

his spiritual journey. He once said, "I am guided by certain traditions, one is that there's a God, and He is good and His love, while free has a self-imposed cost: We must be good to one another." This sentiment is emblematic of his life. He served as many things: father, husband, President, humanitarian, and fighter. His life is a study of strong choices and bold strokes across the history of the United States, all of them guided by the strongest fundamentals of right and wrong. I am sure that he is joyous to be reunited with his closest companion, Barbara, and their daughter Robin, in heaven.

While America is remembering a combat veteran, a President, and an ambassador, his family will be remembering a husband and a father. My wife Diana and I send our thoughts and deepest condolences to the entire Bush family as we mourn the passing of a President. The passing of a loved one, especially someone who has meant so much to so many, has never and will never be an easy burden to bear.

How can I adequately speak about the life of a man who has had such a long and distinguished career? By praising the accomplishments of a man who never stopped working to make the world a better place, the man who reached across the political aisle to foster friendships, and by saying thank you.

Thank you for your service. Thank you for your leadership.

God bless you, and may you and your family find peace.

TRIBUTE TO BOB CORKER

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a member of the Senate who will be retiring at this end of this Congress, my colleague and friend, Senator BOB CORKER. I have had the pleasure of serving in the Senate alongside BOB for close to 11 years, and it has been a privilege to work and join with him on a number of legislative efforts. Particularly, I am grateful for his diligent fiscal conservatism on the Budget Committee. I will miss working with him to address our Nation's fiscal issues.

BOB's path to the U.S. Senate began at the young age of 25, when he founded his own construction company, which would eventually expand operations in over 18 States. He continued to polish his business acumen thereafter, acquiring two of the largest real estate companies in Chattanooga in 1999. As a testament to his success in business, he would later be inducted into the Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga. BOB carried his business-oriented results-driven attitude with him when he ran for mayor in the scenic city of Chattanooga, TN, at the turn of the millennium. As mayor, BOB excelled, delivering to Chattanooga denizens a lean and balanced city budget while also lowering the tax rate, among other

noteworthy accomplishments. BOB's path to Washington is one that we shared. I, too, was a businessowner and a mayor before serving in the U.S. Senate.

BOB's commitment to public service didn't end in Chattanooga—far from it. His career was just beginning to take off. In 2006, he won one of the most competitive U.S. Senate races of the year. Incidentally, that was the year I met BOB. My initial impressions of him still hold true today: industrious and principled. Later, I would realize our shared experiences as businessowners and as mayors uniquely shaped our understanding of the proper role and scope of the Federal Government. BOB quickly ascended in Washington, becoming chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and making a name for himself on the Banking Committee. His reputation soon preceded him on a host of issue areas, including housing finance reform and strategic diplomacy abroad. He made his disagreements respectfully clear and stood up for what he believed was right. Evidently, the people of Tennessee liked what they saw and handily elected him to a second term.

BOB should be incredibly proud of his work and tenure as chairman of Foreign Relations Committee. His breadth of experience on the committee and visits to over 70 countries have provided his colleagues with invaluable institutional insight on the impact American leadership and diplomacy abroad continues to have on our economy and national security. The Electrify Africa Act is a significant achievement of the committee I would like to pay special homage to. The bill states it is the policy of the United States to promote first-time power services for at least 50 million people in sub-Saharan Africa by 2020. Having traveled to Africa myself and witnessed firsthand the severe shortage of electricity-generating infrastructure, I know that BOB's bill was a noble one. He worked tirelessly on it before it was signed into law in 2015.

It is with these memories of his service that I watch him depart the Senate. His bold presence and tested leadership will be profoundly missed. The mark he has left on the institution will not be forgotten. My wife Diana joins me in sending our very best wishes and gratitude to BOB for his public service. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors, and we are happy he will be able to spend more time with his wife Elizabeth and his three children.

BOB, from one Sigma Chi alum to another, "In Hoc Signo Vinces". May you continue to pursue a life of high ideals, noble purposes, and strong character.

Happy trails.

THE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I wish to speak on S. 1862, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2017.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Would the Senator from Tennessee, the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, yield for a question? As the sponsor of this legislation, would you explain how our bill relates to international exchange programs run by the Department of State that collect program fees to fund program operations?

Mr. CORKER. I appreciate the Senator's question and his partnership with me on this legislation to advance the fight against modern-day slavery.

