

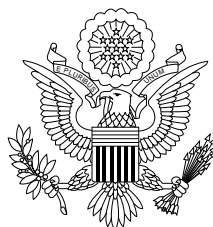
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John E. Sununu

U.S. SENATOR FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE

TRIBUTES

**IN THE CONGRESS OF
THE UNITED STATES**



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John E. Sununu

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S. DOC. 110-28

Tributes Delivered in Congress

John E. Sununu
United States Congressman
1997-2003

United States Senator
2003-2009

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 2010

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*Compiled under the direction
of the
Joint Committee on Printing*

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BIOGRAPHY

JOHN SUNUNU first ran for public office in 1996, winning election in New Hampshire's First Congressional District and serving three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. In 2002, JOHN defeated both an incumbent Senator and an incumbent Governor to become the youngest Member of the U.S. Senate.

At the age of 43, JOHN had already distinguished himself as an innovative legislator, bringing an extensive background in science, engineering, and small business to his work in Washington. He was the 61st person to serve New Hampshire as a Senator and occupied the Senate seat held by such distinguished individuals as Nicholas Gilman, a signer of the U.S. Constitution, and Styles Bridges, one of New Hampshire's longest-serving Senators and minority leader of the Senate in 1952.

During his 6 years in the House of Representatives, JOHN rose to become vice chairman of the Budget Committee, taking a leading role in shaping the Nation's annual budget priorities. He also served on the House Appropriations Committee and worked to pass legislation to protect New Hampshire's Lamprey River, support the families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty, and strengthen funding for special education.

In the Senate, JOHN's key assignments included the Finance Committee, the Commerce Committee, and the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. JOHN also served on the Joint Economic Committee, and was the ranking member—senior Republican—on the Commerce Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs, Insurance and Automotive Safety; the Foreign Relations Subcommittee on African Affairs; and the Homeland Security Ad Hoc Subcommittee on State, Local, and Private Sector Preparedness and Integration. He was nominated by President Bush to serve as one of two congressional Members in the U.S. delegation to the 59th General Assembly of the United Nations.

JOHN SUNUNU grew up in Salem, NH, and is one of eight children. He was first introduced to public service at a young age when his mother served as chairman of the local school

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board. JOHN attended public schools, graduated from Salem High School, and received bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. JOHN has also earned a master's degree in business administration from the Harvard Graduate School of Business.

JOHN and his wife Kitty have three children.

In his first Senate term, JOHN earned national recognition for his legislative achievements in the areas of health care, fiscal responsibility, and energy policy—recognition that underscored his ability to effect policy that addresses the needs of New Hampshire residents and Americans nationwide.

Nonpartisan taxpayer watchdog organizations—the National Taxpayers Union, the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste, and Americans for Tax Reform—have consistently honored JOHN for his commitment to cutting government spending, reducing taxes, and eliminating the debt.

Some of JOHN's other awards include the New Hampshire Timberland Owners "Outstanding Legislator of the Year" award for 2007; the National Breast Cancer Coalition's "Certificate of Excellence" for 2007; the National Association of Community Health Centers "2008 Superhero Award"; Consumer Electronics Association's 2007 "Digital Patriot Award"; *Time* magazine's "Up And Comer"; and the American Academy of Ophthalmology's 2004 "Visionary Award."

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TRIBUTES
TO
JOHN E. SUNUNU

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Proceedings in the Senate

SATURDAY, *September 27, 2008*

ORDER FOR PRINTING OF SENATE DOCUMENT

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the tributes to retiring Senators that appear in the *Congressional Record* be printed as a Senate document and that Senators be permitted to submit such tributes for inclusion until Friday, November 21, 2008.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MONDAY, *November 17, 2008*

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I rise today to honor my colleague, Senator JOHN SUNUNU, who will be leaving the Senate at the end of this term. Senator SUNUNU has represented the great State of New Hampshire for 12 years in Congress, serving 6 of those years in the Senate. Senator SUNUNU and I both served on the Finance Committee. Although we did not always agree, I found JOHN to be willing to work in a bipartisan manner to confront the major challenges that our great Nation faces.

Raised in Salem, NH, JOHN SUNUNU became interested in public service early in life when his mother served as chair of the local school board. JOHN attended public school in Salem and later earned advanced degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Harvard Graduate School of Business.

