Upon his retirement from active duty in 1975, Admiral Forrest accepted the many challenges associated with the position of executive director of the Naval Reserve Association, where he made many important contributions to the Naval Reserve, the Navy, and our national defense. Most importantly, through his personal interaction with national leaders, Admiral Forrest brought about an increase in mutual trust and improved coordination between the Reserve and Active components of the Navy. He also increased the readiness of the Naval Reserve. In addition, long before we had promoted quality of life issues, Admiral Forest was one of the most active proponents of adequate pay and benefits for Active and Reserve military personnel and their dependents. If there was a need, he identified it and worked to fill the void. If there was a problem, he recognized it early, proposed the solutions, and worked toward resolution. In short, if I had only one word to sum up his actions over the past 56 years, it would be leadership. As a nation, we owe Adm. Jim Forrest a great deal for his contribution. I know I speak for the entire U.S. Senate when I say thank you, Admiral, for a job ''extremely well done!'' To my friend, Jim Forrest, who is truly a great American, ''Fair winds and following seas!''●

TRIBUTE TO PROCTOR JONES

● Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, it was my great fortune to be assigned to the Committee on Appropriations relatively early in my first term in the Senate. It is through that Committee that I have been able to serve my State in a way that I believe has contributed measurably to an improvement in the economic quality of life for the people of Louisiana.

As I began my second full term in the Senate, I had the added good fortune of taking over the reins of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Public Works, as it was known at the time, from a wonderful man who taught me so much about the Senate, the late and beloved Senator John Stennis of Mississippi. When I fell heir to that chairmanship, I also inherited the services of the longtime staff director of the subcommittee, Proctor Jones. It is of Proctor and his service to the Senate and his country that I wish to speak today.

Every now and then in this body, someone of the thousands of loyal staff who toil for us and our constituents achieves an elevated status among Senators and staff colleagues. I think few would deny that Proctor has long since reached that plateau.

Proctor Jones came to this body in 1960, and, aside from 4 years of service as a proud Marine, he has served here continuously since that time. He has seen and participated in more of the sweep of politics and public policy than most of us can imagine, and along the way he has amassed an unrivaled knowledge of the legislative process and a nearly unmatched institutional memory.

Members in both Houses and on both sides of the aisle know they can turn to Proctor for advice and assistance with absolute confidence that their requests will be treated fairly and respectfully. They also know that he gets results. Proctor's broad and detailed knowledge of his appropriation areas helps account for his uncanny ability to find the means, even when none appears available, to achieve the legislative goals that we set.

While such knowledge gives Proctor authority, he would never think of abusing the great powers we entrust to him. He is a man who loves and cherishes the institutions of Government and who is guided by the fine Georgia code of honor he learned from his early mentor, the late Senator Richard Russell, the giant whom Proctor served early in his Senate career.

If anything, Proctor is self-deprecating and deferential to a fault: as he is fond of saying, ''I just work here, I don't vote. And I love my job.'' He has indeed loved his job and has performed his duties in a way that has made a profound difference in those areas covered under our Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee. He has always understood that we have a serious obligation to protect and improve the country's physical infrastructure and to support and nurture the Nation's scientific brain trust at the national laboratories and throughout the Federal Government. Uninformed critics have sometimes derided those vital responsibilities as pork or misplaced priorities, but I firmly believe that Proctor's vision and dedication have contributed mightily to the security and strength of this country.

Proctor has also become my valued personal friend, owing in large measure to his infectious enthusiasm for everything in life from opera, to travel, to sports, to hiking and joyous gatherings of friends and family. As I conclude my service in the Senate, I want Proctor and his family to know that I speak for my colleagues, past and present, in saying thanks for a job done well and as no one else could have done it.●

APPROPRIATIONS IMPORTANT TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ABUSE

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, there are a few matters contained within the omnibus appropriations bill that I would like to highlight. In the overall context of a multibillion dollar bill, these may not be significant to some, but they are to me and to the people of Vermont.

First, I note that we have been able to include an amendment to the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act that doubles the amount that Vermont and other small States will receive annually. This change completes the increase that we have been trying to accomplish since enactment of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to provide small States with $400,000 a year in Federal funding for family violence prevention programs. It is appropriate that in October, which is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we finally conclude this amendment.

