

He was an active member of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office SWAT team and was assigned as a patrol detective to Charlie Squad.

Ryan excelled in sports, especially baseball and soccer, and enjoyed fishing, hunting, biking, kayaking, and camping. Ryan's children, Elloree and Merritt, were the love of his life and always his greatest priority. He spent all of his free time with them and continually involved them in outdoor activities. He enjoyed teaching them how to raise animals and spending time with their extended family of grandparents, aunts and uncles, and many cousins.

Ryan had a keen instinct and could see things most couldn't. He was swift to action and was very intuitive while possessing a magnanimous heart. He would choose not to fight with a fool, but rather help them to find a better way. Ryan loved to bring humor to every situation, and even during the roughest times, you would always see a smile on his face.

Ryan tragically lost his life during the early morning hours of September 10, 2020, while in the line of duty. As the world slept, Ryan responded to assist a family in need of help when they became innocent victims of a violent encounter.

We all know the tragic outcome, but Ryan refused to let the story end there. While his death will leave a giant void in the hearts of those who love him, he continues to exemplify a servant's heart even in passing. Ryan was also an organ donor and will continue helping strangers for a lifetime, even after making the ultimate sacrifice. He was doing the job he was born to do and died doing the job he loved.

As the U.S. Senator from North Carolina, I am forever grateful for Ryan's service to our State and Nation. He gave his life protecting his fellow citizens, and we will never forget the sacrifice he made.

REMEMBERING MELISSIA DAVIS

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of Mrs. Melissa Davis of Kennedy, AL, who passed away on September 7, 2020. She will be remembered as a dedicated public servant who was committed to bettering her community and State.

Melissia worked diligently for 26 years as the State representative in my U.S. Senate Office in Tuscaloosa, AL. She covered the West Alabama region, specifically serving the counties of Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Marion, Pickens, and Tuscaloosa. I first met Melissia when she was working for the Internal Revenue Service, and I was eager to hire her. I knew she would be an exemplary employee. Over the years, Melissia gained a deep understanding of constituent services and remained dedicated to working with Federal, State, and local agencies on behalf of my constituents.

Melissia served with distinction on the board of trustees of her alma

mater, Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, AL. She was the chairwoman of the Stillman House Restoration Committee for 13 years. Under her leadership, the historic Stillman House was placed on the Alabama Historic Register and National Register of Historic Places. She was also successful in placing Stillman College on the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage, designating the campus as an Alabama Historic District.

Outside of her professional career, Mrs. Davis was heavily involved with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the West Alabama United Way Campaign, Habitat for Humanity, and several other local endeavors. Additionally, Melissia was a dedicated member of Elizabeth Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday school and served as a matron. Not only did Melissia live a life of service, she embodied it.

Melissia's many accomplishments and contributions to the State of Alabama will long be remembered. Melissia was passionate about her hometown of Kennedy, AL, and she served as one of its strongest advocates. She will be remembered for her great sense of humor and style. Melissia touched the lives of many over the years, and she will be greatly missed.

I offer my deepest condolences to Melissia's husband, Burkles Davis, II, and her two children, Alecia Nicole Davis and Burkles "Trey" Davis, III, and to all of their loved ones as they celebrate her life and mourn her passing.

100TH BIRTHDAY OF THE NFL

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the 100th birthday of the National Football League. On September 17, 1920, 15 people who shared a love of football met in an automobile showroom in Canton, OH, to form what would become the National Football League. From these humble beginnings, the NFL has grown into a preeminent American sports league and become a fixture in American life. Today's NFL is an American institution that brings together millions of individuals of all ages, races, and backgrounds through a shared love for the game of football. In fact, last season, the NFL concluded the celebration of its 100th season with a stunning Super Bowl championship that was viewed by over 100 million Americans.

At the same time, the NFL has never forgotten its roots in Ohio. Every year, millions of football fans travel to Canton, which now hosts the Pro Football Hall of Fame and the accompanying Hall of Fame game that rings in every new NFL season. Today, in an effort to commemorate the League's 100th birthday, Canton and the Cleveland Browns will host my hometown Cincinnati Bengals in a classic rivalry game, known as the Battle of Ohio. The game will highlight the formation of the league and its origins in Canton, honor

the more than 25,000 players who have played in the league, and showcase the work the NFL is doing to ensure its second century is just as successful as the first.

I wish the league all the best as it embarks into its second century as the foremost steward of "America's Game."

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS ARKANSAS

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today in light of a significant anniversary for a crucial organization in the state of Arkansas. Fifty years ago, Special Olympics Arkansas was founded under the idea of an equal and opportune Arkansas. On this special day of celebration, I would like to recognize and thank Special Olympics Arkansas for its dedication to a virtuous mission that has transformed my State in more ways than one.

Special Olympics Arkansas was designed to fulfill and uphold a specific vision to transform communities through sports and education. To make this ambition a reality, the organization provides individuals with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to participate in year-round sports and athletic training. Just as Special Olympics Arkansas has a positive impact on the field, it is also a powerful and effective catalyst for social change off the field. By offering a range of programming efforts that encompass health, education, community building and leadership, Special Olympics Arkansas is doing exactly what it set out to accomplish.