JOHN SUNUNU was elected to represent New Hampshire's First Electoral District in the House of Representatives in 1996. In the House JOHN served on the Budget and Appropriations Committees. He quickly rose in rank on the Budget Committee, becoming its vice chairman. In 2002, he was elected to represent the Granite State in this Chamber, becoming its youngest Member.

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JOHN and I worked together on numerous occasions. We both served on the Finance Committee. This summer, JOHN joined the so-called “Gang of Ten” as it expanded from 10 to 20 members. Together, we sought pragmatic, bipartisan solutions to our Nation’s energy crisis. Senator SUNUNU also joined me in standing up for our Nation’s senior citizens and opposing cuts to Medicare-financed nursing home care.

JOHN will be remembered for his commitment to individual liberties and limited government. In the uncertainties of today’s world, Senator SUNUNU has been a voice for preserving civil liberties in the light of increased law enforcement needs.

I thank Senator SUNUNU for his years of public service and wish him and his family the best in the future.

WEDNESDAY, *November 19, 2008*

Mr. MCCONNELL. I rise today to say farewell to the Senator from New Hampshire, JOHN SUNUNU. Although JOHN is the youngest Senator, he is one of our brightest. A reporter once wrote that one of JOHN’s fellow Senators said that if we were ever to lose JOHN, the rest of us would have to argue over who would be the smartest person in the Senate. But as long as we had JOHN around, there was no argument.

JOHN impressed people at a young age, earning both a bachelor’s and master’s degree in mechanical engineering from MIT and an MBA from Harvard. He received real-world experience working as an engineer in jobs I daresay few of our colleagues could try to explain, myself included.

Then one day a seat from New Hampshire in the House of Representatives opened up, and JOHN took a good long look at it. JOHN has never been the kind of man who felt he deserved a job on the public payroll. He did not crave the power and respect that came with holding office. Yet we are certainly thankful his great State has sent him here.

Now, 12 years later, I think we can say with confidence that New Hampshire could not have had a more dedicated and principled public servant.

After 6 years of service in the House, New Hampshire sent JOHN to this Chamber in 2002. To reach the Senate, he had to face an incumbent Senator in the primary and then a sitting Governor in the general election. Since then JOHN has compiled a record of which every citizen of the Granite State can be proud.

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A student of the free market, JOHN strongly believes lower taxes promote growth and expand opportunities. That is why he fought so hard to extend the ban on taxes to access the Internet. That tax ban was signed into law, and it protects consumers from taxes on Internet access, e-mail, and instant messaging for 7 years.

Just think, if online communications and commerce grow as rapidly over the next 7 years as they have over the past 7, JOHN's tax ban will not only have promoted economic growth, it will have spared countless small businesses and families from a tremendous burden. For that, he deserves all of our thanks.

JOHN's voice was one of the loudest to say that we must tackle tough issues now, such as entitlements and the future of Social Security. He stood up time and again, calling on Congress to reduce government spending, expand telecommunications service to rural areas, and clean up air pollution.

He also learned first hand the principle that has made America great, our commitment to personal freedom. It is what this country was founded on. JOHN understands what makes America work is not what we do in this Chamber but what millions of Americans do every day for their families and communities.

JOHN is a kind and compassionate man who is a joy to know. I remember well when the senior Senator from Pennsylvania underwent chemotherapy in 2005 as part of his treatment for Hodgkin's disease.

Like many chemotherapy recipients, the Senator from Pennsylvania's hair fell out. In a generous act of solidarity with his colleague, JOHN shaved his head. That certainly took more commitment than sending a get well card. But that is JOHN SUNUNU.

JOHN, I am going to miss you. It has been an honor to work by your side over these past 6 years. It has been a joy to know you, your lovely wife Kitty, and your family.

I want them and you to know that we in the Senate admire the depth of your convictions and the strength of your heart. I am sure that whatever the future holds for you, you will be a huge success.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire is recognized.

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Mr. SUNUNU. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for a few minutes in response to the very kind remarks of the Republican leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SUNUNU. First, it is probably appropriate for me to note that the haircut that I now sport is an echo of that summer a couple of years ago when I cut my hair, or cut all of my hair, in tribute to the sacrifice and the celebration of the final chemotherapy treatment of Senator Specter.

