

that the trust fund is weaker than we had thought a year ago. This would assist in strengthening the trust fund by assuring that any proceeds derived from our assault against Medicare fraud and abuse, which have the result of depleting the trust fund without providing meaningful medical services to older Americans, then any funds that are recovered as a result of this war on Medicare fraud will go back into the trust fund and, therefore, strengthen it for this and future generations of older Americans.

Mr. President, I look forward to discussing this matter in greater detail at another time. At this time, I ask unanimous consent that this amendment be temporarily laid aside.

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

Mr. GRAHAM. I thank my colleague from Ohio and commend him for his thoughtfulness on his upcoming remarks regarding Admiral Boorda.

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 10 minutes as in morning business.

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

#### TRIBUTE TO ADM. MIKE BOORDA

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, to say that a shockwave went across Capitol Hill yesterday when we heard about Mike Boorda's death would be an understatement. For those of us who knew him and worked with him very closely, it was not only a shock, it was an extreme shock. We thought of him as one of the most pleasant, smiling, outgoing, friendly persons that you ever dealt with across the river in the Pentagon, or anybody you ever dealt with on Capitol Hill as far as that matter goes. So we were all saddened to learn of his tragic death. He was a fine naval officer, who was doing a great job.

We talk a lot about the American dream in this country, what it can mean, and how you can advance in this country. Mike Boorda actually lived it. He literally lived it. He was a high school dropout, who went in the Navy as a seaman second class. That is as low as you get when you enter at the bottom rung of the ladder. Over the years, he had such outstanding service that he became an officer. He was the very first person to go from the lowest rank in the Navy to the highest rank in the Navy, to his everlasting credit.

I do not think there is anybody across the river that was more respected by the Members of Congress than Admiral Boorda. I worked with Mike for a number of years. I first got to know him, when I was chairman of the Personnel Subcommittee on Armed Services and he was the head of naval personnel. We dealt back and forth on personnel matters almost on a daily basis.

If I ever knew anybody who I would term as a "people person," it was Mike Boorda. He was so concerned with peo-

ple that he would personally follow-up calls, not only individual cases, but about all the policies that were established that dealt with people. Those were his biggest concerns in those days, and they continued to be some of his biggest concerns after he became CNO, Chief of Naval Operations.

We worked together, and he was concerned about such things as the promotion process, health matters, early-out legislation for people leaving the service, and pay and allowances for those staying in. The words he always would use repeatedly are, "Well, are we treating these people fairly? Is this fair?" That was a hallmark with him—to see that everybody in the Navy was treated fairly. I guess his enlisted background is what added to that concern about a sense of fairness, extending clear from the top to the bottom in the United States Navy.

Less than a year ago, I flew with Mike down to Norfolk to commission the U.S.S. *Toledo*, one of our latest submarines. I remember walking with him, as he returned salutes to officers and enlisted personnel, and him suddenly saying, "Come with me". He broke ranks with the group and went over to where some sailors were standing to shake their hands. They were shocked that the CNO, with me in tow, would go out of his way to shake their hands. I cannot forget their smiles and I know they appreciated it very much.

I think he did that because he had been there. He knew what it meant to them. He knew what it was like to grow up in the Navy. The Navy was more than a career to Mike Boorda, it was his home.

Not many weeks ago, he asked me to come over and have breakfast—as he did with Senators and Members of Congress from time to time—to talk about matters pertaining to the Navy. It was the two of us, each with a staff person. We talked a little about Navy hardware and what they planned to procure for the future. But we spent most of our time talking about people. He was extremely concerned about the lasting effects of the Tailhook scandal, the problems at the Naval Academy, the challenges of placing women in combat roles aboard ships, and living conditions of his sailors and their families.

Mike Boorda was always concerned about life in the military, and life in the Navy, in particular, especially for those who are required to be aboard ship and go out for extended deployments. He was concerned not only about the sailor, but also about the family at home—the wife, the children, who are left behind during those long deployments. I still do not think most people in this country realize the rigors of military service and give proper respect and consideration and appreciation for those in the military. That is particularly true in the Navy, because when we see a carrier abroad in the Adriatic, or a Navy ship deployed where there is a problem somewhere in the world, we should remember that

the people manning that ship are people out away from their families, away from home. Those are the things that concerned Mike Boorda more than anything else—being fair and treating his people fairly.

I rarely have seen anyone so dedicated to the welfare of the enlisted personnel of whatever service. It was the enlisted people of the Navy that looked to him for their representation, and he gave it heartily because he believed in it. He was an inspiration to everyone who served because he was one of them. I think he still looked at himself as an enlisted sailor in the ranks. I think he had a problem seeing himself elevated above everyone else as the Chief of Naval Operations.

His concerns should not be forgotten. Those of us here will do everything to make sure they are not. We will try to represent his best wishes as he had expressed them through the years and make certain that all of his concerns for the people of the Navy are taken care of.

I think there might be a little lesson here for all of us to learn from this tragedy. Things that seem important at the moment may, in the long term, prove to be of far less importance than the big things that we do in life.

Whatever the cause of his death may have been, his memory in the Navy will be one of a person who was concerned about the people of the Navy, his loyalty to those people, and his desire to make sure that they were properly represented. That was his mission. Mike was a people person. Most of all, he was a good friend.

Annie and I wish to express our deepest sympathy to Betty and his family. Our hearts go out to them and our thoughts and prayers are with them. We will all miss him.

Mr. President, I yield the remainder of my time.

I suggest the absence of a quorum and ask that the time be equally charged against both sides.

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

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### U.S. NAVY ADM. JEREMY M. BOORDA

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, President Theodore Roosevelt once wrote, "Death is always and under all circumstances a tragedy, for if it is not, then it meant that life itself has become one."

The death of Adm. Jeremy M. "Mike" Boorda was particularly tragic. But it is important that the tragedy of his death not overshadow the inspiring accomplishments of his life.

Mike Boorda began serving his country at the age of 16, when he lied about