

and Public Affairs in the Office of the Air Force Surgeon General, she worked tirelessly behind the scenes in the department of Defense to make TRICARE for Life a reality for senior military retirees. The Surgeon General and his staff depended daily on her astute judgment and seasoned advice to meet the increasingly difficult challenges faced by our military departments today as they provide exemplary health care around the world in the 21st century. Colonel Boyle has made a substantial difference in the lives of our young troops and their families everywhere, and has improved the lot of our retired military patriots who have sacrificed so much. She always went the extra mile to serve her country and her fellow man. Her performance reflects greatly on herself, the U.S. Air Force, the Department of Defense, and the United States of America. I extend my deepest appreciation on behalf of a grateful Nation for her dedicated service. Congratulations, Col. Patricia Boyle. I wish you Godspeed.●

HELEN VINCENT

● Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I would like to set aside a few moments today to reflect on the life of a remarkable Delawarean, Helen Vincent, upon her passing at the age of 82. Helen was a good friend and a woman who demonstrated tremendous courage and integrity. She was a woman with a kind heart, diverse interests, great abilities, and boundless energy. In the way she lived her own life, Helen reminded each of us how good we can be.

In her 30 years in Newark, DE, Helen became a well-known political and civic activist who championed ethics and justice. She believed in the democratic process and the value of honesty and integrity. A staunch ally, she was a major figure in our successful efforts to clean up New Castle County politics. We are a better State and a stronger Democratic Party because of her tireless efforts to infuse ethics into politics and her refusal to be deterred.

Helen taught us all how to act responsibly, with vision and determination. She understood the inherent danger that comes from the silence of good people. With her courage, she made it just a bit easier for the rest of us to stand up and make our voices heard.

Like Helen, Lou Gehrig's disease works across boundaries, without regard to racial, ethnic or economic barriers. But while the disease seeks to weaken the body, it proved only to bolster Helen's spirit and resolve. In life, and in facing death, Helen Vincent exemplified grace and grit.

In the face of adversity, Helen seemed to always prevail. Even now, as we reflect on her life, she seems somehow to have triumphed again.

Helen's legacy will live on in the lives of those she helped to shape, in the halls of the institutions she served, and in the hearts of those of us who were lucky enough to call her their

friend. She believed that we could all do a bit better, and inspired us to do just that.

So I rise today to commemorate Helen, to celebrate her life, and to offer her family our support. Helen truly embodied the best of Delaware. She will be sorely missed by all Delawareans who cherish honesty and integrity and who are committed to playing by the rules.●

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in recognition of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Domestic violence continues to be one of the silent tragedies in our society. Because this topic can be uncomfortable to talk about, many people choose to ignore it hoping that it will just go away. This is an unfortunate and, ultimately, harmful response.

Uncomfortable as it may be, we have to recognize that domestic violence occurs far too often and it will continue to occur if we, as a society, fail to take appropriate measures to stop it. We can't know how many occurrences of domestic abuse take place every year because so many of them go unreported. However, estimates range from just under a million to as many as 3 million cases each year.

While this is a staggeringly high number, it represents only one stage in the cycle of abuse that will not end on its own. You see, the women who are abused in these relationships are not the only victims, in the vast majority of these cases, the woman is not the only one who is affected; the children in these families are also victimized.

A man who physically abuses his partner is likely to physically abuse his children as well. But the abuse doesn't have to be physical for it to have a devastating and far-reaching impact. Simply witnessing this kind of abuse begins a cycle of violence that is often passed on from one generation to the next.

We, as a society, have to do better to create an atmosphere in which abused women and children can escape from the abusive relationship. While we have not yet succeeded in addressing this scourge on our society, we have taken some important steps.

Passage of the Violence Against Women Act in 1994 was an important step that has done much to address the problem. A number of other laws at both the Federal and State levels to prevent domestic abuse and punish those who abuse their domestic partners have been enacted over the years.

There are steps being taken to combat domestic violence all over the country at the local levels as well. In my own State of New Mexico, the Dona Ana County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Task Force has recently reconvened. This group, made up of representatives from the law en-

forcement community, the criminal justice system, the religious community, and those in the social services, is charged with helping all victims of domestic violence and sexual violence.

In Santa Fe, NM, the Rape Crisis Center will break ground later this month on a new facility. While I am saddened that we have such a need for this facility, I am pleased to have had a part in making the center a reality by securing \$1 million in the fiscal year 2002 VA-HUD appropriations bill. I believe that it will provide a safe haven for those who have no other way to escape the abuse they are living with.

While these are all important components in the fight against domestic abuse, there is much that still has to be done.

We have an obligation to shine a spotlight on this dark secret. Taking this month to focus on this issue represents an important step in the fight against those who would terrorize their families.

It is my fervent hope that this step leads us to the day when no woman or child has to live in fear in their own home. I remain committed to doing all I can to seeing that hope become reality.●

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS SEAY LAWSON

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and mentor, Judge Thomas Seay Lawson of Montgomery, AL. Judge Lawson died on Monday, September 2, at the age of 96.

Judge Lawson was a native of Greensboro, AL, and was only 32 when he was elected attorney general of the State of Alabama in 1938 after serving for 7 years as an assistant attorney general. He was elected to the first of five consecutive terms to the Alabama Supreme Court in 1942.

Judge Lawson took a leave of absence from the Supreme Court to volunteer for military service during World War II and served as a U.S. Navy officer aboard the U.S.S. Massachusetts, which was involved in major battles in the Pacific theater including Okinawa and Iwo Jima.

He also served for 38 years as a member of the University of Alabama board of trustees and was president pro tem of the board for 10 years. He was a member of the Alabama Academy of Honor. He was the grandson of Thomas Seay, who served as Governor of Alabama from 1886 to 1890.

Judge Lawson earned his bachelor's degree from Davidson College and was a graduate of the University of Alabama Law School. The university conferred upon him a Doctor of Humane Letters degree and Davidson College awarded him its Alumni Citation for Accomplishments in the Field of Law.

He was a member of the Alabama Academy of Honor, Omicron Delta Kappa, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Phi Delta Phi, and a honorary member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon. He also served as a