

Joe Blount continued in the restaurant business, opening the original Ram's Den in the house next to the family home on Upper College Road.

"I can remember getting up with my dad at about 4 in the morning and going down and getting the fires going," the general said. "He'd get the baking started for the day. By the time I was 10 I was making the bacon and eggs, putting them up for people. Basically, I was a short-order cook."

By that time he also had become a favorite of the school's basketball team, and particularly of its coach, Frank Keaney, another local legend. In fact the whole family was more or less adopted by the university community, to hear the sons tell it. One day, Frank Blount remembers, Keaney came in to see Joe Blount with an idea. It seems he had a team that needed to work to eat, but needed flexibility for practice and games; Joe hired them all as waiters, cooks and dishwashers. When they were playing he tended not to have that much business anyway. Loretta opened a soda shop at Lippitt Hall and worked as a switchboard operator, the same job she had had in the Navy. She became friends with each of the university's presidents over the years, and for years it was a tradition for the president to stop the commencement march to walk over and shake hands with Loretta Blount.

"She loved that," Frank remembered.

"I started out as waterboy for the team, and later I was the mascot," Bruce Blount said. "I grew up knowing more older men, and more athletes, than I knew of kids my own age. "Back then we didn't just walk around in sneakers, you had regular street shoes, and coach wouldn't let me on the floor with them on. So I would stand in the corners during practice, and when the ball came to me, instead of tossing them back in I would just put them up. I developed a really different sort of shooting style, but I could hit from almost anywhere."

Once he started high school, Blount found himself constantly traveling between gyms, from URI's Rodman Hall to St. Francis and the Old Fagan's Hall in Peace Dale, the South Kingstown team's alternate gym. With his gym bag over his shoulder and a basketball under his arm, Blount became a familiar sight on Kingstown Road.

"I could get around better than anybody without a car," he said.

That famous basketball career could have led Blount away from Kingston but didn't. Despite being recruited by schools like Brown and Harvard, Blount knew he wanted to attend URI, then called Rhode Island State.

"There was never any question," he said. "I was absolutely enthralled with the idea of playing for Rhode Island, and Coach Keaney was an idol to me." On his way to collecting more than 1,000 points in his college career, Blount also acted as captain of both the basketball and baseball teams. But he also found time to begin what would be his ultimate career. As an ROTC cadet, Blount became cadet colonel in his senior year and was commissioned in the regular Army as a second lieutenant in the Infantry when he graduated in 1950.

Starting out as a training officer in the 4th Infantry Division and the 101st Airborne, he was made platoon commander in Korea the next year, then company executive officer, then company commander in the 45th Infantry. He was selected as aide-de-camp by Maj. Gen. C.E. Ryan, commander of the Korean Military Advisory Group, and returned to the states with Ryan after his injury.

Since then he has worked his way up the ranks, spending time as a staff officer at the Pentagon, in the Southern Command in the Canal Zone and as commander of the 1st Bat-

alion, 12th Cavalry, 1st Air Cavalry in Vietnam. In 1969 he was made secretary of the U.S. Army Infantry School in Fort Benning, Ga., and in 1971 was assigned to the European Command, eventually serving as community commander of the American Military Community in Wurzburg, Germany.

Finally, in 1983, he was promoted to lieutenant general and made chief of staff of the NATO Allied Forces South Command, consisting of units from Greece, Turkey, Italy the United Kingdom and the United States.

"I always followed Bruce, did whatever he did, only not as well," said little brother Frank Friday. "When he was in the NATO command, I thought that was a big deal. But I had the most fun when he was on the general's staff at Dix when he was stationed there. Whenever my company needed anything, they would come to me and I would call up, say, the motor pool and tell them I needed a Jeep. They'd ask who I was and I would say, 'This is Lieutenant Blount' in my best command voice and get whatever it was I needed.

"Of course it only lasted about a month before everybody figured out there were two Lieutenant Blounts on base, but we would begin to laugh our heads off whenever I told him what I was doing."

