

Idaho leader with a legacy in public service and broadcasting, who passed away last week.

Mel Richardson's radio broadcasting career thankfully brought him and his wife of 61 years, Dixie, to Idaho more than six decades ago. And we are better for it. Over the span of his 62-year radio and television broadcasting career, Mel hosted several sports and public affairs programs and was a sportscaster for professional, college and high school athletics.

He also devoted considerable time to public service. During the Korean war, he served in the Active Army Reserves and later was the first elected mayor of the City of Ammon, where he led significant public works projects, paving the way for the town's future progress. I was honored to serve in the Idaho State Legislature with him. During my time in the Idaho State Senate, he served in the Idaho House of Representatives, and was elected to the Idaho State Senate seat I vacated when I was elected to Congress in 1992. For 16 years, he served in the Idaho State Senate, where he utilized his position to expand education opportunities for Idaho students by furthering the adoption of technology in Idaho schools.

Mel served our community and Idaho with civility and excellence. In addition to his tenure in the legislature, he served in numerous other positions. These included serving as director of Idaho Association of Cities; co-chairman of the Idaho Centennial Commission; Bonneville County Recreation commissioner; chairman of the American Family Institute; and chairman of the United Way. His exemplary work was recognized through numerous awards and honors that included being named Legislator of the Year by the Idaho State Republican Party, Idaho Library Association, State Farm Bureau and Idaho School Administrators.

He was also active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in which he served in numerous leadership positions. Additionally, he supported the Boy Scouts of America through which he was the recipient of the Silver Beaver Award of Merit. Mel also recognized the life lessons afforded in sports and instilled these values through coaching youth athletic teams.

Mel welcomed me as a regular guest on the radio program he hosted with his son, Mark, who continues to host the talk show. I greatly admired Mel's openness in taking all sides of an issue into account, and his kindness and consideration. Mel had one of the greatest qualities: As his son, Todd, recognized, "He could disagree with you without being disagreeable." I could always count on an interesting, thoughtful discussion, and I looked forward each week to our conversations.

But among all those accomplishments and public accolades, Mel's pride and strength was found in his family and home. He and Dixie raised five children, who have all gone on to contribute to their own communities. He loved the time that he spent with

them; in fact, he passed up some interesting career opportunities to ensure that he would be able to spend time with them. Mel's enthusiasm and joy in life can also be found in his 25 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

I extend my deep condolences to Dixie, their children and his many family members and friends. We are all better for having known him, and his legacy of thoughtfulness, inclusiveness and devotion to furthering opportunities for others and Idaho's future will not be forgotten.●

RECOGNIZING THE YOUNG MARINES

● Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I wish to state for the record my support for the Young Marines and their work to help reduce drug abuse in America. The abuse of drugs plagues our communities, disrupts our schools, and has a negative effect not only on the people who use drugs, but their communities as well. Drug abuse devastates our families, children and neighborhoods.

I support programs that demonstrate effective strategies to decrease drug abuse. As one of the largest drug prevention programs in the Nation, the Red Ribbon Campaign educates our youth about the problems and risks associated with drug use. The Young Marines' effort to educate and inform community members through the Red Ribbon Campaign helps increase awareness about drug abuse, and in turn, helps reduce the demand for drugs.

The Young Marines is a national non-profit youth education and service program for boys and girls, age 8 through the completion of high school. The Young Marines promotes the mental, moral and physical development of its members. The program focuses on teaching the values of leadership, teamwork and self-discipline so its members can live and promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. This program was brought to my attention earlier this year by Branson Coiteux of Portland, OR who himself is a Young Marine and is working hard to educate his fellow students about the dangers of drug abuse. Each year Brandon and his fellow Young Marines participate in the national Red Ribbon Week and help educate and raise awareness about drug abuse.

We need more groups like the Young Marines and programs to fight drug abuse and bring the discussion about drug abuse out in the open and educate our children about the dangerous effects that drug abuse can have on our families. I thank them for their hard work and service and hope that we can end the devastating effect that drugs have on our Nation.●

REMEMBERING JOYCE CRAIG LEWIS

● Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, today, I honor fallen Philadelphia firefighter, Joyce Craig Lewis. Ms. Craig Lewis tragically perished on Tuesday, December 9, 2014, while courageously battling

a house fire in the West Oak Lane section of Philadelphia.

Ms. Craig Lewis was a proud 11-year veteran of the Philadelphia Fire Department and a certified EMT. A native of Philadelphia, Ms. Craig Lewis was one of 58 women among the nearly 1,800 firefighters in the city. Joyce served in several of the most active firehouses in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia Fire Commissioner Derrick Sawyer praised Ms. Craig Lewis for having a strong work ethic as evidenced by her desire to be stationed in challenging environments. Mayor Michael Nutter aptly stated that her passing is a tremendous loss for Philadelphians.

Joyce Craig Lewis is the first female firefighter in Philadelphia to die in the line of duty. She is survived by her 16-year-old son and 16-month-old daughter.

On behalf of the U.S. Senate, I wish to express my condolences to her family, friends, brothers and sisters in fire departments across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. May she rest in peace.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 4:20 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS) has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 2338. An act to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes.

S. 3008. An act to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction, and for other purposes.

H.R. 83. An act making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2591. An act to amend certain provisions of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.

H.R. 5859. An act to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-364. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan requesting the Congress of the United States to prohibit the U.S. Postal Service from closing or consolidating the mail processing and distribution center in Lansing, Michigan; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 189

Whereas, On January 5, 2015, the United States Postal Service plans to close or consolidate the mail processing and distribution center (P&DC) on Collins Road in Lansing; and