding and enriching the Peace Corps as an institution, I developed a deep fondness for PAUL COVERDELL. I did not know in those days that I would be only a few years away from calling him a colleague.

In January of 1993, PAUL arrived in the Senate, and quickly joined the Foreign Relations Committee, and quickly became, in those days, the ranking Republican on the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee with jurisdiction over the Peace Corps. What more appropriate place for PAUL COVERDELL, in that he had been the Director of the Peace Corps. He provided tremendous assistance, information, and support for this wonderful institution that was begun by President Kennedy back in the 1960s. It enjoyed remarkable support over the years. Every single administration backed and supported the Peace Corps. Even during difficult economic times in this country, there was a sense that this was a valuable institution. PAUL COVERDELL made it even more so because of his tenure as Director and then during his stewardship on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with particular jurisdiction over this area.

I then became his Ranking Member, as my friends on the Republican side ended up in the majority, and PAUL and I worked together. In fact, just recently, we were able to actually increase the funding for the Peace Corps. I do not think we would have won the decision here about whether or not to provide additional support to the Peace Corps and those additional funds would not have been forthcoming, had it not been for PAUL COVERDELL.

We also worked together on the narcotics issue. We had a passionate interest in trying to do something to stem the tide of narcotics, the use of drugs in this country, and worked tirelessly on that effort internationally, through the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, to fashion a formula that would reduce the consumption of drugs in this country and reduce the production and the transmission of drugs and the money laundering that went on all over the world.

In fact, he came up with a very creative idea of trying to involve all of the countries that were involved in this issue, either as sources of production, transition, money laundering, or consumption—as is the case in the United States.

I used to tease him a bit because I think I was a more public advocate of the COVERDELL idea on narcotics than he was.

PAUL COVERDELL was one of the most self-effacing Members I have known in this body. George Marshall used to have a saying: There was no limit to what you could accomplish in Washington, DC, as long as you were willing to give someone else credit for it.

PAUL COVERDELL understood that, I think, as well as any Member who has served in this body. He came up with ideas, such as he did, in the area of drugs and narcotics, and then was more interested in the idea being advanced than he was having his name associated with it.

I wanted to mention those two particular areas: The Peace Corps and the drugs and narcotics effort. There were others he was involved in substantively: Education and the like. These were two areas where we worked most closely together.

PAUL COVERDELL was a partisan, a strong Republican, with strong views, strong convictions. But he also was a gentleman, thoroughly a Senate person. I say that because I do not think this institution functions terribly well without both of those elements.

People who come here with convictions and beliefs, who try to advance the causes that they think will strengthen our country, are in the position to make a contribution to this body and to the United States; but you also have to be a person who understands that you do not win every battle. This is a legislative body, a body where you must convince at least 50 other people of your ideas, and in some cases more than 60. If you just have strong convictions and strong beliefs, and are unable to work with this small body, then those ideas are nothing more than that—ideas.

PAUL COVERDELL had a wonderful ability to reach across this aisle—that is only a seat away from me—and build relationships on ideas he cared about. That, in my view, is the essence of what makes this institution work.

Usually it takes someone a longer period of time to get the rhythms, if you will, the sensibilities of this institution, that are not written in any rule book, that you are not going to find in any procedural volume. You need to know the rules—which he did—and understand the procedures. But the unwritten rules of how this institution functions are something that people take time to acquire. What somewhat amazed me was that PAUL COVERDELL, in very short order, understood

the rhythms of this room, understood the rhythms of this institution, and was able to build relationships and coalitions.

He could be your adversary one day—and a tough adversary he was; a tough, tough adversary—and, without any exaggeration, on the very next day he could be your strongest ally on an issue. Those are qualities that inherently and historically have made some moments in the Senate their greatest—when leaders have been able to achieve that ability of being strong in their convictions but also have the ability to reach across the aisle and develop those relationships that are essential if you are going to advance the ideas that improve the quality of life in this country.

I suspect he acquired some of those skills in his years with the Georgia Legislature. It has been said—and I can understand it—when he was the Republican Leader in Georgia, there were not a lot of Republicans in Georgia. And even though we have our disagreements, there is a respect for those who help build something. It is not an exaggeration to say that PAUL COVERDELL, in no small way, was responsible for building the Republican Party in Georgia. I do not say that with any great glee, but it is a mark of his tenacity, his convictions, his ability to be responsible for building a strong two-party system in that State.

So from the perspective of this Connecticut Yankee, to the people of Georgia, we thank you for helping this man find a space in the political life of Georgia and for sending him here to the Senate on two occasions.

I send my deepest sympathies to his wife Nancy, to his friends, to his staff in Georgia and those here in Washington. PAUL COVERDELL will be missed. He was a fine Member of this institution. He was a good and decent human being. He will be missed deeply by all of us here. So my sympathies are extended to all whose lives he touched so deeply.

MONDAY, *July 24, 2000*

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, today, as the Senate recalls the tragic loss 2 years ago of two fine Capitol Police officers, Officer Jacob J. Chestnut and Detective John M. Gibson, our hearts also bear fresh bruises from the loss of a Senator and a former Senator.

Mr. President, on Saturday I traveled with several other Senators to Atlanta, GA, to attend the funeral of our late Senate colleague, PAUL COVERDELL. Senator COVERDELL's departure from this life was sudden. It came without warning. PAUL was only 61 and he could look forward to many fruitful years of service to the Nation and to his people. But it was not to be. The Scriptures tell us:

As for man, his days are as grass; as a flower of the field, So he flourishes. For the wind passes over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

On Wednesday of last week, I journeyed to Rhode Island with several other Senators to pay our last respects to a late departed former colleague, JOHN O. PASTORE, and to commiserate with his bereaved family and a great host of friends. We said the last goodbye to a man who had given much to the service of his country and who had retired from this body 26 years ago. A great throng paid homage to the remembrance of one whom they loved and who had served them so well, as was the case with our beloved late colleague, PAUL COVERDELL. There was a great throng, a large church filled to overflowing.

Over a long life of more than 80 years I have traveled this same journey many times. It is always the same. We travel the last mile with a departed friend and we come to the end of the way, when we can go no farther. That is as far as we can go. There we must part forever—insofar as this earthly life is concerned. From there, the loved one must go on alone, to "The undiscovered country," as Shakespeare said, "from whose bourne no traveler returns."

So it is, and so it has been since the very beginning of our race, and so it will be in all the years to come. We are here today, and gone tomorrow.

The clock of life is wound but once,  
And no man has the power to know just when the clock will strike,  
At late or early hour.  
Now is the only time you have, so live, love, work with a will;  
Put no faith in tomorrow for the clock may then be still.

Mr. President, JOHN PASTORE lived to the ripe old age of 93; for PAUL COVERDELL, the Grim Reaper beckoned earlier, and the end came at 61. For those of us who remain on this side of the vale of trials and tears, the message from both of these lives is clear: be ready, be ready to go. William Cullen Bryant said it for you and for me:

All that breathes will share thy destiny. The gay will laugh when thou art gone, the solemn brood of care plod on, and each one as before will chase his favorite phantom; . . .

As one who has lived in this town of inflated egos for nearly half a century, I can testify that William Cullen Bryant had it right. I have seen the great, the near great, those who thought they were great, those who would never become great; and each incoming wave of life's sea surges forward on the sands of humanity's rocky coast, and then, just as quickly recedes into the vast emptiness of the past. But what cannot be washed away is the love and the memory of man's deeds and service to his fellowman.

So, each of us will carry within ourselves the memory of Senator Pastore's, Senator COVERDELL's, Officer Chestnut's, and Detective Gibson's deeds and service to his fellow man. They have touched all of us, and we have been changed by them, because it was Tennyson who said, "I am part of all that I have met." And so, in this small way, they live on in our hearts and in our dedication to do good with the hours and days that remain to us. The poet John Donne expressed it well, how each man's life—and each man's death—touches ours:

No man is an island, entire of itself;  
Every man is a piece of the continent,  
A part of the main;  
If a clod be washed away by the sea,  
[America] is the less,  
As well as if a promontory were,  
As well as if a manor of thy friend's  
Or of thine own were;  
Any man's death diminishes me,  
Because I am involved in mankind;  
And therefore  
Never send to know for whom the bell tolls:  
It tolls for thee.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I rise at this time to talk about our beloved friend, Senator PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia. I had hoped to be able to make some further comments last week, after it fell my duty to come to the floor and announce his very untimely death, but I just could not do it because I was grieving over the loss of this good friend.

I guess maybe the week and the services Saturday in Georgia have helped me come to peace with this loss and to say farewell to my good friend from Georgia. But I wanted to speak now because I felt, even this morning, a void for this week; PAUL will not be here. He will not be here saying, What can we do next? How can I help? He was willing to

work with all of the Republicans and all of the Democrats, going over to the Democratic side of the aisle and seeking out Senator Harry Reid or Senator Torricelli, trying to find some way to make a bipartisan piece of legislation possible. So we will have a void this week.

But, there will be a void forever in the Senate with the loss of PAUL COVERDELL because his was an unfinished symphony. A lot more beautiful sounds were going to come from that somewhat uncertain trumpet from Georgia.

Folks have talked about his flailing hands and his squeaky voice, but that is what really made Senator COVERDELL all the more attractive. He was not always as smooth as some of us like to think we might be, but he was always effective. Maybe it was because of the way he presented his speeches and the way he came across in his daily relationships with all of us.

The Chaplain of the Senate, Lloyd Ogilvie, at the church services in memory of PAUL COVERDELL on Saturday, referred to him as a peacemaker. And maybe this is a good time of the year to be thinking about the Beatitudes because I think it really did describe PAUL. Even though he felt very strongly about the issues he believed in or that he was opposed to, he was always binding up everybody else's wounds. He would find a way to make peace and get results.

I thought the Chaplain's description of him as a peacemaker was apropos. When I did my Bible study this morning, I came to that particular passage, "Blessed is the peacemaker." Again I thought, that is just one more message about PAUL and the great job he did in the Senate.

I met PAUL years ago actually, way back in the 1970s when there was a very fledgling Republican Party in Georgia. We did not have much of a Republican Party at that time in my State, but we were beginning to make progress. Maybe Georgia was even a little bit behind us. I remember going down to Atlanta and then having to go to Albany, GA, to attend events, then back into Atlanta. It was one of those occasions where a number of Congressmen and Senators came in to fly around the State, and then we all came back in for the big dinner. It was logistically hard to orchestrate. Then I finally met the maestro; the maestro was PAUL COVERDELL.

Typically, I learned later, it was the way he would work. He had five or six of us come in. We went to five or six different places in the State like spokes on a wheel. We came back. We had dinner. It was a very effective event. Every-

thing worked like clockwork because PAUL COVERDELL was making it happen.

In those days, as I recall, he was in the State Legislature, in the State Senate. They had three Republicans. He was the Minority Leader. They had a Minority Whip and they had a Whipee. There were three of them. That is the way he used to describe his powerful role in the Senate, although, as I came to find out a lot later, he was a very effective member of the State Senate, working as always both sides of the aisle, even though he only had three in his party in the State Senate at that time.

Of course, he went on to work in the Bush administration in the Peace Corps. I was not quite sure what that meant, but I am sure he did a great job at the Peace Corps. I remember then supporting him when he actually ran for the Senate in 1992. I was not that intimately involved in the campaign but knew him to be a good man. I remember making a pitch for him both here and in Georgia.

I really got to know him when he came to the Senate. Almost immediately he started throwing himself into the fray, whatever was going on. I remember we had the Clinton health care plan. I think he made 147 appearances in one State or another against the government takeover of health care. He felt passionately about it. He took off on the trail with Senator Phil Gramm and Senator John McCain. They had a lot to do with the eventual, and in my opinion, appropriate demise of that legislation. I learned that he would not just talk a good game or would not just give direction; he would put his body on the line. He would go anywhere, anytime to see that the message was delivered.

Immediately he started saying if we are going to do this in a positive way, if we are going to be fighting this legislation, how are we going to get our message out? He would be persistent about it. He would follow you around and keep wanting to talk about it. I remember he actually instituted meetings, at that time between the Speaker of the House and me, first as whip and then as Majority Leader, in which he would get the two of us together. He would have charts. Here he is from Georgia in probably his fourth year in the Senate, and he is using charts to explain the situation to the Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader. Only we listened because he had thought about it; he was organized. He had some ideas.

I remember one occasion he said: "You have to come to Atlanta."

I said: "I don't want to come to Atlanta."

He said: "Just come for lunch; Newt and I want to sit and talk with you."

So I flew down. We had lunch. He had charts and he had a video this time. He talked about how we should be planning our strategy. Then we flew back. I thought about that many times, in a way, the temerity of that. But that was PAUL. Nobody objected. Nobody took it as a threat. Nobody worried that he was stepping on their turf. And thank goodness, somebody was thinking and planning. That was PAUL.

After that he got involved as a member of the leadership team. I really liked that because I can remember very early on I realized that if there was a task that needed to be performed that nobody else would do, I could call on PAUL; he would be glad to do it. I can remember going down the leadership line: Would you have the time to do this? Do you have the staff to do this? It would come down to the third person. He always sat at the other end of the leadership table. I would get to PAUL, having had three turndowns, and PAUL would say: Sure, I'll do it.

Very quickly I began to call PAUL "Mikey." I like to nickname Senators. PAUL actually kind of liked being called Mikey. Mikey came from the television cereal commercial where the two kids are pushing a bowl of cereal back and forth saying: You eat it; no, you eat it. Finally, they push it to the third little boy and say: Give it to Mikey; he'll try anything.

That was the way PAUL was. When all the other great leaders of the Senate were not willing to take the time, not willing to do the dirty, difficult, time-consuming job, Mikey would do it. I remember every time I called him Mikey, he would break out in a big smile. Tricia, my wife, picked it up, too. We liked to talk to Nancy about how sorry we were to have kept him tied up a little extra, too, sometimes in the Senate. But Mikey had his work to do. So it was a very affectionate term I had for him, and it described him so perfectly.

He was not a funny, ha-ha sort of guy, but he was willing to laugh. He had a sense of humor. He was willing to laugh at himself, which really made him attractive. He was self-effacing. There was no grandeur there. He was, as Clyde Rodbell said in his remarks at the services Saturday: "An ordinary man with extraordinary . . . talents." He was willing to work hard to make up for whatever he lacked in some other way. He surely was loyal. I never had to worry about anything I said or asked PAUL to do being used in an inap-

appropriate way against me or against anybody else. He would handle it properly. And he was sensitive. He was always sensitive: Did I do the right thing? Did this Senator react in an uncertain way?

I remember asking him to come and help us on the floor on issues he cared about. He really cared about education. He wanted education savings accounts. He believed it would help parents with children in school. He believed it would help low-income parents have the ability to save just a little bit of their money, just a little bit to help their children with clothes or computers or tutoring. If we ever find a way to pass that legislation, instead of education savings accounts, it should be the COVERDELL savings accounts. That would be an appropriate memorial and monument to PAUL COVERDELL. He believed in it. It was not a partisan, political idea. It was something he thought would make a difference.

As for drugs, I remember him following me around in the well heckling me about the need to pay more attention to the drug running in the Gulf of Mexico area across the borders in the Southwest. The Senator from Arizona worked with him on that issue. I remember his commitment to trying to be helpful to the Government in Colombia to fight drug terrorism there. He was passionate about it because he felt it threatened our country, threatened our very sovereignty, and it threatened our children. Once again, as with education, he saw what it was doing or could do to our children. Again, he was involved.

One of the last discussions I had with him was on the intelligence authorization bill. There is a provision in it which he did not like. He was determined to make his case on that. In his memory, we will make sure his case is made by Senator Kyl, Senator Feinstein, Senator DeWine, perhaps others. He really dug into issues and made a difference.

I also called on him at times when there really was nobody else who could take the time to do the job.

He worked with us for a week on the floor on the Labor, HHS, Education appropriations bill. I came in one day and found that we had over 200 amendments pending. Somebody had to take the time to work with both sides to get those amendments reduced, accepted, eliminated, withdrawn, or whatever. To his credit, Senator Specter said: I would like to have PAUL help me with this.

Other leadership members were involved in other issues. I could not be here. Senator Nickles could not be here. With-

in a short period of time, the 200 became 50. Before the week was out, it was done.

