

who did not even enjoy the status of veteran? They were all different; yet share a sameness that is deeper than the uniform they wore. They were black, white, man, woman, Hispanic, Indian, Asian, Catholic, Jewish, Protestant, Buddhist, Muslim, and a hundred other variations and combinations. What is most important—regardless of race, creed, color, or gender—they were American.

These courageous men and women, each so different in heritage and background, shared the common bonds of the armed forces—duty and sacrifice. All of them reached a moment in their lives when race and religion, creed and color made no difference. What remained was the essence of America—the fighting spirit of a proud people. They are servicemen who paid the price for freedom.

As we dedicate this memorial to the brave veterans of the past, we must also look to the future. In today's world, of terrorism freedom comes cloaked in uncertainty. America still relies on her sons and daughters to defend her liberty. The cost of independence remains high, but we are willing to pay it. We do not pay it gladly, but we pay it with deep reverence and thanks to those who have sacrificed their lives for America. We know that in the years to come, more brave souls will sacrifice their lives for America. We should include them in our thoughts when we view this symbol of freedom.

Let me conclude my remarks by reading a few excerpts from a letter that exemplifies why we honor our people in uniform. It was written by Sullivan Ballou, a Major in the 2nd Rhode Island volunteers, to his wife Sarah a week before the battle of Bull Run.

Dear Sarah: The indications are very strong that we shall move in a few days—perhaps tomorrow. Lest I should not be able to write again, I feel impelled to write a few lines that may fall under your eye when I am no more. Our movements may be of a few days' duration and full of pleasure—and it may be one of some conflict and death to me. If it is necessary that I should fall on the battlefield for my Country, I am ready.

I have no misgivings about, or lack of confidence in the cause in which I am engaged, and my courage does not halt or falter. I know how American Civilization now leans on the triumph of the Government, and how great a debt we owe to those who went before us through the blood and sufferings of the Revolution. And I am willing—perfectly willing—to lay down all my joys in this life, to help maintain this Government, and to pay that debt.

Sarah my love for you is deathless, and yet my love of Country comes over me like a strong wind and burns me irresistibly on to the battlefield.

The memories of the blissful moments I have enjoyed with you come crowding over me, and I feel most gratified to God and to you that I have enjoyed them so long. And it is hard for me to give them up and burn to ashes the hopes of future years, when God willing, we might still have lived and loved together, and seen our sons grown up to honorable manhood. If I do not return my dear Sarah, never forget how much I love you, and when my last breath escapes me on the battle field, it will whisper your name. Forgive my many faults, and the many pains I have caused you. How thoughtless and foolish I have often been.

But, O Sarah! If the dead can come back to this earth and flit unseen around those they loved, I shall always be near you; in the brightest days and in the darkest nights, always, and if a soft breeze falls upon your cheek, it shall be my breath, as the cool air fans your throbbing temple, it shall be my spirit passing by. Sarah do not mourn me dead; think I am gone and wait for me, for we shall meet again.

Sullivan Ballou was killed a week later at the First Battle of Bull Run.

That is why I am proud to be in Lovell, today to participate in the dedication of the Veteran's Memorial honoring the men and women who served our country.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I know it was a great day across America when we celebrated the Fourth of July. I look forward to the future Fourth of July and the daily events when patriotism and community and faith are shown in our country.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN (SELECT)
BENNY G. GREEN, U.S. NAVY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to take this opportunity to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding Naval Officer, Captain Benny Green, upon his change of command from Special Boat Unit Twenty-Two. Throughout his career, Captain Green has served with distinction. It is my privilege to recognize his many accomplishments and to commend him for the superb service he has provided the Navy, the great State of Mississippi, and our Nation.

Captain Green enlisted in the Navy in September 1972. After an initial tour at the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department at Barbers Point, Hawaii, he attended Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL Training in Coronado, California, and graduated with class 83, for further assignment to SEAL Team One. Captain Green received a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Louisville in 1980, and was commissioned an Ensign in 1981. He attended flight school at Pensacola Naval Air Station and upon graduation was assigned to Fighter Squadron Eleven at Naval Air Station, Oceana, VA as a Radar Intercept Officer. He flew numerous combat missions over Lebanon in response to the 1983 terrorist bombing attack of the Marine Barracks in Beirut. In February 1985, Captain Green returned to the Special Forces and was assigned to SEAL Team Four, in Little Creek, VA, as the Platoon Commander of the newly formed Sixth Platoon. In his next assignment, Captain Green was a plank owner of SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team One Detachment Hawaii, on Ford Island, Oahu, HI, where he served as Dry Deck Shelter Platoon Commander. Other operational tours in Naval Special Warfare include: Dry Deck Shelter Department Head, SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team Two; Operations Officer, SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team Two; Maritime Special Purpose Force Commander for Central Command Amphibious Ready Group 3-91; Executive Officer, SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team Two; Naval Special Warfare Task Unit Commander for the Theodore Roosevelt Battle group 1-96; Operations Officer, Naval Special Warfare Group Two; Chief Staff Officer, Naval Special Warfare Group Two; and Requirements Officer for Naval Special Warfare Development Group. Captain Green also

completed a joint tour as the Counter-narcotics and Maritime Officer, Special Operations Command, Pacific.

As Commanding Officer, SBU-22, Captain Green's leadership firmly established his unit as the premier facility to train special operations forces in the riverine environment. His determination and oversight hastened the construction of new state-of-the-art facilities that provide for the training in the maintenance and repair of combatant craft, an armory, a supply building, a swim training tank, and a detachment building/administrative headquarters, with plans under development for a land-water range, a 30-unit housing facility, and a mini Navy Exchange/gas station. His rapport with senior military leadership was essential to theater commander exposure to SBU-22 capabilities in support of Special Operations Forces, SOF, throughout the world. During his tenure, SBU-22 hosted two major Joint Combined Exchange for Training, JCET, exercises, executed 13 counter-drug missions in South America, and trained over 450 foreign military personnel in all facets of riverine operations. His realignment of the Combatant Craft Training Curriculum fully addresses the requirements of the Naval Special Warfare Force-21 initiative and is typical of the exceptional foresight Captain Green demonstrated throughout his tour as Commanding Officer of SBU-22. His vast Special Operations experience proved to be a major resource in the identification, testing and implementation of the new Special Operations Craft-Riverine, SOC-R, that promises to revolutionize riverine tactics and capabilities.

Throughout his distinguished career, Captain Green has served the United States Navy and the Nation with pride and excellence. He has been an integral member of, and contributed greatly to, the best-trained, best-equipped, and best-prepared naval and special operations forces in the history of the world. Captain Green's superb leadership, integrity, and limitless energy have had a profound impact on SBU-22 and will continue to positively impact the United States Navy, our Special Operations Forces, and our Nation. Captain Green relinquishes his command on July 12, 2002 and reports as Director, Concept Development Directorate at Special Operations Command Joint Forces Command, in Norfolk, VA where he will continue his successful career. On behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I wish Captain Green "Fair Winds and Following Seas."

COLONEL DOUGLAS JOHN WREATH
OF THE UNITED STATES AIR
FORCE RESERVE.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, on March 29, 2002, Douglas John Wreath was promoted to the grade of Colonel in the United States Air Force Reserve. Major General Mike Hamel, USAF, administered the military oath of office