"For the longest time in my life I was 'Bruce Blount's brother,'" he said. "And to this day I am very proud of that."●

HONORING MS. MARY MORAN AND MS. VICTORIA METZ

● Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I'm pleased to honor the service of Ms. Mary Moran and Ms. Victoria Metz, the outgoing Parent Teacher Association (PTA) co-presidents at the Arlington Traditional School, a public alternative elementary school in Arlington, Virginia.

For the past two years, both Mary Moran and Victoria Metz have dedicated themselves to educational achievement by assisting the students, parents, teachers and administration of Arlington Traditional School. They have appeared on numerous occasions before the Arlington County School Board to discuss educational issues and sustain support for the Arlington Traditional School. Ms. Moran and Ms. Metz have also frequently met with individual members of the School Board to answer questions and have reached out to other local PTA presidents.

During the tenure of Mary Moran and Victoria Metz as co-presidents, the Arlington Traditional School PTA has played an integral role in the following activities: Math Night, Science and Technology Night, the DARE Program for 5th Graders; Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Asian Pacific Heritage Month, Native American Month, the Fall Family Get-Together, Holiday Open House, Parent-Teacher Conference Luncheon and Dinner, Summer Reading Challenge, Back to School Night and Staff Appreciation Week. The PTA generously purchased computers for student use at the Arlington Traditional School.

Mary Moran and Victoria Metz were also responsible for the Arlington Traditional School PTA's outreach efforts into the community. The PTA made significant contributions to the Arling-

ton Community Temporary Shelter, the Animal Welfare League of Arlington, UNICEF and the Red Cross's International Relief Fund.

Mary Moran and Victoria Metz have truly made a difference at the Arlington Traditional School. Their success illustrates that our public schools benefit and prosper when parents take active leadership roles in supporting education.●

A TRIBUTE TO THE BELLES OF INDIANA ON THEIR 45TH REUNION

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise before you today to recognize the Belles of Indiana who are celebrating their 45th Reunion this summer. The Belles of Indiana, a choral group comprised of Indiana University students, were the first singing group to perform overseas with the United Service Organizations (USO). The Belles entertained soldiers stationed in Japan and Korea, performing 75 shows in 77 days during the summer of 1955. Their voices and energy brought great joy to all those who heard them perform. These singers displayed strong patriotism for their country and acted as outstanding ambassadors from Indiana. I am pleased to submit their names for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD because of their great contributions to our soldiers and country.

I would like to commend the following members on their participation: Doris Day Block, Robert Bluemle, Vera Scammon Broughton, Dennis Escol, Roberta Ratliff Graham, Sondra Gauthier Harroff, Sally Graham Johnson, Helen Rapp Nefkens, Sandra Pawol Overack, Carolyn Hill Pain, Joyce Harrod Sakakini, Nancy Speed Schultz, Sue Ann Steeves, Cynthia Findley Stewart, Annabelle Baldrige Menguy, Sharlie Shull Stuart, Linda Foncannon Tucker, Ellen Dallas Wiggins, Mary Musgrave Wirts, Joyce Lancaster Voit, and Barbara Lockard Zimmerman. I would also like to recognize those members of the Belles of Indiana who are no longer with us: Eugene and Keitha Bayless, (Choral Director and his wife), Mary Mauer, Irma Batley Corcoran, Mary Sinclair Baron, and Joan Drew Irwin.

I am pleased to pay tribute to these great Americans whose positive attitude and high energy boosted morale for our overseas troops. The history of America is replete with stories of its sons and daughters being summoned and responding to their nation's call to duty. It is a proud history of accomplishment, honor, and victory. The Belles of Indiana answered their nation's call to duty and diligently persevered to be emissaries for the families and friends of servicemen who were far away from home.

I extend my congratulations to the Belles of Indiana for being the first entertainment group to travel and perform with the United Service Organization. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring these courageous