Senator Reid will tell you that PAUL really made the difference. He did not just hang out on this side of the aisle; he was rummaging around on the other side trying to see if we could work through it. I remember at the end of the week he was pale and, obviously, stressed. He came to my office and said: Boy, do I understand a little bit better what your job entails.

Well, he was able to do it because nobody felt threatened by PAUL. He was not getting in my hair, stepping on Senator Nickles' turf, or pushing amendments away. He was working with everybody. Nobody got mad. Nobody got even. It is sort of a unique thing for a Senator to be able to do that.

So I guess I will be trying to find another "Mikey." But I do not think there is one. And so as I thought about doing this speech, I tried to find some statement, poem, something that would pay a tribute to Senator COVERDELL. I came across a passage from a poem, "The Comfort of Friends," by William Penn.

He said:

They that love beyond the world  
Cannot be separated by it.  
Death cannot kill what never dies,  
Nor can spirits ever be divided  
That love and live in the same divine principle:  
[Because that is] the root and record of their friendship.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming is recognized.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I thank the Leader for his comments and his very strong feelings about friends, people with whom he has worked.

I had a little different experience, I guess, with PAUL COVERDELL in that he was here when I came. So I was not in this business of leadership with him. Indeed, he took time to spend time with those of us who were new and to say how can I help you? How can we work together? This was the kind of man that PAUL COVERDELL was. Certainly, he was an image that each of us should seek to perpetuate—that of caring, that of really feeling strongly about issues, and then, of course, being willing to do something about it. So I want to share with the Leader my sorrow and sadness in not hav-

ing PAUL COVERDELL here with us. I extend our condolences to his family.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity to take a few moments to reflect on some things you said and also on what the Majority Leader said a little while ago.

After our colleague PAUL COVERDELL died, I made a very brief statement on the floor. I knew I should speak briefly because it would be difficult to talk very long about PAUL without becoming too emotional.

I think at a time when politics generally and politicians specifically are the subject of a lot of humor—they are denigrated because of cynicism about the political process, and in fact in some cases the denigration of some politicians is probably warranted—it is important for the American people to be reassured that there are some extraordinarily fine public servants who toil very hard on their behalf and who are responsible for whatever good comes out of these institutions—the House and the Senate.

PAUL COVERDELL was such a man. All of us who have spoken about him have shared with our colleagues and with the American people the same general notion that it is amazing what you can do if you are willing to let others take the credit for it. That was PAUL COVERDELL—self-effacing, very hard working, totally trustworthy and honest. Everyone could rely upon him to do the things that had to be done without fear he would in any way attempt to take advantage of any situation. He was as solid as a rock and a very important part of this institution—someone who really helped to make it run, and run in a good way.

I am sure my constituents in Arizona for the most part are unaware of Senator COVERDELL, but they and others all around this country need to know how sorely he will be missed—not only personally but professionally—and how important a contribution he made to this country. There are truly some wonderful public servants, and PAUL COVERDELL was one of the best.

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 341, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 341) authorizing the printing of certain materials in honor of PAUL COVERDELL.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 341) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 341

*Resolved*, That the eulogies and other related materials concerning the Honorable PAUL COVERDELL, late a Senator from the State of Georgia, be printed as a Senate Document.

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I note, again, for all Senators, that this authorizes the printing of certain materials to honor Senator PAUL COVERDELL. We will designate a specific period of time later on this week so Senators who have not spoken will have an opportunity to do so. Of course, we will then pull together all of the statements that have been made about Senator COVERDELL for his widow, Nancy Coverdell.

TUESDAY, *July 25, 2000*

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to add my condolences to those of my colleagues on the passing of our friend and colleague, Senator PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia.

Senator COVERDELL was a model of proper conduct and decorum becoming of a Senator. He conducted himself in the quiet, deliberative manner that reflected his commitment to a thorough performance of his duties. He was a true leader, willing to do his best for all Americans.

Most recently, he and I worked together to keep our Nation's promise to provide health care coverage to military retirees, when we introduced legislation together earlier this year. As my colleagues know, Senator COVERDELL had extreme pride in this country. It was an honor to work with him on making good to those people who have served their Nation and are now in the years of declining health. It was also an honor to work with Senator COVERDELL every day, for he was truly interested in ensuring that our democracy

remained strong and pushed forward confidently into the 21st century.

Mr. President, I wish to extend my condolences to the Coverdell family, to Senator COVERDELL's many friends and his staff. The entire Senate family has lost a friend and the Nation has lost a leader. However, we are all enriched by having known such an honorable man. His service and commitment will have a definite and lasting legacy.

WEDNESDAY, *July 26, 2000*

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, all last week I deferred coming to the floor to speak about my friend, PAUL COVERDELL, on the grounds that it might be easier to do so this week. It is not. It is not, but it is vitally important to memorialize such a friend.

Every Monday evening or Tuesday morning, PAUL COVERDELL and I sat at the end of the table during leadership meetings in the Majority Leader's office, with an opportunity to comment on all of the issues that came before that group. Frequently, however, at the end of the table, we would exchange whispered remarks on some of the other people or subject matter, either present or not present. PAUL COVERDELL had a wonderful sense of humor, there and elsewhere: Dry, gentle, always to the point. It was a delightful pleasure to share those moments, sometimes stressful, sometimes marvelously relaxed, with such a man.

If you sought advice on a matter of vitally important public policy, PAUL COVERDELL was one of the first you would seek out. You knew that anything he would discuss with you would be filled with wisdom and common sense, and that stacking your remarks against his would focus and sharpen your own thoughts and your own ideas. It hardly mattered what the subject was—education, taxes, national security, a dozen others; the advice was always good and always relevant.

If you then sought tactics or advice on how to accomplish a shared goal, PAUL COVERDELL was a man whom you sought out. Particularly if there were an individual in your own party, or in the other party, whom you might be reluctant, for one reason or another, to approach, you could ask PAUL COVERDELL to do it for you, and he would. There was

no task, there was no detail that was too small for him, none that he thought was beneath him, if it was constructive, if it would help the cause in the long term.

One way in which you can determine individuals' reactions to other individuals is in a group. At the Republican Conference meeting immediately before the Fourth of July recess, PAUL COVERDELL, as the Secretary of the Conference, presented us a little plastic note card, the top of which read "Republican Policy." I no longer remember the particular subject, but I do remember that first one or two people said, "I don't agree with point 3." Pretty soon, everyone was piling on. Finally, one of our colleagues wrote across the top of his, "One Republican's Policy," and handed it back to PAUL COVERDELL, who just went back to perfect his message.

Whom you tease, you generally love. That in many respects was an expression of the love and respect his Republican colleagues had for PAUL COVERDELL.

PAUL COVERDELL made us all proud of our profession, a profession often criticized, in fact a profession rarely praised. When a State sends a PAUL COVERDELL to the Senate, it is proof positive that our system works. And when the Senate of the United States listens to and respects and follows a PAUL COVERDELL, that, too, is proof that our system works. When, as was my privilege, you come to know and are befriended by a PAUL COVERDELL, you are especially privileged and especially honored. I was so privileged. I was so honored.

I will not know his like again.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, I congratulate my colleague from Washington State on very eloquent comments about our dear friend, PAUL COVERDELL. I had the chance a few days ago to make some more extensive comments than I will tonight about Senator COVERDELL. But I just want to add, I had the opportunity, as many Members of the Senate did, to travel to Atlanta this past weekend to participate in that very wonderful service for our dear friend. I do not think it really hit me that he was really gone until I got back this week to Washington and started contemplating this Senate body without PAUL COVERDELL and all that he meant to each and every one of us. He was our friend. We loved him very much. This body, this institution, is a poorer place because he is gone.

Each one of us is richer because we were privileged to know this very gentle, this very kind, this very sweet, this very good man.

THURSDAY, *July 27, 2000*

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, the 10 days since his sudden passing and the outpouring of expression from many different directions have given me the opportunity to reflect on Senator COVERDELL's life, the gifts he brought to the Senate, and the impact his life had on people.

I want to focus my remarks on PAUL COVERDELL's humility, which I think was his defining quality, his greatest gift, and one which had the greatest impact on the lives of others.

Many people might say that humility, sometimes defined as freedom from pride or arrogance, is a quality not found often in our society today. No one disputes, however, that PAUL COVERDELL possessed a deep sense of humility.

During the past 10 days, PAUL COVERDELL has been described as: Serious and low key; self-effacing; uncomfortable in the limelight; a humble public servant who became a political giant through selfless dedication and quiet civility; a very gentle and courteous person; a person people went to, felt really comfortable with, and opened up to; a person who really cared for what happened to others; a person many regarded as the Senate's leading mediator; a person of scrupulous integrity and unblemished character; a person with an unsurpassed work ethic and standard of personal ethics and devotion to what he was doing; a person who always kept his word and was someone you could count on—just to mention a few characterizations.

How many of us would like to be known as individuals who possess these qualities?

Too often we think success results from aggressive, enterprising, pushy, and contentious behavior. PAUL COVERDELL's success came from his combination of humility and energy which helped him to become the cornerstone of the Georgia Republican Party. A person whose objective was to make his State party credible and viable in what had been virtually a one-party State; a political mentor to a number of politicians

on both sides of the aisle; a person who was said by former Senator Sam Nunn to be “the person who makes the Senate work;” and finally, a person of whom Democrats in his State said that his legacy is one of actions and deeds, not words and glory; friendship and trust, not cynicism and betrayal.

There is no question that the outpouring of sentiment on the subject of PAUL’s humility, humanity, and his contribution to his State and to his Nation would have overwhelmed him. He would have been embarrassed by all of the adulation and attention.

PAUL was the personification of Proverbs 22:4: “the reward for humility and fear of the Lord . . . is riches and honor and life.” PAUL COVERDELL surely conducted his life in a manner that resulted in great riches and honor of public opinion.

The Book of Revelation 20:12, states: “and I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Also, another book was opened, the book of life. And the dead were judged according to their works, as recorded in the books.”

Our earthly judgment of PAUL COVERDELL will surely be confirmed in heaven. PAUL’s works and his hardworking qualities were legendary.

I want to take a moment to speak about a passion of PAUL’s. He often talked of the importance of freedom, challenging each of us to do our part to ensure that the legacy of 1776 endures for generations to come. I picked out a few passages concerning freedom from some of his speeches, and I want to repeat them today.

From a Veteran’s Day speech: “In the end, all that any of us can do with regard to this great democracy is to do our part . . . during our time.”

From a speech to an annual meeting of the Georgia Youth Farmers Association:

You live by the grace of God in the greatest democracy in the history of the entire world. And each of us has our own personal responsibility to help care for it, to love it, and to serve it.

From a speech to an ecumenical service at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta:

Several years ago I was in Bangladesh, the poorest country in the world, on the day they created their democracy. A Bangladeshi said to me, “I don’t know if you or your fellow citizens of your country understand the role you play for democracy everywhere. It is an awesome responsibility and I don’t envy you, but I pray, sir, that you and your fellow citizens continue to accept it.

Finally, from a speech at an Andersonville, GA, Memorial Day ceremony:

I am sure that each of you, like me, has wondered how we can ever adequately honor these great Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice for the preservation of our Nation and the great Americans who suffered and endured on these hallowed grounds as prisoners of war. We look across these fields and see monuments. We have heard an elegant poem written by a young American. We have tried through movies to somehow express our gratitude. Nothing ever quite seems to meet the challenge. I have finally concluded in my mind and in my heart that the only way to appropriately express our gratitude is through duty and stewardship to this great Nation.

PAUL COVERDELL truly expressed his gratitude to his country in the manner in which he lived his life—through his service and stewardship to our Nation.

Perhaps the ultimate compliment for a politician was accorded PAUL COVERDELL by one of his constituents, who simply said: He gave politics a good name.

PAUL was an unsung hero, the glue that bound us together, particularly on the Republican side, but he also had an unusually fair presence in the entire body of this Senate. We are blessed and better off because of the impact of PAUL's humility.

I hope I have learned something from him about life. God sent him so many friends—and he recognized us all and embraced us. We are thankful and grateful for his presence in our lives. And the loss of PAUL COVERDELL has made me realize just how much I am going to miss each of you when I leave the Senate in a few months.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, it is very hard to adjust to the sad reality of PAUL COVERDELL's absence from the Senate. I miss him very much. And the Senate, we have to admit, is not the same without him.

It was always a genuine pleasure to be in his company. I enjoyed very much going to Georgia with him during his reelection campaign. I also returned with him to learn more about the severe problems his State's agricultural producers were experiencing from the drought. We worked together on these and other issues that were important to our region on the Senate Agriculture Committee.

He was a very influential force in the Senate for the people of his State. And he was a thoughtful leader on national issues as well.

While we continue to mourn his passing, we should try to carry on with the same determination and energy he brought to the challenges he faced. His example will be a very valuable legacy. Not only has Georgia benefited from his good efforts to represent its interests, but also through his leadership as Director of the Peace Corps, and on other international issues, where he has made the world a better and safer place for all mankind.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I thank the Majority Leader for setting aside time this morning so many of us could pay tribute to PAUL COVERDELL. Certainly last week, many of us who were friends with PAUL really were not up to giving him a proper tribute because the shock of losing one of our friends was so enormous that we really did not feel that we could get through the kind of tribute that PAUL deserves. So I thank the Majority Leader for giving us this time.

We have now had a chance to collect our thoughts about the sudden death of our colleague and friend, PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia. One need only look at the breadth of representation at the memorial service in Atlanta to understand the many ways in which PAUL's life affected ours.

At the service, it was hard to miss the sweet but sad irony that, for one last time, PAUL COVERDELL was the great unifier. The Democratic Governor of Georgia, Governor Barnes, called PAUL COVERDELL—one of just a handful of Republicans in the State Legislature when Governor Barnes, himself, was elected to the Legislature in 1974—he called PAUL his best teacher in politics. Senator Kennedy, our colleague from across the aisle, with whom Senator COVERDELL had tangled on many important education issues, sat right next to me in the church to honor PAUL COVERDELL.

Senator COVERDELL is sorely missed in the Senate and in Georgia.

He is not missed because he was a great legislator—but he was. His innovative approach to helping families have more flexibility in education spending became the COVERDELL education savings account bill.

We do not feel his loss as badly as we do simply because he was a great Senate Leader—but he was. His leadership could bring disparate policy and political strands together to form a single, strong bond that allowed us to move forward with our priorities.

Others have said it, but I will repeat for emphasis: PAUL COVERDELL was as close as any Senator comes to being indispensable to his party.

He will not be missed most because he was a giant in Georgia politics—but he was. Over the past third of a century, he built, from virtually nothing, the Republican Party of Georgia, starting at a time when, much as in my own home State of Texas, Republicans numbered only a few in the State Legislature.

Georgia is a better State today—and so is Texas—because there is a strong two-party system. PAUL COVERDELL is the reason why. And the people of Georgia registered their appreciation by making him the first Georgia Republican in over a century to be reelected to the Senate.

And he will not be missed the most because he was an outstanding administrator and a man of vision as the Director of the Peace Corps—but that is certainly the case.

PAUL COVERDELL was the right man for the job in 1989 when President Bush appointed him to head the Peace Corps, just as the Berlin Wall came tumbling down.

In 1989, Poland, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia were emerging from behind the Iron Curtain. PAUL COVERDELL thought about his agency. It was a creature of the cold war, created to keep the Third World from falling prey to communism by exposing those countries to the energy, promise and ideals of American youth.

The Peace Corps helped win the cold war, and PAUL COVERDELL had the vision to know that it could also help win the peace. Although it had been dedicated to helping underdeveloped countries with subsistence agriculture and infrastructure projects, Director PAUL COVERDELL saw the promise of helping win the cold war peace when he asked: “Why not in Europe, too?”

Under his leadership, the Peace Corps began sending volunteers into Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, blazing a new trail for this old cold war agency. On June 15, 1990, President George Bush wished farewell to the first such volunteers as they departed for Hungary and Poland.

Today, those countries are firmly in the sphere of freedom and democracy, and last year joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. PAUL COVERDELL’s vision had become a reality.

