

father. For President Packer, fatherhood was a sacred responsibility that took precedence over everything else. He was a father of 10, a grandfather of 60, and a great-grandfather of 103. Neither work nor church service could keep him from caring for those he loved most. President Packer always set aside time for his family, and at every opportunity, he sought to educate his children and instill in them the anchor of faith—the same enduring faith that inspired all who heard his teachings.

President Packer's devotion to God was steady and unwavering, but just as sure and steadfast as his faith was his wife, Donna, his constant companion and able helpmeet who stood by his side for more than 67 years. In his final address to members of the LDS Church, President Packer expressed tender feelings for Donna:

When it comes to my wife, the mother of our children, I am without words. The feeling is so deep and the gratitude so powerful that I am left almost without expression . . . I am grateful for each moment I am with her side by side and for the promise the Lord has given that there will be no end.

I know Donna finds peace in that promise, and I pray that her family does too. May God's love might abide with them at this difficult time, and may His love be with all of us who mourn the passing of President Boyd K. Packer.

#### FIFTY YEARS LATER, RECALLING THE VIETNAM WAR AND THOSE WHO FOUGHT IN IT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this week the United States held a special ceremony to commemorate one of the longest wars in our Nation's history—the Vietnam war. It was a ceremony to honor the men and women who served in that long and searing conflict, especially the more than 58,000 young Americans who did not come home from the battle.

The Congressional ceremony was held to commemorate what organizers, including the Department of Defense, call the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam war. The milestone is a little ambiguous. You see, it was 50 years ago, on March 9, 1965, that the first U.S. combat forces—3,500 members of the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade—arrived at the port city of Da Nang, in what was then the Republic of South Vietnam.

The arrival of those young Marines marked the beginning of a massive U.S. military buildup that lasted nearly a decade. But America's military presence in Vietnam actually began several years earlier, with the deployment of military advisors to assist the South Vietnamese armed forces.

All told, 9.2 million Americans served in uniform during the Vietnam war; 7.2 million Vietnam-era veterans are still with us, along with 9 million families of Vietnam-era veterans.

Most of the men who served in Vietnam came home to build successful ca-

reers and strong families. More than a few went on to serve in Congress and we have benefited greatly from their wisdom and continued commitment to duty.

I think of my friend, Senator JOHN MCCAIN, who endured unspeakable cruelty for years as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. He could have been released from that hell years earlier but he refused to leave while other American servicemembers remained captive.

Senator MCCAIN has been a powerful voice in calling for America to honor our commitments under the Geneva Conventions to never use torture—to remain true to our word and our values even in war. I respect him deeply for his principled stand.

I think of other friends and former members of this Senate who served in Vietnam. Bob Kerrey, the former Governor and U.S. Senator from Nebraska, lost a leg while serving as a Navy SEAL in Vietnam. He was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Chuck Hagel, another Nebraskan, served as an Army sergeant in Vietnam alongside his brother Tom. He came home to build a successful business career, got elected twice to the U.S. Senate, and went on to serve as America's Secretary of Defense.

John Kerry was a diplomat's son—truly, a "fortunate son"—who served with distinction in Vietnam as a Navy lieutenant from 1966 to 1970. When he returned home, he became an eloquent voice among those calling for an end to the war in which he had fought. He went on to serve his State of Massachusetts as Lieutenant Governor and then represented his State for nearly 30 years in this Senate. He now represents our Nation's interest on the world stage as U.S. Secretary of State.

One of the bravest men I have ever met served in Vietnam and then served in this Senate. His name is Max Cleland. Max went to Vietnam as a 6-foot, 2-inch marine. One day in Vietnam he stepped on a landmine. The explosion ripped off both of his legs and one of his arms. Max Cleland went on to serve in the Veterans Administration under President Carter and later as a member of this Senate—an amazing man.

In all, more than 153,000 U.S. servicemembers were gravely wounded in Vietnam—wounded seriously enough to require hospitalization.

Others sacrificed even more; 58,220 American servicemembers were killed in action during the Vietnam war.

The Americans who died in Vietnam ranged in age from 6 years old to 62. Six in 10 were just 21 years old or younger. Their names are carved into that sacred slab of black marble, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

In the four decades since the end of the war, thousands more Vietnam veterans have died from physical and psychic injuries suffered in that war—dying from causes ranging from cancers caused by exposure to the deadly

chemical defoliant Agent Orange, to the agonies of post-traumatic stress.

