

while on duty, he saw a man in business clothes carrying a tent and walking down the street. When asked, the man told Officer Ellis that he had a job interview the next morning and had nowhere to spend the night. Officer Ellis paid to get him a room.

Daniel graduated from Eastern Kentucky University, where his funeral service was held. Most of the school coliseum's 7,000 seats were full for the service. Hundreds of fellow police officers from across Kentucky and other States poured into Richmond to pay their respects.

Members of Officer Ellis's family who are suffering from this loss include his wife, Katie; his son, Luke, who is only 4 years old; his parents, Kelly and Nancy West Ellis; two brothers; a sister; and his paternal grandmother.

I know my colleagues in the United States Senate join me in wishing the Ellis family our utmost condolences after their horrible loss. We are humbled and we are grateful for Officer Daniel Ellis's service and his enormous sacrifice in the line of duty. I hold the deepest admiration and respect for every brave police officer across the Bluegrass State, all of whom put their lives in danger to protect us. Kentucky is thankful these men and women have made a sacred pledge to protect and defend.

Local news Web site WLKY.com published a moving article about Officer Ellis and the outpouring of grief in the Richmond community after his death. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From WLKY.com, Nov. 12, 2015]

**THOUSANDS SAY GOODBYE TO SLAIN RICHMOND OFFICER DANIEL ELLIS—CHIEF SAYS "GRIEF IS NEARLY INCONSOLABLE"**

(By Carolyn Callahan and Emily Maher)

RICHMOND, KY.—He lost his life doing the job he loved.

Thousands of people were in Richmond on Wednesday to say goodbye to Officer Daniel Ellis.

The 33-year-old was shot a week ago during a robbery investigation.

He died two days later.

The funeral service was held at Alumni Coliseum at Eastern Kentucky University.

Both Daniel and his wife, Katie, graduated from the school.

For the first time since the deadly shooting, Richmond's police chief spoke publicly.

"We have lost our Daniel," Chief Larry Brock said. "Our collective grief is nearly inconsolable."

Ellis started with the Richmond Police Department in 2008.

While Brock hoped Ellis would finish his career with the department, he never imagined it would end the way it did.

"Today we say goodbye to Officer Daniel Ellis. Our Daniel. But we will never forget him, his service, or his sacrifice," Brock said.

Ellis leaves behind a wife and young son.

"Katie, I pledge to you and Luke that you will remain a part of our family. That we will always be there for you, and that you will never walk alone," Brock said.

The chief said it rained after Ellis died.

"It was as if the angels themselves were crying at the loss of this special young man," Brock said.

Then hours later, a rainbow appeared over the Richmond Police Department. The chief takes that as a sign that Ellis is still with them.

"Rest easy, Daniel. You have left us too early," he said.

Shortly before he was killed, Ellis found out he was being promoted to detective.

It's a job at which the chief said he would have excelled.

"From the kindergarten classrooms that he visited, to the courtrooms where his testimony could be counted on to be straightforward and truthful, he will be greatly missed," East End Church of Christ minister Phillip Shumake said.

Hundreds lined downtown Richmond streets as Ellis received a hero's escort to his final resting place.

Residents in Richmond said they wanted to show their thanks to the man who gave his life protecting theirs.

Black and blue pinwheels and white ribbons with Ellis's badge number line the Eastern Bypass.

Hundreds of officers drove down the street, escorting Ellis to his final resting place, while the community watched and supported an officer who was loved.

"Even though we wear a different badge, he is my brother," Shane Allen with Richmond Rescue said.

"You're grieving for someone that's not a family member, but he feels like a family member," community member Shelley Johnson said.

"We were actually on shift the day it happened and we were all trying to find out who it was. He is family," Allen said.

A kind of family that is brought closer together in times of loss.

"And I was trying to explain to the kids, 'Mommy, why do you cry?' And it's like something unexplainable and maybe they can understand that," Johnson said.

The community stood together to pay their final respects holding signs calling Ellis a hero.

"It's unbelievable. It's really touching to see the support—that even though it's something tragic that has brought this community together so tightly, to see the support for somebody they might not even know. And to see them come out on a day and support him as he goes by to lay at rest," Allen said.

Hundreds of officers from across the state escorted Ellis on a 100-mile journey to his final resting place.

"We just wanted to show what his service has meant to us," community member Sarah Roof said.

As he passed by, blue balloons were released into the air as a final tribute to a man the community said will never be forgotten.

"He loved his job. He helped the community and that was his job. And that's what he wanted to do," Allen said.