He underwent another round of chemo this past summer. In the middle of the campaign, I did not think it was appropriate to shave my head. So the day after the election, 2 weeks ago, I thought there was some pent-up demand in my own heart to remember those tough weeks for Arlen Specter. So I was happy to go out and shave my head again. That is why it looks a little bit different than it might have during the campaign.

The Republican leader has been very kind in his remarks. And I cannot help but note that I am a little bit too young to have anyone paying tribute to my career, as it were, in public service. I believe very strongly that you go out, you find work that you love, a job that teaches you great things, and if you have some opportunity to serve your community, your State, your country in public service, then you think seriously about that opportunity.

That is how I came to the House and even my work in the Senate. I am going to have the opportunity to go back and do things that I find challenging being an engineer, coming out of a small business community. I know there are a lot of great challenges and opportunities that await. But I also know there may come another time when there is an opportunity to serve, and I will always take those opportunities very seriously.

On election night, whether you win or lose, you always thank the people who matter most to you. You thank your family, you thank the people of the State of New Hampshire who have been good enough to give you the privilege to serve, but you also thank the people who made your work possible in the Senate, your colleagues. I cannot think of any colleague who has been more supportive and more helpful to me over the 6 years I have been in the Senate than Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky.

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The Senator mentioned my work on the Internet tax ban, but the Senator from Kentucky did not mention his own work. This was a case where it helped to have someone with Senator McConnell's leadership and experience because while I waited patiently in the midst of a reauthorization of the Amtrak bill, once we had the opportunity to offer amendments, I happened to be prepared with an amendment that would ban taxes on Internet access. And the leader from Kentucky just happened to be prepared with a motion to close debate on that amendment so we could finally get a vote.

While that procedure may sound very arcane to people who may be listening to the Senate debate at home, it was absolutely essential in bringing that issue to a successful completion. So only by working closely with the Senator from Kentucky were we able to get that work done on the Internet tax ban. And it is perhaps the work that I am most proud of. I think it is the work I have been able to do in the Senate that will probably have the most lasting economic impact. It is important to leave behind a record that you are proud of, but it is also maybe even more important to leave behind many fond memories of that work, fond memories of colleagues with whom you were able to spend time and, of course, fond memories of the friendships you were able to form, both with members of your own party and with those on the other side of the aisle.

Perhaps what I am most proud of overall is that the pieces of legislation I was able to sponsor and pass, whether it was the Internet tax ban, civil liberties protection that we added under the PATRIOT Act, or the Wilderness Act that protects 35,000 acres of the White Mountain National Forest, were all bipartisan pieces of legislation. That means a lot to me.

I think it will serve me well in any future endeavors I undertake in public service. I thank Senator McConnell, the Republican leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, let me just say to my friend from New Hampshire, it has been a real privilege to serve with somebody of your intellect and ability. I know you are going to be a huge success. You have, as we discussed, a lot of your life left. I know you are going to be a huge success in the coming years, and I am looking forward to seeing more of you in the future.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, first, I wish to thank the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. SUNUNU] who just spoke

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for his leadership in the Congress, and it has been a pleasure serving with him. I also will be retiring, but one of the people I will miss is JOHN SUNUNU from New Hampshire, because I think he has contributed a lot to the process.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I want to take a moment to recognize the service of Senator JOHN SUNUNU during his time here in the Senate. It has been a pleasure to work with him on a wide range of issues, from protecting the rights of law-abiding Americans to strengthening our foreign policy toward Africa.

Senator SUNUNU has made many important contributions during his time in this body, but his work to protect the constitutional rights of innocent Americans is certainly among the most important. He recognizes that our government can wage an effective fight against terrorism that still respects our basic freedoms. Senator SUNUNU has been a crucial voice on civil liberties issues like reforming the PATRIOT Act and keeping tabs on government data mining efforts. I am proud that we worked together on a number of bills. Most recently, we introduced legislation addressing the serious misuse of the FBI's national security letter authorities to obtain information about innocent people without judicial review. We also successfully passed legislation last year requiring Federal agencies to inform Congress about the use and development of the kind of government data mining technologies that raise the most serious privacy and efficacy concerns. I will miss his voice on these issues here in the Senate.

Finally, I want to recognize Senator SUNUNU's work on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's Africa Subcommittee. I had the privilege of working side by side with him when he was ranking member of that subcommittee, and I saw first hand his commitment to ending devastating conflicts in Africa. I deeply appreciate his commitment to his work on Africa, and to so many other issues during his service in the Senate. I wish him all the best in the future.

