

Julia was unique in that she was the only human being ever to be named Woman of the Year by The Indianapolis Star on two different occasions.

It was common parlance to say, "Congresswoman Carson's people," a reference to poor black constituents. Rubbish. The 7th district is about 70 percent nonblack and "her people" were all the people of the 7th, regardless of physical or economic description. Millionaires can be treated unjustly by the federal government just as middle- and low-income citizens can. And wherever there was injustice, this Lincoln-like lady was there to redress it. Her political philosophy was a plank from the Sermon on the Mount: "Blessed are they who thirst for justice."

There's another one: "Blessed are the peacemakers." She cast our vote against the conspicuously unconstitutional resolution that gave the Cheney gang a fig leaf to order our innocent military to the fraudulent and internationally illegal blood-soaked blunder in Iraq.

Julia called me just before she cast that vote and said that, in view of the dishonesty, panic and jingoism of the moment, she expected to lose the next election. "Courage," my mother said, "is fear that has said its prayers."

Our Julia, who art in Heaven.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER GEORGIA HOUSE LEADER TOM MURPHY

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I want to associate the following comments with my distinguished colleague and friend, Senator ISAKSON, to honor the late former Georgia House Leader Tom Murphy, who passed away last night.

Tom, known by his friends as Speaker and others as "Mr. Speaker," was once the longest serving State House speaker in the nation, serving Georgia from 1974 to 2002. In describing the life's work of Tom Murphy, one of our veteran reporters in Atlanta quoted an old 1960's western film and wrote, "When the legend becomes fact, print the legend." The reporter goes on to say, "There will be no such confusion over Tom Murphy, the tough-talking master politician whose gruff exterior concealed a heart that ached for the poor and helpless and in the Speaker's case, they were one and the same."

He was a true champion for our great State, and all Georgians, from Rabun Gap to Tybee Light, will reap the benefits of Tom's work legacy for generations to come.

During the time Tom served our State, Georgia became one of the leading States to attract international business, our ports were expanded, the Quick Start program was created and expanded to help companies train new workers, and teachers salaries were given higher priority.

The expressway system in Georgia was completed during his tenure, and if you live in the vicinity of Atlanta, you have Tom to thank for the widening of the connector in Atlanta; additional runways at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport; and the World Congress Center that was built and expanded to allow Georgia to compete for conventions and trade shows.

He was always supportive of rural Georgia and agribusiness, and he was part of a transformation of our state into a State that has a significantly more diversified and stronger economic base than ever before.

One of our former colleagues, former Senator and Governor, Zell Miller, one of our greatest Governors, describes his working relationship with Tom as one that was tumultuous, but mutually beneficial. They worked together for many years in the State legislature, and it is no secret that the two often dueled over many issues, but they always had Georgia's best interest in mind. Zell has stated, "If there had not been a Tom Murphy, I guess I would have created one, and if there had not been a Zell Miller, I guess he would have had to create one. Because that's the way we rallied our troops." Both recognized that they could not survive without the other.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD Zell's interview.

Tom's integrity and fairness were his trademarks, and he will always be remembered for his longstanding commitment to Georgia values.

When we depart from this world, we all hope to leave it a better place. Tom Murphy left Georgia better than he found it.

"HE WAS A ONE-OF-A-KIND" INDIVIDUAL

(By Dick Pettys)

Make no mistake: there was real respect and, yes, even affection between Tom Murphy and Zell Miller, though you would never have known it from the way Murphy introduced Miller on occasion as the "extinguished" lieutenant governor, or the way Miller referred to Murphy's House as the "mausoleum" for his legislative initiatives.

Murphy, who died Monday, and Miller came to the Georgia Legislature in the same year—1961—and their careers were forever entangled after Murphy became Speaker and Miller became lieutenant governor and later governor.

"I've often thought this as I looked back on (our) careers—we worked off each other to benefit what we were trying to get done," Miller said in a telephone interview Tuesday. "If there had not been a Tom Murphy, I guess I would have created one, and if there had not been a Zell Miller, I guess he would have had to create one. Because that's the way we rallied our troops."

At such times, it often took a woman's touch to keep them from doing each other a bodily harm, and Shirley Miller filled that role, Murphy used to say.

There was sadness in Miller's voice as he spoke of Murphy's legacy.

