

Senator John GLENN in 1984 and Vice President AL GORE in 1988.

A native of Lawrence County, Alabama, Charlie grew up in Sheffield, attended Florence State College, and earned a master of science degree in management from Southeastern Institute of Technology. His work as a member of the Base Realignment and Closing Commission Community Task Force was invaluable during the base closure rounds of 1991, 1993, and 1995. He has received the Governor's Air Pollution Control Award; Madison County Good Government Award; Alabama Water Conservationist of the Year Award; and Huntsville-Madison County Mental Health Distinguished Service Award.

He was originally a journalist. He spent several years as a reporter for the Birmingham News. He served as editor and publisher of the Valley Voice, a weekly newspaper published in Tuscumbia.

One of the secrets to Charlie Grainger's phenomenal success is that he truly understands that in order to thrive and grow, the various groups and resources within a community must be united in supporting the bottom-line economic imperatives. In Huntsville's case these are the defense and space industries. He is an instrumental unifying force who sees the big picture and Huntsville's role in that picture. He is a leader who brings people from divergent points of view to common understandings so they can work together for the common good.

I congratulate and commend Charlie for all his accomplishments and for his superb leadership role in the development, growth, and vitality of the Huntsville area. He is a unique role model and a living testament to the tremendous results which can be realized through strong partnerships between government and industry.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES STILLMAN FREE

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, on April 3, James Stillman Free, a native of Gordo, Alabama and for 33 years the Washington correspondent for The Birmingham News, passed away at the age of 87. Jim enjoyed a rich and colorful career as a journalist and historian. Back in November 1993, I had the opportunity to attend his 85th birthday celebration and it was a wonderful experience for his many friends and associates as we gathered with him to celebrate and reflect.

Jim Free attended the public schools of Tuscaloosa, AL; earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Alabama; and obtained his master's degree from Columbia University. He was part owner and editor of a weekly Tuscaloosa newspaper shortly before joining the News in 1935.

Jim's 33 years as The Birmingham News' Washington correspondent was the longest tenure for any Washington correspondent for Alabama newspapers.

He spent a total of 35 years with that paper, his name and writings becoming synonymous with Alabama political coverage and analysis in the nation's capital. He also served as the Washington correspondent for the Chicago Sun, Raleigh News and Observer, and Winston-Salem Journal during the 1940's and '50's.

His coverage extended from the Great Depression and New Deal through World War II preparations and his own combat duty as a Navy Captain in the Pacific; the McCarthy "Red Scare" era; the Civil Rights movement; the assassinations of John and Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King; and all national defense, medical, educational, and environmental issues that affected Alabama. He was an on-the-scenes, eye witness to much of the social change and history of this century.

His many "scoops" included President Truman's 1946 order for the Army to take over strike-threatened railroads, and he led the national press with his stories on the Justice Department's civil rights decisions. Jim filed overseas reports on the 1957 Berlin crisis and NATO operations in the North Sea, Western Europe, and the United Kingdom in 1966. He served as the historian for the Gridiron Club and was the author of "The First One Hundred Years: a casual chronicle of the Gridiron Club."

His World War II service allowed him to bring special insight into his coverage of national defense issues. In an October 1961 article on his time in Berlin, he said, " * * * our test of strength with Russia in the months and years ahead * * * will be 90 percent non-military. It will be political, economic, scientific, and educational. It will be a showdown of our way of life against theirs." Indeed, history proved him right.

While covering the Justice Department, Jim relayed messages from Alabama moderates to then-Attorney General Robert Kennedy during the Freedom Rider bus burning crisis. He was also one of the first reporters to question in print the validity of charges brought against public officials and private citizens by Senator Joseph McCarthy.

Jim held a number of leadership positions in his field and received a number of honors. In 1967, he was elected president of the Washington chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. In 1989, he was inducted into the society's hall of fame. The Raymond Clapper Award committee gave him a special citation for exceptional reporting on national affairs and he received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the University of Alabama alumni association.

It is a grand understatement to say that Jim Free was a highly regarded and respected figure. He was a well-rounded professional and a genuine person of integrity. Jim never tried to purposely harm anyone's reputation through his reporting. His professional

ethics dictated that he would let the facts speak for themselves. He never tried to make a career of finding dirt on government officials. He was not a practitioner of yellow journalism and was not a purveyor of scandal.

Jim was a gentleman who possessed all the traits that one would expect to find in a gentleman—civility, an educated mind, sensitivity, courteousness, and a healthy respect for the views of others.

I was proud to have known Jim Free, who will long be remembered in the dual worlds of journalism and politics for his lifetime of service to the cause of informing citizens about the world around them. I extend my condolences to his family in the wake of their tremendous loss.