Our bill and the underlying Trafficking Victims Protection Act are designed to eliminate forced labor around the world and do not affect the Exchange Visitor Programs, under the J-1 visa, which is authorized by Congress and administered by the State Department. The J-1 exchange programs are important tools that Congress authorized to enhance mutual exchange and cultural understanding between people in the United States and other countries, and they are subject to regulatory safeguards and oversight by the Department of State. Recruitment and placement fees referenced in S. 1862 and the Trafficking Victims Protection Act are fundamentally different from the program fees in our international exchange programs, which are fees required to be charged to program participants who receive J-1 visas in order to fund the program. Our legislation does not affect the exchange programs, which are an important diplomatic tool which I strongly support.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I thank the Senator from Tennessee. I appreciate your explanation, which also reflects my understanding, about the difference between international exchange program fees and placement and recruitment fees covered by the bill. Let me conclude by saying that I agree with you about the importance of our International Exchange Programs administered by the Department of State, and I know that Congress has long supported these programs.

Mr. CORKER. I thank the Senator from New Jersey and our distinguished ranking member for his question and for working with me to pass this important legislation.

HONORING DURELL WADE

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, 77 years after being killed in the attack on Pearl Harbor, AD2 Durell Wade of Calhoun County, MS, will be laid to rest in the North Mississippi Veteran's Memorial Cemetery.

On December 7, 1941, 429 men lost their lives aboard the U.S.S. *Oklahoma*, including Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Wade.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1936 and was in line to be promoted to chief aviation machinist mate shortly before his death. His service in the U.S. Navy helped in the ultimate fight to protect our liberty.

The U.S. Department of Defense and its Defense POW/MIA Accounting

Agency deserve commendation for its work to identify casualties, like Durell Wade, and offer some measure of closure to families of fallen servicemembers.

In this instance, I am pleased that Wade's family, including his 99-year-old sister Nancy, have an opportunity to be part of a burial ceremony with full military honors in Kilmichael, MS.

So many families in Mississippi lost loved ones during World War II, but Durell's long absence made this family's sacrifice all the more heart-breaking.

I hope the families of those who perished on the U.S.S. *Oklahoma* will find comfort and peace in knowing their loved one's service in defense of our Nation helped in the ultimate fight to protect our liberty.

I ask unanimous consent that an August 18, 2018, article from *The Baton Rouge Advocate* titled, "Pearl Harbor casualty's remains getting a proper funeral ends lifetime of wondering for Baton Rouge family members," be printed in the RECORD.

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

[August 18, 2018]

PEARL HARBOR CASUALTY'S REMAINS GETTING A PROPER FUNERAL ENDS LIFETIME OF WONDERING FOR BATON ROUGE FAMILY MEMBERS
(By George Morris)

Seventy-seven years after he was killed, sailor Durell Wade will finally get a proper burial. For his Baton Rouge nephew, it ends a lifetime of wondering.

"I knew that I had his name, and I knew that he died at Pearl Harbor," said Dr. Larry Wade, 75, whose middle name is Durell. "I'd think about him a lot but never explored and tried to know more about him. He was just Uncle Durell who had been killed at Pearl."

This spring, Wade's family learned that the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has identified their relative's remains, as well as others of his shipmates who died in the attack that launched the United States into World War II. Naturally, the family is grateful.

"Because his body wasn't recovered when his immediate family was still alive, they didn't have that resolution," said Lauren McAdams, Larry Wade's daughter. "Obviously, we know now it was a time of a lot of distress because there was the confusion of had he survived or had he not."

Durell Wade, who was born in rural Calhoun County, Mississippi, in 1917, was an aviation machinist mate aboard the USS *Oklahoma*. He had enlisted in the Navy in 1936 and re-enlisted four years later.

Larry Wade's research on his uncle revealed him to be a cheerful person who loved to joke and laugh. Late in her life, Durell Wade's oldest sister, Orena, said he "loved his life aboard the USS *Oklahoma* (and) bragged that it could not be sunk."

Wade, who was not married, had written home on Sept. 27, 1941, pleased to report that he had passed tests to be promoted to chief aviation machinist mate.

"In one of his letters, he mentioned his fiancé had broken up with him," Larry Wade said. "He last saw her when he was an aviation machinist's mate third class, and he wanted to propose to her but he knew he could not support her on the kind of income he had then. Right after that, she sent him a 'Dear John' letter and she married another guy. He mentions that in one of his letters."

On Dec. 7, 1941, five torpedoes from enemy aircraft struck the battleship, which capsized in less than 12 minutes, trapping hundreds of sailors in their battle stations below deck. The attack killed 429 men on the *Oklahoma*.

Those who perished inside the overturned ship remained there for more than a year before the ship could be righted. Remains that were recovered were hastily buried, said Chuck Pritchard, public affairs director for the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

After the war ended in 1945, remains were disinterred to identify them using forensic methods available at the time. Thirty-five were identified, and the rest buried again.

In 2015, remains from the *Oklahoma* were disinterred for DNA testing. Family members, including Larry Wade, were contacted to provide DNA samples.

So far, 146 remains from the *Oklahoma* have been identified. It's a tiny fraction of the roughly 72,000 unaccounted-for military losses from World War II, but it's meaningful to each family, Pritchard said.

Larry Wade, Lauren McAdams and her husband, Brendan McAdams, met with Navy representatives on Aug. 2 at the American Legion Nicholson Post 38 hall, where they received an inch-thick notebook that included details of how the DPAA identified his remains. The notebook also had copies of letters between the Navy and family members that revealed something living family members never knew—that the family erroneously had been told that Durell Wade had survived before authorities confirmed his death.

"That stirred the family up quite a lot," Larry Wade said.

The Navy will pay to have Durell Wade's remains returned and buried, and the funeral is set for Dec. 7—the 77th anniversary of his death—at North Mississippi Veterans' Memorial Park in Kilmichael, Mississippi.

"I have his name and my grandson has his name, but still, Uncle Durell was just an idea from Pearl Harbor," Larry Wade said. "I've learned a lot about him (by) reading and talking to family members. He's come much more alive as a person."

TRIBUTE TO SARAH HARTLEY

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and congratulate Sarah Hartley, a member of my staff who has served the people of Arkansas over the last 20 years and who will retire later this month.

Sarah first began her congressional career in 1998 working for then-Congressman Asa Hutchinson. When I was elected to fill Representative Hutchinson's seat representing Arkansas's Third Congressional District in 2001, I was fortunate to have Sarah join my staff lending her expertise in constituent services.

As a caseworker based in north-central Arkansas, she has been the primary point of contact for my office when constituents were facing difficulties related to their Social Security. She personally assisted thousands of Arkansans who were often facing the most difficult moments of their lives. Her kindness and patience have been a source of comfort and hope, and her persistence has solved countless problems that changed lives.

Excellent constituent service has been a commitment of mine since I en-

tered public office, and I am indebted and very grateful to Sarah for her many years helping to deliver just that for so many throughout the course of her career.

While I regret that her time as a member of my staff is coming to an end, I truly respect and appreciate her commitment to helping her fellow Arkansans these last two decades. It has been a pleasure to work alongside her to help get answers for constituents who had nowhere else to turn. Sarah's knowledge and relationships were the reason that many casework requests were brought to a positive conclusion.

My staff and I will miss her many contributions to the important work of assisting Arkansans and being their advocate on matters involving the Federal Government. Even so, I wish her all the best in this next chapter. She will now have more time to do the things she loves, including spending time outdoors exploring everything the Natural State has to offer.

Again, I want to congratulate Sarah on her 20 years of service and extend my sincere, heartfelt thanks for the dedication and skill she brought to the job each day as a member of my staff. The difference she has made in the lives of so many Arkansans is a testament to how blessed my staff and I were to serve with her.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CHIP MORGAN

● Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I am proud to honor Chip Morgan of Leland, MS, for his contributions to the State of Mississippi and the Nation, while serving as Delta Council executive vice president.

Delta Council was founded in 1935 by farmers, entrepreneurs and educators committed to improving agriculture production, transportation, and flood control in the Mississippi Delta. Over the years, Delta Council has become a highly respected economic development organization representing a wide range of issues for northwest Mississippi. I commend Delta Council for its continuous role in improving the quality of life in this unique part of our country, and I applaud Chip Morgan for his many years of good leadership.

Chip began his work with Delta Council in 1975, and was promoted to executive vice president in 1982. Under his leadership, Delta Council expanded its influence beyond agriculture and related industry, which are themselves vital to the economic well-being of the Delta and my State overall. The Delta Council today is involved in a number of important areas, including access to healthcare, funding for higher education, improving adult literacy, among many others. Throughout his tenure as executive vice president, Chip has helped transform innovative concepts and strategies, into meaningful results.