THURSDAY, *November 20, 2008*

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, a large number of very special and extraordinary individuals will be leaving the Senate at the end of this session, many friends and many people I have admired for a number of years and had the privilege to serve

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with. I wish to speak specifically to one, and that is my colleague from New Hampshire, JOHN SUNUNU.

JOHN is the youngest Member of the Senate. He came here as the youngest Member, and he is still the youngest Member after 6 years, but he is one of the most accomplished and capable people in the Senate, one of the brightest, as we all know, and also one of the people who brings the most common sense to issues. Time and time again, I would come to the floor, and this was throughout his term but especially during the last few months when he was in a very challenging election, and there would be votes cast that were very difficult political votes, votes which, when you cast these votes, most people knew they were not going to be understood and, in many instances, they were going to be misinterpreted or subject to misrepresentation but votes which were necessary to cast in order to preserve especially the fiscal responsibility of this government. JOHN SUNUNU never backed away from any of those votes. He always cast the difficult vote, knowing in many instances that politically it was going to be characterized in a way that might hurt him; votes, the basic purpose of which, in most instances, were to protect the taxpayer, keep the size of government under control, and be a force for a better country and for more individual rights. He understands as well as anyone in this body the basic values of making government live within its means, of having a government that people can afford but is still compassionate and accomplishes the goals of delivering adequate services. He has worked very hard in order to pursue those goals.

He also brought to the body a unique sense of humor, New Hampshire humor, quiet, witty, and comfortable with himself but also willing to make fun of himself, and an essential common sense, which I like to think is characteristic of New Hampshire, and also an integrity, a commitment to public service for the purposes of public service—the fact that he was here not to benefit himself in any way but simply to do what he felt was right in order to make our Nation better and make New Hampshire better. He served New Hampshire for 12 years, both in Congress and in the Senate.

As I mentioned, he is the youngest Member of the Senate and his service is hardly completed, I hope. His opportunities are virtually limitless because his abilities are limitless. He has talent and capability, intelligence, drive, the personality to pretty much do whatever he wants as he moves forward.

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He also has one other resource which is very special and that is his wife and family. Kitty is an exceptional individual. Kathy and I have come to enjoy not only working with JOHN and Kitty but getting to know them as friends, as fellow travelers. Kathy has been through many years being a political wife, and she has put up with a lot of ups and downs. She and Kitty naturally bonded, as they understood the importance of what we do. Kitty is an individual who brings a smile whenever you see her because she is a person filled with good will to everyone. Their children, Grace and Charlotte, John Hayes, great kids, very enthusiastic people, a wonderful family. That family is a tremendous support to JOHN, and he is a tremendous support to them. That unit, as it moves forward, will always be successful.

It is obviously with great regret that I look on JOHN's leaving the Senate. His talent will be lost here, and it will be a loss to the body. He is a special individual who had a special group of skills that uniquely worked for the benefit of New Hampshire and the people of New Hampshire. I hope he will stay engaged.

Kathy and I wish him and Kitty and their children the best of luck as they go forward and that the road always rises to meet them.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

Mr. SPECTER. Madam President, I wish to pay tribute to my friend Senator JOHN SUNUNU for his service to the country and his contributions to the U.S. Senate. Senator SUNUNU's departure from the Senate will be a great loss to this body, as well as to the State of New Hampshire.

I have known Senator SUNUNU since he joined the Senate in 2002. I have always found him to be an intelligent, engaged, and capable legislator who cares deeply for the well-being of his constituents and does what is right for the Nation, regardless of the political cost.

Senator SUNUNU followed his father and mother into public service when he ran for public office in 1996 and won the election in New Hampshire's First Congressional District. JOHN served three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives where he quickly established a reputation as an innovative legislator. JOHN effectively applied his extensive background in science, engineering, and small business during his 6 years in the House of Representatives where he rose to become vice chairman of the Budget Committee and took a leading role in shaping our Nation's annual budget priorities.

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In 2002, JOHN joined the Senate after defeating both an incumbent Senator and an incumbent Governor to become the youngest Member of the U.S. Senate. I have admired JOHN's work on committees: the Finance Committee, the Commerce Committee, and the Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee. On these committees Senator SUNUNU played a major role on the lobbying reform legislation, and he got the Bush administration to make some crucial changes in the PATRIOT Act before he voted to reauthorize it.

