

proofing countless sets of talking points, to somehow always assigning himself a larger “equal” share of the work, Jack has led by example. His meticulous nature and sound reasoning were essential as the committee produced reports or majority or minority views on significant matters of national security, from Iraq WMD to interrogation and detention. It did not matter how busy Jack was because he would always find time to talk through an intelligence issue with a colleague, proofread a floor statement, or just listen. Many staff knocked on his open door and were greeted without hesitation by a kind word or invitation to sit down and discuss a question more in-depth.

Many of Jack’s colleagues have had the privilege of working with him for years. Ask them what words describe Jack best, and you will likely hear “integrity,” “honesty,” “impeccable character,” “devoted family man,” and “all-around good guy”—and unique: while an ardent Indiana University and Bobby Knight fan, his California roots easily showed themselves as he called his colleagues “dude” during debates. Jack was often kidded about catching a joke; the deadpan expression on his face was usually belied by a twinkle in his eye that said the joke was really on you.

Jack is loyal to the core, and he understood well the importance of providing accurate information and sound advice to members of the committee, a point on which I am sure my predecessors, Senators Chambliss, Bond, and ROBERTS, would agree. Jack had the ability, all too rare in Congress, to put politics aside and focus on the mission and on what was best for the Nation. His colleagues knew they could engage in spirited but never personal debates. Jack always stuck to the facts and his arguments were based on logic, not emotion. As a result, members of the committee—Republican, Democrat, and Independent—sought his counsel on a wide range of issues.

As the minority and majority general counsel, Jack enjoyed some major successes in national security legislation. From the Protect America Act to the FISA Amendments Act, Jack worked tirelessly to secure the best result for our terrorist surveillance capabilities. Jack was passionate about this issue and understood it better than pretty much anyone else. The committee’s FISA audit was a hallmark of Jack’s early tenure on the committee and provided the impetus for many improvements in the conduct of national security investigations and for later legislation in which Jack played significant roles. Jack led the committee’s passage of the Cyber Information Sharing Act of 2015, the product of years of bipartisan work and compromise on an issue that has taken on new urgency with the increase in cyber threats, and of numerous intelligence authorization acts that secured critical authorities and capabilities for our intelligence professionals.

It is often said that behind every great man, there is a greater woman, and in Jack’s case, that is certainly true—and I have no doubt Jack would agree. Jack’s tireless service was made possible, not just because of his own character, but because he was confident in the love and support of his wife, Julie, and their children, John, James, and Sarah. For their own sacrifices and for their willingness to share Jack with the committee, we are indebted to them.

Jack has earned our respect and admiration, and we will miss his sound counsel and friendship, but his legacy will remain a part of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence for years to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS X. MCCORMACK

• Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude to Dennis X. McCormack for his tireless contributions to bettering the lives of Colorado’s veterans.

Dennis could have relaxed after retiring. He had earned it after 26 years in the military as an Army chief warrant officer, CW5, helicopter pilot from Fort Bragg’s XVIII Airborne Corps and 12 more years in the private sector.

Instead, Dennis was committed to service. Before retirement, he was giving his time, expertise, and passion to veterans, military families, and soldiers facing deployment and the difficulties of day-to-day life.

Every day, the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces make incalculable contributions to our society. Dennis recognized a responsibility to support those contributions and made his own.

He served with many organizations such as the Suicide Prevention Partnership of the Pikes Peak Region, LifeQuest Transitions, the Home Front Cares, Inc., Sentinels of Freedom—Colorado Springs Chapter, and South East Armed Forces YMCA, Colorado Springs.

He served as a peer mentor for Colorado’s El Paso County Veterans Trauma Court, a program he helped found. He also served in the first group of AW2 advocates for the Army Wounded Warrior Program and was an organizer of the Colorado injured military support group.

I had the distinct honor of meeting Dennis in 2011, and I have worked with him in the intervening years. His deep dedication to veterans was clear, and that passion inspires my work on behalf of our Nation’s veterans.

He has received the American Red Cross Hometown Hero Community Service Award, the President’s Award from Homefront Cares, and the Joe Henjum “Service Above Self” Award from the Rotary Club of Colorado Springs. These speak to his integrity, character, and commitment to the community.

Dennis demonstrates the best of Colorado, and his tireless service has helped make our State one of the best places for our servicemembers, veterans, and their families to live. I add my recognition of his service, knowing that his work contributes to a stronger and a safer nation.●

TRIBUTE TO JON YUSPA

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate a Nevadan who has gone above and beyond in his endeavors for our veteran community, Jon Yuspa. Jon formed and continues to lead Honor Flight Nevada, a non-profit organization committed to honoring the brave men and women who so valiantly defended our freedom.

In 2011, Jon formed Honor Flight Nevada to honor Nevada’s World War II veterans and transport them to Washington, DC, to visit the memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices. Since its formation, Honor Flight Nevada has expanded its trips to include Korean and Vietnam veteran visits. Over the past 5 years, Jon and the Honor Flight Nevada team have raised over \$500,000 to transport more than 200 U.S. veterans to Washington, DC. The trips are completely funded and paid for at no cost to the veterans through private donations to Honor Flight Nevada. From the National World War II Memorial, to the Korean War Veterans Memorial, to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, all the way to Arlington National Cemetery, every veteran has the chance to see the memorials that stand as a testimony to the great sacrifices they have made.

Even more remarkable, Honor Flight Nevada is the only Honor Flight organization to offer trips specifically for Vietnam veterans to visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. To witness these veterans honor their lost comrades at their memorials is truly a special experience. During the trip, veterans are showered with gratitude and applause in airports, on bus rides, at hotels, and en route to their memorials, all executed through the coordination and planning from the Honor Flight Nevada team. I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to everyone working on behalf of our veterans with Honor Flight Nevada, including those with Southwest Airlines and the Reno-Tahoe International Airport who have contributed so much to this organization. It is through the hard work and collaboration of this entire team that these trips are possible.

Recently, Jon’s work has been acknowledged with two prestigious awards. In April, Jon received the President’s Award from Southwest Airlines, as well as the 2016 Jefferson Award for Nevada from the Jefferson Awards Foundation. These accolades are a tremendous honor, and without a doubt, Jon’s work warrants this and so much more in recognition. I have personally attended a veterans send-off at the Reno-Tahoe International Airport