

debt. Every so often, I ask various groups, how many millions of dollars are there in a trillion? They think about it, voice some estimates, most of them not even close.

They are stunned when they learn the facts, such as the case today. To be exact, as of the close of business yesterday, July 23, the total Federal debt—down to the penny—stood at \$5,171,664,148,836.91.

Another astonishing statistic is that on a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child in America owes \$19,489.11.

As for how many millions of dollars there are in a trillion, there are a million in a trillion, which means that the Federal Government owes more than \$5 million million.

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TRIBUTE TO E.R. "BOB"  
MORRISSETTE, JR.

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, people all over my State of Alabama are deeply saddened by the death of E.R. "Bob" Morrisette, Jr., who passed away on Sunday, July 21 in Mobile. Bob, who had served for many years on my State staff working out of the Mobile office, was a trusted friend, loyal ally, and close adviser. He was the kind of dedicated public servant who was a natural at the art of forging agreement and building bridges. He truly loved people and prided himself on being able to get along with just about anyone with whom he came in contact. People responded and warmed up to him because of his gentlemanly manner, his humor, and his genuineness. Two of his great passions were people and politics. He enjoyed politics in any shape or form.

Another of his passions was the newspaper business. Before joining my staff, he spent over 3 decades covering the news as a reporter, editor, and publisher. After serving in the Army during World War II, Bob earned a journalism degree at the University of Alabama. This is where I first met and became close friends with him some 50 years ago. After college, he embarked on a career in journalism at the Baldwin Times paper in Bay Minette, AL. He took over the Atmore Advance in Atmore, a small town in South Alabama, in 1959, serving there as owner, editor, and publisher of the paper for the next 20 years. He plunged into civic life, always wanting to do his very best for the community he served. Bob always considered himself a newspaper man in the traditional sense and saw to it that he knew everything and everybody in his community.

In 1976, Bob received the Distinguished Alumnus in Journalism Award from the University of Alabama. Two years later, he was named president of the Alabama Press Association. Shortly after I came to the Senate, he sold the Advance and I persuaded him to accept a position as my executive assistant for southwestern Alabama, heading up my Mobile office. He was an indispensable and energetic member of my

staff who represented me at various meetings and events and handled many projects over the years. He served right up until the time of his death. I will always fondly remember the many barnstorming trips we went on together in Mobile and surrounding counties.

The importance of family and relationships was something he understood fully. I was present at Bob and Joyce Henley Morrisette's wedding many years ago. They loved each other intensely and constantly. They were so close they knew intuitively the thoughts of the other; they could communicate without speaking. Each brought out the best in the other. They were spouses, best friends, superb parents, and tireless workers for the public good.

Unfortunately, Joyce became ill and was not able to continue doing so many of the things she loved and enjoyed. But Bob was always devoted to her and cared for her in many different ways. His devotion to Joyce never wavered. His loyalty to her reminds me of a line from Elizabeth Barrett Browning's "Love Song from the Portuguese": "Chance cannot change my love nor time impair."

Bob was an outstanding family man. He had an unqualified love for all of his family and a reverence for his roots. Not only did he show this by his love for Joyce and his two daughters, Martha and Lulie, but he loved to talk about his relatives—close and distant. He loved to tell stories about members of his family. I believe he had more cousins than any one man in all of Alabama. He was extremely proud of his heritage. From my perspective as an office seeker, I could not have hoped for a better friend and campaign worker who could persuade so many kissing cousins.

Bob Morrisette had an enormous number of friends across the State and his familiar presence will be sorely missed. His life was a testament to the very best qualities to be found in the journalism business and in government. He proved that people can be involved in these fields and be highly successful while still maintaining a level of civility, friendliness, integrity, decorum, and respect that is often absent from the public sphere today.

He derived a great deal of satisfaction from helping others. He was an optimist by nature, always believing we can find the way to a better world and that each of us can be a valuable participant in the process. I cannot begin to list the ways that Bob improved the lives of others or to discuss the numerous people he touched and how he promoted the public good. Only those of us fortunate to have been the closest to him can begin to appreciate the thoughtfulness and kindness he displayed on a daily basis for so many people. He touched an infinite number of lives through his words, whether they were delivered over the phone, in writing, or in person. He had a rich and colorful south Alabama accent that

had a way of putting people at ease and even disarming those who were upset or angry about something. Happiness was an integral part of his life because he was always doing things for other people. He knew that one does not become happy by pursuing happiness for its own sake. Bob understood that genuine happiness is a byproduct of living a meaningful and productive life. He was a genuinely happy man who used his talents fully and wisely and shared them generously.

I extend my sincerest condolences to Joyce Morrisette and her entire family in the wake of this tremendous loss. This is not only a loss for his family, but for his community, State, and Nation as well. We are all infinitely better off for having had his service, his friendship, his dedication, and his spirit over the course of these many years.

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PIONEER DAY

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, today is July 24—an ordinary day to millions of Americans and 98 percent of this body.

But to Utahns, July 24, Pioneer Day, is a big State celebration. Offices and businesses are closed; there are parades and pageants in most Utah communities; and families gather for picnics and games.

Mr. President, July 24 was the day in 1847 when Brigham Young stood atop a rise in Emigration Canyon, gazed at the Salt Lake valley below, and announced to the Mormon pioneers who had followed him across the Plains and across the Rocky Mountains that "This is the Place."

Today is the 149th anniversary of Pioneer Day. It is a day Utahns celebrate so enthusiastically because it commemorates the determination and faith that brought our ancestors into the place Mormons call Zion.

It commemorates the triumph over the hardships inherent in such a journey. It commemorates the sense of community that kept them together as a people.

And, it commemorates the fact that the religious persecution suffered by my Mormon ancestors did not achieve its purpose. Prejudice and bigotry may have forced the early members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints out of the Midwest, but the faith could not be killed.

Today, Utah stands as a shining example of commerce, the arts, science, and education. It is an example of solid work ethic, sound management, and good stewardship in both public and private arenas. It is also a model of tolerance. All of these blessings and present-day values are manifestations of the character and achievements of the Utah pioneers.

That is why today Utah celebrates the "Days of '47." I ask my colleagues to join me and Senator BENNETT in observing this seminal event in Utah history.