

Monsignor Velo is a true humanitarian. Today, I extend my sincere congratulations to Monsignor Velo for receiving the Joseph Cardinal Bernardin Humanitarian of the Year Award. Through his extraordinary personal effort for the betterment of our community, Monsignor Velo truly has personified the humanitarian nature of Joseph Cardinal Bernardin. I am proud to join the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans in recognizing Monsignor Velo's achievements. ●

TRIBUTE TO DR. RUDY ELLIS

● Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, today I rise to mourn the death and celebrate the life of a close friend, Dr. Rudy J. Ellis, Sr., who passed away this past Monday, June 2, 1997.

Dr. Rudy Ellis was an inspiration to those who knew him. He was a respected orthopedic surgeon in Louisville, KY, and was the team physician for University of Louisville athletics. Through the years, Rudy touched the lives of many people in the community as well as the thousands of Cardinal athletes that he treated during his 35 years as U of L's team doctor.

I had one thing in common with Rudy, we both started at the University of Louisville at about the same time. He became the U of L team physician in 1961. Since that time, he treated athletes in all sports, except when he stepped down from the Cards' football and baseball teams in 1986. Dr. Rudy Ellis has done more good for more people through the university than virtually anyone else.

As a U.S. Senator, I get to travel across Kentucky and meet many great people who have made a difference in the State. And if I had to make a list of the truly great Kentuckians, Dr. Rudy Ellis would rank in the Top five.

A former member of the U of L's board of trustees and board of overseers, Rudy was one of the pioneers in sports medicine in Kentucky. He opened the Rudy J. Ellis Sports Medicine Center in 1980. And over the years, he has been an integral part of the athletic programs at many Jefferson County high schools, by providing free annual physical examinations for the 4,000 athletes in the school system. In 1993, to show their appreciation for his hard work and compassion for the young athletes, the athletic directors from across Kentucky created an award for people who provide distinguished service to high school sports. Who better to receive the first award than the man they named it after, Dr. Rudy Ellis.

High school gyms and the University of Louisville weren't Rudy's only stomping grounds; he also participated in the athletic programs at Bellarmine College, Lindsey Wilson Junior College, Hanover College, St. Catherine College, Spalding University, Louisville Redbirds, Kentucky Colonels Basketball Team, CBA Catbirds Basketball Team and Louisville Shooters Basket-

ball Team. And in 1994, Rudy was recognized for all his work when he was inducted into the Kentucky Athletic Hall of Fame.

Mr. President please join me in extending my heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the Ellis family, his wife Ruth Anne and his four children, John, Jim, Linda and Amy, and to all those whose lives he touched. He will be missed very, very much.

Mr. President I ask that two articles from the Louisville Courier-Journal be printed in the RECORD.

The articles follow:

[From the Courier-Journal, June 3, 1997]
ELLIS, BELOVED U OF L TEAM DOCTOR, DIES
AT 78

(By Ashley McGeachy)

Dr. Rudy J. Ellis, the caretaker of University of Louisville athletes for more than 35 years, died of an apparent heart attack yesterday morning. He was 78.

Details of Ellis' death were sketchy, but he and his wife, Ruth Anne, were in Vicksburg, Miss., over the weekend for his high school reunion. He died there.

Ellis was said to be in fine health as he embarked on the trip. He had suffered a heart attack five years ago to the day of his death, but he had suffered no serious health problems since.

An orthopedic surgeon, Ellis became the team physician for all U of L sports in 1961 and worked with all athletes through 1986 when he stepped down from the Cards' football and baseball teams. He was a U of L institution who never was paid for his work.

As news of Ellis' death spread throughout the U of L community, there was sadness over the loss of the soft-spoken, gentle man who healed whoever was ailing.

"He loved athletes whether it was a high school kid or a professional," said Cardinals basketball trainer Jerry May, who worked with Ellis since joining U of L as a student trainer in 1971. "He loved to make sure that they were taken care of. He probably never got paid much for any athlete he ever saw, but the prerequisite wasn't whether they could pay. The prerequisite was them being hurt."

May drove the Ellises to the airport Thursday night for their trip to Mississippi and was scheduled to pick them up last night.

"He was like a father to me," May said. "We were very close. We roomed together (on road trips) and have ridden many a mile together."

Said a teary Sherry Samenick, a U of L trainer who worked with Ellis for 17 years: "He's the epitome of loyalty, dedication, love, friendship and selflessness. . . . He didn't turn anybody down."

Ellis helped everyone from the biggest stars at U of L to high school athletes to ailing fans and media members. He helped Darrell Griffith and Scooter McCray when they had knee problems, Dwayne Morton when he broke his hand, Samaki Walker when he fractured his foot and, most recently, DeJuan Wheat when he sprained his ankle during the NCAA Tournament in March.

"I don't care how long you're at it, you never get used to it," Ellis once said of dealing with players' injuries. "You get real close to these kids, kind of feel like they're your own children, and you get a little frightened every time they take a spill."

