

butter and eggs" and a smile that lit the room.

And as we laughed and cried, remembered boisterously and loved silently, Kevin's words as he finished his eulogy in the church, came to me:

We are not sad today. No matter how much we may hurt, no matter how much we miss you, we are happy about and grateful for everything you showed us and for bringing so many of us together with your stories, your laughter, and your love.

Today, I remember with joy with the life of my mother.

I ask unanimous consent that two articles from the Times-Argus, in Vermont, be printed in the RECORD, and yield the floor.

There being no objection, the articles were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ALBA Z. LEAHY

MONTPELIER.—Alba Zambon Leahy, 86, died May 5, 1996, in Central Vermont Hospital in Berlin.

Born in South Ryegate on Aug. 21, 1909, she was the daughter of Peter and Vincenza Zambon, and attended schools in Vermont and New Hampshire.

On June 1, 1936, she was married to Howard Francis Leahy in St. Augustine Church in Montpelier. They owned and operated the Waterbury Record, a weekly newspaper, and Leahy Press in Montpelier. Their interest in Leahy Press was sold when they retired in the 1970s. During retirement, Mrs. Leahy was a volunteer guide at the Vermont State House, an active parishioner of St. Augustine Church and a member of Vermont Federation of Women's Clubs of Vermont in Montpelier.

Survivors include one daughter, Mary Leahy of Marshfield; two sons, John Leahy of Clayton, N.Y., and Sen. Patrick Leahy of Middlesex; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; one brother, Louis Zambon of Ohio; two sisters, Enes Zambon of Shelburne and Anna Donovan of West Yarmouth, Mass.

Mr. Leahy died in Feb. 7, 1984. Two brothers, Severino Zambon and John Zambon, are also deceased.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Wednesday at 11 a.m. in St. Augustine Church. Burial will be in Green Mount Cemetery.

Calling hours will be held Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. at Guare & Sons Funeral Home, 30 School St., Montpelier.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Sisters of Mercy Retirement Fund, 100 Mansfield Ave., Burlington, VT 05401.

ALBA LEAHY RITES

MONTPELIER.—A con-celebrated funeral Mass for Alba Zambon Leahy who died May 5, 1996 in Central Vermont Medical Center in Berlin, was offered Wednesday at 11 a.m. in St. Augustine Church. Con-celebrants were the Most Rev. Moses Anderson S.S.E., the Rev. Bernard E. Guadreau, pastor of the church; the Rev. Rick Danielson, parochial vicar of the church; the Rev. Charles Davignon, the Rev. Marcel Rainville, S.S.E.; and Deacons Regis Cummings and Dan Pudvah. The Rev. Jay C. Haskin was the principle celebrant.

Organist Dr. William Tortolano, provided accompaniment for soloist Martha Tortolano, who sang "All Creatures of Our God and King," "Ave Maria," "Agnes Dei," "Panis Angelicus," "I Love You Truly" and "Hymn of Joy."

Scriptures were read by Sister Rose Rowan. Offertory gifts were brought to the altar by Theresa Leahy and Alicia Leahy

Wheeler. Reflections were offered by Dr. David Butsch, Theresa Leahy and Kevin Leahy.

Bearers were Kevin Leahy, Mark Leahy, Robert Zambon, Carl Zambon, Rob Wheeler, J. Wallace Malley Jr., and Tim Heney. Ushers were Fred Bertrand, Tom Ford and Paul H. Guare.

Burial was in Green Mount Cemetery in Montpelier where committal prayers were offered by Father Gaudreau, Father Haskin and Father Davignon.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

A PLEDGE AGAINST VIOLENCE

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I come here to the floor today to speak on a resolution that later will be submitted by Senator BRADLEY from New Jersey. It is a resolution that I intend to submit with him. Senator BRADLEY was unable to be here this morning at this time. I am faced with a personal health situation with my daughter back in Minnesota, so I do not have any prepared remarks, but I think the resolution is important, and I just want to take a minute or two to speak about it.

This is going to be a resolution that deals with asking students throughout our country to declare that they will never bring weapons to school, that they will not use a weapon to settle disputes, and that they will use their influence among their friends to say, "There's no place for guns and violence."