When he was Director of the Peace Corps, Senator COVERDELL emphasized a particular program that had gone fallow given the many other priorities the agency was facing. This

program, part of the Peace Corps' legislative mandate to foster greater global understanding by U.S. citizens, offered fellowship to returning volunteers in exchange for their agreement to work in an underserved American community as they pursued their degree.

Senator COVERDELL placed renewed emphasis on this program as Director of the Peace Corps and has been credited by Peace Corps alumni for his leadership in this area. These fellowships, funded through private-sector financed scholarships or reduced tuition agreements with universities and colleges, have been a great success.

Senator COVERDELL obviously continued his pursuit of excellence in education with many innovative proposals right here in this body. I will be offering legislation that renames the program the PAUL D. COVERDELL Peace Corps Fellowship in memory of his commitment to both the Peace Corps and education.

A greater legislator, a leader of his party and of his State, a man of peace and vision: These surely describe PAUL COVERDELL, but they do not explain the depth and breadth of warm outpouring that we have seen since his sudden death last week.

More than any other reason, Senator COVERDELL will be missed because he was a sweet, warm man, utterly without pretension.

PAUL COVERDELL: statesman; husband; Senator; leader; but above all, gentleman.

For all the wonderful tributes our colleagues have offered here in the Senate, and those that were made at PAUL's service on Saturday, none surpass in sincerity and simplicity those posted on the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution's* tribute web site by ordinary Georgians.

A real reflection of PAUL's impact is that there are postings from all around the country. But one, in particular, bears quoting. A man from Duluth, GA, quotes from a well-known essay: "The True Gentleman" to describe PAUL, and it certainly fits:

The True Gentleman is the man whose conduct proceeds from good will . . . whose self-control is equal to all emergencies; who does not make the poor man conscious of his poverty, the obscure man of his obscurity . . . ; who is himself humbled if necessity compels him to humble another; who does not flatter wealth, cringe before power, or boast of his own possessions or achievements; who speaks with frankness but always with sincerity and sympathy; whose deed follows his word; who thinks of the rights and feelings of others, rather than his own; and who appears well in any company, a man with whom honor is sacred and virtue safe.

How true these words ring of my friend, PAUL COVERDELL.

I close with the words of a young boy from Georgia, written early in the last century in his school notebook. When assigned to write a short thought about how he wanted to live his life, the young boy, just 10 years or so at the time, wrote:

I cannot do much, said the little star, To make the dark world bright.

My silver beams cannot pierce far into the gloom of night.

Yet—I am part of God's plan, And I will do the best I can.

That sounds like PAUL, another Georgian whose star burned so bright and who fulfilled God's plan by doing the best he could.

Those words were written by young Richard Russell, as a fourth grade student. Richard Russell went on to become a great Senator from Georgia, who, like PAUL, died in office in 1971. Russell's name graces the building that houses my office, and PAUL COVERDELL's, too.

Today, we consider those great men and the reward they have gone on to enjoy. We miss them; we miss PAUL COVERDELL today, and the Senate is a lonelier, less happy place without him. Godspeed to our friend.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I rise this morning to comment on the extraordinary and wonderful life of my friend and our colleague, PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia. While my abilities are unequal to this task, I believe I must try, not because my mere comments will add the slightest glimmer of luster to his sterling legacy but because it is important for me and those living to contemplate his exemplary character, ways of working, positive spirit, courage, and enthusiasm.

The one thing I want to remember most about PAUL is that quick, genuine, and, at times, childlike smile he had. It seemed a bit whimsical, sometimes a bit tired, a bit resigned, at first glance; but on closer observation, that smile was always full of understanding, compassion, and insight into the difficulties we face. PAUL's smile was never silly or false but frequent, wise, encompassing, and in empathy and comprehension for our frailties, completely knowing our weaknesses and encapsulating the precariousness of our human and political condition. Yes, it was fresh and childlike and frequently given; yet in that smile was great strength. There was a kind of understanding there that was born of experience, study, insight, and concern. Moreover, because it was founded on an honest appreciation of our present condition in this life, its warmth, its humanity never failed to inspire.

PAUL COVERDELL was an honest man, an honest broker, an honest leader. PAUL COVERDELL had the courage to act on that honesty, to speak the truth in a positive way. He always saw the glass half full, not half empty. These qualities have the capacity to inspire, and they have never failed to inspire me. When I was frustrated, doubtful, and concerned, I always looked for a chance to speak with PAUL. On occasion, if he sensed I was troubled, he would seek me out. After those conversations I always felt encouraged.

As I think on it today, he was a greater encourager for me and for others than I realized at the time. His friendship, insight, and advice were invaluable for my start in the Senate 3 years ago. I will deeply miss him.

On the day following his death, I spoke on this floor and said that I knew we rightly should celebrate his life and not mourn, but I was not able to celebrate at that time because of the hurt of his loss. I am better now, but his death has struck me and others in this body hard.

Still, PAUL COVERDELL's life is, indeed, to be celebrated. He loved his country. He understood its greatness and uniqueness and deeply loved it. He loved the Senate. His tireless work on matters great and small was abundant evidence of that fact. PAUL enjoyed the debate, and helping develop strategy for the leadership, but his ultimate goal was always to improve his country. That was the constant goal of his service. He loved the Members of the Senate—all of them—even those with whom he disagreed and he was loved in return.

PAUL COVERDELL was a very effective Senator. He followed through on his assignments. He passed legislation and he helped many others pass important legislation. In that small frame, he had, as Phil Gramm said, the heart of a lion. PAUL was a man of great principle and it was a rich and deeply understood American tradition to which he adhered with vigor. PAUL was knowledgeable. He knew a lot about a lot of things. Experiences like the Peace Corps had taught him much. That knowledge made him wise and helpful to all of us in this body.

PAUL, though not at all naive, was certainly optimistic. Even if he knew something bad was about to happen, he looked beyond that bad event and saw possibilities in the future for an even greater good. That was always the case with him. I remember numerous occasions in which he saw beyond temporary setbacks and could visualize a positive future. His optimism helped shape the agenda of the Repub-

lican Conference. It was always his method to focus on our successes, and not on the frustrations. Once one listened fairly to his arguments, one could have no choice but to become optimistic also.

Certainly this Senate has lost a giant. He held a position of great leadership, was projected to continue to rise in leadership and was a tireless supporter of all Members of this body.

My sympathies, and those of my wife, Mary, are extended to Nancy, to his mother and to other members of the family. They have suffered the greatest loss. The Scripture says our time on this Earth is but as a vapor. Indeed, James 4:13 puts us in our place. It says:

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such town and spend a year there and get gain," whereas you do not know about tomorrow. What is your life? For you are but a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead, you should say, If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that, and it is your boast in your arrogance.

That was not PAUL. He was not a person of arrogance. More than any other person in this body that I can know, he was a man of unassuming personality, a man of genuine humility, a person utterly without pretension. I think he showed us a lot.

I don't know any 150-year-old people. All of us must expect to die. Our challenge is to keep the faith, to maintain our ideals, to adhere to great principles and to live with enthusiasm. PAUL COVERDELL was a good man and he set a good example for all of us. His death should call us all to intensify our own efforts to fill the void he leaves so that we may serve our country with effectiveness and strengthen the qualities that make up this great Senate.

I pray God will give us the ability to meet the challenges that are before us, that He will comfort those who are mourning, and that we can continue to maintain the ideals that PAUL shared with us for a great and vigorous and effective America.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I come to the floor this morning, following my distinguished colleague and good friend from Alabama, feeling the same inadequacy to express my thoughts and feelings about the life of someone for whom I had a tremendous amount of respect. As Phil Gramm so aptly put it in his eulogy on Saturday, if you knew PAUL COVERDELL, he was your friend. PAUL was a friend.

I guess in the last week from reading and listening and talking to people about PAUL, it is incredible that in this city

someone could be so universally understood by everyone. All of us are individuals. We are very complex.

Some often say in Washington that politicians have many facets and many faces. PAUL was PAUL. He was like that to me. He was like it to Jeff. He was like it to the Presiding Officer. He was like it to everyone here. Everyone who has gotten up and talked about PAUL said the same thing in the final analysis. They talked about his decency, his good nature, his peacemaking, his optimism, his energy, and his enthusiasm.

I understand we are going to compile all of the things that have been said about PAUL. The remarkable thing is the sameness of what everyone says about PAUL. It is a remarkable quality in and of itself—that PAUL was always PAUL. He was always himself. He was never trying to be something for everyone to meet their expectation. He was who he was, as genuine and as pure as you can possibly be. That is a tremendous gift that he had.

It is so resoundingly amplified by the comments of our colleagues whose eulogies and comments have been out of the same embryo. That may be one of the great legacies and lessons of PAUL COVERDELL and his life.

There are a few people who I want to thank. First, I thank Nancy and his mother for the dedication that they gave to PAUL in allowing him to provide his service.

He spent an incredible amount of time working issues, long days and long nights away from Nancy while she was in Georgia. She made a tremendous sacrifice for him and for his career in the Senate. Obviously, the impact she had on PAUL's life was profound and positive. The same could be said for his mother. I cannot imagine a mother being more proud of a son than PAUL's mother was of him and the contribution he made to Georgia, to the Senate, to this country.

I thank the people of Georgia for sending the Senate PAUL COVERDELL. He had some tough races but Georgia stood behind him, supported him, and elected a Republican Senator, twice, from the State of Georgia. Georgia should be very proud of that choice.

Finally, I thank God for sending PAUL, a truly extraordinary person. When I found out on Tuesday PAUL very well may not make it, I was sitting in the back talking to Senator Gorton. I was talking about what a tragic loss it would be should PAUL die. I looked around at the desks, I looked at Slade, and I said: I don't know where PAUL's desk is. He never sat at his desk. He was always running all over the

place—down in the well, back in the Cloakroom, running from place to place. He was never at his desk. I thought to myself, where did he sit?

What a fitting analysis of the role that PAUL COVERDELL played in this place. He was everywhere, doing everything, never sitting back at his desk worried about himself or what he would say or do but running around making things happen, back in the Cloakroom with that styrofoam Waffle House coffee cup. I don't know where he got all those styrofoam Waffle House cups, but he had one in his hand all the time. There would be two or three placed throughout the Cloakroom by the end of the day. Everyone knew where PAUL had been. He was just working all the time, putting every ounce of his energy—and it was an incredible amount of energy—into his work in the Senate.

I was at the funeral on Saturday. Many things were said about PAUL moving on from one life to the next. It reminded me of a quote from a funeral I attended earlier this year for Governor Casey in Scranton, PA. The quote on the back of the book we received when we came into the church could not help but remind me of PAUL: "Death is not extinguishing the light. It is putting out the lamp because the dawn has come."

PAUL's light here in the Senate burned so bright. He illuminated every conversation. Every room he walked into with his energy, with his positive attitude, with his optimism. That light will be missed. Lights that seem to burn the brightest are doomed not to burn the longest. If we are measuring the wattage or the illumination that has been cast on this Earth, no one cast more light in 61 years than PAUL ever did. It is a comfort to know that the dawn for PAUL has come and that he is experiencing a brighter light than we all know right now. It is a comfort to know he is experiencing that light and is in heaven.

As a Catholic, I believe in intercessory prayer. Those in heaven can pray to God to help those on Earth. I know PAUL is praying for us. I ask for your prayers, PAUL, for all of us here, because we will miss you.

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a noble Southern gentleman, Senator PAUL COVERDELL. All of us in the Senate were saddened by the sudden loss of such a fine man, and we will sorely miss him. As a relative newcomer to the Senate, I have spent a great deal of my time on the Senate floor observing my colleagues. You can tell a lot about a person by his demeanor, and I first grew

to like PAUL COVERDELL simply by watching him. He wore a cloak of peacefulness around him and he radiated kindness. It was rare to see him without a smile.

When I began working with him on the Small Watershed Dams Rehabilitation bill, I realized that my first impressions of him had been accurate. He was, indeed, kind and friendly. It was a pleasure to work with him in a bipartisan manner on an issue that is vital to both of our States. As is obvious by his rise within the leadership of the Republican Party, he was extremely loyal to his party. But he never let partisanship interfere with his relationships in the Senate. In short, he was a statesman in every sense of the word.

To his wife, Nancy, and the rest of his family, I extend my sincere condolences. Public life is not an easy one, and our country's greatest leaders can be identified by the support system that is their family. Thank you, Nancy, for sharing PAUL with the rest of us.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, as we today welcome Senator COVERDELL's successor, I wanted to talk about the man whose shoes he must fill.

Last week the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution's* tribute article to our late friend PAUL COVERDELL included the following story. Once, at a county fair on a hot summer day, someone asked PAUL why he was wearing a coat and tie in such a casual setting. PAUL replied that he had noticed that in an emergency, when people are trying to figure out what to do, they always go to the guy with the tie on.

Well, tie or not, Senator COVERDELL was a guy whom we always went to.

I, like many of us on both sides of the aisle, considered him a friend. His hand and arm gestures will always be remembered as "get up and go" signs. I had the privilege of lunching with PAUL nearly every Wednesday for the last several years and his presence there was a treat.

He was a hard worker. He knew where he wanted to go. And he was willing to help those with whom he teamed on issues—issues that were invariably important and meaningful. I checked last night, and there are 103 pieces of legislation listed as sponsored by Senator COVERDELL.

Now, PAUL did work on parochial legislation for his State, and he had his share of technical bills, but he also authored many significant and far-reaching national provisions. He worked for the country as well as Georgia, and strove to improve the education, the safety, and the prospects of our children specifically and our citizenry generally.

He had an IRS reform bill, the Safe and Affordable Schools Act, education IRAs, antidrug legislation . . . and then there are the countless hours spent working on bills for his colleagues and conference. Even his commemorative bills were significant—Reagan Washington National Airport for example, a bill I jumped to co-sponsor.

He had 30 productive years of service to his country—Army postings in Asia, Georgia State Senate, Peace Corps Director, and an invaluable Member of the U.S. Senate. I was proud to be his friend and colleague. I will miss my friend from Georgia.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record the article from the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

[From the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, July 19, 2000]

HE WAS A GREAT, GREAT MAN

COLLEAGUES RECALL GEORGIAN AS HARD WORKER

(By Alan Judd)

Once, when he was chairman of the state Republican Party, PAUL COVERDELL spent a hot Saturday at a county fair in North Georgia. As always, he was spreading the Republican word. And as usual, despite the casual setting, he was dressed in coat and tie.

Lee Raudonis, a longtime aide, recalls that when he asked why, COVERDELL responded: "Well, I've noticed that if there's ever any kind of emergency and people are trying to figure out what to do, they always go to the guy with the tie on."

For three decades, as a Georgia lawmaker, state party leader, Peace Corps director and U.S. senator, PAUL COVERDELL was the man people went to.

As word of his death spread Tuesday, many of those who counted on COVERDELL said they couldn't fathom a world in which they couldn't turn to him.

"Unbelievable," said state Rep. Bob Irvin of Atlanta, the Georgia House minority leader, a friend of COVERDELL's since they met at a campaign rally on July 4, 1968. "He was my oldest and best friend in politics."

"We shall miss him as we would miss our own son," former President George Bush, one of COVERDELL's closest friends, said in a statement. "We loved him dearly."

COVERDELL's death at age 61 came as he reached the pinnacle of a life in politics. Although less than 2 years into his second six-year term, he was the fifth-highest Republican in the Senate's power structure. And he was the Senate liaison for the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, Texas Gov. George W. Bush.

It was a heady time for PAUL DOUGLAS COVERDELL, an insurance agent turned politician who moved to Atlanta as a teenager in the early 1950s from his native Des Moines, Iowa.

After graduating from Northside High School, he attended the University of Missouri, where he received a bachelor's degree in journalism. He spent 2 years in the Army before returning to Atlanta to take over his family's insurance business. Soon, his interests turned to politics.

In 1970, he was elected to the State Senate from a north Atlanta district. At the time, Republican legislators were rare, so COVERDELL formed alliances with like-minded Democrats. By the late 1970s, then-Lt. Gov. Zell Miller had appointed COVERDELL to chair the Senate Retirement Committee—a first, said a former Senate colleague, Pierre Howard.

