

Stanley. Betty passed away in 1981 and later Dick married Patricia McConnell.

As a young man, Dick was very busy owning a succession of fishing boats, bartending at the American Legion, and working for many years as a pipe-fitter. While the early years were tough raising his growing family, he certainly succeeded in raising a loving family. He continued to work as a commercial fisherman for nearly 70 years.

Dick entered public service early, serving on the territorial public utilities board. He entered the political arena in the early 1960s in Sitka where he was elected to the assembly and went on to become mayor. At the State level, Dick served as a member of the Alaska House of Representatives from 1968 to 1970 and 1972 to 1980 and as a member of the Alaska Senate from 1980 to 1992. Dick also worked for his community as a member of the VFW, the Elks, the Moose and the Masons.

In his 22 years in the Alaska Legislature, he championed the interests of fishermen and fishing communities. He fought for sustainable yield management of our fisheries and the hatchery system, and against fin fish farming and illegal high seas fishing.

Over the course of time, the fin fish farming ban has changed in the mind of Alaskans. The universally popular idea in Alaska was once much more controversial. In 1988, salmon prices soared to levels not seen again until lately giving corporations and other businesses an opportunity to compete in the emerging farmed salmon market.

Dick wisely saw that to protect the wild stocks and the people who earned a living off of them was more than a temporary issue. Dick recognized the long lasting effects that his legislation could offer. His legacy of protecting wild salmon and promoting quality salmon is not bound to Alaska: his legacy is enjoyed by those even beyond the reaches of this Nation.

Dick would say that he merely worked to protect a way of life, but it was his own way of life that typically allowed him to shine brighter than others and to succeed. He was acutely aware of how to communicate and bargain among his colleagues. By all accounts, Dick was not likely to let his title or power go to his head, even though he had plenty of both. He was the consummate statesman. He was fair and knew how to roll with the punches in a way that only he could.

Dick leaves an esteemed legacy that Alaska will benefit from for years to come. I extend my sympathies to the Eliason family and feel blessed to have known this great Alaskan.●

REMEMBERING JAMES MARTIN FITZGERALD

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. My home State of Alaska is a young State. Barely over 50 years old. I often marvel at the fact that so many of those who led Alaska during territorial days and were instrumental in the statehood movement

also played important roles in poststatehood modern Alaska. Very few of our 50 states can boast that its founders are still around to guide the current generation of leaders. Alaska has been deeply fortunate in this respect. And we've never taken the wisdom of these individuals for granted.

I speak today to honor the life of one of these individuals who passed away last week—Senior U.S. District Judge James Martin Fitzgerald, a member of Alaska's Territorial Bar, one of the first eight individuals selected to serve on the Alaska Superior Court, an associate justice of the Alaska Supreme Court and a Federal judge since 1974.

Judge Fitzgerald was born in Portland, OR, in 1920. He enrolled in the University of Oregon and played football for the Ducks. But shortly thereafter he left college, when he was called to active duty in the National Guard. Following discharge from the National Guard he resumed undergraduate study at Willamette University, once again playing on the football team.

But World War II interceded. On December 6, 1941, the Willamette team played an away game at the University of Hawaii. The next morning, the team was waiting outside the Moana Loa Hotel for a bus to take them on a sightseeing tour as bombs fell on Pearl Harbor.

The entire Willamette football team was conscripted to help defend the Island of Oahu. After brief training they were armed with World War I era rifles and put on guard duty at a Honolulu High School. The team went on sentry rotations to keep watch over nearby water towers and storage tanks that were potential Japanese targets. They strung barbed wire along the Waikiki beach.

The football team remained in Honolulu for several weeks until their coach convinced the captain of the SS President Coolidge to take the team home in exchange for aiding the hundreds of critically wounded servicemen that were on board.

On Christmas Day 1941, the team arrived in San Francisco. Judge Fitzgerald promptly enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He spent 5 years fighting for our country as a radio gunner for a torpedo squadron in the South Pacific.

Honorably discharged once again in 1946, Fitzgerald returned to Portland. He married his wife Karin in 1950. Fitzgerald worked as a firefighter and re-enrolled at Willamette where he completed work toward his B.A. and subsequently earned a law degree in 1951. The newly married couple spent their first summer in Ketchikan, Alaska where he worked in a lumber mill and a salmon cannery.

Upon graduation from law school, Judge Fitzgerald returned to Ketchikan. He served as an assistant U.S. attorney in Ketchikan for 4 years then relocated to Anchorage where he served as the city attorney.

Judge Fitzgerald was subsequently named counsel to Alaska's first Gov-

ernor, William Egan, and was appointed the first commissioner of the Alaska Department of Public Safety.

In November 1959, Judge Fitzgerald was selected to be one of the first eight judges of the newly created Alaska Superior Court, which is our trial court. Prior to Alaska's admission to the statehood, the Federal Government maintained the judicial system for the territory. A new court system for our new State had to be created from scratch. The eight new judges were promptly dispatched to New Jersey to learn how a State trial court operates. Among his colleagues on that trip was Judge James von der Heydt, who like Fitzgerald, would also one day serve on the U.S. District Court.

Judge Fitzgerald was elevated to the Alaska Supreme Court in 1972 and served there until 1974 when he was confirmed to serve on the federal bench.

Judge Fitzgerald was sworn in as a U.S. district judge on December 20, 1974. He served as chief judge of the District of Alaska from 1984 until 1989 and became a senior district judge in 1989.

Judge James Fitzgerald passed away surrounded by his family on April 3, 2011. He is survived by his wife Karin Fitzgerald and their four children. On behalf of my Senate colleagues, I extend condolences to Karin, Judge Fitzgerald's family and his many friends in the Alaska Bar and the community as a whole.

James Fitzgerald's life was one of sacrifice and public service. He set aside his college education and an opportunity to play varsity football in order to serve his country in time of war. He was a dedicated attorney and jurist who brought peace to the territory of Alaska and then went on to help create Alaska's highly respected State court system before joining the Federal bench. He served my beloved State of Alaska for well over 50 years; and it is my hope that his life will continue to serve as an inspiration to us all.●

WISCONSIN CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

● Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, AIA Wisconsin, was established in 1911 with a commitment to creating better places to work and live through architectural design and advocacy. This year, we celebrate the 100-year anniversary of Wisconsin's AIA Chapter. I would like to congratulate all past and present members of AIA Wisconsin for a century of service and their devotion to designing the buildings that are hallmarks of Wisconsin's architectural landscape.

Over the years, AIA Wisconsin has developed into four active local chapters, each covering a quadrant of our State. With more than 1,300 members, AIA Wisconsin brings fellowship to