As I said, I am not prepared to speak about the resolution at great length this morning, but I do think it is important—very important. I think the cynical view about such a resolution is, "Sure, to ask students across the country to take such a pledge, how many of them are going to do it and is it really going to make any difference at all? Those students who bring guns to schools, for a whole myriad of reasons, will be the last ones to sign a pledge or who, if they sign a pledge, the last ones to ever live by it."

I actually think maybe it is the cynicism that we ought to overcome. There is a wealth of talent. I am in a school in Minnesota every 2½ to 3 weeks during the school year. There is a wealth of talent and good will and positive attitudes in students across our country. We do not hear enough about them.

There are other students who bring guns to school because they feel they have no other choice but to protect themselves. Someone has to light a candle. Somebody has to light a candle. I think this resolution we are going to submit and this pledge effort across the country is important, because I think

the students are going to be the ones to light the candle.

I think that this resolution and this pledge effort is important because it calls upon the students to be their own best selves, and I think the students are ready to do so.

It is really shocking to me that when I am in schools and I ask students, "What are the most important issues to you, what are the concerns of your lives; you do not have to be an expert, just tell me," almost always, whether it is in the inner-city schools or whether it is in rural Minnesota or whether it is in suburban schools, they say violence.

I do not remember the exact statistics, but I think about every 2 hours a young person is killed by someone using a gun in our country. I think every 4 hours a young person, that is 18 years of age and under, takes his or her life. These are pretty devastating statistics for any of us in the Senate to accept, for any of us who are parents or grandparents to accept, for any other citizens in our country to accept.

I do not know that there is any guarantee of success for this resolution that Senator BRADLEY and I will submit, which will be part of a pledge effort around the country. But I think many students are willing to step forward and to light a candle. I think there are going to be students around the country who will do this as an exemplary action.

You know what, Mr. President, sometimes it just takes a few people to step forward and, through their actions, they provoke the hopes and aspirations of other people. I think students will step forward and will sign this pledge in a lot of different schools across our country, in rural and suburban and inner-city schools. I think by doing so, it will not be cynical, it will be positive, it will be full of hope, and I think a lot of discussion will take place around this effort.

I think those students who do this first will be setting an example, setting a model. I think just by signing the pledge and talking to others about signing the pledge, about not bringing guns to school, not using guns to settle disputes, taking a nonviolent approach, trying to deal with guns and violence among young people, it can be one really significant thing for our country.

I am pleased to speak about this, although today I do not have prepared text. When Senator BRADLEY submits his resolution, I will be very proud to submit it with him.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BRADLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

YOUNG PEOPLE AND GUN  
VIOLENCE

Mr. BRADLEY. Mr. President, I would like to alert the Senate that in the week of July 9, when the Senate returns after the recess, Senator WELLSTONE and I, and a number of other Senators on both sides of the aisle, will be submitting a resolution that will designate October 10, 1996 as a day of national concern about young people and gun violence.

The announcement, I think, will be broad enough to include all segments of the political spectrum in a resolution to urge the reduction of gun violence among young people in this country. I believe that this is a very important initiative. There will be more information to come. This is simply to highlight the point that the first week back will be a major effort to get the Senate on record to make a very clear statement about young people taking pledges against the use of guns in their lives.

Senator WELLSTONE spoke about that earlier today in morning business.

Mrs. BOXER. Will the Senator yield for a question on that point?

Mr. BRADLEY. Yes.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank the Senator, and I want to ask him a question. I have introduced a bill with the Senator from New Jersey and with the Senator from Rhode Island, Senator CHAFEE, which would essentially extend the ban on imported junk guns to junk guns made here. I cannot praise the Senator enough for bringing this issue to our attention.

Is it not true that nationally now the leading cause of death among young people from date of birth to age 19 is guns? In my home State of California, it is the first leading cause of death.

Is that the Senator's understanding, and will he, at the time he brings this resolution, look at legislation like this, discuss it so that the American people can be aware there are things we can do to stop the proliferation of these junk guns?

Mr. BRADLEY. As the Senator from California knows, I agree with her and with Senator CHAFEE wholeheartedly on the handgun issue. But the resolution that we will be bringing forward when we come back in July is a very simple resolution. It is aimed at young people in the country to get them to take action.