“He was one of the hardest-working, most disciplined, most incisive public servants I’ve ever known,” said Howard, who later became lieutenant governor. “There was nobody who surpassed his work ethic and his ethics and his devotion to what he was doing. You might not agree with him on an issue here or there, but you always knew that he was sincere and that he was well-informed and that he was going to work hard to achieve the objective that he had.”

Since the mid-1970s, his objective was to make the GOP credible and viable in what had long been virtually a one-party State.

“He really never, ever let go of this stuff,” said Rep. John Linder (R-Ga.). “If there was an evening when he was free from 9 to 12, he’d pace around his driveway and think about what would be next.”

COVERDELL and other Republicans—Mack Mattingly, a future U.S. senator, and future House Speaker Newt Gingrich, among them—met regularly at St. Simons Island to establish long-range goals for the party.

“That group actually worked to develop what in many ways became the modern Republican Party in Georgia,” Gingrich said Tuesday night from California. “We’ve been a very close team for the last 26 years.”

Although a staunch Republican, COVERDELL eschewed partisanship. It was a quality that served him well, Gingrich said.

“PAUL had several strengths that combined in an unusual way,” Gingrich said. “He was very intelligent. He had a great deal of courage. He was willing to take responsibility. He would work very, very hard. And he always kept his word. That gave you somebody you could count on and work with in a very remarkable way.”

Beginning in 1978, COVERDELL formed a close friendship with another politician, a relationship that would help propel him to a higher political level.

While vacationing with his wife, Nancy, in Kennebunkport, Maine, COVERDELL opened the local telephone book to look up one of the town's best-known residents: George Bush, the former U.S. ambassador to China and the United Nations. He knocked on Bush's door, and the pair quickly became friends.

When Bush ran for president 2 years later, COVERDELL was one of his earliest supporters, serving as his finance chairman in Georgia. Bush lost the Republican nomination to Ronald Reagan. But as vice president, he remained close to COVERDELL. The two men were “not only great political allies, but very close friends,” said Jean Becker, a spokeswoman for Bush. The Coverdells were frequent guests at the Bush home in Kennebunkport, Becker said. Just last month, they attended Barbara Bush's 75th birthday party there.

When Bush became president in 1989—inaugurated on COVERDELL's 50th birthday—one of his first acts was to appoint COVERDELL director of the Peace Corps. In that job, COVERDELL was such a workaholic, Raudonis said,

that when once asked to list his hobbies, all he could come up with was “dining out.”

After an Asian tour, Raudonis said, COVERDELL proudly pointed out that he had never checked into a hotel. Instead, if he slept at all, it was on planes between destinations.

“PAUL was the type who’s constantly on the go,” said Raudonis, who worked for COVERDELL for 10 years in Georgia and Washington. “The idea of having to take 12 hours off to go to a hotel, he couldn’t figure out why anybody would do that.”

After three years, COVERDELL left the Peace Corps in 1992 to seek what friends say he had long wanted: a U.S. Senate seat.

In a close race, he unseated Democrat Wyche Fowler. He was re-elected in 1998.

Although he ascended to a leadership position in the Senate and maintained a remarkably full schedule, COVERDELL had found time in recent years to relax a bit, friends say. He developed a passion for gardening, and his recent Christmas cards included a picture of his flowers.

“My greatest regret for him is that he didn’t have the time that he deserved to enjoy himself more,” Howard said. “I feel a real sense of loss. He was a great, great man.”

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, I rise today to join with my colleagues in mourning the loss of Senator PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia.

He was a man whom I respected and admired. All of us here in the Senate feel his absence acutely. PAUL COVERDELL was a fixture in the Senate. I cannot recall how often I sat at my desk and, looking up at C-SPAN, saw him there leading his party on one difficult issue after another. He did so honorably, tenaciously, and modestly. And, of course, he did so effectively.

I feel a real void in the Senate Chamber without his presence and feel a sense of surprise when I look up and see someone other than Senator COVERDELL at the Republican floor manager’s desk.

PAUL COVERDELL touched many lives. I am privileged to have known him and count myself lucky to have served in the Senate with him. He was a unique and truly special person, taken from us too young and so suddenly.

I send to his family, his friends, and his staff my deepest condolences. He was a good man who will be sorely missed. But he will also be remembered by us all often and his spirit will never leave us.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I join my colleagues in expressing the grief felt by all of us at the passing of Senator PAUL COVERDELL.

As a fellow southerner, I can tell you that PAUL epitomized all that is good and noble about the South. He was prin-

cipld, but always looked for workable solutions to problems. He was a determined advocate, but always added an air of civility to this Chamber. He was a Republican through and through, but always sought out ways to work with the other side of the Chamber.

My friend, the Senior Senator from New York, called Senator COVERDELL a man of peace. I think that sums up his contribution to this world very eloquently.

His work, as Director of the Peace Corps during a time of world transition, was extremely important. He brought the Peace Corps the Nations of the Warsaw Pact and the former Soviet Union. This single decision may harvest benefits to this Nation that we will enjoy for many generations.

Had Senator COVERDELL's life work ended there, he would have accomplished much for which he and the Nation could be proud. However, fortunately for the people of Georgia, he continued his life in public service.

When I came to the Senate in 1997, one of the first bills that I worked on as a Democratic sponsor was with PAUL COVERDELL. I will always remember the warm reception that he gave me, and the encouragement to go forward with the Coverdell-Landrieu Protecting the Rights of Property Owners Act.

Since I had just finished a bruising campaign it was such a pleasure to be welcomed in such a warm and bipartisan manner by this southern gentleman.

Senator COVERDELL was also an early and ardent supporter of the Conservation and Reinvestment Act. As many in this Chamber well know, I have pestered and cajoled my colleagues on CARA for 2½ years. PAUL must have seen it coming and was one of the first to sign on.

For his leadership on this, I owe him a debt of gratitude I cannot repay.

Senator COVERDELL will be missed, in this Chamber, by the people of Louisiana, and by people throughout the country. My deepest condolences to his family.

Mr. MILLER. Mr. President, to the distinguished Members of the Senate, first let me say how much I appreciate those very generous welcoming remarks.

I do not rise this morning to tell you more about myself or to introduce myself to you because there will be time enough for that later. I rise instead to add my voice to the remarkable chorus that has echoed forth from this floor to the marble floors under Georgia's Capitol dome, a chorus of praise for PAUL COVERDELL. The pain and the love that the

Majority Leader showed as he made that terrible announcement on the Senate floor touched many hearts in Georgia. The eloquence of Senator Moynihan's tribute still rings in our ears. And the personal tribute from Senator Gramm, a native son of Georgia, I found especially moving. When he spoke of PAUL as a man with a thin body, a squeaky voice, but the heart of a lion, heads were nodding and eyes were misting up from the Potomac River to the Chattahoochee River.

Then this morning, I sat in the gallery and listened to the outpouring of love and praise you had for Senator COVERDELL.

On behalf of the people of Georgia, I thank you. I thank you for your words and your tears and your testimony to one of Georgia's finest sons.

You who served with PAUL knew him well. I served with PAUL and knew him well also. I served with him when he was an up-and-coming State Senator and I was the Senate President—PAUL, a Republican; I, a Democrat. Yet PAUL impressed me with his ability and his integrity and his bipartisan commitment to serving the people first and politics second that I named him as one of the first Republican committee chairmen since Reconstruction in our heavily Democratic State Senate.

In that job and in that State Senate, PAUL flourished. He reached across party lines to build coalitions to reform education, improve our schools, and open up our government to the people.

Later, as the Director of the Peace Corps, PAUL's dignity and decency inspired countless young people to serve their fellow man; and then his service in this Senate, where in less than 8 years he rose to be one of the most influential, respected, and beloved Members of this august body.

Now, when I think of PAUL COVERDELL, I am reminded of St. Paul's letter to Timothy. It is as if it were written by Senator PAUL rather than St. Paul: I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith.

Today it is up to us to take up that fight, to continue that course, to keep that faith.

You are, of course, aware of PAUL's tireless work here in this body on behalf of the schoolchildren of this country. Yet his work here was just an extension of his lifelong commitment to education. We served together as trustees on the board of that tiny college, Young Harris College, in the tiny village that is my hometown.

PAUL COVERDELL had faith in education, and I intend to keep that faith. In Georgia, PAUL was a leader early on of a reform movement that believed that sunlight was the best disinfectant. So working together across party lines, we opened up the Senate Chambers and the smoke-filled rooms and gave government back to our people. PAUL COVERDELL had a faith in open, honest government, and I will keep that faith.

In the Peace Corps and in the Senate, PAUL was convinced that as the beacon of freedom for all the world, America could not hide her light under a bushel. And so he worked to keep America strong, to keep America engaged in the world, to ensure that she is always an ally to be trusted and an adversary to be feared. PAUL COVERDELL had limitless faith in America, and I intend to keep that faith.

In addition to what he accomplished, PAUL will always be remembered for how he accomplished it. He was as committed a Republican as I am a dedicated Democrat. Yet he was always looking for ways to get things done across party lines. He did so not by abandoning his principles but by heeding and listening to the proverb: A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

I am a different man from PAUL COVERDELL. I have rarely been accused of giving soft answers and, in my day, I suppose I have uttered more of my share of grievous words that have stirred up anger. But I also have the commitment to getting things done for my State and our Nation, a commitment to work with anyone, regardless of party, who shares that commitment. PAUL COVERDELL had a powerful faith in bipartisan progress, and I intend to keep that faith.

Let me repeat to this Senate the pledge I made to my Governor and to the people of Georgia when I accepted this mission. I will serve no single political party but, rather, 7.5 million Georgians, and every day I serve I will do my best to do so in the same spirit of dignity, integrity, and bipartisan cooperation that were the hallmarks of PAUL COVERDELL's career.

Thank you.

PAUL D. COVERDELL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2998 introduced earlier today by Senator Hutchison and others.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2998) to designate a Fellowship Program of the Peace Corps promoting the work of returning Peace Corps volunteers in underserved American communities as the Paul D. Coverdell Fellowship Program.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the Record.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2998) was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2998

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “PAUL D. COVERDELL Fellows Program Act of 2000”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) PAUL D. COVERDELL was elected to the Georgia State Senate in 1970 and later became Minority Leader of the Georgia State Senate, a post he held for 15 years.

(2) PAUL D. COVERDELL served with distinction as the 11th Director of the Peace Corps from 1989 to 1991, where he promoted a fellowship program that was composed of returning Peace Corps volunteers who agreed to work in underserved American communities while they pursued educational degrees.

(3) PAUL D. COVERDELL served in the United States Senate from the State of Georgia from 1993 until his sudden death on July 17, 2000.

(4) Senator PAUL D. COVERDELL was beloved by his colleagues for his civility, bipartisan efforts, and his dedication to public service.

**SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF PAUL D. COVERDELL FELLOWS PROGRAM.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Effective on the date of enactment of this Act, the program under section 18 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2517) referred to before such date as the “Peace Corps Fellows/USA Program” is redesignated as the “Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference before the date of enactment of this Act in any law, regulation, order, document, record, or other paper of the United

States to the Peace Corps Fellows/USA Program shall, on and after such date, be considered to refer to the PAUL D. COVERDELL Fellows Program.

FRIDAY, *September 8, 2000*

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to my esteemed colleague, PAUL COVERDELL. I join with my colleagues in expressing sadness at his passing. He was a tremendous leader in the Senate and an asset for Georgians and the rest of the country. His years of exemplary public service have included the military, the Peace Corps, the Georgia statehouse, and finally the U.S. Senate. Senator COVERDELL was an effective leader and demonstrated many times his unifying influence in the Senate.

On a personal level, he was an unpretentious man who had a quiet sense of humor and good mind for details. He was instrumental in helping me make the transition from the U.S. House to the Senate a couple of years ago, and provided insight and advice in everything from how to set up a Senate office to how to make time for my family. There is not a day that goes by that his influence in my Senate career has not been felt.

PAUL was a friend and a model statesman. He spent a lifetime of service to his country. I will miss him dearly. I extend my prayers to his wife, Nancy, and the rest of his family.

THURSDAY, *September 14, 2000*

PAUL COVERDELL NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, not too long ago our former colleague, PAUL COVERDELL, introduced the National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act. It was a bill to further Federal support to State forensic laboratories, those places where DNA evidence is evaluated, where drug evidence is evaluated, where fingerprints, ballistics, and all the other scientific data from carpet fibers, and so forth, are evaluated, and then reported out to the prosecutors around the country so cases can be prosecuted on sound science.

Today we have a crisis in our criminal justice system. We clearly have a bottleneck, of major proportions, in the laboratory arena. There is simply an exploding amount of work. More and more tests are available. People are demanding more and more tests on each case that comes down the pike. We are way behind.

In my view, as a person who spent 15 years of my life prosecuting criminal cases, swift, fair justice is critical for any effective criminal justice system. We need not see our cases delayed. We need to create a circumstance in which they can be tried as promptly as possible, considering all justice relevant to the cases.

I ran for attorney general of Alabama in 1994. I talked in every speech I made, virtually, on the need to improve case processing. The very idea of a robber or a rapist being arrested and released on bail and tried 2 years later is beyond the pale. It cannot be acceptable. It cannot be the rule in America.

Yet I am told by Dr. Downs of the forensic laboratory in the State of Alabama that they now have delays of as much as 20 months on scientific evidence. We know Virginia last year, before making remarkable improvements, had almost a year—and other States. Another police officer today told us his State was at least a year in getting routine reports done. This is a kind of bottleneck, a stopgap procedure that undermines the ability of the police and prosecutors to do their jobs.

I was pleased and honored to be able to pick up the PAUL COVERDELL forensic bill and to reintroduce it as the PAUL COVERDELL National Forensic Improvement Act of 2000. We have had marvelous bipartisan support on this legislation. Senator Max Cleland from Georgia, PAUL's colleague, was an original cosponsor of it. He was at our press conference this morning. Senator Zell Miller, former Governor of Georgia, who has replaced PAUL in the Senate, was also at the press conference today, along with Arlen Specter, a former prosecutor, Paul Wellstone, Dick Durbin, and others who participated in this announcement.

# Proceedings in the House of Representatives

TUESDAY, *July 18, 2000*

## BEST WISHES TO SENATOR PAUL COVERDELL DURING A HEALTH CHALLENGE

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, about a year ago I began to work closely on a number of projects with Senator PAUL COVERDELL from Georgia. I just want to take some time today to express my appreciation for his great work for the House, the Senate, for America, and extend our best wishes to him and his wife, Nancy, as they deal with the challenge to his health right now.

Senator COVERDELL brings humility to this job, a humility that is rare in public office. He brings dedication, an ability to work hard, a tremendous insight, and certainly those of us in the House benefit more than we know by his hard work in the Senate, his hard work for this process.

I would like for him and his wife, Nancy, to know that we are thinking about them as he deals with this health challenge, and that we need him back here. We hope for his speedy recovery. We know that if anybody can meet this challenge in an extraordinary way, PAUL COVERDELL can.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. LINDER. I thank the gentleman for taking this time, Mr. Speaker.

I have known PAUL COVERDELL since 1972. There was not an important project in politics or policy that went on in Georgia in the last 28 years in which he was not involved, very often very quietly, very much behind the scenes. Lynne and I have been friends with him and Nancy since they were married.

We want Nancy to know that our prayers are with them. We hope PAUL recovers and gets back here. His country needs him.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for his expressions for PAUL and Nancy. I, too, have known PAUL COVERDELL for the past 25 years, and no one in our State has contributed more.

The people of the Sixth District will join me, I am sure, in their prayers and thoughts over the next few days for a speedy recovery for PAUL. As the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Linder) so eloquently said, his State needs him, his country needs him, and we need him in the Congress of the United States of America. He has our thoughts and our prayers today as he meets his challenges ahead.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and for taking this opportunity to express our concern for Senator COVERDELL.

Like most of us in the Georgia delegation, we have worked with PAUL for many years. I worked with him in the eighties when we were both members of the Georgia Senate. He has always been one of those conscientious individuals who dedicated himself to whatever task was before him, and he has carried that same dedication here to the U.S. Senate.

We wish him a speedy recovery, and our prayers and the prayers of those in our State will be with him and Nancy.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend and colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I have known Senator PAUL COVERDELL for many years. We worked together in the city of Atlanta in the Fifth District. He has been very helpful and very supportive over the years.

