

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

A TRIBUTE TO SHANE STEWART

• Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I wish today to honor the service and sacrifice of CAPT Shane Stewart.

My wife Joan and I were deeply saddened to hear of the tragic death of CAPT Shane Stewart this past Saturday in Weld County, CO, as he was en route to render aid to a sick caller in the town of Ault.

It takes a person of great courage to become a firefighter. It takes a strong, hard-working, and considerate individual, who like in many small communities across America, volunteer their time and effort, at sometimes great risk to themselves, to become a volunteer firefighter. It takes a special someone who is willing to pay the ultimate price in protecting the safety of others.

Captain Stewart was just this person. And unfortunately, Captain Stewart paid the ultimate price on February 23. He was 33 years old. Shane is the first firefighter killed in the line of duty in the Ault-Pierce Fire Protection District.

The Colorado native was born in Sterling and grew up in Greeley. Shane was employed by the Colorado Department of Transportation and concurrently served as a volunteer firefighter when called to duty. Volunteer firefighters are the backbone of many of our small towns and communities. In fact there are a total of 15,000 firefighters in Colorado with 9,450 being volunteers in their respective communities. Shane joined the Ault-Pierce Fire Protection District as a volunteer firefighter in August 2004.

Shane came from a family steeped in firefighting tradition. Shane's father and brother are also volunteers with the 21-member department.

Captain Stewart was a father, brother, and a son. He is survived by his wife Cyndee, sons Blake and Logan, parents Paul and Jeanette, and his brother Sean. Shane was well liked by his peers and was someone you would like to have as a friend and colleague.

The Ault-Pierce Fire Protection District lost a valuable member of its community, as did the State of Colorado. We are all forever grateful for Captain Shane Stewart's service and dedication as a firefighter. His service to all of us is highly commendable, and his contributions will be remembered.

I extend my deepest sympathy to the family of CAPT Shane Stewart. May his bravery and unwavering sense of duty serve as a role model for the future generation of firefighters.●

HONORING DAVID WILLIAM SUMMERFIELD

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I honor the memory of David William Summerfield, a husband, father, soldier, pilot, and a beloved member of the Cumberland community. Dave died

on February 21, piloting a small plane from Charleston, WV, to Cumberland. Also lost was his passenger, Rob Kessel of Bel Air, MD.

Dave Summerfield's death has been a blow to the entire community and to all who knew him. A graduate of Allegheny High School, Dave dedicated himself to the service of our Nation by joining the U.S. Air Force in 1951. During his distinguished military career, he was awarded the Bronze Star Service Medal, Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with V for Valor, Vietnam Service Medal with four campaign stars, and RVN Honor Medal First Class with Gold Palm.

In 1972, he returned to his childhood home in Rawlings after retiring from the Air Force. There he and his wife, Jessie Marie, raised a family of five children and started an aviation business. His greatest joy in life was his family; his second greatest joy was flying.

Dave was a certified Airline Transport Pilot, ATP, the highest grade of pilot certification that the Federal Aviation Administration, FAA, can bestow. He and Jessie Marie founded Summerfield Aviation, an FAA-approved pilot school, Air Charter and Aerial Photography Service located at the Cumberland Regional Airport. During his 35 years as a pilot, he logged thousands of hours and provided flight instruction to hundreds of students. He was beloved by his students, many of whom joined the search for his plane when they learned it was missing.

He also understood the need to give back to the community. He served as a deacon and was on the board of directors of the Grace Bible Fellowship in Short Gap, WV. He also was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church in Cresaptown. During the last year of his life, he led a Bible study with prisoners at the Federal Correctional Institution in Cumberland.

On a personal note, Dave's youngest son, Robin, is a valuable member of my staff, as my field representative for the western part of Maryland.

Mr. President, on behalf of the citizens of Maryland and members of the U.S. Senate, I wish to extend our sincerest condolences to the family of Dave Summerfield. He was a great American who was an inspiration to all who knew him.●

HONORING JEFFREY LANE MILLER

• Mrs. DOLE. Mr. President, it is with great pride that I recognize Jeffrey Lane Miller of Hendersonville, NC. Mr. Miller is the founder of HonorAir, an all-volunteer community group, which was organized to honor local World War II veterans by providing them with the opportunity to visit their National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, at no expense.

The National World War II Memorial, dedicated in 2004, honors the 16 million

men and women who served in the Armed Forces of the United States, the more than 400,000 who died, and all who supported the war effort from home. Thousands of WWII veterans pass away every year without having a chance or ability to visit the monument recognizing their service.

Jeff's passion and commitment to America's "greatest generation" has galvanized the Henderson County community. Mr. Miller accomplished what was believed to be the impossible. He organized and obtained funding for chartering commercial aircraft to fly veterans from North Carolina to Washington, DC. His unwavering dedication, with the help of many in the community, has resulted in more than 630 World War II veterans participating in the Hendersonville HonorAir trips. Most of these heroes otherwise would not have been able to visit their monument due to physical or financial limitations.

In partnership with veterans advocates, Jeff created the Honor Flight Network. This network is in the process of honoring the service of World War II veterans from across the United States. As the result of Jeff's inspiration, leadership, and tireless efforts, Honor Flight has been established throughout communities in more than 25 States.

Today I ask that the Senate join with me in recognizing the remarkable public service of Jeff Miller. Jeff has worked so hard to make his dream, of recognizing World War II veterans, into reality. His selfless service has not only had a tremendous impact in his community but throughout our great Nation.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I recognize one of the most beloved heritages in my home State of Arkansas, our national forests. Arkansas is blessed with two National Forest Systems, the Ouachita National Forest and the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests. Last year, we recognized the 100th Anniversary of the Ouachita National Forest which stretches from western Arkansas to southeastern Oklahoma. On March 6, 2008, the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests will take their turn and celebrate their centennial anniversary.

For the last 100 years, the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests have protected our Nation's timber resources while also providing Americans with numerous outdoor and recreational opportunities. What is unique is that they are two completely separate and distinct forests but are managed together.

In 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt set aside lands that spanned the Ozark Mountains and named it the Ozark National Forest. His goal was to conserve and safeguard the hardwood