When Scott Davenport, an assistant basketball coach at U of L, broke his arm at age 6, Ellis fixed it. When Davenport's son, Doug, fractured his leg seven years ago, Ellis' son, John, fixed it.

"One generation set one; one generation set the other," Davenport said, adding, "How

many people do you meet in a lifetime who have never had anything bad said about them?"

Said U of L athletic director Bill Olsen: "Dr. Ellis meant a lot to this program. . . . His caring and compassion for people extended beyond athletes. Everyone had a lot of confidence in Doc. He was your best friend; he was a father figure to many student-athletes and in many ways was a coach."

Jock Sutherland, the longtime radio announcer for U of L, added: "He was a great person. There aren't many people outside of your family that you can say you love. I actually love Rudy Ellis. I love everything he stands for."

The university honored Ellis in 1995 with a scholarship in his name. He was inducted into the Kentucky Athletic Hall of Fame in 1994.

A native of Mississippi, he attended Mississippi State on a football scholarship and was the Bulldogs' starting quarterback from 1938 through '40. He graduated from U of L's medical school in '43 and became the Cards' team physician in 1961 at the behest of Peck Hickman, then the basketball coach.

He opened the Rudy J. Ellis Sports Medicine Center in Louisville in 1980, and he served at times as team physician for the Louisville Redbirds and the old Kentucky Colonels. He worked with Bellarmine College, Lindsey Wilson College, Hanover College, St. Catharine College and Spalding University in addition to the Jefferson County Public Schools.

Pearson's Funeral Home on Breckinridge Lane is handling the services, although the family didn't plan to make arrangements until today.

Ellis is survived by his wife and four children, sons John and Jim, and daughters Linda and Amy.

LOUISVILLE HAS LOST A DOCTOR TO US ALL

(By Rick Bozich)

I didn't want to call Dr. Rudy Ellis' home at 10:45 on a Tuesday night during Super Bowl week. But when you're a newspaper person on deadline, where else were you going to turn for an explanation of how an anterior cruciate ligament works and how you repair it?

You called Rudy Ellis, doctor to us all.

The first thing he did was tell me to stop apologizing for calling at that hour.

The second thing was to explain everything he knew about the anterior cruciate ligament, how he repaired one and how long the recovery is.

And, finally, after he asked how I was enjoying New Orleans, the third thing he did was make me promise to call back later that evening if I had further questions about anything he had just patiently explained in incredible detail for 20 minutes.

"Don't worry about it, paaaart-ner," Ellis always said in that soft comforting drawl that rolled all the way back into his boyhood days in Mississippi. "We'll take care of it."

Ellis did not believe in the doctor-patient relationship. He believed in the friend-friend relationship. He was an orthopedic surgeon who handled sports-related problems, but his real specialty was his warm and compassionate personality.

It did not matter whether you were a University of Louisville Cardinal, a Louisville Redbird, a Kentucky Colonel, a five-morning-a-week jogger or a substitute third baseman in a Sunday night softball league—you lost a tireless friend when Rudy Ellis died yesterday.

Ellis was as concerned about your knee as Darrell Griffith's knee, as worried about your shoulder as Felton Spencer's shoulder, as interested in your day as he was in anything he was doing in the most action-packed retirement I have ever seen.

You were just as likely to find him and his associates at the Streetball Showdown as you were at Freedom Hall, where he served so many years as the U of L team physician.

Jim Watkins, the athletic director for Jefferson County Public Schools, cannot remember when this state has conducted finals for any sport without representatives of Ellis' office on the scene.

In 1993 athletic directors across Kentucky created an award for friends of high school sports, outside of school personnel, who provide distinguished service. Not only did the athletic directors give Ellis the first award, but they also named it the Dr. Rudy J. Ellis Award.

"Nobody could be more deserving," Watkins said. "Or more humble."

Ellis never sent the high schools a bill. He only sent every patient on the way with a smile, convincing you that if you followed his instructions you'd be hanging on the rim again soon. No wonder so many local athletes who have become professionals never let another doctor take their temperature until they checked with him.

Griffith was not Dr. Dunkenstein, the 1980 college basketball player of the year, when he met Ellis. Griffith was a terrified Male High School sophomore wincing from every breath after taking a hard shoulder to his chest at practice.

"You look a little worried, son," Ellis said after Wade Houston, the Male coach, brought Griffith to the office. "Well, you're going to live. In fact, you'll be fine."

"Dr. Ellis wasn't in medicine for the money," Griffith said. "He was really in medicine to help people. When you looked in his eyes, you saw he really cared about you."

Ask any high school athlete who attended Super Saturday. For at least the past 15 years, Ellis organized a battalion of local doctors and trainers who provided physical examinations for any high school athlete. He insisted that the Super Saturdays be staged three times a year so athletes from fall, winter and spring sports were covered. Watkins said the doctors examined 1,500 to 2,000 students at each session.

At each free session, that is.

"There aren't many people like Rudy Ellis," Watkins said. "He truly believed it was his responsibility that every athlete had quality medical care."