Our prayers are with him at this time, with his family, and we wish for Senator COVERDELL a speedy recovery. We

ask that the divine hands of the Almighty be with him during this hour.

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUNT. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished Chief Deputy Majority Whip for providing this time on the floor today as PAUL and his family are coping with a very serious medical illness that has befallen our colleague from Georgia on the other side of this great Capitol Building.

PAUL COVERDELL is a man of Georgia. He is a true patriot of this country, and he works tirelessly on behalf of the people of Georgia and the United States of America. But first and foremost, he is a man of God. We ask the Lord's blessing on him and his doctors today as they cope with this very serious illness, and we ask for the prayers of all of our colleagues and all of those many millions of Americans whose very kind and gentle work and lives PAUL has touched with his work over the years.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. Rangel).

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with my colleagues in praying for a speedy recovery of Senator COVERDELL. I have had many differences with the Senator on legislative issues, but I have not met anyone who has been more of a gentleman, more of someone who respects the other view, and someone who really respects the institution of the House and the other body.

It is times like this that we throw away the labels of Democrat and Republican and realize that God's hand is involved in everything that we do, and at a time like this, only our prayers can be of any assistance to our colleague.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Chambliss).

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

I, too, would just like to echo the sentiment of all of my colleagues. PAUL COVERDELL is a great American. Nobody does more for his country or loves this country more than PAUL COVERDELL. He is simply a great American and a great individual to work with us.

Our prayers go out to PAUL and Nancy as he goes through this very difficult time. We just look forward to a very speedy recovery for PAUL and his return to the U.S. Senate.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Collins).

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me. I thank him, too, for bringing this matter and this announcement before the House of Representatives.

PAUL COVERDELL is a colleague, but most of all he is a friend, a friend for years to many of us. In fact, PAUL COVERDELL has been a role model for many of us who followed him and served with him in the different bodies of the Legislature.

When we received the call on Sunday afternoon that he had been admitted to Piedmont Hospital, our prayers began immediately, because we understood the severeness of his problem.

I hope and I pray that all of my colleagues would join us, join with the people of Georgia, the people of this Nation in praying for a speedy recovery and a full recovery of PAUL COVERDELL.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Kingston).

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, it is times like this and many other times when one is dealing with PAUL COVERDELL that one no longer thinks of him as a U.S. Senator. One does not think of him as one of the most influential men in America. One thinks of him just as PAUL, PAUL and Nancy COVERDELL, two friends with whom we have all worked over the years, and whom we have all known and respected.

One thing about PAUL is one may agree or disagree with him, but one always respects his energy level, his knowledge of the issue, and the way he is so focused in attacking things. We are all his friends. He is a friend of the institution, and he is a friend of the governmental process, somebody who respects everyone and has that respect both ways.

Our prayers are with him, and that is the best that we can all do at this time.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friends for participating today and the indulgence of the House as we talk about a person who is really of great value to the House.

About a year ago, I was given an assignment that allowed me to work with Senator COVERDELL every week. I told the person that gave me that assignment several months ago I would have done that job in retrospect if for no other reason than to work with PAUL COVERDELL.

He is truly, as the gentleman from New York (Mr. Rangel) said, one of the great gentlemen of this Congress. We need him to get our work done. We wish him well. Our prayers are with him and his family.

WEDNESDAY, *July 19, 2000*

REMEMBERING SENATOR PAUL COVERDELL

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday America lost a true friend, and we were all saddened to hear of the tragic news that we had lost a colleague and friend in the U.S. Senate.

Senator PAUL COVERDELL was a true leader of the Senate, his beloved State of Georgia and this Nation. As an ardent supporter of freedom and the American dream, the distinguished Senator from Georgia believed that freedom was best preserved and nurtured by a well-educated citizenry.

As a result, throughout his career, Senator COVERDELL fought for education reform, which ensured that every child in America received a quality education in a safe environment.

Personally, I am honored to have had the recent opportunity to work with the Senator in passing a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Reagans, a family which he held in high regard.

Senator COVERDELL's tenacity and dedication to that effort, as well as to any project he led, were two of his most honorable attributes.

My deepest sympathies go to Senator COVERDELL's family, colleagues, and his staff during this most difficult time.

Senator COVERDELL and his genuine love for our great Nation will be missed by colleagues and friends alike.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 558) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

*Resolved*, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable PAUL COVERDELL, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed on the part of the House to join a committee appointed on the part of the Senate to attend the funeral.

*Resolved*, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Barrett of Nebraska). The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is with profound sadness that I rise today to offer a resolution of condolences on the passing of Senator PAUL COVERDELL. PAUL COVERDELL was the senior Senator from the State of Georgia and, more important, he was a dear friend.

It is with deep sadness that we say goodbye to our good friend, our colleague and our brother, PAUL COVERDELL. PAUL's unexpected death is so sad and so hard for us. I have known him for many years, almost 30 years. As young men, we both campaigned for an open congressional seat in 1977. Later, we both came here to Washington to represent the people of Georgia.

Over the years, we shared many rides together back and forth to Washington. We would often see each other here and in Georgia, and we spent a lot of time talking about life and about what is good for the people of Georgia and for the people of our Nation.

PAUL was not just another colleague. He was like family to me and to so many of our colleagues. His passing, his death, hurts. It is painful. It is more than sad. We have not just lost a friend, but we have lost a member of our family.

PAUL COVERDELL's intelligence, commitment, ethics and leadership stood out. He was a friendly, peaceful man. He cared for his colleagues, his friends, the people who elected him, and even people he did not know. He was wonderful to work with, to be with, to travel with. He was good to be around. A wonderful man. One of the good guys. He was my friend, Mr. Speaker. He was my brother.

We occupied different sides of the aisle, and we did not always agree, but always had the utmost respect and admiration for this man. For three decades, as a Georgia lawmaker,

Peace Corps Director, U.S. Senator, PAUL COVERDELL was a man who could be trusted to get the job done. He focused on the war on drugs, worked to improve education, and fought for the farmers and small business people of Georgia. He was always prepared to help out and take on any task that was required.

But PAUL COVERDELL never sought out the limelight. He never sought the headline. He would never grandstand. He worked hard behind the scenes without seeking any recognition. In today's political climate, PAUL COVERDELL was an unusual and extraordinary man who will be forever missed.

When PAUL was Director of the Peace Corps, he would come in to see me from time to time after he had just come back from a trip abroad. He was so enthused about what he saw and what the Peace Corps was doing, whether in Africa, Eastern Europe, Asia, Central America or South America, that his enthusiasm rubbed off on me during those meetings. I looked forward to talking with him and working with him on those concerns. He wanted to help people meet their basic needs—food, water, shelter—and he wanted to stop them from having to struggle. I admired his commitment and his work with the Peace Corps. PAUL COVERDELL will be remembered not just as a citizen of Georgia, an American, but as a citizen of the world.

Mr. Speaker, his death is a tremendous loss for the members of the Georgia delegation, for the people of Georgia, and a personal loss for me. We are all very sad, not just the people of Georgia, but all of his colleagues in the Senate and in the House. He will be deeply missed.

My heart and prayers go to PAUL's wife, Nancy, to the other members of the Coverdell family, and his staff here in Washington and in Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Linder), a member of our delegation from the State of Georgia.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time and for bringing this proposal to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I met PAUL COVERDELL in 1972. He was one of 22 or 23 members of the State Senate who were Republicans, out of 56 members, and 3 years later I was one of 19 members, I believe it was, out of 180 members in the Georgia House who were Republicans. And PAUL never stopped a moment from trying to build a party, to be competitive, not because he thought Republicans were better than Democrats,

but he thought more Republicans would make the Democrats better.

PAUL had an unbelievable appetite for work, and those who worked with him understand that he had one failing in that appetite, and that was that he always wanted to have meetings. Whatever he came up with, he called a meeting. I recall helping him in 1977 in the race the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) referred to, a special election. I said, PAUL, how can I help you? He said, we are having a meeting at 5:30. I showed up at his office and we talked strategy for an hour; and then I said, I have to get going and distribute some of this literature. And he said, well, we are going to have another meeting tomorrow at 5:30. I said, No, you are going to have a meeting at 5:30; I am going to be out doing work.

He did that because he did not want to go off on his own on any issue and he wanted to talk things through. It was not uncommon to hear the phone ring at 11:30 at night, and when I answered it, it would be, "John? PAUL. I have to talk to you about something"; and he would talk for a long time.

I would play tennis, he would study politics and policy. To him they were exactly the same. Politics and policy were not separate issues. He cared about them both and he cared nothing about attention for his successes. There is a reason why we did not see him on television a lot because he preferred to work very quietly, very much behind the scenes, bringing people together, building coalitions as no one has in my lifetime.

I woke up this morning and thought there is a huge hole in my life, because PAUL has been a large part of it for 25 years; and he will be missed. I am sad that most of America will not know how much he is missed because his work was so quiet and so much of it was behind the scenes.

I thought a little while ago, when I was talking to a reporter about this, that I cannot think of a single former friend of PAUL COVERDELL's, not a single friend, who ever left his side in anger, because he was such a decent and gentle man. He has people working for him today in volunteer capacities who have been with him since 1970. They are still there because he was such a decent and gentle man, and he included them, gave them opportunities to excel, gave them their head and let them achieve, and then let them get the credit. They are all there, too, to this day. His loyalty to the people around him got that loyalty back from them.

I am sad beyond words. There is little left that we can do but say to Nancy and his mother and loved ones and staff that we offer ourselves as poor substitutes for their beloved PAUL, and urge upon them the words of the Psalmist, who, feeling the pain that we here today feel, was moved to write "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted, and those who are crushed in spirit, he saves."

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Bishop).

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) for yielding me this time. I am deeply saddened today by the loss of our friend and colleague, PAUL COVERDELL. His passing is not only a great loss for Georgia and our Nation, it is indeed a personal loss for me.

I first met Senator COVERDELL in 1974, when he came to Columbus, GA, where I lived, and he did his best to recruit me to run as a Republican for the State Senate. Senator COVERDELL was not successful in that endeavor, but he impressed upon me his commitment to integrity in government and his commitment to our two-party system.

I eventually ran for the Legislature 2 years later as a Democrat, and I have served with PAUL, I guess now for nearly 20 years, both as a member of the General Assembly and as a member of our State's delegation here in Congress. He and I worked together on a number of issues over the years, and he was an extraordinary leader whose flexibility, his ability and commitment, and his integrity were recognized by anyone who knew him and had the opportunity to work with him. He was a thoughtful and soft-spoken man, but he was a tenacious fighter for all of the causes that he believed in.

Shakespeare wrote, "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players: They have their exits and their entrances; one man in his time plays many parts. . . ."

So it was with PAUL. He was a soldier, having served in the Army in Korea and the Republic of China. He was a legislator, and emerged as one of the most ardent defenders of our American freedoms and our democracy, as a real true fighter for our two-party system. He was a Senator. He was elected by his colleagues to leadership in the U.S. Senate where he served as adviser, counselor, supporter, confidant for the Republican Party, and he gave an important voice to how our government conducts its business.

As a humanitarian, PAUL dedicated a segment of his life to leading the Peace Corps, an organization that needs no accolades in its efforts to lift the untouchables to places of respectability and to bring life and quality of life to people all across the world.

That was PAUL COVERDELL's commitment. He made numerous contributions in the Peace Corps, such as redesigning the agency's mission to serve the emerging democracies in Europe.

PAUL was a family man. He loved Nancy and his family, and he always held them dear. But PAUL was also a statesman; and everything that he did, he did with dignity and with respect and with courtesy.

I have two personal stories or recollections and memories of PAUL. I have shared one, and that was his efforts in our conversations as he worked to try to recruit me as a Republican candidate for the State Senate in 1974.

But even more important than that was the kind of individual that PAUL was, the kind of integrity that he had. He was a man who was committed to integrity, who was committed to fairness, and who was committed to that which was right.

My colleagues may remember that former State Senator Julian Bond had been a member of the Georgia State House of Representatives and had made some statements regarding the Vietnam war which angered his colleagues in the Georgia House. They got together, passed a resolution, and expelled him from membership in the Georgia House. So he could not take his seat.

Then Representative Bond filed a lawsuit, took it all the way to the Supreme Court; and the Supreme Court had to order the State House to grant him his seat to represent his constituents.

Shortly thereafter, Julian Bond ran for the State Senate and was elected overwhelmingly and became a member of that august body. But the hostility was so great in the Georgia House because of the resentment for Senator Bond and what he stood for that any piece of legislation that he offered that passed the Senate, even if it passed unanimously, once it got to the House it was doomed to a certain death, a certain death.

So PAUL and Julian were friends. Anything that Julian felt so strongly about that he wanted it to be passed he discussed with his friend, PAUL COVERDELL. PAUL would take Julian's ghost-written legislation and he would offer it under his

name; and when it got to the House, it would secure the usual passage.

PAUL did that not because he wanted the limelight, not because he wanted the credit, but because he believed in doing that which was right; and if it was a good piece of legislation, he felt that it did not matter who wrote the bill. What was important was the result.

PAUL COVERDELL set an example for all of us in elective office to follow. It is not important that we be concerned about the partisanship as it is that we be concerned about the policy.

Yes, all the world is a stage and all the men and women merely players. Each has his entrance and his exit. One man in his time may play many parts.

And so to Nancy and to the Coverdell family, our prayers go to you; and we will wrap our arms around you, and we urge the Almighty to grant you the peace of spirit that only he can grant at a time like this.

PAUL was our friend, PAUL was a statesman, and we will miss him very deeply.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Chambliss).

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) very much as the dean of our delegation for bringing this resolution to the floor.

Normally, we come down here to the well of the House to debate bills; and while we are sometimes loud and in heated debate, we are always having fun down here. This is one of those times where we are not necessarily here having fun, although I cannot help but think about PAUL COVERDELL and some of the fun times we had together and some of his traits that have been coming back to me over the last couple of days.

I am reminded particularly about the fact that, I do not care where you saw PAUL, he always had that same white shirt and tie on. I have the great pleasure of representing the Okefenokee Swamp. We were down at the Okefenokee a couple years ago, and some of my colleagues were down there, and we were doing a press event. It was as hot as blazes. We were out there in the middle of the swamp, and all of us were dressed in our golf shirts and our khaki pants. Just as the news conference starts, PAUL drove up with his white shirt, his suit pants, and his tie on. What a classy guy.

Two years ago I was doing an event for him, and I remember it was a farm event and we were over in Terrell County. And again, it was in August. August in Georgia, my colleagues, particularly south Georgia, is hot. We were out in the middle of a field looking at some peanuts out there. And again I was in my golf shirt and my khakis, and PAUL was out there just as cool as he could be in that white shirt and that tie.

As we sat under the shade tree that day talking to a group of farmers, he was just so impressive, not just in what he was saying but in the way he looked and in the way he carried himself. That is the PAUL COVERDELL that I am going to remember.

PAUL and I had a habit of talking to each other about once a week over the last couple years just about things in general. We did not always get a chance to sit down face to face. Sometimes we missed a phone call. But the guy had more political insight, not just partisan political insight, but political insight about things in this country.

I will always remember the fact that if I called him and talked to him about an agriculture issue, which I did on a regular basis, we talked about whatever it was; but then PAUL would say, "Saxby, let me tell you what we are doing with the Straight A's bill, this education bill that is going to mean so much to the children that your wife teaches and to other children all across this country."

And you would be talking to him about a defense issue, again which we do on a regular basis; and we talk about our 130s or our F-22 problem, whatever it was, and PAUL would say, "Well, let me tell you about one other thing that I am working on, this drug issue with the Colombian drug bill that we are working on. Let me tell you what that is going to do for America. Let me tell you what a difference that is going to make to people all across this country."

That is the PAUL COVERDELL that I am going to remember.

He was a very unique individual, a person who had the ability to take difficult issues, to deal with difficult people with difficult issues and bring common sense and political responsibility to the forefront.

PAUL COVERDELL was truly a unique Member of the U.S. Senate. He was a great colleague of all of ours, whether you are Republican or Democrat; and that is evidenced by the fact that this is being done in a bipartisan way. Yesterday, on the floor of this House, it was evidenced in a bipartisan

way that there was tremendous respect for PAUL COVERDELL.