JOHN SUNUNU has also gained a reputation as a well respected fiscal conservative.

On a personal note, Senator SUNUNU has been a very good friend to me. When I underwent chemotherapy for Hodgkin's disease and lost my hair, Senator SUNUNU showed up one day on the Senate floor with a shaved head. He said that he had shaved his head as a sign of solidarity for what I was going through.

I wish JOHN, his wife Kitty, and his three lovely children the best of luck as they move forward. I have no doubt that Senator SUNUNU has a bright future and will continue to make important contributions to New Hampshire and the entire Nation.

Mr. WARNER. JOHN SUNUNU. I confess not to have known him very well. I had met him when he came from the House of Representatives to the Senate. I suppose all of us who have been here for a period of time, having been given that marvelous accolade of an old bull, presume we can judge others quickly. I saw in JOHN SUNUNU a man who would take charge from the day he came, and that he did. From the very moment he walked on the floor of the Senate, he was possessed of his own self-confidence, his own driving, almost a fierce desire to be a leader—a leader in the sense of advocating as a true fighter, advocating for those issues in which he had a belief in the principles that were dear to his heart.

The field of economics is quite a challenge, and with little provocation he would give you a tutorial on the most complex issues as they relate to economics. Indeed, in the weeks before the election, as this body was coming to a close and we voted on such measures as the rescue package and so forth, he frequently stood. When he spoke, our caucus and those around him listened very carefully. I mention this because he exhibited real academic strength at both MIT and Harvard. He did a lot of interesting things in his short life before

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he came to the Senate, not the least of which was being in the House of Representatives.

JOHN also had a special niche for his interest in education. He wanted to make sure people less fortunate than we would have an opportunity to get an education and that those in the system and struggling are given any help possible to succeed in their own goals of educating themselves. He also held—very unusual—a special regard for the families of law enforcement officers, men or women in uniform, and particularly those families who lost a spouse or loved one in the line of duty.

He is an extraordinary man, JOHN SUNUNU—very sensitive, very thoughtful, a man who loves his State, particularly the rivers of his State. He commended me for leading the charge in my State to remove an old dam that, for 80 years, blocked the migration of a fish from the Atlantic Ocean to the Blue Ridge Mountains. He was challenged to try to remedy a similar situation that existed in his State. I will miss JOHN, his wife Kitty, and his lovely family. Kitty and my wife shared a few words on our departure last night from the dinner.

I am not one who makes many predictions, but I predict this man continues to not walk but run down that road of life, one who makes those twists and turns, climbs those mountains, and crosses those rivers. He will leave his mark on many successful ventures. We will hear from this man not once, not twice but many times again. I wish him well.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise to speak today regarding the departure of my esteemed colleague from New Hampshire, Senator JOHN SUNUNU. I have known Senator SUNUNU and his family for many years now, and I have worked closely with Senator SUNUNU since he first joined Congress in 1997 in the House of Representatives and then in the Senate since 2003. Today, I am sure that I am joined by many of my colleagues in saying that his service, his thoughtfulness, and his friendship in this institution will be missed.

Often referred to as one of the smartest people in Congress, Senator SUNUNU earned bachelor of science and master of science degrees in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Setting the bar even higher, he also went on to earn a master of business administration from Harvard University. Armed with that kind of education, it would have been easy for Senator SUNUNU to spend the rest of his days on a career track that

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would have compensated him and his family in ways that most of us only dream about. Instead, after only a few short years in the private sector, Senator SUNUNU chose to put his mind to work in Congress at solving some of the most pressing problems and issues of our day. It is for that dedication of service to his country to which I pay tribute today.

In addition to being one of the smartest people in Congress, Senator SUNUNU also holds the well-known title of being the youngest Senator currently serving in our legislative body. While that feat alone is impressive in its own right, I also like to think of Senator SUNUNU as one of the most thoughtful Senators currently serving in the Senate. Specifically, Mr. President, I mention Senator SUNUNU's act of friendship and solidarity in 2005 when he shaved his own hair and stood alongside our mutual friend, Senator Arlen Specter, as he underwent chemotherapy treatment. A simple act, indeed, but it is one that has not gone unnoticed and it is one that illustrates the thoughtfulness of a man and a Senator who stood by his colleague in a time of great need. It is that compassionate thoughtfulness that we will all miss.

