

SC, on the passing of Austin Cunningham.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JAMIL SABA

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I wish to honor in the RECORD of the Senate Jamil Saba, who served as the sheriff of Dougherty County, GA, for more than two decades until he retired in December 2008.

Sheriff Saba was born and raised in Albany, GA, which is located in Dougherty County. He remained there, serving his community proudly. Jamil served his country in the U.S. Army from 1960 through 1962 and began his career in law enforcement in April of 1970 as a deputy Sheriff with the Dougherty County Sheriff's Office. He was later promoted to chief investigator in 1972, the job he held for more than a decade until he won election and became sheriff in 1985.

As a true leader, Sheriff Saba has served as president of the Georgia Sheriff's Association and president of the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes, as well as on the Georgia Sheriffs' Retirement Board of Directors. He was a board member of the Georgia Public Safety Committee, the Dougherty County Child Abuse Protocol Committee, the Child Death Investigations Protocol Committee, Sexual Assault Protocol Committee, and many others.

His service efforts and accomplishments at the local level are plentiful as well. Jamil was the chairman of the advisory board for the Albany-Dougherty Drug Unit and is a charter member of the Albany Sports Hall of Fame.

Jamil worked tirelessly for Daugherty County as sheriff and plans to continue serving a cause that touched him the most deeply, the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes Foundation Board. I want to recognize and thank his wife Donna Jaye Adams and their son, Jim, and daughter, Lauren, for making the sheriff's job easier and sharing him with the community. I hope you all find joy in the coming years together during Jamil's retirement.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JERRY L. LANCASTER

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I wish to honor in the RECORD of the Senate Jerry L. Lancaster, who served as the sheriff of Pulaski County, GA, for 28 years and retired on December 31, 2008.

Jerry was born and raised in Hawkinsville, GA, which is located in Pulaski County. He remained there in order to serve his community proudly for many years. Jerry worked with the Georgia State Patrol for nearly 10 years before being elected sheriff in 1980. As sheriff, he strived to live out the values he was taught as a child—hard work, fairness, honesty, respect, and discipline. His gifts to the community have been immeasurable. The level of respect the community has for him is evidenced in the fact that he is

the longest serving sheriff in the history of the county and was never defeated in an election.

Jerry not only worked tirelessly for Pulaski County as sheriff, but he also gave of his time through his service on the Board of the Georgia Sheriff's Boys' Ranch. He gives credit to his wife Nell Goss Lancaster for her unfailing support, and I honor and thank her, their two children and three grandchildren for making Jerry's job easier and sharing him with the community. I hope you all find joy in the coming years together during Jerry's retirement.●

#### TRIBUTE TO GARY L. LEMONDS

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I wish to honor in the RECORD of the Senate SSG Gary Lemonds, a lifelong citizen of Walton County, real estate broker, and decorated Vietnam veteran who passed away on January 8, 2009.

Gary Lemonds served with Company F, 75th Ranger Regiment in Cu Chi, Vietnam, and was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame on August 25, 1994, at a ceremony in Fort Benning, GA. His induction was based on his involvement in a conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Staff Sergeant Lemonds served as a team leader during an ambush patrol maneuver on April 9 and April 10, 1969. When an enemy force launched a massive attack, Sergeant Lemonds led his men in an assault on the enemy emplacements. He single-handedly charged a bunker and destroyed it with grenades, then, sighting another fortification, he crawled through fierce enemy fire and silenced it with his rifle. After eliminating the hostile entrenchment system, he continued his patrol mission. On April 10, 1969, his patrol was attacked a second time. From his patrol position in a bomb crater, he called in artillery and air support on the large enemy element. When withdrawing his troops to a nearby landing zone for evacuation, he came under sniper fire from two North Vietnamese soldiers, whom he quickly eliminated with a grenade. Intense enemy fire thwarted the extraction aircraft's first landing attempt, so he directed a gun ship on the enemy location and effected a successful extraction.

His extraordinary heroism earned him the Distinguished Service Cross, a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, three Purple Hearts as well as numerous other awards and medals. He also continued to honor other service men and women well after his tour in Vietnam through his involvement with the Patriot Guard Riders.

Gary is survived by two daughters and a son-in-law, Kimberly Lemonds and Jennifer and Jason Needham; his mother Dorothy Lemonds; sister and brother-in-law Glenda and Tom Lewis; grandchildren Jessica Lemonds, John Cwiek, and Pressley Needham, and a niece and nephew. Along with Gary, I

would like to recognize his family today and thank them for sharing their beloved family member with our proud Nation.●

#### REMEMBERING JOHN A. BAKER

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I wish to praise a citizen from my State who recently passed away. In December John A. Baker who was loved and respected by those who knew and worked with him lost his battle with pancreatic cancer.

John A. Baker is survived by his wife Judy of 42 years, son Jesse M. Baker Sr., daughter Leslie Cummings, grandchildren Maria Graham, April Blakemore, Jesse M. Baker Jr., great grandson Joseph, mother-in-law Lenora Moore, sister-in-law Susan Wooden, nephews Jim and Mark Wooden, great niece Marina Lenora Wooden, brother-in-law Charles Moore, nephews Richard, Ryan, Mathew, and Kyle Moore. John is also survived by sister Lena Susort, brother Cecil Baker, nieces Lavonne Ruggles, Mary Beth Dagit, Barbara Collins and nephew Frank Baker, and several great, great great nieces and nephews.

John A. Baker was like many Alaskans. He was born in Iowa in 1937 and graduated from Everett High School in Everett, Washington in 1949 before finding his way to our great State. I have to tell you, what was Washington and Iowa's loss, was Alaska's gain.

John found his way to Alaska after serving in the U.S. Army in Australia during the Korean conflict. Upon coming to Alaska he first worked in Ketchikan where he was employed by Ketchikan Soda Works. He also flew part time for Weber Air and worked at Ellis Airlines as a mechanic in the landing gear section where he met and later partnered with Chuck Traylor.

He and Chuck Traylor formed a floatplane operation, Stikine Air Service, out of Wrangell in 1962. John held both an airframe and power plant mechanic license and was one of our Alaskan bush pilots. After selling his interest in the Stikine Air Service he moved to Juneau to work for Channel Flying Service.

John met Judy Moore Churchill in 1964, they were married on March 11, 1966, and moved to Juneau. After 3 years John and Judy returned to Wrangell where John worked at Wrangell's first television station. In conjunction with John's position at the TV station Judy opened Forget-Me-Not Florist, which provided many, many flower arrangements that went to the grand opening of the brand new saw mill office and other businesses in town.

Always the entrepreneurs and getting tired of never being able to purchase milk at the end of the week, John and Judy rented a small building from C.V. Hendersen and began a home milk delivery and small "cash and carry" market. As things changed John, along with wife, Judy entered