

drew upon his experience with the steelworkers Union, his military background and his political acumen to provide a rare style of leadership. Not only was he an excellent organizer with an aptitude for strategy, he related well to his co-workers and especially to his employees.

Following his Senate service, Nordy founded and maintained a political consulting firm, F. Nordy Hoffman and Associates.

Nordy was a man who demonstrated his commitment to organizations and issues that he cared about. He was an involved member of the Notre Dame University community in several capacities. In his undergraduate years, he was an All-American guard with the championship football team, coached by Knute Rockne—Nordy was later inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1978.

Nordy's deep love of Notre Dame continued through the years. He served as president of the Alumni Association and as a member of the Board. Several years ago, the F. Nordy Hoffman scholarship was established. The funds are used to aid young men and women who suffer financial reversals during their time at Notre Dame.

Nordy also was an active member of the board of directors of the Stone Ridge School in Bethesda, the board of regents of the Center for Congressional and Governmental Relations at Catholic University, and the board of directors of the credit union here in the U.S. Senate. In addition, he gave unstinting support to numerous local charities.

Nordy spent his life in service to his fellow Americans. Those of us who were privileged to have known and worked with him saw this day after day. He truly made a difference and there can be no higher tribute.

Peatsy and I and the staff join in heartfelt condolences to Nordy's wife Joanne and his entire family.

#### TRIBUTE TO RONALD BROWN

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Ron Brown.

Ron Brown had a remarkable career, marked by his exceptional ability to unify people from diverse backgrounds. As chairman of the Democratic National Committee, he used this talent to bring the party's factions together. Democrats and Republicans alike spoke with admiration of his aptitude as a party leader. Ron Brown's work to bridge differences helped revitalize the Democratic party and played an essential role in building the support that led to President Clinton's election.

As Commerce Secretary, Ron Brown also unified individuals from different walks of life to work for American business. His aggressive efforts traveling the world promoting American goods won him uncommon praise from business leaders. It was his enthusiastic devotion to this mission of championing trade and economic development that took him to Bosnia earlier

this month not only to try to build American business, but also to aid in the reconstruction of Bosnia. He made the ultimate sacrifice for these goals, giving his life in service to his country.

Ron Brown's career also leaves us with an example of racial leadership, having been the first African-American to chair the Democratic Party and the first African-American Secretary of Commerce. His guidance was apparent in the way he closed divisions within the Democratic Party and in the way he brought together diverse individuals at the Commerce Department. Ron Brown provided a real life role model for aspiring young Americans as someone who rose to the highest levels of government, and who was admired and respected by those who knew him and knew of his contributions to the well-being of his nation.

The loss of Ron Brown is tragic to America. His leadership will be sorely missed. My deepest condolences go to the Brown family and the families of all the other Americans who lost their lives in this terrible tragedy.

#### TRIBUTE TO WAYNE A. STEEN, SR.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, today, I would like to offer a tribute to one of the outstanding citizens of my State, one of those citizens who truly represents the best not only of Delaware but of America—the best of our heritage and our hope, the best of our national spirit of community.

It will surprise no one to learn that the citizen I'm describing is a volunteer firefighter.

Wayne A. Steen, Sr., joined the Mill Creek Fire Co. on October 2, 1967, as a member of its youth division, Explorer Post 921. In the course of his 4 years of membership, Wayne served as both president and chief of the post.

On September 22, 1971, just a few days passed his 18th birthday, Wayne Steen became a full member of the Mill Creek Fire Co. For 20-plus years after, he served the company in virtually every office and on virtually every committee, putting in more than a thousand hours and responding to about 600 fire and ambulance runs—those are not career totals; that's 1,000 hours and 600 runs per year—and earning three citations for heroism and leadership.

In addition, Wayne Steen has served as a director of both the New Castle County and the Delaware State Fire Chiefs Associations, and he was long an active member of the Delaware Valley regional association and the International Society of Fire Service Instructors.

Wayne Steen's fire service career represents literally the best of the best—exceptional leadership in a group of exceptional leaders, exceptional citizenship and commitment in a group defined by active concern for neighbors and community, and by selfless dedication to protect and promote the public safety.

Because of Wayne's extraordinary community leadership and service,

June 12, 1995, marked a great public as well as personal tragedy.

At this point, this tribute becomes a little difficult for me. First, Wayne Steen is someone I've known and worked with for many years, someone I'm proud to call a friend. And second, Wayne fell victim to a medical condition that I was lucky to survive without any long-term disability. Wayne was not as lucky, and it is hard to reconcile my good fortune with the challenge he and his family continue to face every day.

On that date last June, Wayne was in command of a group of firefighters at the scene of a fatal traffic accident. While on duty, he fell victim to the sudden strike of a brain aneurysm, which left him in a coma. When I went to see Wayne in the hospital, there seemed to be little doubt that his condition would do anything but worsen. He was 41 years old.

With medical care, the support of his family and friends, and, I have absolutely no doubt, by some force of his own will that no mere physical condition could defeat, Wayne's condition was stabilized, and he was able to leave that hospital room where I saw him last summer. But still the struggle had just begun, and it will be a lifelong battle for Wayne and for the family and friends who fight by his side.

It is tempting to describe Wayne Steen as a fallen hero, but I do not think it would be right to do so.

Certainly, he is a hero, and had earned the right to be thought of as such long before last June. His fire service career was, in fact, as good a living definition of citizen-heroism as we are likely to find, and we should—and must—honor such service always.

But Wayne Steen is not fallen, because he has stood too tall, and he has elevated us all too much. Wayne Steen devoted much of his spirit—as well as his time and his talents—to serving a great and essential ideal, and if some part of his spirit has left this life, I have no doubt that it has risen to a higher one. Wayne is not fallen because he serves us still, as long as his example of citizenship continues to call to the best in all of us.

We honor leaders like Wayne Steen best not with our words but when we continue their work, when we learn that they have given so much because their purpose is so important to us all.

And we honor them best when we recognize and fulfill our obligation to those who put themselves at risk to protect our families, our homes, and our communities—our obligation to support them in their service and, when tragedy strikes, in their need. We must be there for people like Wayne, who have always been there for us.

Wayne's family—especially his wife, Terry, and their children, Phillip, Wayne, and Heather—have been there for him in the way we would all hope to support a loved one through such a traumatic ordeal. Their courage, dedication, and strength continue an inspiring family tradition.