From his thoughtful work on energy and climate change legislation to his valued friendship while working together on the Finance Committee, Senator SUNUNU has done a tremendous job for the people of New Hampshire and our Nation. As a colleague, I appreciate his instrumental support of the Flag Desecration Amendment in 2006. As a friend, I convey my highest admiration and respect for what he has been able to accomplish while here in the Senate. It is that spirit of friendship from which all of us could always gain a little something.

I wish Senator SUNUNU and his lovely family the best and thank them for the years of service Senator SUNUNU has been able to provide to this body as a result of their sacrifice. Senator SUNUNU's journey in the U.S. Senate would not be complete without their support, and I am sure that they will all be happy to have their loving husband and father around the house a little more often. Without hesitation, Mr. President, I can say that our loss is their gain. To Senator SUNUNU and his family, I extend my deepest gratitude for the countless hours of service, the simple acts of thoughtfulness, and the years of friendship they have extended to me, my colleagues, and the people of the United States. Given

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Senator SUNUNU's track record, I am certain that we will be hearing more about him for many years to come.

THURSDAY, *November 20, 2008*

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order from September 27 regarding tributes to retiring Senators be modified so that Senators be permitted to submit such tributes for inclusion in a Senate document until Friday, December 12, 2008.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MONDAY, *December 8, 2008*

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I wish to join my fellow Senators to honor a colleague and a friend, Senator JOHN E. SUNUNU, who is departing the Senate at the close of this Congress. I have enjoyed working with Senator SUNUNU over the years—first in the House of Representatives and later in the Senate.

While in the Senate I have had the great fortune of serving with JOHN on the Senate Finance Committee. He is a revered advocate of fiscal discipline, personal responsibility, and free markets. The two of us have stood together on numerous issues—most notably tax—and I have always believed that we could accomplish any goal because I had his voice of conviction and intellect on my side.

Representing New Hampshire, Senator SUNUNU has proven to all Granite Staters that he will fight for the simple motto that reads on their State license plate: Live Free or Die. Whether the item of the day was Social Security, trade, or any other topical issue, including the original intent of the Constitution, Senator SUNUNU has proven that he is up for any debate.

The U.S. Senate will not be the same without Senator JOHN SUNUNU. In a time when many politicians try to increase the role of government in American life, Senator JOHN SUNUNU has always bet on the American people rather than government. I will miss JOHN SUNUNU.

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Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, four of our most valuable Senators will not return next year and we will miss them. . . .

I met JOHN SUNUNU when he was a college student and his father and I were Governors of our respective States. He arrived and leaves as the youngest Member of the Senate. But, in our caucus, his voice is one of the voices most carefully listened to. His intelligence, his philosophical integrity, and his persistence have made him a most valuable player in our Republican Conference. He has a bright career ahead of him.

FRIDAY, *December 12, 2008*

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Senator JOHN SUNUNU, an outstanding public servant and fellow New Englander whose commonsense approach to governance and dedication to problem solving have well served both his constituents of the Granite State of New Hampshire as well as his country.

It is impossible not to like and respect someone of Senator SUNUNU's tremendous affability and enormous capability. Personable and analytical, JOHN brought to the U.S. Senate what he exhibited during his accomplished tenure in the U.S. House—a welcomed engineer's perspective. So we are losing more than a colleague of undeniable skill and integrity. We are going to miss his vital and refreshing contribution to this Chamber's national conversation.

And so, let me just say, it's been my good fortune to serve with JOHN on the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation—specifically, the Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard as ranking member, and the Senate Committee on Finance.

Particularly as a member of the Oceans Subcommittee, and former chair of the Subcommittee on the National Ocean Policy Study, Senator SUNUNU advocated for New England's fishermen and fishing communities through several difficult years. Moreover, as Maine's groundfishery continued to suffer under ever more stringent catch limits, and our lobster industry faced increasingly strict regulations, JOHN's help was instrumental in keeping these issues at the fore and protecting one of our region's and our Nation's most historic professions. For his tireless leadership on these crucial issues, we are forever grateful.

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On two additional topics that are also profoundly critical not only to my State of Maine, but also to the entire New England region—the vitality of Kittery-Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and the protection of the pivotal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program or LIHEAP, JOHN and I have been vigilant, working hand in glove to ensure the continued viability of these indispensable mainstays of our neighboring States.