Ellis will be laid to rest in Adair County.

The family has asked for donations to be made to the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation or Supporting Heroes.

#### EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I wish to speak about the Every Student Succeeds Act that the President signed into law today.

I want to first congratulate my colleagues Senator PATTY MURRAY and Senator LAMAR ALEXANDER, who have effectively been able to guide this bill

through the Senate. It has been an honor to watch and participate in this process—a process that has served as a great example of the way the Senate is supposed to work.

When the original Senate version of the Every Child Achieves Act came to the floor for a vote on July 22, 2015, I could not support it because, while it made necessary changes to the No Child Left Behind law, I could not in good conscience support a bill that fell short of investing in the potential and promise of all of our children, especially New Jersey's most vulnerable students. I stood resolute in the belief that if Congress was truly going to invest in our children and grandchildren's future, it was vital that any legislation passed provide support, access, and opportunity to equip the next generation to succeed, regardless of their socioeconomic status.

These needs were particularly poignant given the historic context of the original Elementary and Secondary Education Act as a civil rights bill. Created the same year as the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and just 11 years after the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, President Lyndon B. Johnson's original piece of legislation intended to address the gaping gulf in the quality of education received by low-income students in an intensely segregated country. Indeed, this piece of legislation was a vital tool in President Johnson's arsenal on the War on Poverty. It is undeniable that education is a cornerstone of the American Dream to achieve success and financial security. We do our Nation and our children a disservice if we do not do everything in our power to ensure that President Johnson's arsenal is not only maintained, but honed and replenished with robust provisions to fight an evolving battle for educational equity in our schools.

Although I did not vote for the original Senate version of ESEA that passed the Senate in July, I am glad to see a conference report, the Every Student Succeeds Act, ESSA, that takes elements from both the House and Senate bill and ultimately is a better bill for all children, teachers, and parents in our country.

Chief among provisions that I believed were problematic was the lack of accountability measures to ensure America's most vulnerable students have access to a quality education. With regards to accountability, it was critical not to be overly prescriptive while still acknowledging an intense need to identify and ask schools and districts to figure out specific plans to turn things around in the lowest performing schools and high schools who fail to graduate one-third of their students. It is also critical to identify where there are groups of students who are consistently performing worse than their peers. I do not believe these changes should come from Washington. Local teachers, principals, and parents are best equipped to know how best to

turn around a failing school, and this bill gives them the arsenal to do so. I believe the new accountability provisions empower local leaders, with State and Federal guidance, to pursue the improvement strategies best suited to their local needs.

These accountability measures are vital if we are to guarantee that the ideals our students pledge allegiance to every day, justice and liberty for all, are manifest in the education we provide for our youngest Americans.

With this goal in mind, I am also pleased that ESSA includes my amendment to support homeless and foster youth, by ensuring educators and the public are aware of how foster and homeless children and youth are performing on critical elements compared to their peers by adding reporting for these groups on graduation rates to the State and school district report cards.

The role of teachers is also prioritized in ESSA, and I was especially proud to see the amendment I authored that helps support teachers by asking school districts to identify opportunities to make working conditions better and more sustainable.

With these improvements made and the spirit of the bill as an important piece of civil rights legislation maintained, I wholeheartedly support the reconciled version that has passed the House and Senate and that was signed by the President today.

#### TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL CHRISTOPHER J. PAUL

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the service of RADM Christopher J. Paul, Deputy Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, who is retiring from the United States Navy after more than 38 years of faithful service to our Nation.

Having enlisted in the Navy in 1977, Rear Admiral Paul went on to attend the U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School and U.S. Naval Academy, where he distinguished himself as a valued leader of the varsity cross country, indoor, and outdoor Track teams under famed coach Al Cantello and a 10-time letterman. After graduating from the Naval Academy in 1982 with a Bachelor of Science degree in physical science, RADM Paul served on USS *KIDD*, DDG 993, a destroyer homeported in Norfolk, VA, until 1987 and qualified as a surface warfare officer during deployments to the Atlantic and Indian Oceans; the Mediterranean, Black, North, Baltic, Red, and Caribbean Seas; and the Arabian Gulf.

Rear Admiral Paul's Pentagon staff assignments included service on the Joint Staff as an action officer in the Operations Directorate J-3 and U.S. Senate liaison officer and assistant surface warfare program officer in the Secretary of the Navy's Office of legislative affairs from 1987 to 1991. During that assignment, Rear Admiral Paul had the opportunity to work on behalf of Members of Congress on the Senate

Armed Services Committee and was subsequently assigned to serve in my office to help write a \$600 million package of veterans benefits for servicemembers and veterans of Operation Desert Storm. While working on that legislative matter, I had the privilege of promoting then Lieutenant Paul to the grade of lieutenant commander, when he transitioned to the Navy Reserve, which allowed him to continue to serve on my staff in Washington, DC, while also serving at the Pentagon's Navy Command Center as assistant operations department head.