Domestic violence remains the leading cause of violent death in Vermont. Over 50 percent of homicides in the State last year reportedly arose from domestic violence situations—and this is down from the percentages in prior years. Also contained in the omnibus appropriations bill is legislation making conviction of a crime of domestic violence a disqualification from gun ownership. Too many women and children are threatened by domestic violence and too many become victims of that violence.

I commend the Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the Vermont Center for Crime Victims Services, and all of the local community organizations that work so hard and provide such essential services to those at risk of domestic and family violence. I note that Vermont established its own statewide domestic violence hotline and sexual abuse hotline almost a year before the national hotline was finally created this spring. I expect that Vermont will also lead the country in terms of developing services and programs to confront the problems of rural domestic violence.

We were also able to increase funding for the Violence Against Women Act programming to $197.5 million this year. Because of Vermont's outstanding advocates and programs, ours was the first State to receive a VAWA grant 2 years ago and I am confident that Vermont will remain on the leading edge in these important programs. This year Vermont received over $700,000 for VAWA programming.

We have also been able to protect the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act programs that sends important funding to Vermont and other States to assist in efforts to prevent crime and delinquency. I want to thank, in particular, Ken Schatz and the Vermont Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs and Shirley Martin, Vermont's JJDP Specialist, for their help in working to protect and preserve the Juvenile Justice Program and avoid the loss of as much as $187,500 from the nearly $800,000 that Vermont receives annually. Vermont could not afford the loss of such Federal assistance. In the omnibus appropriations bill, we were able to include $170 million for national juvenile justice programming this year, which is a significant increase from last year.

Finally, we were able to include in the appropriations bill is a much needed adjustment to the Victims of Crime Act to extend for an additional year the time in which the State and victim assistance grantees may retain and use

grants from the Federal Crime Victims Fund. This is important in years in which collections of fines and penalties at the Federal level are exceptionally large, as they were this past year. Through this amendment we are trying to ensure that State grants from the crime victims fund can be used wisely over a more extended period of time. This amendment will augment the increase in the minimum victim assistance grant to small States from $200,000 to $500,000 per year that I was able to include in the Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act, which passed earlier this year.●

DEDICATION OF SHIRLEY L. MILLER PAVILION

● Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, on October 5, 1996, the Children's Cancer Caring Center will dedicate the Shirley L. Miller Pavilion at the prestigious Cleveland Clinic of Broward County, FL. The pavilion will house facilities used by the Clinic to treat its hundreds of young outpatients. Mr. President, it is fitting that this pavilion memorialize the good name and extraordinary life of Shirley L. Miller of Miami, FL who passed away on September 24, 1996.

Shirley L. Miller, along with her close friends, Lee Klein and Erma Podvin, have been deeply involved in providing medical care to children with cancer for 35 years. The Children's Cancer Caring Center, of which Shirley was a cofounder and vice president, provides totally free cancer treatment for hundreds of children from Florida and elsewhere. In addition to medical treatment, the caring center provides ancillary services—counseling, special events, and an overnight summer camp—to afflicted children and their families. Beyond donating thousands of volunteer hours, Shirley and her colleagues have raised tens of millions of dollars to support their efforts over the years.

Mr. President, Shirley L. Miller represents what is great in America. Her dear friend and president of the caring center, Lee Klein, called her ''a beautiful gift to the thousands of children who confronted this disease and whose lives she touched.'' Shirley L. Miller was a great credit to her community and her family, including her husband of 46 years, Irving, and her brother, Samuel Levine, and sister, Gloria Berger. Her children, Roger Miller, Sherri Gersten, Miki Goldstein, Renee Simmons, and Cary Caster, and her 13 grandchildren, have much to be proud of. She received numerous awards in recognition of her civic activities on behalf of Mount Sinai Medical Center, Hebrew Academy, the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, the Girl Scouts of America, the National Council of Jewish Women, Temple Beth Shalom of Miami Beach, and the Youth Orchestra of Florida. Her son, Roger, explained ''She was a woman who spent so many waking hours helping others less fortunate than she.''