In fact, in the 110th Congress, we—as part of both the New Hampshire and Maine delegations—working with the Kittery-Portsmouth community, union leaders, and Captain Mazzone and his world class team—fought vigorously and successfully to secure \$20.7 million in full funding for the construction of the Waterfront Support Facility at drydock #3—and \$9.9 million for the first phase of a new consolidated global submarine component facility. As a much-admired, “best in Navy performance” shipyard that delivers the best work consistently on time and under budget, Kittery-Portsmouth Naval Shipyard—the oldest naval shipyard in the Nation—unquestionably deserved no less.

When it comes to the life-or-death matter of LIHEAP, since coming to Congress in 1997, JOHN has, time and again, battled on behalf of thousands of families in New Hampshire who require fuel assistance to stay warm in their homes during the winter months. Senator SUNUNU was a stalwart addition to the chorus of those championing LIHEAP from New England and other affected regions around the country.

Although there are truly serious subjects of public policy that bind us as New Englanders, nothing brings us together more than our beloved Boston Red Sox. And I dare say, one of JOHN’s fondest memories over the last 6 years likely has nothing to do with the U.S. Senate and everything to do with being from New England and a Red Sox fan—as Boston won not one but two World Series Championships, shattering the much-ballyhooed curse for good.

In the end, Mr. President, the true measure of a person is not making a living by what you get—but rather by what you give, and JOHN SUNUNU, during his entire time in Congress, has given his State of New Hampshire remarkable public service worthy of its venerable heritage. By entering the family business of politics, JOHN has indeed been a steward of the country’s business, and we, and his State of New Hampshire, owe him a debt of great thanks.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, soon the gavel will bring to a close the 110th Congress and we will say goodbye to several

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good friends who will be leaving the Senate and returning to their home States. We will miss them all.

JOHN SUNUNU will be heading home at the end of the current session, and I know I will miss him when the next session of Congress is called to order on the Senate floor. I have enjoyed having an opportunity to come to know him during his service in the Senate and on the Senate Banking Committee. He has always impressed me with his knowledge of the intricacies of our Federal mortgage system. It is clear he has always had the tools and the talent to be an effective representative for the people of his State and he has always been a strong and effective voice for the people of New Hampshire.

JOHN learned about politics and public service at a young age as he watched both of his parents pursue their careers in their chosen fields. JOHN's mother was a school board member, which explains his aptitude for science and math. He soon turned his talent for numbers into a degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his interest in business into a degree from Harvard.

As the old adage says so well, he comes from good stock and a great political family. His father served as the Governor of New Hampshire and later as President Bush's Chief of Staff. He learned a great deal from his father about politics and what mattered to the people of his home State as he traveled around New Hampshire with his dad. He then put those lessons into practice when he made his own run for office.

JOHN's initial run for the House led to three successful terms. He then launched a successful campaign for the Senate.

As soon as he arrived, he made it clear he was going to follow his own path and he had his own way of doing things. He had spent years working with the people of his home State and he had a clear view of those issues that were of great concern to them.

When he was asked, he had a ready explanation for the reason why he had such a unique perspective on things. It was all due, he would say, to his long New Hampshire roots. He knew that the people of New Hampshire are known for their independence and they have a long tradition of great respect for the rights and freedoms of this country. That, he would say, has drawn my focus and sparked my interest in these issues.

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JOHN has been a welcome and spirited presence on the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. His educational background has helped him stay on top of the latest technological advances and developments and that has helped him in the effort to keep our regulations on the latest technologies up to date, current, and effective.

Yogi Berra used to say that you can observe a lot just by watching. I hope JOHN will forgive me for quoting the words of a Yankee legend to a Red Sox fan, but as I have watched him in action, it is clear from his style that he has a bit of Wyoming in him. Never one to look for opportunities to speak to the press or make lengthy speeches to get noticed, JOHN has always been focused on what he could do that would help to get things done. In my home State we like to say that you can get anything done if you don't care who gets the credit. JOHN is like that. He has been working to get things done for New Hampshire and he has earned the credit he has received back home.

One of the issues that has always drawn JOHN's interest has been the environment, especially the quality of our air. It is a sensitive issue for him, and he has always shown himself up to the task of fighting for cleaner air for the folks back home. His long list of achievements on this and many other issues will be his legacy, a record of which he can be very proud.