It will establish October 10 as a national observance to counter gun violence, and it will ask young people across this country to take a pledge that, one, they will never carry a gun to school; two, they will never resolve a dispute with a gun; and three, they will try to use their influence with their friends to keep them from resolving disputes with guns.

That is the resolution. That is what our hope is that this will become a very popular thing in the country among young people; that we will begin to see that influence felt across America; that we will have cosponsors on

both sides of the aisle to make this very clear statement.

I might say, this is an initiative that was started in the State of Minnesota, and it was started by some very public-spirited citizens who will have a big impact on, I think, the whole history of this country if we can get this pledge as popular in schools across this country as Reeboks are today or Nikes or any of the other shoes that people want to wear when they are younger than you or me.

Mrs. BOXER. Will the Senator yield for one more question?

Mr. BRADLEY. Certainly.

Mrs. BOXER. The reason I have asked the Senator to yield again is because I am so pleased about this initiative.

What the Senator is saying is that responsibility is very key here. Clearly, if young people decide it is out of fashion to carry a weapon of choice, even though they can still buy one for \$25 because they can get these junk guns, that will be a tremendous step forward.

I thank the Senator for bringing it to the Senate's attention, and I hope he will add me as a cosponsor to this effort.

Mr. BRADLEY. I thank the Senator from California. I certainly will. I hope that by the time we introduce this resolution in July we will have 100 cosponsors.

Mrs. BOXER. I agree.

Mr. BRADLEY. This is something that should be an unequivocal message for anybody in the Senate that cares about gun violence and young people in America, which I presume is every Member of the U.S. Senate.

I thank the Chair and the managers for yielding.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that further proceedings under the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEWINE). Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Wyoming is recognized for 30 minutes.

Mr. THOMAS. Thank you.

HEALTH CARE IN AMERICA

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, we wanted to continue our effort with the freshmen focus to bring to the Senate some of the views that from time to time may be unique because we are freshmen, unique because this is the first term we have served here, I suppose unique because, perhaps, we are a little impatient to move forward.

Of course, all of us have great respect for the traditions, but sometimes it is a little discouraging to say, "Gee, we ought to be doing something a little different," and to hear, "Well, it's the way we've done it for 200 years," you

know. And there is some merit to the 200 years thing.

I want to talk a little bit this morning—and I will be joined by a number of my colleagues—about health care and about the issues that surround health care. I suppose, in a broader sense, we are talking about choices, talking about issues, and the choices we have among issues, the choices that we have as to the ways in which we can accomplish the things that all of us want to accomplish.

I do not think there is a soul in here who does not want to move forward with health care. There is no one in the Congress, there is no one in the country who does not want to create a program in which there are greater opportunities for American families to have access to superior health care. Nobody quarrels with that.

The quarrel, of course, comes in, how do you do it? There are legitimately different views as to how you accomplish the things that we want to accomplish.

Unfortunately, some of it is promotional rhetoric. We make great speeches about wanting to do this, accomplish health care for American families and so on, but then when we get down to it, why, there are differences. One of the differences, of course, was highlighted in the last 2 years when the proposal was to have a federalized health care program—a legitimate point of view: Have the Federal Government provide basically health care for everyone in this country. That idea was rejected, soundly rejected, I think, throughout the country. I happen to think that was a good idea to reject it, that we are better off to strengthen the opportunities for health care in the private sector.

So that is where we are. I have to tell you that sometimes one wonders if the opposition to what we are doing now is not an effort to move back to the idea of having the Federal Government provide health care for everyone. But nevertheless, now we are on a new track. Now we are on the idea of, how do we strengthen the health care program in the private sector?

I guess the real question we ought to ask ourselves is, can we do better in providing health care? And the answer is, yes, of course, we can. We have made some progress in the last couple years, made it in the private sector.

In my State of Wyoming, there has been substantial progress made in terms of recognizing what can be done to bring together the doctors and the hospitals and to share among different towns the kinds of services that are available but cannot be available in every small town. So we are making progress.

We have the opportunity to make a good deal more progress right here in this place in the next week. We should have made it 3 weeks ago, but we have not, because there has been an obstacle to progress. It is sort of discouraging that my friends on the other side of the