Fifteen years ago, Congress authorized the placement of a plaque near "The Wall" to honor these "men and women who served in the Vietnam War and later died as a result of their service." We remember and honor their service, too.

Every American my age and a decade or so younger knows someone who died in Vietnam or a friend whose father, brother or husband never came home. These young men are still missed deeply by their families and friends and remembered by a grateful nation.

The city I grew up in, East St. Louis, IL lost 56 young men in Vietnam.

The City of Chicago lost 959 young men in the Vietnam war. Let me tell you about one of them: Marine Lance Corporal Mike Badsing. He was among those first 3,500 Marines who landed at Da Nang 50 years ago—a rifleman in the 3rd Marine Division, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines, C Company. The 1st Battalion suffered the highest casualty rate of any Marine battalion in any war—a grim distinction that led North Vietnam's Communist President Ho Chi Minh to call them "The Walking Dead." The nickname stuck.

Mike Badsing attended St. Edward grammar school, where he played football, basketball, and Chicago 16" softball. He was the youngest of five kids. One of his older sisters is a nun today.

He left Chicago for Vietnam on Christmas Eve 1964. About 10 months later, Sept. 6, 1965, his platoon came under fire and Lance Corporal Badsing was hit in the abdomen by a sniper shot, becoming the first Chicago-area Marine killed in combat in Vietnam.

He was buried in All Saints Cemetery in Des Plaines, IL. A half-century later, Marines still visit his grave, often drinking a few Old Style beers in their friend's memory.

My adopted hometown of Springfield, IL—also President Lincoln's adopted hometown—lost 40 young men in combat during the Vietnam war. Among them was an Army helicopter pilot named Captain Michael Davis O'Donnell.

Mike O'Donnell died on March 24, 1970, when a rescue helicopter he was piloting crashed in dense jungle in Cambodia, 14 miles over the Cambodia-Vietnam border. He had gone into Cambodia to rescue a Special Forces reconnaissance team that was about to be overrun by enemy soldiers. He and his crew had gotten all eight members of the Special Forces team safely on board and were taking off when their "Huey" helicopter was hit twice by enemy missiles. It was 1 week before President Nixon announced publicly that American forces were even in Cambodia.

All 12 men aboard Mike O'Donnell's Huey died, but it wasn't until 2001 that their remains were identified and returned. Today, they lie buried together at Arlington Cemetery.

Mike O'Donnell was 24 years old when he died. He was promoted posthumously to the rank of major.

In addition to being a soldier, Mike O'Donnell was a talented musician and a poet. During his life, he shared his poems with only a few close friends. After he died, soldiers in his unit found a notebook he kept, filled with 22 of his poems, which they saved and brought home.

Just as "In Flanders Fields" has become the unofficial homage to World War I, a poem by Michael Davis O'Donnell has become the unofficial poem of the Vietnam war. It begins with the words, "If you are able, save them a place inside of you." Google that line and you will find nearly 75,000 hits.

Mike O'Donnell's poem was carried in combat by untold thousands of men who served in Vietnam. It was read at the dedication of "The Wall," the national Vietnam War Memorial, in Washington, DC, and it is etched into many smaller Vietnam memorials across America.

Here is the whole poem:

If you are able,  
save them a place  
inside of you  
and save one backward glance  
when you are leaving  
for the places they can  
no longer go.  
Be not ashamed to say  
you loved them,  
though you may  
or may not have always.  
Take what they have left  
and what they have taught you  
with their dying  
and keep it with your own.  
And in that time  
when men decide and feel safe  
to call the war insane,  
take one moment to embrace  
those gentle heroes  
you left behind.

Captain Michael Davis O'Donnell  
1 January 1970  
Dak To, Vietnam

Less than 3 months after writing those words, Mike O'Donnell died.

Along with the 58,220 Americans who died there, the Vietnam war claimed the lives of more than one million Vietnamese men, women and children.

It is fitting, and it is overdue, for America to thank all of those who served and sacrificed so much in the Vietnam war. But we owe them more than speeches and ceremonies. As President Lincoln told us in his Second Inaugural Address, we have a solemn duty "to care for him who has borne the battle."

Six years ago I asked my friend, then-Senator Hillary Clinton, if I could introduce a bill she had been working on before she moved on to a bigger and better gig. She agreed, and I introduced a bill creating what is now called the Veterans Caregiver Program, to help the families of U.S. servicemembers severely injured in Iraq and Afghanistan. The program provides family caregivers of post 9/11 veterans who have suffered catastrophic injuries with training and a small stipend so they can care for their loved ones at home, rather than sending them to nursing

homes. The program helps these families know that they are not alone and not forgotten.