Mr. President, although the Shirley L. Miller Pavilion at the Cleveland Clinic in Broward County will serve to memorialize her name, the lifetime of unlimited caring Shirley L. Miller provided to thousands of children and their families will be our greatest monument to this extraordinary woman.●

TRIBUTE TO THE STAFF OF THE SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

● Mr. COHEN. Mr. President, as the 104th Congress and my own tenure in the Senate draw to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank and pay tribute to my staff on the Senate Special Committee on Aging for their fine work, dedicated service, and exemplary commitment to the needs of our Nation's elderly.

I have had the privilege of serving as a member of the Aging Committee since first coming to the Senate, after having served on the House Aging Committee for many years. In 1991, I assumed the position of ranking Republican member on the Senate Special Committee on Aging, after the sudden and tragic death of John Heinz, our beloved friend and colleague from Pennsylvania. He left us long before his contributions were fully credited and before his mission could be completed. It was daunting indeed to follow in the footsteps of John Heinz, who was legendary in his advocacy on behalf of our Nation's senior citizens.

In 1995, I succeeded another giant in the field of aging issues, Senator DAVID PRYOR, as chairman of the committee. Senator PRYOR has been an indefatigable leader on issues affecting the quality of life for our seniors and protecting them from all forms of exploitation. DAVID has decided to retire from the Senate, but the high standard of excellence that he set throughout his years as a Congressman, Governor, and Senator will be remembered with great fondness and gratitude by those who have been honored to serve with him, and by those who were so honorably served by him.

Mr. President, I am proud that in these last 5 years the Aging Committee has had a strong record of achievement, thanks in large part to my highly dedicated and talented committee staff. The committee has brought many problems now facing our Nation's elderly to the attention of the Congress, policy makers, and the public. It has provoked public debate and has proposed solutions on how our Government programs can better serve the elderly and disabled.

For example, the committee has examined a host of issues relating to Medicare and Medicaid. It has examined how managed care trends will affect the elderly and disabled populations, and how some Medicare HMO's have given poor quality and service to Medicare enrollees. We have reviewed the Medicare hotline and the level of service provided by the Medicare program itself to enrollees. The committee has identified how those with Alzheimer's disease and other chronic conditions of aging often fall through the cracks of our health care system, and how we should rethink our programs to provide more integrated care.

The committee has placed strong emphasis on the long-term care needs of our Nation's elderly and disabled, recommending ways to protect the rights of nursing home residents and offering proposals on how to help families prepare for the crushing financial burden of long-term care.

The committee has held hearings on the mental health needs of older Americans and heard riveting testimony on the once taboo subject of suicide among the elderly. Our hearings have cast a bright spotlight on the high prescription drug costs facing older Americans and how, tragically, some older Americans face the Hobson's choice of whether to buy food or medicine, because they simply cannot afford both.

As has been the long tradition of the Aging Committee, we have exercised an active investigative agenda, focusing on how senior citizens are often prime targets of scams and con artists. Our investigations have revealed how some health care providers manipulate the system to siphon off as much as $100 billion a year from our health care system. We have heard sobering testimony from perpetrators on how easy it is to rip off the health care system and the taxpayers. Major reforms have been now signed into law to crack down against these abuse, in large part due to the investigations and recommendations from the Aging Committee.

We have investigated telemarketer who offer prize giveaway, contests, investment schemes and other promises of gold to trusting senior citizens. Tragically, these scams have resulted in many seniors losing thousands of dollars, and often their entire retirement savings.

The committee has devoted much attention to the unfettered growth of the Social Security disability program and how this program suffers from management deficiencies, fraud and abuse, and far too little oversight. We have provoked important public debate on problems in our Federal disability programs and have stressed the need to start facing head on the problems posed by the future insolvency of the Social Security and Medicare trust funds.

While this is but a taste of the entire record of the Aging Committee's activities over the past 5 years, it gives a flavor of how this committee has alerted the Congress and the public to the needs of our aging population.

I want to pay special tribute to my staff on the Aging Committee who have played a major role in each of these committee efforts.

Since 1991, my Aging Committee staff has been under the able direction of Mary Gerwin, who has been the driving