

a casino company and slot machine route operator, and became a partner at the Gordon Silver Law firm. He became a small business owner himself, operating a popular gaming pub with two of his brothers and founding his own law firm, STH Strategies, in 2015.

We reunited in our professional careers in Carson City when I was working for Governor Miller and he was advocating for taverns and gaming. The best part, he was still the same Sean Higgins I met in the 6th grade—friendly, charming, and yes, he made you want to hang out with him. So I did. For the last 20 years as our professional careers converged, I had the opportunity to watch Sean as he advocated for the town he loved and the businesses that made us a success, all the while smoking cigars and enjoying a good meal with the friends he cultivated along the way.

I will miss my friend, and I am grateful I got to talk with him to say goodbye, to tell him that I loved him. During our conversation, his main concern was for his family. Sean loved Lynn and cherished his children Samantha and Connor. He was so proud of them. I experienced this firsthand when he came to Washington to visit Connor, who was working as an intern on the Senate Committee for Environment and Public Works. In every conversation, Sean would talk about his amazing children.

I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering my friend and fellow Nevadan, Sean Higgins, for his advocacy and legal acumen. Sean will not soon be replaced in the Las Vegas community or in the gaming industry in Nevada. I offer my deepest condolences to his wife Lynn, his children Connor and Samantha, and the many friends who knew him well.●

REMEMBERING COLONEL DUANE A. KUHLMANN

● Mr. JONES. Madam President, I rise today to remember Col. Duane A. Kuhlmann, a longtime resident of Spanish Fort, AL, who died on September 23, 2020. It is with humility and sadness that we pause to mark the passing of yet another member of the “greatest generation,” a brave and dedicated patriot, a leader, and a beloved husband and father.

Born to first-generation Americans in Iowa and raised in Byron, MN, Duane volunteered for the Army Air Corps at age 19, soon after the Pearl Harbor bombing. After a medical issue delayed his training, Duane joined the fight in the Pacific in 1944 flying the P-40, before closing out the war in the P-51. After the Japanese surrender, he spent the next year as part of the U.S. occupation of Japan. Soon after returning stateside, Duane married Dorothy Guenther, and together they had seven children, two of whom served their country as officers in the U.S. Navy. After the war, Duane continued to fly the P-51 and was a demonstration pilot

for his squadron. Later he and his squadron transitioned to jets, flying the F-84. His squadron was ordered to join the Korean conflict, but after repositioning in Japan they were ordered back to Turner Air Force Base in Georgia. Duane’s Air Force career took the family to Albany, GA; Ephrata, WA; Wiesbaden, Germany; Montgomery, AL; Sumter, SC; San Antonio, TX; and finally Dayton, OH.

During the Vietnam conflict, Duane led his squadron of RB-66 aircraft across the Pacific to provide electronic and reconnaissance support for our troops. Two years later, he led the same squadron to Vietnam for a second tour of duty, this time providing ‘recce’ support flying the RF-4 phantom over Hanoi and Haiphong harbor.

Colonel Kuhlmann retired from the Air Force in 1974 in Dayton, OH, as vice commander of Defense Electronics Systems Command. He was awarded the Legion of Merit in 1974 and accumulated numerous air medals throughout his distinguished career.

My wife Louise and I extend our gratitude for Colonel Kuhlmann’s service, as well as our condolences for his loss to his children John Kuhlmann and his wife Rosie, Jenny Kuhlmann Zinn and her husband Bob, Tom Kuhlmann, Karen Sher and her husband Andy, Fritzie Kuhlmann Bassel and her husband Steve, Greg Kuhlmann and his wife Stephanie, Chris Kuhlmann and his wife Dani, and to his 19 grandchildren an 24 great grandchildren.

Though not a native son, Duane chose to spend the last years of his life in Alabama, joining the roughly 400,000 other veterans living there whose service and sacrifices have brought honor to our great State.

Colonel Kuhlmann, after a life well-lived, may you rest in peace.●

REMEMBERING SID HARTMAN

● Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, today I rise to honor and pay tribute to Sid Hartman, a sports journalist and a Minnesota legend who passed away on October 18, 2020, at age 100.

Born in 1920 on the north side of Minneapolis, Sid Hartman was born to be a newspaperman. He began selling newspapers when he was 9 years old and even pioneered the use of newspaper boxes where customers would pay by leaving coins in a change box. Sid would ride his bicycle to Newspaper Alley, where he would buy 100 copies of the Minneapolis Star, the Journal, and the Morning Tribune for \$1.10 and then sell them for two cents apiece.

That is how Sid got his start in business, but his big break came when Dick Cullum, the sports editor at the Minneapolis Times, hired him to work on the sports desk in 1944. And during his tenure, Sid’s columns were a big reason why people bought the newspaper. Sid went on to become the unofficial general manager for the Minneapolis Lakers and helped secure a Major League Baseball team for Minneapolis.

Since 2010, a statue of Sid holding a newspaper and microphone has stood near the corner of Sixth Street and First Avenue North in Minneapolis, a fitting tribute to his legacy outside of the Target Center and the Minnesota Twins’ Target Field.

Sid was also a popular radio personality on WCCO Radio. I know I will never forget the day at the Minnesota State Fair WCCO Radio booth when we both appeared on the Dave Lee show for the annual “Minnesota Hospital” soap opera spoof skit, where I was given the role of Nurse Helen and Sid played the infamous “Dr. Kidney Hartman.”

Sid knew everyone. His 1996 autobiography, titled: “Sid! The Sports Legends, the Inside Scoops and the Close Personal Friends,” was endorsed by some of the biggest names in sports, from legendary Vikings coach Bud Grant to Arnold Palmer, Wayne Gretzky, Ted Williams, Bob Costas, and George Steinbrenner. Nobody had better relationships in the sports world than Sid.

Ten years after the book’s release, the Star Tribune published “Sid Hartman’s Great Minnesota Sports Moments” featuring this quote from Tom Brokaw: “I grew up on Sid Hartman columns about my Midwestern sports heroes and I still think of him as a Hall of Fame newspaperman.”

My dad, a future newspaperman himself, first met Sid in 1945 while Sid was covering the Minnesota high school basketball championship game. My dad was playing for his hometown high school team Ely, a small town on Minnesota’s Iron Range, and they were up against Patrick Henry High School, a powerhouse that had only lost one game that season. As soon as my dad got off the bus, Sid stuck a microphone in his face and said, “You don’t have a chance. How are you going to win?” Sid was right, and Ely lost 66-35.

Years later, my dad started writing for the Associated Press and then for the Star Tribune. He and Sid got to know each other well. They were fierce competitors, but had respect for each other’s drive and work.

Throughout Sid’s career, he never had any plans to quit. He was always driven to get the scoop. He was relentless. At the time of his death, he was still writing three or four columns a week. In fact, Sid produced 21,235 bylined stories from 1944 to 2020. In his final column, he wrote: “Writing a column as I turn 100 years old is hard to believe.” But for all who knew Sid, it wasn’t hard for any of us to believe.

My prayers and condolences go out to Sid’s son Chad, his daughter Chris, and his entire family. It is hard to be surprised when someone dies at age 100, but Sid was someone who just never stopped loving his work and our State.

We miss you, Sid.

Thank you.●