Since its inception, the organization has seen increasing and overwhelming demand. Special Olympics Arkansas has 15,000 participating athletes and 5,000 volunteers. Additionally, it offers training in 15 different sports with 240 statewide competitions and has cultivated participation in all 75 of the State's counties. While the transformative power of sports is at the organization's core, competition is merely a gateway to creating avenues for individuals, both with and without intellectual disabilities, to experience personal growth, find joy and gain confidence. The addition of several new programs such as the Inclusive Health Program, Unified School Program, and the Unified Leadership Program has proven tremendously valuable in breaking down barriers and creating accepting and inclusive communities. Thanks to Special Olympics Arkansas, our State has experienced great social progress and meaningful change over the past 50 years.

I cannot thank Special Olympics Arkansas enough for its continued dedication to creating an environment where enhanced opportunity and acceptance take center stage. Arkansas citizens of all backgrounds, their families, and our

communities are forever grateful for five decades of hard work and dedication to a better tomorrow.●

REMEMBERING THOMAS KANE GILHOOL

● Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize and pay tribute to Thomas Kane Gilhool, who championed the rights of inclusion for children and adults with disabilities and changed public policy in our country for all people with disabilities. His work was pivotal in affirming the constitutional right of children with disabilities to a public education, increasing community-based services for people with developmental disabilities, and creating a pathway for people with autism and other developmental disabilities to leave institutions and live with neighbors, friends, and family.

Tom Gilhool was an originating member of Philadelphia's Community Legal Services. At the start of his career, he helped to organize, train, and then represented the Philadelphia Welfare Rights Organization and the Residents Advisory Board, as well as other organizations representing residents in low-income neighborhoods. The recognition agreements he secured empowered those organizations to effectively represent welfare recipients and public housing tenants and served as models that were replicated throughout the country.

Tom Gilhool's seminal accomplishment was his groundbreaking representation of plaintiffs in the Pennsylvania Association for Retarded Citizens (PARC) v. the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Nation's first civil rights case brought on behalf of children with disabilities. Kate Fialkowski, sister of two boys represented in the case, remembers Tom as "an intellectual giant, lawyer, and legal historian," someone "who used his gifts not for self-aggrandizement, but instead to raise up the lives of others, including those with intellectual and developmental disabilities." Prior to this case, children with disabilities were all but excluded from attending public schools. The decree of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in 1972 paved the way for the 1975 passage of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, now known as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act—IDEA—which affirmed every child's right to a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment.

Tom Gilhool's work on PARC v. Pennsylvania led to another landmark case on behalf of people with disabilities. In *Pennhurst State School and Hospital v. Halderman*, 1981, Tom Gilhool was lead counsel for residents of Pennhurst State School and Hospital, the residential home to almost 3,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. By 1968, Pennhurst was exposed as an overcrowded, violent, and abusive setting.

Through Tom's work, the right to habilitation in non-segregated settings was established. The ruling in *Pennhurst v. Halderman* was the forerunner of the 1999 *Olmstead v. LC Supreme Court* decision, establishing the right to treatment and services in community-based settings. Since that case, nearly 200,000 people have moved from abusive, segregated settings where they had been deprived of dignity, respect, and their basic needs. Tom Gilhool's work made it possible for millions of children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to avoid such places.

The cases Tom Gilhool argued laid much of the foundation for the passage of the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act. Judith Gran, a long-time colleague of Tom Gilhool at the Public Interest Law Center said, "Tom was the most effective civil rights lawyer of his generation. Without his vision and strategic gifts, [people with disabilities] might not have the right to education and the right to live in the community."

In 2012, *Pennhurst v. Halderman* was cited by Chief Justice John Roberts in upholding the constitutionality of key provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act in the *National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius*.

When my father was elected Governor of Pennsylvania in 1986, he asked Tom to serve as Secretary of Education. Tom worked hard for the children of Pennsylvania from 1987 to 1989.

Thomas Gilhool's tremendous contributions to the lives and rights of people with disabilities and their families are immeasurable. His accomplishments will continue to benefit all people with disabilities and inspire all who continue to work to protect the rights and freedoms of people with disabilities.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 881. An act to improve understand and forecasting of space weather events, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2574. An act to amend title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to restore the right to individual civil actions in cases involving disparate impact, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3659. An act to establish an Anti-Bullying Roundtable to study bullying in elementary and secondary schools in the United States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4979. An act to direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to support STEM education and workforce development research focused on rural areas, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4990. An act to direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the National Science Foundation to carry out research and other activities to promote the security and modernization of voting systems, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7909. An act to facilitate access to child care services safely and securely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

H.R. 8162. An act to express the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Education should provide certain waivers to community learning centers, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 2683. An act to establish a task force to assist States in implementing hiring requirements for child care staff members to improve child safety.

At 4:55 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2694. An act to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2574. An act to amend title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to restore the right to individual civil actions in cases involving disparate impact, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 2694. An act to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 3659. An act to establish an Anti-Bullying Roundtable to study bullying in elementary and secondary schools in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 4979. An act to direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to support STEM education and workforce development