

House, and his party's candidate for Governor in 1974.

With Peanut Kennedy's passing, we close the book on a period in Vermont when character, common sense, and honesty were alone sufficient to insure personal triumph and political success.

Peanut sold used cars—and they weren't all good cars. He would tell his customers—especially enthusiastic young farm boys who were making their first major purchase with hard earned money—to look beyond the flashy chrome and white wall tires. If necessary, he would further curb their enthusiasm by suggesting the vehicle had an estimated lifespan of the distance to the grocery store a half mile down the road.

Those were cars he kept on the lot only to have the pleasure of selling them to folks like you and me who could afford a lesson in the perils of used car negotiations.

"You don't want this car," he would finally tell a local customer and move him toward another part of the lot.

Peanut, rising to the chairmanship of the House Highway Committee, then Speaker and finally rewarded as his party's gubernatorial candidate, was rarely addressed as Walter. He retained his earthy sense of humor and Yankee mannerisms, offensive to the few—loved by the many. He was an antecedent of political correctness—fixed in his ways, colorful in his language, and prone to startle constituents, legislators, Governors and lobbyists with the frankness of his responses.

He hated ad hoc committees which he said were merely ways for political leaders to transfer decision making responsibility to another body.

"Ad hoc," he once challenged a leader of his own party on the House floor, "Sounds like someone clearing his throat."

He once publicly described a Governor, who was concerned over a prolonged and politically debilitating debate over enacting his proposal for a sales tax as "nervous as a whore in church," over the prospects of passing his legislation. Kennedy never doubted the tax would be enacted, once the talking was over and the nervous legislators regained their courage to an unpopular, but necessary broad based tax to finance State government programs.

He was never a man to go off the record, he was never a man to go against his word.

When he ran for Governor in 1974 he traveled through southern Vermont extensively for the first time in years and became aware of the change taking place as a result of a revolution in transportation systems—many of which he had helped put in motion himself from Montpelier.

I think it was the first time he realized that Vermont was changing so dramatically from the community or farms and small, self-governing communities that settled problems at town meetings and pot luck suppers.

"It's not Vermont anymore," he told friends. The visit seemed to inhibit his

candidacy and he failed to give Vermont a spirited campaign against a popular incumbent.

I traveled with Peanut Kennedy when he ran for Governor in 1974, and is probably an indication of the bipartisan nature of the man. Even though he was running for Governor on the Republican ticket, I for the Senate on the Democratic ticket, we would have occasions just because we wanted to be in each other's company that we would ride together from one function to another.

He had his big old black Imperial. I would hop in the car with him. Somebody would drive my car along behind. And I would be laughing so hard by the time I would get to the next place, I could barely remember my own lines as he would tell one story after another.

At home, with his wife Sylvia, he was a very private man and devoted husband. Vermonters shared his grief over the tragic death of his son in a fire. After the election in 1973, Kennedy returned to his business and quietly retired from the political arena which had taken him so far. But the State had changed and Peanut's beliefs and principles were too deeply ingrained.

Out State has lost a great public servant, and to those of us fortunate enough to have known him a great friend as well.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

#### UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENTS—S. 672

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I wish to modify the previous statement I have made. And I now ask unanimous consent that the vote on the cloture motion take place at 10 a.m., tomorrow.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no objection, without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, the Senate will be convening at 9:30—the majority leader will handle that part of it—but I ask unanimous consent that the time between the convening at 9:30 and 10 o'clock be divided equally between the Senator from West Virginia and myself.

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

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that second-degree amendments must be filed before the hour of 10 a.m., before the hour of the cloture vote, that is, the second-degree amendments to the amendments that have been filed.

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

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. STEVENS. So we are clear, now we will stay in a period of routine morning business, Madam President, under the previous unanimous-consent agreement until the leader decides to go through the closing procedure.

But just to make certain, that is the order of the Senate now, that we are in morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. STEVENS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. REID. Madam President, would you indicate what the pending business is.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is in morning business.

#### SUICIDE IN AMERICA

Mr. REID. Madam President, in the wrap-up, in the final business that will take place here today, Senate Resolution 84 will pass. This is a resolution that deals with suicide prevention. Currently, there are 31,000 suicides every year in the United States; 83 people a day kill themselves.

I made some remarks earlier today that will be in the RECORD of the Senate on this subject. I just want to express my appreciation to those that are sponsoring this resolution. It is a bipartisan resolution. Senator COVERDELL has been the lead Republican on this issue. Madam President, he is the lead sponsor on this because in his State there is a very courageous man, a man named Jerry Weyrauch. Jerry is leading a national effort in this country to draw attention to this issue. He is doing it after having gone through the trauma of losing his daughter by suicide.

Suicide is something that affects many people. As indicated, 31,000 people a year kill themselves in this country. In my Senate office here in Washington, about 2 months ago, during a period of 4 weeks, three of my employees had relatives that killed themselves. One was an 11-year-old boy that hanged himself.

Suicide is something we have learned can be avoided. I became vocal about suicide after having participated in a hearing before the Senate Aging Committee last year. Mike Wallace, a person those of us in Government hate to get a call from, appeared before our Aging Committee. The hearing was on senior depression. Mike Wallace, in my opinion, Madam President, showed a lot of courage when he came before our