Rear Admiral Paul went on to faithfully serve on my Senate legislative staff for a total of 16 years, followed by 6 years as a professional staff member on the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services, while simultaneously serving in numerous Navy positions of increasing responsibility over the course of more than 22 years. Those assignments included serving on the Chief of Naval Operations staff as executive officer of Reserve Component Augment Units to the director of Surface Warfare OPNAV N86 and the director of Expeditionary Warfare OPNAV N85 between 1997 and 1999.

Rear Admiral Paul's Navy Reserve unit command assignments included CVNE-0109, from 1999 to 2001, supporting AIRLANT aircraft carriers, during which he was recognized with the Commander Naval Air Force Reserve Robert I. Barto Award; Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head, from 2001 to 2003; and, rapid response to full unit-mobilization in support of Operation Noble Eagle, which was recognized by the Secretary of the Navy with the Meritorious Unit Commendation. His command assignments also included Navy Region, Mid-Atlantic, from 2003 to 2005, where he was mobilized in support of Joint Task Force Katrina as chief of staff, Joint Force Maritime Component Commander; U.S. Forces, Japan from 2005 to 2007, where the unit received the Joint Meritorious Unit Award for its contingency and exercise support that greatly enhanced the U.S.-Japan Security Alliance; and deputy regional commander to Commandant, Naval District Washington, from 2007 to 2008, supporting the Navy Total Force in the national capital area.

During Rear Admiral Paul's flag officer assignments, he led several type commands responsible for manning, training, and equipping naval warships and expeditionary forces. In his first flag assignment, Rear Admiral Paul served as deputy commander, Navy Expeditionary Combat Command from 2008 to 2011, receiving the Navy Unit Commendation for its outstanding success in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom; deputy commander, Naval Surface Forces Atlantic from 2011 to 2012; and deputy commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet from 2012 to 2015, where he culminated his Navy career. During his flag officer positions, Rear Admiral

Paul distinguished himself in the performance of his duties while demonstrating a uniquely comprehensive knowledge of manpower, personnel, training, enlisted personnel distribution, and surface warfare officer career management issues. His effective leadership and initiatives helped transform how surface forces are trained and prepared to fight in naval warships during a vital period of change in the surface warfare community.

As a loyal and dedicated member of my staff for over 22 years, Rear Admiral Paul worked tirelessly as a valued legislative aide to me in my U.S. Senate office and on the professional staff of the Senate Armed Services Committee. In that capacity, Rear Admiral Paul played an important role in policy matters affecting our Nation and the U.S. military, helping to advance countless legislative initiatives enacted into law that will have a lasting impact on U.S. policy, including the Detainee Treatment Act of 2005, which prohibits the inhumane treatment of prisoners of the United States; legislation that reauthorized the FAA in 1996, which is still recognized as the largest aviation reform law since the deregulation act of 1977; laws that help improve the lives of our servicemembers, veterans, and military families; and numerous provisions that have improved the ability of the military to procure needed combat capability, enhanced the readiness of ships, submarines, and aircraft, and maintained global superiority—all while ensuring that the Department of Defense acts as a responsible steward of diminishing defense dollars.

As a determined Reserve Component surface warfare leader and dedicated public servant, it is fitting that we honor Rear Admiral Paul's service during the centennial of the U.S. Navy Reserve. Rear Admiral Paul embodies the moral character and dedication of our Nation's citizen-sailors who bring unique skill sets through their military and civilian training and serve our country honorably by the core values of the United States of America. I heartily thank Rear Admiral Paul; his wife, Shannon; daughter, Catherine; and son, Christopher, for their honorable service to our Nation and the U.S. Navy; and wish Rear Admiral Paul fair winds and following seas as he concludes a career in the U.S. Navy exemplary in honor and distinction.

Thank you.

#### TRIBUTE TO JIM SMITH

• Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I wish to honor a great South Dakotan on his notable accomplishments and his career, starting as an elevator operator in the Senate. His career spanned seven decades, 10 Presidents, and 32 Congresses. To say Jim Smith is an institution in Washington, DC, would be an understatement.

Jim Smith was born in Aberdeen, SD, but spent the majority of his childhood