We will miss him very much. We certainly wish the best for his family. His staff are just great people who my staff has had the pleasure of working with every single day that I have been a Member of this House.

PAUL COVERDELL had gotten so political in his thoughts that he probably designed his death to take place on the day of the Georgia primary, which happened to be yesterday. And I am betting you when he got to the pearly gates last night, the first thing he asked St. Peter was for a copy of the Republican election results from yesterday. That is the kind of guy that he was.

He was a great friend, a great individual. This country will miss PAUL COVERDELL.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. McKinney).

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I guess it is not a secret, PAUL COVERDELL and I were about as different as night and day. But vastly different paths in life led us both to serve in the Georgia Legislature and then on to Congress so that we could work together on behalf of the people of the great State of Georgia. And when it came to the interests of the people of Georgia, we often saw eye to eye.

I want to send all of my deepest and most heartfelt condolences to the Coverdell family and to all the people who knew and loved PAUL COVERDELL.

Immediately after the 1996 election, when I had been re-districted and had a vastly changed district and we were able to pull out a victory in a very close race, PAUL COVERDELL and I got together and decided that we needed to build bridges with each other so that we could do the work that the people of Georgia sent us both to do.

Our first project together resulted in about \$20 million being protected on the Senate side for my constituents who live in and about the environs of DeKalb Peachtree Airport.

PAUL COVERDELL's latest project that we all were working on was a veterans cemetery for our Georgia veterans.

But more than anything else, I have to say that I am struck by the finality of death and the incomplete way many of us in public life lead our lives. We are so busy, we are rushing here and rushing there and going to meetings and going here and going there and always, always, always in a

rush and too busy to appreciate the people around us, too busy to stop and say "I love you," too busy to stop and say "I thank you" to the people who make a difference in our lives.

This past weekend, I was looking at the Coverdell report on television; and now I am standing here today sending condolences to PAUL COVERDELL's family.

I want to thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis), the dean of our delegation, for providing us this resolution so that we can pay our respects to our senior Senator. I want to thank all of the people who are responsible for all of us being here serving our people of our State.

I would like to thank my colleagues, who, through difficult times, have stood beside me in particular. And perhaps I have not said thank you appropriately enough, but I want to say thank you today. I want to say thank you to my Georgia delegation members. Because we do not see eye to eye on a lot of issues and we do not even meet as often as we probably should, but I do not think there is a single issue that will benefit the people of our State that we do not come together and work on.

And then finally, I would like to thank the Coverdell family for sharing their leader with the people of our State and the people of our country for about 30 years of public service.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Deal).

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) for bringing this resolution to the floor.

This is a sad day for all of us, and I am dearly impressed with the eloquence of my colleagues who have already spoken.

PAUL COVERDELL was indeed a good friend of ours. And it is difficult on occasions like this to say anything that lends full value to the life that he shared with all of us. I realize that labels and slogans themselves are often inadequate. But I will be very brief, and I have a few labels that I would like to put on PAUL COVERDELL.

The first is that he was a defender of democracy. That may seem to be a very bland statement, but he truly believed in this Republic that we have here as a country.

He believed that one of the great things that it embodied was the free enterprise system. And he, as a small business-

man, grew his business to a successful national enterprise. So he was indeed a defender of democracy.

And he was a proponent of peace. We have heard the statements about his service as the Director of the U.S. Peace Corps. But in all of his dealings, both politically and personally, he was indeed a man of peace.

And he was, of course, a patriot with passion. You have heard of his service as a captain in the U.S. Army overseas. But he also brought that same degree of passion and patriotism to his public service, having been recognized by educational institutions and by other public institutions for his service both at the State level and here in Washington. And he was a statesman with stature.

Like many of my colleagues, we served with PAUL at the State legislative level. PAUL was in the State Senate when I arrived in 1981, and even though he was in the minority in that body, he was respected, because he displayed the kind of dedication to public service that all of us would like to have.

I recall that he was on the retirement committee. I want to tell you, folks, when you get assigned to the retirement committee in the Georgia Legislature, you really do not aspire to that position. But he was one of those individuals that everybody, regardless of political party, would go to to ask about those intricate, detailed, often boring and mundane issues relating to retirement, and PAUL always knew what the answer was, because he was willing to do his homework. He was willing to work on the things that other people would want to cast aside because there was not enough public attention given to the subject. But PAUL knew how important things like that were; and that is, of course, what distinguished him here as well and made him a statesman with stature.

He was also and lastly a friend without reservation. He was somebody who you could talk with on a personal and intimate basis. You could rely on his judgment. You could trust the fact that he would keep confidences and he would give you the best and most sound advice that he possibly could, both politically and personally.

Last, I would simply like to say that PAUL COVERDELL was a quiet man of courage, and he will be deeply missed.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Collins).

Mr. COLLINS. I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, PAUL COVERDELL's passing is a great loss to the United States, to the other Chamber, to Georgia, to his wife, Nancy, and his family. He was a hardworking, thoughtful legislator who possessed the rare gift of leadership and the even rarer gift of being a good man. The news of his death hit me hard, because I saw PAUL as more than a colleague. I saw him as a true friend, and more than that as a mentor.

When I was first elected to the Georgia Senate, he and I took a walk through his neighborhood to talk about the job that I would be facing. That was his style, quiet and purposeful. He was a teacher who was less concerned about who received the credit than he was of getting the job done.

Mr. Speaker, many others in Georgia's Third Congressional District feel the loss of PAUL COVERDELL. I spoke with several this morning who worked with PAUL to build the Republican Party in Georgia or who served with him in the Georgia Legislature, people like Barbara Scruggs, chairperson of the Third Congressional District Republican Party. She said, "I've known PAUL since the first election he ran. I always admired how hard he worked for us. He was always quiet and unassuming and a great leader of the State of Georgia."

Former Congressman Bo Callaway said this morning, "This is such a shock to have PAUL in his prime of life so suddenly taken from us. I really think the people of Georgia and America will never know how much we have lost, for PAUL COVERDELL was really on the way to becoming one of our great leaders. It will be hard to imagine going on without him."

Ted Land, who served in Georgia's Senate with PAUL, said, "PAUL COVERDELL was a man of highest integrity. I never in my 10 years with PAUL ever heard him speak a mean-spirited word about anyone on either side of the aisle. A man of boundless energy, he was totally dedicated to serving his State and his party. The void created by his death will be extremely difficult to fill."

Former State Senator Arthur "Skin" Edge summed up PAUL in one word: patriot. He said that as he heard of the death of PAUL last night, the one thing that kept coming back to his mind is that PAUL COVERDELL is a 21st-century patriot. He stood for the principles that this country was founded on and fought for them all of his life.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Georgia's Third District, we mourn PAUL COVERDELL's death, and we cherish the memories of his friendship.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Norwood).

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) as dean of our delegation for bringing this resolution today.

Mr. Speaker, PAUL COVERDELL was a sterling example of what a U.S. Senator should be all about. He provided the kind of leadership for Georgia, America, and the world that will be sorely missed. PAUL COVERDELL was unshakeable in his resolve to support the right policies for Georgia and America. Yet in 6 years of serving with him in Congress, I never heard him utter an unkind word toward any opponent. He was a man of reason, of principle, and provided a shining example of civility in action in the arena of public debate. It is unusual to find a man such as that.

He never to my knowledge backed down on principle; yet he held his ground with dignity and respect for the position of those who disagreed. And he never gave up.

Since coming to Washington in 1993, Senator COVERDELL fought to improve the education of America's children. That fight continues today. But because of his effort, I believe that fight will eventually be won because of his enthusiasm and his sincere belief that we could make it better. When it is, the final product will have the fingerprints of PAUL COVERDELL on every page.

Senator COVERDELL was likewise a champion of those who served this country in our Armed Forces. When Congress forgot the promises made to our veterans, PAUL COVERDELL reminded us all of those commitments. His legislation to restore those promises is still pending in both Chambers, and the finest tribute I think we could all pay to this true statesman would be to pass that measure into law before this session ends. Today, I recommit myself to helping make that happen.

There are far too many issues to mention in which Senator COVERDELL played a decisive role. But we need to reflect on PAUL COVERDELL's public service before he became a Senator, I think, because it reflects a lifetime of public service.

He began adult life, of course, by serving America in the U.S. Army in Korea and the Republic of China. He served

his State in the Georgia Senate for nearly 2 decades. He served America and the world as the Director of the Peace Corps, as we have heard, where his leadership in building democracy was vital in reclaiming much of Eastern Europe from the dictatorship of Communism.

Our hearts go out to Nancy Coverdell and the entire Coverdell family. They should be and are remembered in the prayers of this Nation in their hour of loss. And we should remember the loyal staff of Senator COVERDELL. Perhaps the strongest confirmation of the basic decency of a Member of Congress can be found in the affection of those who work with him every day, many times under the most trying circumstances. From the true grief that I personally know his staff to be feeling today, the decency of this great American is affirmed in full measure.

That slender thread of life by which we were tied to PAUL COVERDELL is now broken. But the wisdom, the generosity, the civility, the patriotism, and the dedication which he brought to this Congress will never die. The leadership of PAUL COVERDELL will continue to live in the legislation he has enacted and has sponsored. We can best honor his memory by seeing the mission through, from giving our children a choice in education to restoring the health care of the defenders of America.

Mr. Speaker, let us pay tribute to a great leader by picking up the fallen banner of Senator PAUL COVERDELL and carrying it through to victory. I personally feel a great loss for a dear friend; indeed, we all do, a man with whom we have all become very close and have loved, a quiet, gentle giant in the Government of America.

Today we pray for PAUL's soul and pray God will give comfort to Nancy and the Coverdell family.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Barr).

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today in support of the resolution authored by the dean of the Georgia delegation, the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis).

Let me first say to PAUL's lovely bride, Nancy, you have the love, the affection, and the prayers of this entire body on both sides of the aisle, on both sides of the Rotunda. We pay tribute today to the hardest working man in the U.S. Senate. Although his venue has changed, the job description has not. PAUL COVERDELL is now the hardest working man in heaven.

I can hear him already, sleeves rolled up, white sleeves, of course, tie impeccable, saying, "There must be some unfinished work up here in heaven, Lord. Point me in the right direction. I'm ready to work."

While PAUL COVERDELL never spoke from this well, but rather from the well on the other side of the Rotunda in the U.S. Senate, you could often hear his voice here, in front of this American flag that he loved and the country that it represents that he loved so deeply and so passionately. You could hear PAUL COVERDELL whenever we debated such issues of fundamental importance to the American people as those he had championed and loved: education, national defense, and always the needs, wishes, hopes, and desires of our citizens of his and our beloved State of Georgia. You could hear the passion, the conviction, and the patriotism always of PAUL D. COVERDELL. Those words, that passion, that commitment will echo out now forever across the ages as part of what former President Ronald Reagan called in his second inaugural address, the American sound. PAUL COVERDELL is now part of that American sound that President Reagan identified as the sound of love, decency and compassion that has always echoed out across America and through the halls of its leadership and around the world, representing the very best of mankind.

PAUL COVERDELL is a friend. Although we briefly found ourselves, he and I, in a competitive race in the primary runoff in 1992, we were friends before that race. Indeed, PAUL was my very first political friend when I moved to Georgia in the 1970s.

I was referred to him by our mutual friend and my former boss at the CIA, George Bush. We remained friends throughout those two races in 1992, and we remained ever closer friends both immediately after and in the years since PAUL was elected with honor and dignity to the U.S. Senate in 1992.

I am reminded today in closing, as a man of God, I know the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) is, too, of Matthew who tells us in chapter 5 in those words that are so familiar to all in the Beatitudes, blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God.

PAUL COVERDELL was a peacemaker. PAUL COVERDELL is a child of God, now and for the ages. I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) and God bless PAUL D. COVERDELL and his family.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Isakson).

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) for bringing this resolution to the floor today. Mr. Speaker, I thank each of my colleagues from Georgia for paying tribute today to our dear friend, and I hope everyone in this room and everyone listening recognizes that 11 Georgians, Democrat and Republican alike, sit today under this symbol and in this room and pay tribute to a man who transcends politics and who in our State, as we have heard from each speaker, through example after example, changed lives and made them better.

Mr. Speaker, rather than repeat everything that has been said, I would just say this to those of us who are not from Georgia; if you have ever flown through Hartsfield International Airport, PAUL COVERDELL touched your life. If you ever came into Atlanta and rode on its rapid transit, PAUL COVERDELL touched your life. If you are a Georgia citizen whose life or the life of a loved one was saved because of a seat belt, PAUL COVERDELL touched your life.

While so many politicians talk a good game, PAUL COVERDELL lived one; but, you know, at a time like this when a contemporary of all of ours dies, it puts life into perspective.

It makes us think for just a minute: what if I die? But for those of you who did not know him, let me just tell you this, PAUL did it all. He did it with dignity and with grace. He did it with passion and with understanding, and he did it with not a single evil touch to anything he ever did. He did it for the best of the United States of America and for the people of Georgia.

In my Sunday school class in Marietta, GA, in the Methodist Church, we have a little book called "Leaves of Gold," and in it there is a poem, and I cannot remember, but twice before that poem has been recalled to me in paying tribute to an individual, but it just seems to fit the life and the legacy and the lasting memory of PAUL COVERDELL.

I hope I can get through it, but it goes a little bit like this:

I would rather see a good person than hear about one any day.  
And I would rather have a good person walk with me than merely  
point the way.  
For my eyes are better pupils and more willing than my ear,  
and fine counsel is confusing but examples crystal clear.  
And the best of all the people are the ones that live their creeds,  
for to see the good in action is what everybody needs.  
Oh, I will be very glad to do it if you let me see it done,

but your tongue too fast sometimes may run.  
And the lectures you deliver may be very wise and very true,  
but I would rather get my lecture by observing what you do.  
For I may misunderstand you and the high advice you give,  
But I will never misunderstand the way you act and the way  
you live.

Mr. Speaker, I associate myself with all of my colleagues to pay tribute to a man who acted and lived a life exemplary of the finest in public service, the finest in commitment to his wife and to his family and in the finest tradition of public service.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Kingston).

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Nancy Coverdell has lost a great husband, as has the Coverdell family lost a great member. The United States of America has lost a great Senator. Georgia has lost a great leader and the Republican Party in Georgia has lost the father of our party.

PAUL COVERDELL was the Minority Leader in the State Senate. He was the State Republican Party chairman. He was the official Georgia connection to the Bush White House. He was the Director of the Peace Corps. He was the U.S. Senator, and then also in the great Bush-COVERDELL legacy, the official contact for the George W. Bush campaign.

He put our party on the map, and the reason I underscore that is, I believe the State and its citizens are better for it. I believe that having two parties gives our voters every day a choice, and I believe I am a better Republican because of Democrat opposition. I hope that our Democrat counterparts, and I am sure they will agree, would say they are better Democrats because of Republican opposition.

The State, indeed, is the winner. PAUL COVERDELL was a great strategist. I remember in 1974 my mother, who is a great newspaper clipper, sent me an article called the "Gospel According to PAUL." And it was talking about this young guy running for the State Senate in Atlanta who was doing strange things, like going door to door and having living room coffees and roadside sign wavings. And he was struggling in an uphill battle in a Democrat-controlled State to win, but he did win. I believe, as the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Linder) has already said, there were only three Republican Members in the Senate at the time. I know by the

time I got to the State House, there were a whopping nine Senators.

PAUL COVERDELL was the Minority Leader. But while he did not have numerical superiority, he did not let that keep him out of the ideas arena. And he was very competitive on ideas. At that time, Governor Joe Frank Harris was introducing a number of DUI laws.

The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Isakson) will remember COVERDELL passed and sponsored a bill in the Senate that said, you know, it is not just enough to give somebody a heftier DUI penalty, what we have found through research is a lot of these people are addicted to alcohol. We need to put in a component of mandatory assessment to see if they are addicted, and then we cannot just leave them addicted to alcohol, we need to have mandatory or at least optional treatment. This was a solid idea.

