

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.