Today, 20,000 veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan participate in the caregivers program. That is more than five times the number the VA originally estimated would sign up.

The Veterans Caregiver Program doesn't just help those families; it helps American taxpayers. Caring for severely injured veterans in the caregivers program costs the VA \$36,000 per veteran, per year. Compare that to the average \$332,000 per veteran, per year it costs the VA to care for these veterans in nursing homes.

When we started the caregivers program, we had to limit it to post-9/11 veterans and their families. But we know now that it works. It saves families and it saves taxpayers money.

When he chaired the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, our colleague, Senator BERNIE SANDERS said repeatedly that we should expand the Veterans Caregivers Program. He was right.

So last March—nearly 50 years to the day after those first, young Marines landed in Da Nang—Senator BALDWIN and I introduced a bill to expand the program to U.S. veterans of all wars. Our bill is called the VA Family Caregivers Expansion and Improvement Act.

They were young once, but today the average Vietnam veteran is retired. Many still struggle with old wounds gained in service to our Nation.

As our Nation and this Congress thank them for their service 50 years ago, I hope that we can also work together in this Senate to provide Vietnam veterans the medical care and support that they and their families need today.

#### BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I wish to submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report for July 2015. The report compares current-law levels of spending and revenues with the amounts provided in the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 11, the budget resolution for fiscal year 2016. This information is necessary to determine whether budget points of order lie against pending legislation. It has been prepared by the Republican staff of the Senate Budget Committee and the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, pursuant to section 308(b) of the Congressional Budget Act.

This is the first report I have made since adoption of the 2016 budget resolution on May 5, 2015. I will provide these reports periodically, generally one per work period. The information contained in this report is current through July 7, 2015.

Table 1 gives the amount by which each Senate authorizing committee exceeds or is below its allocation under the budget resolution. This information is used for enforcing committee allocations pursuant to section 302 of

the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, CBA. For fiscal year 2015, which is still enforced under the deemed budget resolution from the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, BBA, Senate authorizing committees have increased direct spending outlays by \$7.8 billion more than the agreed-upon spending levels. Over the fiscal years 2016–2025 period, which is the entire period covered by S. Con. Res. 11, Senate authorizing committees have spent \$22 million more than the budget resolution calls for.

Table 2 gives the amount by which the Senate Committee on Appropriations exceeds or is below the statutory spending limits. This information is used to determine points of order related to the spending caps found in section 312 and section 314 of the CBA. While no appropriations bills have been enacted, subcommittees are charged with permanent and advanced appropriations that first become available for fiscal year 2016.

Table 3 gives the amount by which the Senate Committee on Appropriations exceeds or is below its allocation for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism, OCO/GWOT, spending. This separate allocation for OCO/GWOT was established in section 3102 of S. Con. Res. 11, and is enforced using section 302 of the CBA. No bills providing funds with the OCO/GWOT designation have been enacted thus far for fiscal year 2016.

The budget resolution established two new points of order limiting the use of changes in mandatory programs in appropriations bills, CHIMPS. Tables 4 and 5 show compliance with fiscal year 2016 limits for overall CHIMPS and the Crime Victims Fund CHIMP, respectively. This information is used for determining points of order under section 3103 and section 3104, respectively. No bills have been enacted thus far for fiscal year 2016 that include CHIMPS.

In addition to the tables provided by the Senate Budget Committee Republican staff, I am submitting additional tables from CBO that I will use for enforcement of budget levels agreed to by the Congress.

Because legislation can still be enacted that would have an effect on fiscal year 2015, CBO provided a report for both fiscal year 2015 and fiscal year 2016. This information is used to enforce aggregate spending levels in budget resolutions under section 311 of the CBA. CBO's estimates show that current law levels of spending for fiscal year 2015 exceed the amounts in the deemed budget resolution enacted in the BBA by \$8.0 billion in budget authority and \$1.0 billion in outlays. Revenues are \$79.8 billion below the revenue floor for fiscal year 2015 set by the deemed budget resolution. As well, Social Security outlays are at the levels assumed for fiscal year 2015, while Social Security revenues are \$170 million above levels in the deemed budget.

For fiscal year 2016, CBO estimates that current law levels are below the