Mr. Speaker, I remember being on the Motor Vehicles Committee as he pushed that. PAUL COVERDELL was an ideas man. He also had a great world view. As Director of the Peace Corps, he did not just use this, okay, this is my political plum for helping President Bush along the campaign trail. He used it to promote farming in Third World countries, economic growth and development, medical help. Indeed, he saw the formula for world prosperity meant world peace, and it was great and important for the United States of America to be there leading the way.

PAUL COVERDELL was a patriot in many ways. I remember when he was running for the U.S. Senate and I had him in my living room for coffee, and at that time all of these people came, and they were asking very lofty intellectual questions about the world situation. PAUL was hanging in there with the best of them. In the middle of this, my small daughter, Ann, 4 years old at the time, had left the playground where all of the kids were, came running into the living room, crashed through the circle of adults to the middle of where this dignified U.S. senatorial candidate was speaking, and said, "Daddy, it was my turn in line to go down the slide and they pushed me down the slide and I fell down and hurt my heinie" to which the whole audience starting laughing.

Senator COVERDELL was there, acknowledged the little girl and her plight and went on with his speech. And I thought it was so cute because he did not lose control, he kept that COVERDELL dignity through the whole thing. And, indeed, he carried that dignity and that gentleman manner with him everywhere he went.

As the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Chambliss) has already said, he was a great organizer and a communicator. I remember in the 1992 campaign during the runoff one day, he was at Georgia Southern University, all kinds of people there, and he had done a television and a radio interview, and he turned on his watch and he said, Jack, we have to go to this event. I said, PAUL, the game has not started. He said, well, we have got a schedule. I said, but, PAUL, all of these people are here. He said, well, we really need to get to Savannah and keep our schedule. Indeed, we did leave and go to Savannah.

I was totally amazed and a little bit irritated by this, and only later did I realize the importance of him in terms of strategy; it meant everything, and that is why he could accomplish all of the things that he did accomplish. In our area, he fought as, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Norwood) said, for the veterans, the active soldiers at Fort Stewart, but the veterans in our area.

Agriculture—we all know in south Georgia good old “Senator Cloverdale.” That is what the farmers would always call him. Well, let us just go ask Cloverdale. And they loved Mr. Cloverdale.

Education—if I go to talk to the teachers about educational savings acts, they like that idea. If I talk to seniors about Social Security and lockbox ideas, they like that idea.

PAUL COVERDELL had the uncanny ability, not just to have an opinion on every issue, but have a thought on every issue and a consequential action. He was a man of action.

His civility, as the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Bishop) knows, he worked with him very closely on passing the C.B. King Courthouse in Albany, Georgia. I remember, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) knows, he was a friend of Mr. Bond. When Mr. Bond left the State Senate to run for the congressional seat, which the gentleman was successful in obtaining, PAUL COVERDELL was one of the men in the Georgia Senate who stood up and gave a great farewell speech for Julian Bond.

I remember watching that and saying here is a liberal Democrat and the conservative Republican Leader of the State. What is he doing? I said there is a lesson here. Bipartisanship and civility is important, and you should never let politics rule over policy.

A week ago, he called me at my home on Sunday. We had an issue in our area with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and we kind of got off path. He said, “Jack,

I think we are a little out of sync here. I just want to make sure that you and I are okay on this.”

It was typical of Coverdell, because I think so many of us, including me, and especially me, would have said, all right, you are way off base, I am right and you are wrong; not PAUL, he made it so that it was just so easy to get along.

He also told me a couple of weeks ago in a private conversation about committing to the team, when you are a Member of Congress, when you are a Member of an issue and you are associated with that issue, commit to your team and be proud to be on that team, even if the vote is an uncomfortable one.

He talked to me about Nancy. He said, you know, we are doing a little bit with real estate. I have to tell you Nancy is better at real estate than I am. She is real good at it. I will tell you what, you men know. It is a rare man who really, privately, one-on-one takes time to brag about his wife to another man, and that is a sign of a great marriage and a great husband and true love.

PAUL COVERDELL was a good Republican, a great strategist, a great ideas man, had a world view, had civility and integrity, a great organizer. He was energetic. He was a great communicator and a loyalist.

In short, PAUL COVERDELL was a statesman. Years ago, there was another PAUL on this earth, and he tells us in a Scripture that it is better to wear out than rust out. I would not submit to you that PAUL COVERDELL wore out, but I would also say he certainly did not wear out, and maybe in this institution which he loved so dearly, we could say, and he would agree, the gentleman's time expired. But while the gentleman's time has expired, I also think we could evoke the words of St. Paul, one more time and say, well done, that good and faithful servant.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. Fowler), formerly from the State of Georgia.

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, I did grow up in the State of Georgia, and it was with a really heavy heart yesterday when I learned of the loss of PAUL COVERDELL. PAUL and my dad served together in the Georgia State Legislature, and though they were in different parties, they became good friends, and shared many funny stories together as they served.

When I came to the U.S. Congress 8 years ago, PAUL sort of took me under his wing and was such a dear friend to me and a mentor, and I could always go to him for advice and know I could always rely on it. He was such an outstanding man. We have been hearing people talk today about all the wonderful qualities that PAUL had, and when I think of PAUL, I think of someone who lived life with zest and enthusiasm, who loved his family, who loved his country, who loved serving the people.

He was the finest example of a public servant that I have ever known, a decent, honorable man, such deep integrity, who loved people so much and loved doing for them. I look back when he was Director of the Peace Corps and all he did to guide and mentor those young people that were serving all around the world.

So really today, we all have very heavy hearts because we will all miss PAUL deeply, miss his friendship, miss his service, miss his strength that he brought to the representation of the State of Georgia in the U.S. Senate but most of all, PAUL, we are going to really miss you.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. Gilman).

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) for bringing this resolution to the floor at this time. It is with deep regret that I rise to join my colleagues in mourning the loss of the remarkable public servant, Senator PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia. As chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, Senator PAUL COVERDELL was dedicated to fostering good relations with our neighbors in the Americas.

Among his many contributions, PAUL actively and ably co-chaired our interparliamentary meeting with the Mexican Congress, and I was pleased to have had a personal relationship with PAUL in relation to his work on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Last year, Senator COVERDELL was extremely proud to be able to host our Mexican colleagues in Savannah, Georgia. PAUL went to great lengths to make all of us feel welcome, including delivering a substantial portion of his opening address in Spanish, and I recall PAUL and Nancy guiding Georgia and I through his hometown and pointing out where they

lived and pointing out his offices. He had a great deal of pride in his city. It was certainly one of the most productive and pleasant interparliamentary meetings we held in Savannah.

Fortunately, PAUL was able to see the Mexican people secure full democracy for themselves through their recent elections on July 2, something that PAUL strongly supported.

It was my privilege to work with Senator COVERDELL on a number of important regional issues. He was dedicated to defining and defending American interests abroad. When it came time to stand up to support our efforts in our fight against illicit drugs, PAUL COVERDELL never failed the American people. He always took the lead in galvanizing support in the Senate for moving a substantial, meaningful aid package to help our troubled neighborhoods in the Andean region of South America and more recently particularly in Colombia.

Just last week, President Clinton signed into law a bipartisan emergency supplemental aid package for Colombia, and it was gratifying that PAUL was able to see the consummation of his extraordinary efforts to help our neighbors to the south.

Senator COVERDELL was a principled man. He was a leading voice in the Congress, calling for a firm response to the undermining of democratic institutions through the illegitimate elections in Peru; and we should honor Senator COVERDELL's leadership by strongly supporting his respect for democracy in Peru.

My spouse, Georgia, joins with me in extending our deepest condolences to PAUL's widow, Nancy. PAUL and Nancy were loved by many. We extend our sympathy, too, to the many people in Georgia and elsewhere who admired and followed this remarkable public leader.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. Dreier).

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the dean of the Georgia delegation for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be here with my colleagues from Georgia and other parts of the country to talk about our friend PAUL COVERDELL. No one could ask for a better friend than PAUL COVERDELL. I first met him when he was appointed Director of the Peace Corps in the late 1980s, and at that time the attention in this House and around the

world was focused on the emerging democracies of Eastern and Central Europe. In several meetings that we had in my office, PAUL COVERDELL was talking with such enthusiasm about creative ways in which we could help the people of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and other countries that were starting to get that first taste of freedom.

I was so struck with the dedication that this man showed that I made a decision early on that I wanted to do anything that I possibly could to help him. So he took me up on that. He took me up on it when in 1992 he called me and told me that he was going to run for the U.S. Senate. I thought, what a great idea. He asked me to help him, so I did. I will never forget the day that I was flying to Atlanta from what is now, and I see Mr. Barr here, affectionately referred to as Ronald Reagan National Airport; and I was standing in the terminal with a former colleague of ours from the other side of the aisle, and he said, Well, why are you flying to Atlanta?

I said I am flying down to help PAUL COVERDELL win his election to the U.S. Senate.

Well, this former colleague of ours from the other side of the aisle laughed hysterically because he did not believe that PAUL had much of a chance to win, and there were a lot of people who did not think PAUL had a great chance to win. In fact, I suspected that this former colleague of ours from the other side of the aisle kind of thought that PAUL had about as much chance of winning as he did of losing.

So we saw in PAUL COVERDELL a tenacity that was very, very impressive. He was dedicated to his work.

I spent time traveling in Georgia with him, and he had a couple of events. There were a few people who attended a number of those events. I assumed it was because they had announced that I was going to be there. But the fact was that this guy never gave up. He was a real fighter.

One of the things that we have so often found in these Members who worked with him closely in Georgia for decades know that whenever someone wanted a job to be done, the person to whom they would look was PAUL COVERDELL because when this guy said that he was going to take on a job and do it, he did it.

We so often hear the juxtaposition between workhorses and show horses in this place, and we all know that PAUL COVERDELL epitomized the workhorse. He was a guy who was extremely dedicated.

I am so happy that the chairman of the Committee on International Relations reminded us of his having hosted the

Mexican Interparliamentary Conference along with, I remember, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Kingston) was there with us when we held that meeting. PAUL was so proud of the opportunity to host that very important meeting.

I served with him as a co-chairman of the Republican House-Senate Dinner. Boy, that guy was absolutely relentless when it came to our goal of building a strong Republican Party, and as has been said by our colleagues from the other side of the aisle, he, working for a strong Republican Party, knew that ultimately working in a bipartisan way was the only way that we could actually get things accomplished.

My thoughts and prayers go to Nancy and other members of the family, and I cannot say what a shocking and devastating loss this is, not only for this great institution of ours but for the Nation as a whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Barrett of Nebraska). The Chair advises that the time of the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) has expired.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XVII, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Kingston) is recognized for 1 hour on the resolution.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Wamp).

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Kingston) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I believe for the ages Senator PAUL COVERDELL will be remembered as one of the most thoughtful, diligent, and detail-oriented Members in the history of the U.S. Senate. Who would have ever thought this time last week that we would be here today paying tribute to the memory of Senator COVERDELL?

There are times here where everything seems to stand still, and this is one of those days where we come together at the water's edge, as people, as God's children, no differences, to pay the proper tribute to a truly great public servant. A lot of political people skim the surface, stay on the surface from fear of the details, from fear of the slip of the tongue, from fear of incompetency on very complicated matters of the day, but not Senator COVERDELL.

My experience with him was a fearless master of details and complexity, never worrying about how far deep he would swim into issues, about whether he could comprehend them or always carry a host of things going on at the same time.

Unbelievable, really, in his capacity to carry all of the different issues with him and stay that intricately involved. It really bodes well for public service in America that people like PAUL would dedicate his life to others through public service.

As a Tennessean who was born in Georgia when my dad was on active duty at Fort Benning, my dad always said that it cost \$12 for me to be born at Fort Benning, and he still wonders if he got his money's worth. Those are my Georgia roots, and I am a southerner. Georgia mourns the loss today of a truly great U.S. Senator, but the South has lost one of its greatest leaders as well.

I come as a southerner today to say, Nancy, we are sorry; to the Georgia delegation, we are sorry that they have lost their friend and lifetime companion in the flesh.

Last October I was coming to the Chattanooga Airport to leave right after Payne Stewart had died tragically at the height of his career, and you think about PAUL at 61 years old, he is really politically at the height of his career and he is gone in the flesh, right at the height of his ability to effectively carry out the responsibilities as a U.S. Senator.

I said to R.V. Brown, a pastor who I know who I ran into at the airport, "Reverend R.V. Brown, is that not unbelievable that Payne Stewart just vanished like that in the flesh?"

He said, and it was a great comfort to me, and I hope it is great comfort to Nancy and others who mourn the loss of PAUL COVERDELL, "sometimes the Lord picks the ripest fruit to have the greatest impact on everyone around that individual."

I believe that the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House, the State of Georgia, the South, the United States of America, mankind at large can come closer together and truly appreciate each other more because of this moment when we forever and ever memorialize a fine person and a great public servant, Senator PAUL COVERDELL. Goodbye, sir.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Wamp), the chairman of the Morning Prayer Breakfast each Thursday, for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. Blunt), the deputy whip.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Kingston) for yielding the floor to me.

Mr. Speaker, just yesterday some of us took the floor in an unanticipated moment to wish the very best and to extend our thoughts and our prayers to Senator COVERDELL, his wife, Nancy, and to their family, as they struggled with this unanticipated challenge. Today, just a few hours beyond, almost exactly 24 hours beyond, the time that we were so hopeful in those last moments of PAUL COVERDELL's life that he would continue to be with us, beyond the time when we thought that if anybody could come back from any challenge it would be PAUL COVERDELL, beyond the time when we thought that if anybody else could do this, could be back in a year, he could be back in a few months, we are here today dealing with the loss of a person who has been so important in this building to both the House and the Senate and so important to the country.

I was moved by the observation that our friend, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Wamp), just made about how the Lord may take someone at such an inopportune time in their life to challenge the rest of us to meet a new standard in our life, a new standard with each other, a new standard of public service, a new standard of being able to reach out, as PAUL was famous for to others, and say, gee, you have got a lot to do here, can I help you? At the same time, we know that PAUL, when you would think about it, surely had more to do than the person he was offering to reach out and help, but his predisposition in life was to help other people.

I did not know PAUL COVERDELL when I came to Congress 3½ years ago. In fact, I did not really know him except to speak to him in the hallways of the House and the Senate where he was always friendly to me until about a year and a half ago when he and I were both asked to be on the exploratory committee for Governor Bush. That was a 10-person committee. Our jobs were to represent the Governor with the House and the Senate in that year and a half. There was not a week that we did not talk on the phone, and many weeks that we saw each other, just to compare notes, just to talk about what was happening.

Even in that relationship, he would often say, well, you have 200 people over there that you are talking to and dealing with and I only have about 55 over here. Can I help you do anything to make your job in the House easier? I usually observed that probably it was easier to deal with a couple of hundred House Members than 55 people from the other body. He would always smile.

Mr. Speaker, I told somebody not too long ago that there were many good reasons to do that particular job, as the liaison for the Bush committee, but I would have done it knowing what I knew then, and this was 2 or 3 months ago with no anticipation of this moment, certainly. I would have done it all just to have the chance to work with PAUL COVERDELL. He was the kind of person that all of us who got a chance to work with him I am sure were looking forward to a couple more decades of that relationship, not thinking that each time we saw him might be the last time we saw him; but thinking, now, I wonder what it is that we can next do that allows us to work together, because it was such a joy and a privilege to work together with him.

I told someone earlier today that one of the things that one really noticed when one dealt with our friends on the other side of the Capitol was the interesting oil that PAUL COVERDELL added to the process just to make things work that otherwise you did not quite know during a meeting how they might have worked if Senator COVERDELL had not been there. Of course now we are challenged to know how they would work, but we do know the example he set of making things work, the example he set of being willing to reach out to other people, the example he set of always trying his best to appear to be the most humble guy in the room, the person who would be the most likely to take the most difficult assignment, the person who would never show any sense that there was any job that needed to be done that was below or beneath him as an individual. It is a standard that is hard to achieve, frankly, in politics and government, and even hard to achieve in this building; but it is one that he established so well that he made serving others and doing the most menial job seem like that, somehow, that was the most important thing to do.

Mr. Speaker, we will miss him in this building. We will miss him in our relationships between this House and our friends on the other side of the Capitol. We will miss his willingness to work, his capacity, his insight. But as the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Wamp) observed earlier, maybe there is a challenge here. There is a purpose in most things in life; and if we search for the purpose of this, one of the purposes might be to emulate some of the things that are so easy to say about PAUL COVERDELL.