"Louisville has lost a great man," Griffith said.

And Louisville has lost a great friend.●

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM E. BREW, MINORITY GENERAL COUNSEL, SENATE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I note with great sadness the departure of someone who had become a veritable institution on the staff of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs—minority general counsel, William E. Brew.

Bill retired from the Committee on April 4, 1997—19 years and 1 day after he came for what he believed, at the time, was a less than 2-year commitment. How fortunate we all have been that those 2 years stretched out for almost 2 decades!

When Bill joined the committee staff as associate counsel in April 1978, the Committee was still fairly young—it had only been established in 1971. So, the fact is, Bill has been with the Committee for almost as long as the Com-

mittee itself has been in existence. Ask him about any piece of legislation that came before the committee during his tenure, and he can most likely give you a blow-by-blow description of its legislative history, the major players involved, subsequent modifications, etc. Everyone who has heard of Bill's departure has commented on how great the loss of his institutional memory will be.

Bill is truly a fountain of knowledge about veterans legislation. But his is no dry history lesson. Bill is a wonderful storyteller, whose recounting of the past is full of humor and the little details that bring those events to life.

And no one shares his knowledge more generously and willingly than Bill. He is a gifted teacher. Countless young—and not so young—legislative staffers have benefited from his unique expertise. Bill's patience is legendary. No matter how many times he explained something, he was always willing to take time to go over it again. His mentoring of younger staffers was particularly meaningful to many with whom he discussed not only work issues, but life goals and philosophies.

Bill anchored the committee through times of change. He saw the committee through several shifts of control from Democratic to Republican Congresses, and although a committed Democrat himself, won the respect and appreciation of both Democratic and Republican chairmen alike. He was tremendously helpful to me at the time I assumed chairmanship of the committee in 1993. He has truly been a mainstay of the committee.

Bill is a graduate of Notre Dame (B.A.) and Catholic University School of Law (J.D.), a two-term veteran of the Navy, including 18 months duty in Vietnam, and a devoted family man, the father of five children. He is a role model of old-fashioned values—honesty, integrity, fairness, service to others, modesty. He is a true team player. He never claimed the spotlight, but was always there, behind the scenes, to offer his wise counsel, expert guidance, and astute judgment.

Bill thoroughly understood the legislative process and was a highly effective advocate for veterans. He is a master of negotiation, able to sort through complex issues and focus on realistic solutions that weigh the ideal vs. the attainable. Whether or not they agreed with him on an issue, all who dealt with him knew him to be fair-minded, balanced, and an often calming voice of reason in the heat of intense discussions that shaped important legislation.

Bill's accomplishments are many. Most significant among them are legislation leading to establishment of the U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals for judicial review of veterans claims, and the Veterans' Claims Adjudication Commission to conduct a comprehensive review of the claims process; expansion of programs relating to the readjustment needs of Vietnam and post-

Vietnam veterans, including creation of a National Center on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder; implementation of several initiatives to address the problem of nurse shortages at VA hospitals; changes in VA's procedures responding to the needs of women veterans sexually assaulted while on active duty; and revision of VA health care eligibility rules. He also collaborated with the General Accounting Office to design and conduct a study evaluating the supervision of VA surgical residents, and then worked with VA to carry out recommended changes leading to increased quality of surgical care.

Bill left behind big shoes to fill. He is enormously missed by all of us who worked with him.●

RECOGNITION OF CFIDS AWARENESS DAY

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to reaffirm my support for the tireless effort of the Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Association of Lehigh Valley to fight chronic fatigue and immune dysfunction syndrome [CFIDS], or Chronic Fatigue Syndrome [CFS].

For five years, the CFS Association of Lehigh Valley has been dedicated to finding a cure for CFIDS, increasing public awareness, and supporting victims of this disease. The Lehigh Valley organization is actively involved in CFS-related research. In addition, they regularly participate in seminars to train health care professionals. Public education is an essential aspect of the association's mission. For instance, they arranged the broadcast of a video documentary about CFIDS on public television. Likewise, the Lehigh Valley organization raises public awareness through the International CFIDS Awareness Day, which is held on May 12 each year. I would also note that the CFS Association of Lehigh Valley received the CFIDS Support Network Action Award in both 1995 and 1996 for their initiatives in public advocacy.

Although researchers have made some advances in the study of this condition, CFIDS remains a mysterious illness. Presently, there is no known cause or cure. Victims experience a wide range of symptoms including extreme fatigue, fever, muscle and joint pain, cognitive and neurological problems, tender lymph nodes, nausea, and vertigo. Recently, the Centers for Disease Control gave CFIDS "Priority 1" status in the new infectious disease category, which also includes cholera, malaria, hepatitis C and tuberculosis. Until this disease is obliterated, the CFS Association of Lehigh Valley will continue its research and education campaigns.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to join me in commending the Lehigh Valley organization and in supporting the following proclamation, which I ask be printed in the RECORD.

The proclamation follows: