

Mal also handled our Military Academy Appointments. Each year we get about 50 inquiries that result in 25 interviews for Annapolis, West Point, the Air Force Academy and Kings Point. Only three or four get appointments. Others get to compete for a nomination directly with other second place nominees. The first tier needn't worry, but for those on the 2nd tier only get a chance if a 1st place nominee drops out. To these Mal gave his heart. If a kid had just missed a 1st place but had his dream in an appointment Mal went to bat for him.

One such kid, Matt Brady of Savannah missed it the first year. He was determined sincere and certainly won the goodwill of the board, but that same year the top West Point candidate made higher SAT scores. Matt was beat. He went to Fort Valley Military. He worked hard and was the favored candidate the next year, but despite his best efforts his SAT's were still low and other candidates had 1570 and 1330. Thus to our collective heart break Matt was bumped again. But thru Mal's efforts knowing and working the system he found a way to get all 3 an appointment one year later, out of the entire West Point freshmen class, Matt Brady was selected Cadet of the Year.

There are other examples like the 3 kids from Twin City, a little town of 1500 in Emanuel County. All had come from the same Boy Scout Camp. Mal loved institutions like the Boy Scouts, any group dedicated to kids, God, and country. He beamed with pride about the ability of one den mother to produce so many outstanding kids.

These boys and girls don't even know Mal but you can be assured that if not for Mal their lives and military careers would be decidedly different.

Mal liked people but he also liked policy. More than any other employee he'd ask about votes. He liked to know the inside scoop—who was for it, who against it, who said what and why. He studied it. He read about it. He liked the legislative process, but it wasn't gossip or politics that caught his fancy it was policy. Are we building a better America? Did his hard work pay off? Will tomorrow's America be stronger? Will there be a better America for his children and grandchildren? How will it affect Anna Kate?

Here laid his real love. The country and the family. Mal wasn't doing this for a job, but for a better government. That would be the results of his efforts. He saw his mission as an extension to his fatherhood. Naturally a Dad—a loving Dad—is going to do what he can for America. Because in serving America, he was looking out for his kids.

His loved his daughters, son-in-law and grand daughter. He loved Tharen. He was comfortable in that love. He wasn't struggling with his family relationship, it was solid. It was like Mal—steady, loyal, kind yet strong. Very strong.

There's an old story of a child having a nightmare. He runs to his Dad saying that the world was going out of orbit. The wise father takes him out on the porch puts the young boy in his lap and says "See that moon? Keep your eye on it and when it moves we're in trouble." After some 30 minutes the boy was back asleep safe in his father's arm and of course the moon hadn't budged.

Just as the moon's steady glow and permanently had comforted the boy, Mal had a similar focus. His comfort was the Son. Steadfast and certain his Savior was Jesus Christ. If Mal was with us today he would tell us not to be troubled by his absence but to be joyful in the Son's presence. Mal now watches his family from above, but surely his Christian family will also see him when the time comes.

JACK KINGSTON.

P.S. A few days after the funeral Peggy Lee gave me the attached memo. It's the last one I ever received from Mal. It's typical and a fitting tribute to a kind and thoughtful man. Written days before his stroke, Mal's last memo was concerning someone else's stroke and condition.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

MEMORANDUM
TO: JACK/KARLEEN.
FR: Mal.

DT: February 5, 1997.

RE: Update on Way Carter of Waycross.

I think Jack is already aware that Way Carter of Waycross, one of the top Ten FOJK in Ware County, suffered a stroke last Sep 2d. It affected his respiratory functions and he is undergoing therapy to restore some speech and feeding functions. He has had no food by mouth since the stroke and breathes with difficulty. However, he is alert and lucid.

Jack, I believe, has talked to his wife, Mary, since the stroke.
Way Carter,
Waycross, GA.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FROM THE FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

HON. STEVEN SCHIFF

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, the following graduating high school students from the First Congressional District of New Mexico have been awarded the Congressional Certificate of Merit. These students have excelled during their academic careers and proven themselves to be exceptional students and leaders with their scholastic achievements, community service, and participation in school and civic activities. It is my pleasure to be able to recognize these outstanding students for their accomplishments. Their parents, their teachers, their classmates, the people of New Mexico and I are proud of them.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD WINNERS 1997

Albuquerque Evening High School, Jonathan Baird, Albuquerque, NM.

Albuquerque High School, Albert Leija, Albuquerque, NM.

Bernalillo High School, Melissa Anne Martinez, Bernalillo, NM.

Bernalillo High School, Jennifer M. Rivera, Algodones, NM.

Gibola High School, Rebecca Wong, Rio Rancho, NM.

Del Norte High School, Jay M. English, Albuquerque, NM.

Estancia High School, William D. Neish, Estancia, NM.

Freedom High School, Marcio Lujan, Albuquerque, NM.

Hope Christian School, Geoffrey Luke McKinnon, Albuquerque, NM.

Los Lunas High School, Sarah Archer, Los Lunas, NM.

Menaul High School, Jediah Garcia Glazener, Albuquerque, NM.

Mountainair High School, Jessica Dawn Barber, Mountainair, NM.

Rio Grande High School, Anthony Baca, Albuquerque, NM.

Sandia Preparatory School, Leslie Siegal, Albuquerque, NM.

Eldorado High School, Matt Byers, Albuquerque, NM.

Evangel Christian Academy, Amanda Brown, Albuquerque, NM.

Highland High School, Matthew Sullivan, Albuquerque, NM.

La Cueva High School, John B. Wenz, Albuquerque, NM.

Menaul High School, Anna Chrzanowski, Albuquerque, NM.

Menaul High School, Haven Annette Scogin, Albuquerque, NM.

New Futures High School, Angelita Garcia, Albuquerque, NM.

St. Pius X High School, Shabbon P. Walsh, Albuquerque, NM.

HONORING SMITH COUNTY LAW DAY WINNERS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize three outstanding individuals from Tyler, TX, who were recently honored during Law Day ceremonies in Smith County. Law Day is sponsored annually by the Smith County Lawyers Auxiliary in cooperation with the Smith County Bar Association.

Long-time Tyler attorney and my good friend, Murph Wilson, received the Justinian Award. Mr. Wilson has served the Tyler community in various capacities through the years. He served as mayor and as a member of the Tyler City Council, member of the Tyler School Board, president of the Smith County Bar Association, president of Southside Bank, member of Marvin United Methodist Church, and charter member of the Sharon Temple.

Preston McGee received the Outstanding Young Lawyer Award. Mr. McGee is a member of the Potter, Minton, Roberts, Davis & Jones law firm. He has been active with United Way, the American Heart Association, and Green Acres Baptist Church.

The Liberty Bell Award was given posthumously to Sally Ellis Dobbs for her efforts to educate the public about legal issues and the role of law in our society. Mrs. Dobbs was instrumental in developing the "Now You Are 18" Program and brochure and a similar program for eighth-graders. These programs are now used in educational efforts statewide. She is survived by her husband, J. Robert Dobbs Jr. and son, Smith County Assistant District Attorney David Dobbs, who accepted the award on her behalf.

These individuals have earned the respect of their peers in their community and of all those who seek to preserve and promote the ideals of law and justice upon which our great Nation was founded. Their integrity, hard work, and commitment to high standards of professionalism are exemplary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to these outstanding citizens of Tyler, TX, and to the efforts of the Smith County Bar Association and Smith County Lawyers Auxiliary.