BUSINESSWOMAN EULA SIMS DURBIN

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, Eula Sims Durbin, who was a pioneer of the modern poultry industry in Alabama and throughout the southeast, passed away late last month at the age of 98. She earned a place in the annals of Alabama business history during the dark years of the Great Depression when she and her husband Marshall used her \$500 in savings to finance a new business venture, a fish concession. Eventually, the Durbins switched to dressed chickens because of the great difficulty in keeping fresh fish, and opened their own processing plant in Birmingham. Today, the Birmingham-based Marshall Durbin Companies is the nation's 10th largest poultry producer.

On April 2, the Birmingham Post-Herald carried an excellent story detailing the history and growth of Marshall Durbin Companies and of the crucial role Mrs. Durbin played in its enormous success. I ask unanimous consent that the text of the article be printed in the RECORD after my remarks.

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

(See Exhibit 1.)

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, Mrs. Eula S. Durbin will long be remembered for her astute business instincts, for her willingness to take risks, and for her perseverance in the face of great uncertainty and adversity. I extend my condolences to her family in the wake of their loss.

EXHIBIT 1

[From the Birmingham Post-Herald, April 2, 1996]

MRS. DURBIN'S RISKS ARE REMEMBERED (By Patrick Rupinski)

When they write about the seeds of Alabama's successful businesses, the gamble of Eula Sims Durbin will be recorded.

Mrs. Durbin risked all of her personal savings in a move that helped build the poultry industry in both Alabama and the Southeast.

Mrs. Durbin, who co-founded Marshall Durbin Cos. with her husband—the late Marshall Durbin Sr., died Thursday. She was 98.

"She worked to build this company and kept an active interest in it even in her 90s,"

said Pat Shea, a spokeswoman for Birmingham-based Marshall Durbin Companies, the nation's 10th largest poultry producer.

Mrs. Durbin's place in Alabama's business history occurred as the Great Depression gripped Birmingham in the 1930s.

Her husband wanted to start a business even though businesses were failing in record numbers.

Money was tight, but Mrs. Durbin believed in her husband enough to give him her \$500 in savings to finance the venture, a fish concession at a Birmingham market.

The business struggled, particularly in the hot Alabama summers when a lack of refrigeration made keeping fish fresh difficult. But Mrs. Durbin never shied from taking a risk and supported her husband's decision to begin selling dressed chickens.

The move proved popular and soon chicken sales replaced fish. In time, the Durbins opened their own chicken processing plant in downtown Birmingham.

It started small with Mrs. Durbin doing the bookkeeping and other chores, said Ms. Shea, who had interviewed Mrs. Durbin for a history of the company.

By the 1950s, the poultry industry was changing. No longer did farmers with a few hens sell directly to poultry processors. The industry was becoming highly integrated.

By the 1960s, Marshall Durbin Companies had become part of the changes. It added more processing plants plus feed mills, hatcheries, growing facilities and distribution centers.

Today, the family-owned company has annual sales of about \$200 million with facilities in three states—Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee.

The chickens—processed at a rate of more than 2 million a week—end up as everything from frozen breaded nuggets at local supermarkets to cut pieces at KFC restaurants in California and frozen leg quarters shipped to Russia.

Ms. Shea said Mrs. Durbin however, always seemed to take the most pride in how her husband taught their son the business.

Durbin died in 1971. The couple's son, Marshall Durbin Jr., runs the company today.

Mrs. Durbin's interest in the company never waned. Even in her 90s when she was legally blind, she would have someone read her the monthly employee newsletter, Ms. Shea said.

Mrs. Durbin was born in Brookhaven, Miss., and moved to Sulligent after finishing her education, becoming a secretary to the president of a lumber company. She met her future husband while in Sulligent.

Their courtship blossomed after Mrs. Durbin moved to Birmingham to take another secretarial job.

Mrs. Durbin's funeral will be at 2 p.m. today at Ridout's Valley Chapel, followed by a private family burial. Survivors besides her son include two granddaughters, two great-grandsons and six sisters.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to the Eula Sims Durbin Scholarship Fund at Birmingham-Southern College, Box 549003, Birmingham, Ala. 35254.

TRIBUTE TO BUCKY MILLER

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, one of the most interesting people and charming characters I have met in my lifetime is Aura J. "Bucky" Miller, who celebrates the 55th anniversary of first coming to work at the Marriott Grand Hotel Resort and Golf Club in Point Clear, AL, on April 18, 1996. He just celebrated his 79th birthday on April 12 and, thankfully, has no plans to retire.

As an associate at the Grand Hotel over the course of these many years, Bucky Miller has become the very embodiment of hospitality. For many years, he has served as the hotel's resident expert on mint juleps, all-around hospitality ambassador, and official historian. He is well-known throughout Alabama and the South. Once he meets a guest, he never forgets the name or face. He has taken care of a seemingly endless number of politicians, sports figures, actors, and business people who have been guests at the hotel over the decades.

As an extraordinary hospitality ambassador, he has received a great deal of recognition and attention for his natural skills in making people feel welcome and comfortable. In 1989, the town of Fairhope, which is near Point Clear, declared the first week of June "Bucky Miller Week." That same year, he was chosen along with 17 other Marriott associates nationwide to receive the J.W. Marriott Award of Excellence in recognition of exceptional hospitality skills.

As a people-person, Bucky has a caring attitude that really endears him to his guests. He has a talent for making people feel like they are special.

Over the years, Bucky has worked as a housekeeping aide, wine steward, bartender, and kitchen steward. He left the hotel for a time to serve in World War II and to teach mathematics, but soon returned for good saying, "This hotel is in my blood." His outgoing personality soon earned him the title "Mr. Hospitality," and resulted in a continuous flow of favorable guest comments and feature articles in newspapers and magazines.

His legendary mint juleps, which he makes from his own recipe with fresh mint he grows in a garden outside the lounge, are internationally known. Seagram's published his recipe in its recipe book and named Bucky one of the country's 100 best bartenders. Bucky's other specialties include his country lemonade, the Grand Hotel brunch punch, and his hot mint toddy.

An avid sports fan, he is well-known for his philosophical conversations about football with such notable figures as Alabama Coach "Bear" Bryant and sportscaster Howard Cosell.

I am proud to be among those many privileged patrons of the Grand Hotel to have enjoyed the unique charm and natural hospitality of Bucky Miller over the years. He has always practiced what he preaches, which is, "Let simplicity, sincerity, and service be your motto." As I look toward retirement, I want to thank and commend him for all his hard work and achievements. I am looking forward to enjoying more of his simplicity, sincerity, and service when I return to Alabama next year.

TRIBUTE TO DAVE HARRIS

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, earlier this year, Dave Harris retired from his position as head of the public affairs of-

fice for Redstone Arsenal and the Army Missile Command in Huntsville, AL. He was a dedicated and outstanding public servant for 33 years.

An editorial which appeared in The Huntsville Times at that time discusses his career and the characteristics which make him a truly unique individual and pleasure with which to work. I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the editorial, "One Who Made a Difference," be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. without objection, it is so ordered (See Exhibit 1.)

Mr. HEFLIN. I commend and congratulate Dave Harris for all his accomplishments and hard work on behalf of the Army over the years, and hope he is enjoying his well-earned retirement.

EXHIBIT 1

[The Huntsville Times, Friday, Dec. 8, 1995]

ONE WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE

There are a handful of people who make a difference in any community. They're usually visible personalities like government or community leaders, businessmen or clergy. Dave Harris has made an impact behind the scenes for 33 years.

Harris, 65, will retire Jan. 3 as the head of the public-affairs office for Redstone Arsenal and the Army Missile Command. During that time, he's been a trusted source of information for the media on subjects ranging from high-tech missiles to traffic accidents. He's also been a trusted source for Army employees, squelching unfounded rumors that could affect morale or raising legitimate concerns to management's attention.

Less well known has been his role as adviser to Redstone commanders, project managers and community leaders on matters of importance to each.

Harris is uncommon partly because he has been at the same job for so long. He knows who to call for answers. He has a historical perspective on weapons development and the community and knows how to put both in the proper context for generals, soldiers, civil servants and citizens.

Very few media spokespersons today have any actual media experience. Harris worked for a newspaper. He is a skilled writer and knows how a story will play. He not only understands reporters and tolerates their eccentricities, he likes working with them. Those qualities make news stories more accurate and cast the Army in a more positive light.

He has believed in what his Army was doing at Redstone Arsenal. Generals to whom Harris reported describe him as "the heart and soul" and "conscience and ombudsman" of the command.

Dave Harris possesses intelligence, honesty, integrity, common sense, a sense of duty and responsibility, and a long-standing reputation for all the above. He will be difficult to replace.

U.S. FOREIGN OIL CONSUMPTION? HERE'S TODAY'S WEEKLY BOX SCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the American Petroleum Institute reports that, for the week ending April 12, the U.S. imported 7,635,000 barrels of oil each day—1,155,000 barrels more than the 6,480,000 barrels imported during the same period a year ago.