"He was a one-of-a-kind individual, and for four decades whatever happened in Georgia, he was right in the middle of it," Miller said. "We will never see, I don't think, ever again one Georgia leader have the power that he had for as many years as he had it. It's really remarkable and I don't think the way politics is today that you'll ever see that again."

Miller, who taught college history at an earlier point in his career, said Murphy came along at an historic time in the state's history.

"We were all the same. We were white male Democrats, mostly from rural Georgia. And then suddenly that all changed with the court rulings and the county unit system, reapportionment and all of that. And it became a very, very volatile time to be in politics.

And the fact that he could hold that House together like he did for so many years, it's really historic.

"Loyalty is the most important ingredient in legislative politics and he enjoyed that from his House like no one ever has before or will again," he said.

Why?

"They knew it was a two-way street; that he would look after them and he would be as loyal to them as they were to him. He, of course, very wisely would place people in various positions which would be of benefit to him later . . . Next to his real family, the House was his family."

"The night I was elected (November, 1990), he was one of the first to come up to where we were, and I appreciated that. The next day, I went up to the third floor, sat down and told him I might could get elected without him, but I sure couldn't govern without him. That was the truth.

"We worked together and fought together for so many years, it's hard to believe what a long period of time it really was. I give him a lot of credit for the fiscal soundness of the sound and bringing along rural legislators on things like the World Congress Center, which was not an easy job. So many things. It's a shame he didn't get that reservoir, which was looked upon as sort of pork at the time. It would have helped today if we had had it."

For both men and for the state, that remarkable period of time was quite a ride. "I feel very, very fortunate to have been part of it," he said.

COMMENDING CINDY CHANG

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to recognize the hard work of Ms. Cindy Chang, Senior Adviser for Budget and Appropriations at the State Department's Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

Cindy has worked closely with the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Subcommittee for the past several years and has been an invaluable asset to the Congress. Cindy understands the appropriations and budget processes. She understands foreign policy, whether the complexities associated with the Middle East or the nuances of Southeast Asia. Cindy is also extremely responsive to the subcommittee's many and frequent requests for information.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice should understand that in the opinion of the Appropriations Committee, Cindy Chang is among the brightest stars at the State Department. As the year draws to a close, my staff joins me in recognizing and thanking Cindy for her outstanding support of the subcommittee in 2007.

SPECIAL THANKS TO WALLY RUSTAD

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, today I want to pay tribute to an outstanding friend and advisor, Wally Rustad, who will be concluding his time as chief of staff on January 10, 2008.

In July 2007, when my longtime chief of staff announced his intention to retire, Wally agreed to come out of retirement to serve as interim chief of staff during the transition period. Wally was no stranger to my office. Following a long career working for the National Rural Electric Cooperatives, he served as my state liaison for 6 years. In fact, Wally and I have a history of working together that spans back over 40 years when I was an intern in the office of Congressman Rolland Redlin and he was serving as the young chief of staff for the Congressman. Wally and I have been working together in one form or another ever since.

Wally came on board as my interim chief of staff and immediately provided the steady leadership that is crucial during times of change. During his tenure in my office, Wally has done an outstanding job of seeing my staff through personnel changes and legislative challenges, and has provided me the steady advice of a seasoned veteran. His work has been outstanding.

Finally, and most importantly, Wally Rustad is an outstanding person. He has never forgotten the small-town values he learned growing up Grenora, ND. He has worked quietly and tirelessly behind the scenes to make things happen and was always happy to divert credit to others. He has been tremendously loyal, dedicated, and a passionate advocate for the people of my State. He has never forgotten that he is working for the American taxpayer. And he has been a good friend and a mentor to others on staff.

With extraordinary gratitude for his time serving as my chief of staff, I wish Wally well as he returns home to his lovely wife Marlys. I have been blessed to have Wally as a trusted advisor and confidante but most importantly he has been a great friend. I wish him all the best as he returns to retirement and look forward to continuing our association for many years to come.

CONSTITUENT VIEWS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a letter from Mr. Richard Morgan from Shavertown, PA, be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DECEMBER 7, 2007.

Re: Congressional members

Hon. ARLEN SPECTER,
Hart Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR SPECTER: My name is Richard H. Morgan. I reside at 145 Woodbine Road, Shavertown, PA. I am retired at 72 years of age and a military veteran of the U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard. I have been a Republican since 21 years of age.

On November 20, 2007 at 11 a.m., you returned my phone call. During our conversation I agreed to write a letter stating my views of the job the Senate has done. You agreed to read this letter on the Senate

floor. I told you I would really like to stand and talk in front of the Senate.

