

made their way to our great State to forge a life together. They have been there ever since, and what a life they have lived.

Initially, Perry worked at his father's store in downtown Anchorage, but for a time he broke out on his own and started the Anchorage Fur Trading Company, which became the largest fur dealer in Alaska, and it was wildly successful. He traveled all across the State—300 villages in all, some of them multiple times—buying furs from the locals. He traveled by dog team, by sled, by snow machine, by bush plane, and everywhere he went he was greeted warmly and generously by people in rural Alaska in these villages. He said:

I learned so much from the Alaska Native people. I was in awe of their kindness, their respect for elders, and their rich, cultural heritage.

That time in rural Alaska was one of the best times of his life and laid the foundation for what has been one of Perry Green's biggest loves—our State, the great State of Alaska, which he has given his all to.

His company, David Green Master Furrier, is an iconic business in downtown Anchorage because they sell some of the best and most beautiful furs around, no doubt, but also because of Perry and his extended family, who have done such a great job of running the company for decades.

My daughters and I have a little tradition on Christmas Eve. We head over to this great store and look for something to buy my wife, their mom. It is a fun, fun tradition that we do.

Perry has been the face of the store for decades. People still remember his quirky commercials featuring tarantulas, huge athletes chasing him around, and always the tagline, "If you don't know your furs, know your furrier."

It seems that all of Anchorage and so much of Alaska knew their furrier. It should be noted that they also know this Alaska furrier in Las Vegas as well. Perry Green is a very good poker player and has won three World Series of Poker bracelets and has made it to the final table of the World Series of Poker main event in Vegas two times. How about that for an adventurous life?

It wasn't just his store and Perry's love of a good poker game that has endeared him to so many Alaskans. A man of deep faith, he is one of the most generous people in my State and one of the most committed Alaskans to public service and helping others.

"I never was interested in being rich," Perry said. "I wanted to do something positive for other people because that's the greatest thing you can do."

He has sat on nearly every board there is. You name it—the taxicab commission, the insurance board, the planning and zoning board, the symphony and opera board, the Rotary board, and a member of the Elks Club, the Masons, the Alaska Jewish Campus

and Museum. The list goes on and on in terms of his service.

He also raises money for numerous causes. "I can't think of a fundraising effort that his name isn't a part of," his longtime friend Gordon Glaser said about Perry.

Perry is especially generous in causes that raise money for our men and women in uniform. On the eve of Veterans Day, we can't thank him enough for that.

"Anyone who's been in Anchorage in the last two generations knows that if you need something done, Perry will do it," his friend Gordon said.

If you are down on your luck or if you need a job, need a place to stay, or need some assistance, Perry will help. Every community, every State, has leaders like this. We all know those types of people. They are very special, and he is one of them.

Perry and his wife Gloria are also personally generous with their house—a lively, happy place open to people all across our State and, really, the world.

Anchorage Mayor Ethan Berkowitz, another longtime friend of Perry's, credits him for teaching him and so many others "how to be an Alaskan." What does that mean? According to Mayor Berkowitz, it means that he brought the spirit of Tikun Olam to Alaska. That is a Hebrew phrase meaning healing the world. Perry has brought this to our State one generous act at a time, one community at a time.

Perry and Gloria will be honored at Alaska's Jewish Gala next week—one of our State's most fun and memorable events. It will be next Saturday evening, and I will be there for sure. It is a time when we all can gather together, celebrate the vital role the Jewish community has played in our great State, and be reminded that Alaska is a place where we can all come together and take care of each other the way the Greens have been doing for decades.

Rabbi Yosef Greenberg, a good friend of mine and another extremely generous man who has given so much to our State, says that the mission of the Alaska Jewish Campus that Perry Green has been so generous to is "Warming up Alaska!"

"In the 60 years of Alaska's statehood," said Rabbi Greenberg, "Perry Green has warmed up Alaska, not only with his David Green fur coats but even more so with the joys of his life, big heart, and lending a hand to ordinary Alaskans and anyone in need." That is how he has warmed up our great State.

Perry and Gloria have done so much for Alaska. They are highly deserving of this recognition they will be receiving at the Jewish Gala next week. Congratulations to them and their 5 children, 13 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, and all of the extended Green family, so many of whom continue to serve our State and country so well.

Perry, from your friend, congratulations on being our Alaskan of the Week.

I yield the floor.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is great sadness that Marcelle and I learned of the passing of Senator Kay Hagan of North Carolina on October 28. I have served in the U.S. Senate with nearly 400 Senators. Like many of them, Senator Hagan fought day and day out for her constituents in North Carolina and for the ideals and morals on which our country was founded.

Senator Hagan followed a line of public service in the Hagan family. Her father and brother served in the Navy, and her uncle, Lawton Chiles, represented Florida here in the U.S. Senate. Recognizing the sacrifice and importance of our Nation's service members, Senator Hagan was a tireless advocate for our military members and their families. During her time in the Senate, she was an active partner in our efforts to strengthen the National Guard, and she authored such important legislative initiatives as the Hire a Hero Act. She was also a tireless advocate for women and children, for efforts to support victims of crime, and for the advancement of civil rights. Her tenure in the Senate, in my view, was too short.

After Senator Hagan's work in the Senate, she went on to become a senior policy consultant for Akin Gump, where she held a particular focus on the health and financial services sectors. Additionally, in 2015, Senator Hagan became a resident fellow at the Institute of Politics at Harvard University, where she studied the influence money has in our politics. She said, "I worry how we are going to get good people to run for office if you have to spend so much time raising money." I agree. Our public servants at every level of our government should be more focused on advocating for their constituents, rather than raising a war chest to fight against wealthy corporate interests, pressure groups, or dark money influencers.

Her tragic affliction with Powassan virus, which ultimately led to her passing last month, robbed us of Senator Hagan's dedication to public service far too soon. It was also a stark reminder of how precious our time really is.

I know Marcelle and I join with North Carolinians and our Senate family in mourning the passing of Senator Hagan. Our hearts go out to Chip, their