Mr. Speaker, it is written somewhere, we will miss him tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss), the chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate very much the distinguished gentleman from Georgia, the honorable John Lewis, the dean of the delegation, and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Kingston) and the other members of the Georgia delegation, affording us this time to speak about Senator PAUL COVERDELL. The Rules of the House do not permit us to refer to the other body or Members of the other body, and we seldom do speak about them. This is exceptional, because PAUL COVERDELL was really an exceptional person. I think he did touch our lives. Certainly those of us who live in Florida who have to fly through Atlanta understand very well the meaning of having the Atlanta airport there.

What I wanted to talk a little bit about today is the loss to Nancy and his family, to the State of Georgia, and to our country. I think it is an incalculable loss, and it is obviously very painful if we have listened to the speakers who have gone before.

We are going to miss PAUL COVERDELL deeply, and we are going to miss him for a very long time to come, not only as a person, but for the skills he brought to the art and science of crafting legislation and people persuasion here in these hallowed halls of the U.S. Congress.

To me, he had several distinctive hallmarks. They were honor and decency, things that count for a lot here. And effectiveness and accomplishment, of course, the way we are measured. Those of us who were privileged to work with him knew of this literally unrelenting energy. He was a man who could tire out the most hard working of us. He certainly had the intellect to challenge us as well. We all admired his ability to find commonsense solutions that seemed to work for all sides in a given debate. Those are wonderful people skills. As the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Bishop) said in his testimony on the floor, that unquestioning integrity was also another PAUL COVERDELL trademark. That is very high praise.

I well recall his commitment to fighting the war on drugs, just one of the many things he did here, and to his finding a way to get the money to pay for fighting the war on drugs, which is the harder part. His contribution to that was characteristically second to none; and more important, he was successful. And that success is now being employed on the

front lines in Colombia and in other meaningful ways, and that will affect America as well and those who are concerned about the scourge of drugs on our youth and on our quality of life in this country.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say for my wife and myself and others in the neighboring State of Florida, we send our condolences, our keen sympathy, and our love to Nancy and the people of Georgia. PAUL COVERDELL was a man who gave so much. He was taken too soon.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my condolences to the family and staff of Senator PAUL COVERDELL.

I admired and appreciated Senator COVERDELL's commitment to stopping the flow of illegal drugs across our borders and his tireless efforts to expand educational opportunity in America. Senator COVERDELL demonstrated the effectiveness of quiet, but persistent, leadership. He has been hailed as a workhorse and, indeed, his dedication to public service is an example to every official at every level of government who works for the public good.

My former chief of staff, Ziad Ojakli, is the chief of staff in the Senator's leadership office. On behalf of all of us who are friends of Z and have worked with him over the years, I wish to convey our deepest sympathy to the family, friends and staff of Senator PAUL COVERDELL. They are in our prayers.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues in the Georgia delegation, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Norwood, Mr. Isakson, Ms. McKinney, Mr. Linder, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Barr, Mr. Chambliss, Mr. Deal and Mr. Collins, I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agree to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 558, I move that the House do now adjourn in memory of the late Honorable PAUL COVERDELL.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Resolution 558, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, July 20, 2000, at 10 a.m., in memory of the late Honorable PAUL COVERDELL of Georgia.



A Service of Thanksgiving  
for the Life of

PAUL DOUGLAS COVERDELL

January 20, 1939–July 18, 2000

Peachtree Road United Methodist Church

Atlanta, Georgia  
Saturday, July 22, 2000  
1:00 p.m.

## Program

### PRELUDES:

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God  
Song of Peace

*Vaclav Nehlybel*  
*Vincent Perischetti*

### OPENING SENTENCES

*(The congregation standing)*

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;  
he that believes in Me, though he were dead, yet shall  
he live;  
and whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer lives,  
and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth;  
and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God;  
Whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold,  
and not as a stranger.

For none of us lives to himself,  
and no man dies to himself.  
For if we live, we live unto the Lord;  
And if we die, we die unto the Lord.  
Whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord;  
even so says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

We come to worship, to affirm our assurance of eternal life,  
and to express our conviction that because Christ lives, PAUL  
COVERDELL lives also!

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: *And with your spirit.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, our Father, from whom we come, and unto  
whom our spirits return: You have been our dwelling place  
in all generations. You are our refuge and strength, a very  
present help in trouble. Grant us Your blessing in this hour,  
and enable us so to put our trust in You that our spirits may  
grow calm and our hearts be comforted. Lift our eyes beyond  
the shadows of earth, and help us to see the light of eternity.  
So may we find grace and strength for this and every time  
of need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN:

God of Our Fathers

*National Hymn*

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand  
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,  
Our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past,  
In this free land by thee our lot is cast;  
Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide and stay,  
Thy word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,  
By Thy strong arm our ever sure defense;  
Thy true religion in our hearts increase,  
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people in their toilsome way,  
Lead us from night to never ending day;  
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,  
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

*(The congregation seated)*

*Isaiah 61:1-3*

The spirit of the Lord God is  
upon me,  
because the Lord has  
anointed me;  
He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for those who mourn in Zion  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness  
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

Celebrant: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: *Thanks be to God.*

ANTHEM:

Amazing Grace

arr. Robert Shaw  
*Matthew 5:1-10*

When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then He began to speak, and taught them saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Celebrant: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: *Thanks be to God.*

RECOLLECTION:

TRIBUTE BY CLYDE RODBELL

Please be patient with me as I struggle to deal with this extremely difficult task. I have three handkerchiefs. That may not be enough.

Millions of words have been or will be written and spoken about this remarkable man. My few hundred are just a feeble attempt to pay homage (in my own way) to someone whom I loved very much. Fortunately I was able to tell him so before he died.

There is great irony in my being up here today. I always thought that PAUL would deliver my eulogy.

Many years ago someone used the phrase, “You’re only here for a visit.” There’s a great deal of truth in that statement. But, PAUL, your visit was just too damn short.

I want to share with you a few of my highly personal, but probably fragmented, thoughts of PAUL COVERDELL as a

faithful servant of the people, as a man with wonderful human qualities and as my dear friend.

Fred Cooper sent me article that appeared on the editorial page of the *Wall Street Journal* dated Thursday, July 20th. I borrow these brief but eloquent words. The title is "Mr. Inside."

The most important U.S. Senator no one knew died Wednesday of a stroke at age 61. Georgia Republican PAUL COVERDELL managed to prosper by being everything most of his colleagues are *not*. He was hard working, self-effacing, nontelegenic, nonrich, serious about policy, a conciliator and a listener. Our condolences to his family.\*

How can I find the words to express to you how deeply I respected this man, small in stature, but a giant in attributes. Among those was his indomitable spirit. From time to time he very privately shared his grave concerns for his adored country and his frustration in dealing with many of the difficulties in Washington. He likened it to trying to herd a large group of cats. At the end of such a recent conversation he quietly apologized and said: "I feel much better. I did not mean to be a whiner." My retort was: "PAUL, you are never a whiner, but are always a winner." I think he liked that. We then hugged and parted for the night.

This highly intelligent man understood the political process and he knew how to skillfully make it work. He had marvelous leadership abilities and there are many in this room who willingly and respectfully followed (often blindly) his direction. I saw PAUL as a man of clear vision. He could take very complex societal problems and even make me understand them. Incorruptible (to a fault). Three or four years ago when Nancy needed two central air conditioning units for their home, I told her that it would be my pleasure to sell them at our cost. PAUL objected. I said OK, you stubborn son-of-a-gun, I'll sell them to you at a dealer's price and I'll take our profit and give it to a charity of your choice. Mr. Incorruptible, Mr. Compromiser, agreed to that. Another aside, PAUL and Nancy, Robin and I were having dinner a few weeks ago when a friend at a nearby table very innocently sent over a bottle of wine. Without saying a word the Senator abruptly left our table, located our waiter and insisted that the wine be returned. When I realized what was happening I asked PAUL to explain his actions. He replied, that a stranger had sent him a bottle of wine, which he would not accept. I said, "PAUL, he didn't send it to you, he

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sent it to me.” Senator Careful, with that cute perplexing, impish COVERDELL smile peers at me over those spectacles and said: “Oh.”

Humble, never pretentious. He never got caught up in the celebrity power stuff. Never sought the spotlight. Did not have a big ego that needed to be massaged. No self-promoter. No personal power grabber. He did his work and his reward was the accomplishment of reaching the high goals he set for himself and a job well done. In many ways he was simply an ordinary man with extraordinary qualities and huge talents that allowed him to reach out, touch and influence people from all walks of life in unusual ways. Folks liked him and trusted him. In my opinion, the U.S. Senate was the ideal platform for him to ply his trade.

The other day a small group of family and friends was discussing the funeral arrangements. Nancy suggested that her preference would be to keep the ceremony short. She further observed that PAUL did not like to attend funerals. My reaction was, “I’ll bet he is really ticked off to be at this one.”

Observation. Nancy, I know you carefully selected the music today that you believe PAUL would most enjoy. But I don’t see Margie Lott’s campaign song on the program. Obviously an oversight.

Now about Nancy. Over the years, we observed thousands of marriages. But the COVERDELLS were more than a solid relationship. They were truly a unit. Deep rooted and indivisible. She, like PAUL, is a very private person. Bright, incisive and quick to give PAUL a wicked look when she disagreed with his position. She’s upfront, loyal, has a keen wit and is an amazing friend. She possesses enormous, but quiet inner strengths which our Nation has witnessed over the past week. Nancy, Robin and I stand in awe of how you have handled your tragic loss. You are one great lady! The epitome of grace under fire. I know you’ll be comforted to know that PAUL is up there with “Whoofer.”

Mack Mattingly called me yesterday and made me aware of the following quotation from Ronald Reagan on March 8, 1985: “The challenge of statesmanship is to have the vision to dream of a better, safer world and the courage, persistence and patience to turn that dream into a reality.” That truly sums up PAUL COVERDELL’s life.

So long good buddy. I mourn your departure. Rest well.

I’m sure going to miss you.

## TRIBUTE BY THE HONORABLE PHIL GRAMM

Today we mourn, and we celebrate.

We mourn the passing of our dear and faithful friend, PAUL COVERDELL. We mourn because our lives and the life of our Nation are diminished by his death.

But while we mourn his death, we celebrate his life.

Loving PAUL and having been loved by him has enriched our lives in ways that even death can never erase.

While we are here to say goodbye, we will not soon be forgetting that squeaky voice, the disheveled hair, those flailing arms. And neither will we forget his lion heart, his iron will, his unblemished character and his endearing ways.

Will Rogers never met a man he did not like. PAUL COVERDELL never met a man who did not like him.

Sweet. Selfless. Loving, Loyal. Courageous. And, incredibly for a U.S. Senator, humble. PAUL was all of those things and more. If you knew PAUL COVERDELL, he was one of your best friends.

No matter how highly you thought of PAUL, he always proved to be more than you thought.

He was the kind of man your momma always challenged you to be, but you did not believe it was possible, until you met PAUL.

Surely Shakespeare's Mark Antony was speaking of PAUL when he said, "His life was gentle, and the elements so mixed in him that nature might stand up and say to all the world, This was a man."

I'd like to close with a prayer.

Lord, in our sorrow over PAUL's untimely death, let us remember not how he died, but how he lived.

In our grief over what we have lost at his passing, help us to remember what we gained from his coming.

While we do not expect to see his likes again, we thank you, Lord, for giving PAUL to us and to America.

We feel, Lord, that he takes a part of us with him as he passes. But he leaves with us a part of himself. And we thank you, Lord, for giving us the better of the bargain.

## TRIBUTE BY THE HONORABLE ROY BARNES

I first met PAUL COVERDELL in January of 1975 when I was elected to the State Senate. I was 26, had a bushy head of hair, and thought that I had all of the answers to the problems of Georgia. I soon learned that most of my solutions had been tried before, and failed. PAUL, who had been elected 4 years earlier, became my teacher on the ins and outs of the Senate. That may sound strange, that one of only a few Republicans would become the teacher of the youngest Democrat, but that was PAUL. He was as strong a Republican as I ever met, yet he never let party get in the way of the personal relationships that transcend party. He was steadfast in his positions, but kind in his friendships. He could disagree without being disagreeable.

I have thought over the last few days since PAUL's death, what separates him from the meanness that exists in the politics of today? The answer, I believe, is simple. You could trust PAUL COVERDELL. I think this was also the attraction of the people of Georgia to PAUL. Trust and confidence was the currency, the coin of the realm, with PAUL. We became friends and exchanged secrets as friends often do, but I never worried that PAUL would disclose anything I told him. He talked to me about running for the U.S. Senate, and I discussed with him that I was struggling over whether to run again for Governor, after I had been defeated. I know this sounds strange now that I recall it, that people of different parties would discuss their personal strengths and weaknesses, but it shows the trust that you could place in PAUL and never doubt the keeping of the secret. Oh, how we need more of that! I would take away the acrimony and nastiness that we today call politics.

PAUL had one goal—to accomplish the best for the people of Georgia regardless of who got the credit. A few weeks ago PAUL and I had breakfast as we had done on a regular basis for 20 years. I had created during the last legislative session a rural economic development program called One Georgia. I had also received some stinging criticism for it from some of the editorial writers. PAUL brought to the breakfast a folder of information to support my program, and he told me I was right and to ignore the criticism. He told me he would be glad to speak out in my support if I needed him to do so. That was PAUL—just get the job done, forget about who gets the credit.

What then is PAUL COVERDELL's legacy? I suggest to you it is actions and deeds, and not words and glory. It is service, not self-promotion. It is friendship and trust, not cynicism and betrayal. PAUL exemplifies a great man. As Longfellow observed about great men who have fallen:

Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And departing, leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time.

Footprints, that perhaps another,  
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,  
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Goodbye, my friend. See you in a little while.

### TRIBUTE BY FRED COOPER

Mr. Cooper read the eulogy for PAUL COVERDELL written by George Bush, as follows:

In June some close friends came to Kennebunkport for Barbara's surprise birthday party. A friend asked, "Who are those two over there—the quiet guy with the glasses and the beautiful woman." It was PAUL COVERDELL from Georgia, a leader in the U.S. Senate, a close friend for many years, and his wife Nancy. I should have told my friend more about PAUL. That he loved politics. That he was good at it. That he was a clear example of politics as a noble calling. That quiet can be good.

PAUL didn't whine from the sidelines. He helped build an opposition party in Georgia when there was none. He lacked flamboyance, but no one ever served more effectively in the Georgia senate or in the U.S. Senate. When in his wise and earnest manner he spoke, people listened. He made a lot of fast friends. He cared about people: ask those who worked under him when he was Peace Corps director. Through good times and bad, he was at my side—advising and strengthening me by his love and friendship. PAUL was doing the same for our eldest son, helping him navigate the tricky waters of the Senate, quietly advising him on whom he could depend. He left behind a lasting legacy that if you treat people with unfailing kindness, you earn respect. We Bushes loved him.

—George Bush, former President of the United States\*

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HYMN:

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

*Materna*

*(The congregation standing)*

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,  
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining  
sea.

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,  
Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more  
than life!  
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,  
Confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years  
Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining  
sea.

*(The congregation seated)*

A MESSAGE OF PEACE

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

THE BLESSING:

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep  
your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of  
God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be  
among you and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

HYMN:

The Battle Hymn of the Republic

*Julia Ward Howe*

POSTLUDE:

Praise the Lord  
with Drums and Cymbals

*Sigfrid Karg-Elert*

OFFICIATING CLERGY

Dr. Lloyd Ogilvie

*Chaplain, United States Senate*

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Charles Allen

Fred Cooper

Jarvin Levison

The Honorable Mack Mattingly

John Parker

Clyde Rodbell

Frank Strickland

Kenny Wagner

BRASS ENSEMBLE IN RESIDENCE

Atlanta Brassworks

ORGANIST/CHOIR MASTER

Scott H. Atchison

ASSOCIATE ORGANIST

Michael L. Shake

CHOIR

Schola Cantorum

SOLOIST

Commander Robert Baird, USN

Peachtree Road United Methodist Church

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