In the years to come, I will remember JOHN for his unique sense of style, his determination to get things done for his State, and his willingness to stand up for those things he believed in with that remarkable intellect of his. He's not just a smart guy. There are a lot of very gifted individuals who knew what had to be done but could just never do it. JOHN is a thoughtful man of action who has an indepth understanding of the problems that face the Nation and a unique insight into what will work and what won't. Simply put, JOHN knows how to make the right things happen.

Now JOHN and Kitty will be returning home to New Hampshire to begin a new and exciting chapter in their lives. I don't know what they will decide to do, but I do know that JOHN will stay active and involved in the issues that concern him that carried him to Washington for these past 12 years to serve in the House and the Senate. He would be the first to tell you that it has been a pleasure and an honor to work for the people of New Hampshire, and I am certain we haven't heard the last from him. For my part, I appreciate all his help on the issues we worked on together, but

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most of all, I appreciate his friendship and his willingness to play such an important part in the history of New Hampshire and the United States. He can be very proud of the difference he has made. He has been a good and effective Senator, and the people of New Hampshire will always be proud of him and that they had the good sense to send him to Washington.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I have really enjoyed working with JOHN SUNUNU.

JOHN SUNUNU grew up in Salem, NH, and is one of eight children. He was first introduced to public service at a young age, when his mother served as chairman of the local school board.

JOHN attended public schools, graduated from Salem High School, and received bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

JOHN also earned a master's degree in business administration from the Harvard Graduate School of Business.

JOHN SUNUNU first ran for public office in 1996, winning election in New Hampshire's First District and serving three terms in the U.S. House.

In 2002, JOHN defeated both an incumbent Senator and an incumbent Governor to become the youngest Member of the U.S. Senate.

As a Senator, JOHN distinguished himself as an innovative legislator, bringing his extensive background in science, engineering, and small business to his work in Washington.

Senator SUNUNU has been a staunch advocate for low taxes, smarter regulation, and civil liberties.

Senator SUNUNU is also a man of heart.

I will never forget that in July 2005, to show solidarity with Senator Specter, who had lost his hair due to chemotherapy, Senator SUNUNU shaved his head.

Since he is still a young man at the age of 44, I suspect that we will be hearing a lot more from JOHN SUNUNU in the years to come.

I wish him well in his future endeavors.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, Maine and New Hampshire have much in common. When JOHN SUNUNU came to the Senate 6 years ago, I immediately saw in him those traits shared by the people of our two States: a strong work ethic combined with a great sense of humor, traditional values balanced by a spirit of innovation, and fiscal prudence al-

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ways tempered by compassion. He quickly became not only a valued colleague but also a trusted friend.

JOHN's extraordinary intellect, wisdom, and experience belied his young age and benefited this Chamber and Nation. His upbringing in a family devoted to public service, his education in science, engineering, and business, and his experience in the House of Representatives made him a veteran from day one. His ability to analyze challenges and devise creative solutions made him an esteemed colleague.

In the best tradition of the Senate, JOHN brought his knowledge and experience to bear on some of the most pressing issues we face. In technology, he has been a leader committed to growth and advancement. He has been a devoted advocate for special education and rural health care. He has been a strong voice for our forest products industry and for a sound energy policy that would reduce our dangerous reliance on foreign oil.

It has been an honor to work with him on the Homeland Security Committee. His diligence and commitment have helped make America safer. His tireless leadership to reform the PATRIOT Act demonstrated his unwavering commitment to safeguard the civil liberties Americans cherish.

In addition to his leadership on national issues like the PATRIOT Act and tax policy, JOHN has been an effective advocate for projects of special concern to New Hampshire, whether it is low-income heating assistance and weatherization programs or the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. We recently worked closely together with our two colleagues to secure \$20 billion for the shipyard's new drydock to help secure its future.

Above all, Senator JOHN SUNUNU has distinguished himself as a champion of good government. He is an independent thinker who stands up—always—for what he believes to be right for New Hampshire and right for our country. He has a sharp eye for wasteful spending and is a resolute fighter for fiscal responsibility.

It has been an honor to serve with JOHN, and I wish him and his family all the best. I will miss serving with him day to day, but I know that he will continue to accomplish a great deal.