I am part of the great generation of people who lived, worked, and died for this country. I often wonder to myself where we as a society let our country go so wrong. We are not safe in our own country. I am not afraid of terrorists from other countries; I have greater fear from my own government. I would like to list a few examples.

First, congressional personnel do not live their lives as the working average middle class nor our lower class society. They think of us as uneducated. They may be right since we placed our trust in their hands and believed they would do the job right. I question too what has happened to the oath of office they took as a serious promise to us and God. The majority of Congress lacks integrity and humility. They are definitely not role models for our society. I know our country's business can be conducted better. I have no special interest groups to benefit by my vote.

Second, I have a problem concerning social security and how the word entitlements is used. It makes me feel like they are giving me personally a handout. The social security trust fund is completely funded by the citizens of the United States through payroll tax deductions and collected by the Internal Revenue Service. I must add that they are elected by citizens to manage these funds for us and not to fund other programs. So, I feel the word of entitlements should have reference to congressional perks, which are completely funded by tax paying citizens.

Finally, my third area of concern is the marriage of congressional members and corporate business. I am not sure if it's illegal, but I do know it's unethical. This has caused so much damage to my country. I have done the research on many programs such as the Bureau of Public Debt, Federal Accounting, and the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

The answer to this whole problem is for all elected congressional members to gain a conscience or to resign from office.

Respectively,

RICHARD H. MORGAN.

RESTORING JUSTICE FOR BOOKER TOWNSELL

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I want to take a moment to recognize a victory for the cause of justice, albeit one that is long overdue. In 1944, Booker Townsell, a private in the U.S. Army, was convicted of a crime in an unfair and racially biased trial, 63 years ago to this day. I join Booker Townsell's family in heralding the recent decision by the Army Board for Correction of Military Records to overturn this conviction and restore all rights lost as a result of the conviction. Although Booker Townsell is no longer with us, and no ruling can change the injustice that Booker Townsell suffered when he was wrongly convicted by the Army in 1944, I am pleased to see that the Army is rejecting the original decision handed down 63 years ago.

Despite the injustice he suffered, Booker Townsell displayed tremendous strength, and went on to lead a full life in Wisconsin, including raising a wonderful family. I am glad to see the tremendous weight of this conviction lifted from his family. It is due to their

valiant effort that this decision was finally overturned. I also thank Congressmen JIM McDERMOTT and DUNCAN HUNTER for putting vital pressure on the Army to review the 1944 decision. While it has taken far too long, 63 years later, justice has finally been restored to Booker Townsell and his family.

HONORING DENIS O'DONOVAN

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following resolution from the HELP Committee to be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows.

Resolution commending Denis O'Donovan with deepest sincerity for his dedicated and skillful work to improve the health and well-being of the American people.

Whereas Denis O'Donovan has served with distinction and skill for 10 years as Chief Clerk of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate;

Whereas Denis O'Donovan exemplifies the best traditions of selfless public service, having devoted 40 years to improving the lives of all Americans through service to the Senate;

Whereas Denis O'Donovan has met every Member of the Committee and their staffs with cheerfulness and consideration;

Whereas the faultless competence of Denis O'Donovan has enabled the Committee to function effectively under Chairmen of both parties;

Whereas Denis O'Donovan will begin a well-earned retirement next month; and

Whereas Denis O'Donovan may be gone as of this date, but he will never be forgotten by those who had the fortune to work with him: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate—

(1) commends Denis O'Donovan with deepest sincerity for his dedicated and skillful work to improve the health and well-being of the American people; and

(2) wishes Denis O'Donovan all happiness and fulfillment in retirement.

RETIREMENT OF PATRICIA KNIGHT

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I rise to acknowledge the retirement from the Senate of a person of great skill and accomplishment, Patricia Knight. She will be greatly missed.

Trish has devoted more than a quarter century of her life to public service, the last nine years as chief of staff to my good friend and colleague, Senator ORRIN HATCH. Her leadership on so many issues over that time has improved the lives of millions of Americans in so many ways.

Over the years, Trish has brought her skills and energy to bear on a range of important issues from energy policy to foreign policy and so much more. She served in the Reagan administration and the first Bush administration as a key adviser on health legislation. She has been an aide on the Appropriations Committee covering bills as vast as funding for the Commerce Department and our foreign aid programs.