

It has been America's good fortune to have leaders which exhibit true faith and allegiance to the general welfare and the blessings of liberty.

One such leader is Richard L. Lawson. I personally thank him for his efforts, for his patriotism, and for his vision.

His 40 years of combined military duty is rich with decorations and honors. It includes the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, and the Legion of Merit. On the level of personal service, it includes the Soldier's Medal that recognizes an act of courage not involving an armed enemy; and the Air Medal and the Bronze Star that reflect combat duty in the Vietnam War.

We owe a debt of gratitude to men like General Lawson, who give so freely and so much to this great nation. May this nation always be blessed with such citizens.

God give us men!

A time like this demands strong minds,
great hearts, true faith, and ready hands.
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honor; men who will not lie.
Men who can stand before a demagogue
And brave his treacherous flatteries without
winking.

Tall men, sun—crowned;
Who live above the fog,
In public duty and in private thinking.
For while the rabble with its thumbworn
creeds,

It's large professions and its little deeds,
mingles in selfish strife,
Lo! Freedom weeps!
Wrong rules the land and waiting justice
sleeps.

God give us men!

Men who serve not for selfish booty;
But real men, courageous, who flinch not at
duty.

Men of dependable character;
Men of sterling worth;
Then wrongs will be redressed, and right will
rule the earth.
God Give us Men!

SENATOR PATRICK MOYNIHAN'S RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the finest scholars to have graced the United States Senate, Senator DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN. As all of you know, our esteemed colleague from New York will soon be retiring from the Senate after 24 years.

Senator MOYNIHAN has a rich history of public service. Beginning his political career as a member of Averell Harriman's gubernatorial campaign staff in 1954, Senator MOYNIHAN used his vast intellect to build one of the most expansive political resumes of the 20th century. To attempt to list every position ever held by my colleague would take entirely too long. However, some of the highlights of his political career include serving in the Cabinet or sub-Cabinet of Presidents Kennedy, John-

son, Nixon, and Ford, serving as a U.S. Ambassador to India, and as a U.S. Representative to the United Nations. In 1976, he again represented the U.S. as President of the United Nations Security Council. It is important to note that Senator MOYNIHAN accomplished all of this prior to his tenure in the Senate.

Though anyone would be impressed with such an extensive biography, Senator MOYNIHAN has not limited himself to the political arena. He has served in the United States Navy, taught at some of the most elite schools in the Nation, authored or edited 18 books, and has served on numerous boards and committees. An exhaustive lifestyle few could endure has resulted in Senator MOYNIHAN's receipt of some of the most prestigious national awards, and 62 honorary degrees.

The Senate will not be the same without my esteemed colleague from the Empire State, and I would like to express my gratitude for his service to this Nation. I wish him and his wife Liz health, happiness, and success in all of their future endeavors.

SENATOR BOB KERREY'S RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to bid farewell to a true American hero. Senator J. ROBERT KERREY will be retiring from the United States Senate after dedicating the last twelve years to representing the fine state of Nebraska.

Throughout my tenure in Congress, I have had the opportunity to serve with several distinguished patriots. However, few have displayed the commitment and ability of Senator BOB KERREY.

After graduating from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 1966, BOB set his aspirations high, earning a prestigious slot on one of America's most elite fighting forces, the Navy Seals. While serving this Nation in Vietnam, BOB demonstrated the valor, leadership, and selflessness deserving of the Congressional Medal of Honor. The Medal of Honor is the highest medal awarded by the United States and is reserved for those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty, at the risk of their own life, to perform a deed of personal bravery or self-sacrifice.

Upon his return to the States after the war, BOB built a thriving business with unwavering determination. After proving himself an able businessman, he decided to pursue a career in public service. In 1982, he was sworn in as Governor of the Cornhusker State. During his four year tenure, he used his vast financial knowledge to turn a three percent deficit into a seven percent surplus.

BOB changed roles but continued his public service, when he won a seat in the U.S. Senate in 1988. Admired by his constituents for his countless contribu-

tions to furthering education and assisting small farmers, he was re-elected in 1994.

It has been a privilege to serve along side this American patriot, and I am pleased that I had the opportunity to work with him on the Armed Services Committee. I wish him and his two children, Benjamin and Lindsey, health, happiness, and success in all their future endeavors.

SENATOR CONNIE MACK'S RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has made countless contributions to the state of Florida and to this Nation during his tenure in the United States Senate, Senator CONNIE MACK. Senator MACK has decided to retire after serving two successful terms in the Senate.

Prior to his entrance into public service, CONNIE spent 16 years as a local banker. During this time, he established himself as a civic leader in his Florida community and helped spearhead an effort to build a much needed local hospital. Recognizing that as a member of Congress he could do much more to help not only his local community, but the entire nation as well, he decided to run for a seat in the House of Representatives.

While serving three terms in the House, CONNIE built a reputation as someone who could get things done. It was soon obvious to many familiar with this aspiring politician that his talents would best serve this nation in the United States Senate. Running on a platform of "less taxing, less spending, less government, more freedom," CONNIE MACK was embraced by the Florida voters and was sworn in as the junior Senator for the Sunshine State in January 1989.

Senator MACK was soon recognized by his colleagues as a man with a solid work ethic of uncompromising integrity. In 1996, he was chosen by his Republican colleagues as Chairman of the Republican Conference, and he retained this post for the rest of his time in office. He fought intensely for his constituents, and they repaid him in 1994 when they re-elected him with 70 percent of the vote—the first Republican in Florida to be re-elected to the United States Senate.

During CONNIE's tenure in the Senate, he has used his extensive banking experience to frame landmark legislation which modernized our banking laws and helped prepare our financial system for the global market of the 21st century. A fierce opponent of government waste, he advocates deficit reduction and cutting congressional spending.

CONNIE's most admirable trait is his determination to overcome tragedy. His family's battle with cancer catalyzed the young Senator to push a legislative agenda focused on eliminating this destructive disease. Senator MACK