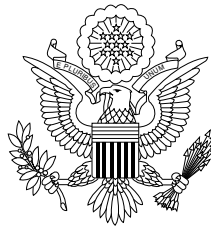


Jon Kyl

U.S. SENATOR FROM ARIZONA

TRIBUTES

IN THE CONGRESS OF
THE UNITED STATES



TRIBUTES TO HON. JON KYL



Jon Kyl

Courtesy U.S. Senate Historical Office

Tributes
Delivered in Congress

Jon Kyl
United States Congressman
1987–1995

United States Senator
1995–2013

United States Senator
2017–2018



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

CONTENTS

	Page
Biography	v
Letter of Resignation	vii
Farewell Address	ix
Proceedings in the Senate:	
Tributes by Senators:	
Burr, Richard, of North Carolina	6
Inhofe, James M., of Oklahoma	5
Kyl, Jon, of Arizona	4
Leahy, Patrick J., of Vermont	5
McConnell, Mitch, of Kentucky	3
Murkowski, Lisa, of Alaska	7
Reed, Jack, of Rhode Island	6
Thune, John, of South Dakota	5
Warner, Mark R., of Virginia	5

Biography

Arizona Senator JON KYL served three terms in the U.S. Senate after previously serving for 8 years in the U.S. House of Representatives. He was elected unanimously by his colleagues in 2008 to serve as Republican whip, the second-highest position in Senate Republican leadership.

Senator KYL served on the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, where he played key roles in the confirmation of John Roberts as Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, and of Samuel Alito as Associate Justice. As a member of the Committee on the Judiciary, he also helped write the landmark Crime Victims Rights Act, as well as important provisions of the Patriot Act, the Military Commissions Act, and other antiterrorism laws.

As a member of the Committee on Finance, he was the chief advocate of death tax repeal and other progrowth tax policies, including low tax rates on income, capital gains, and dividends. He was also a strong proponent of step-by-step solutions for healthcare reform that can improve access, lower costs, and preserve the sacred doctor-patient relationship.

The Wall Street Journal wrote in February 2011 that Senator KYL “has made his mark the old fashioned way—by knowing what he is talking about.” The New York Times, in a February 2012 piece, called KYL “the emissary of the Republican leadership, a gatekeeper of conservatism, and a bridge between his party’s most ardent conservatives and more pragmatic centrists.” His command of policy is why national TV news networks often invited him to serve as a commentator on various national issues.

TIME magazine recognized Senator KYL as one the “World’s 100 Most Influential People” in 2010, and as one of the 10 best Senators in 2006. Capitol Hill’s newspaper, The Hill, identified him as one of the “25 hardest working lawmakers.”

Before his public service, KYL practiced law at Jennings, Strouss & Salmon in Phoenix. In 1985, he served as chairman of the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce.

Born in Oakland, Nebraska, KYL received both his bachelor’s and law degrees from the University of Arizona. He

graduated Phi Beta Kappa and was editor in chief of the Arizona Law Review. He and his wife Caryll have two children, Kristine Kyl Gavin and John Kyl, and seven grandchildren.

Letter of Resignation

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I am informed that it is necessary for me to insert into the Record of the proceedings the resignation letter that I sent to Governor Doug Ducey of Arizona on December 12, 2018; therefore, I ask unanimous consent that this letter be printed in the Record at this point.

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

*U.S. Senate,
December 12, 2018.*

Hon. DOUG DUCEY,
*Governor of the State of Arizona,
Phoenix, Arizona.*

DEAR GOVERNOR DUCEY: Thank you again for appointing me to the U.S. Senate to fill the vacancy created by John McCain's death. It has been an honor and a privilege to again serve the people of Arizona.

When I accepted your appointment, I agreed to complete the work of the 115th Congress and then reevaluate continuing to serve. I have concluded that it would be best if I resign so that your new appointee can begin the new term with all other Senators in January 2019 and can serve a full two (potentially four) years.

Therefore, I will resign from the U.S. Senate effective 11:59 pm EST December 31, 2018.

Respectfully,

JON KYL,
United States Senator.

Farewell to the Senate

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. KYL. . . . Mr. President, the other thing I would like to do this afternoon is to very briefly report to my colleagues and to constituents back home on some things which my predecessor, Senator McCain, was working on at the time of his untimely death and which his staff and I have continued to work on and, in several cases, have brought to successful conclusion. I want people to know about these items and what we have been able to accomplish.

I first want to thank the members of his staff who wanted to stay in the service of the government and the State of Arizona and were willing to take a position in my office, as a result of which, we were able to really have a seamless transition from some of the things Senator McCain was working on and my ability to continue to do so.

One of the first things of which I was aware but not really aware of the depth that he had taken it is a new relationship in the State of Arizona among the three pillars representing the defense establishment in our country and specifically in the State of Arizona. These are, first of all, our military installations—Arizona is blessed to have a lot of military installations; second, the defense industries—again, Arizona is the home to many important defense industries serving all of our branches of the military; and finally, the communities that support both of those elements of our establishment.

As a result, I had the opportunity to meet throughout the State with the groups that Senator McCain had helped to nurture and to create—in particular, a group in Tucson and Southern Arizona, including Yuma, called the Southern Arizona Defense Alliance; in Flagstaff and Northern Arizona, the Northern Arizona Military Affairs Council; and in Central Arizona, Maricopa County and the Phoenix environs, the Mesa Industry and Defense Council.

Meeting with the representatives of all three components of our military society and hearing about the successes they had in working with each other and in providing a real synergy that benefited them all just reminded me again of how

important Senator McCain's leadership was to the State of Arizona and to our national security.

I wanted to mention that today and to let everyone know that I will be passing on to my successor the advice that these councils continue to need to be supported and nurtured by the Senators from the State of Arizona, as well as the Members of the House of Representatives.

A second thing that John McCain was involved in as part of his activities as chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services was the creation—a couple years ago—in the defense authorization bill of a national commission to advise the Secretary of Defense on the strategy for the United States and to report back to Congress—and specifically the Committee on Armed Services—on their conclusions.

This bill created the National Defense Strategy Commission, comprised of 12 members, 3 of whom were appointed by the chairman and the ranking member—each—of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the House Committee on Armed Services.

I was privileged to have been appointed by Senator McCain to serve on that Commission, and I did for approximately a year. My service there ended as we finished our report. Before it was signed, while it was still being edited, he passed away, and I was appointed to serve in his stead. So I have had the unique opportunity to both help write the report and then be a member of the Committee on Armed Services, on which he sat, to receive the report and to question the cochairmen of that Commission, Ambassador Eric Edelman and ADM Gary Roughead, Retired.

I think the importance of this Commission report reflects what Senator McCain hoped to achieve, and that is a bipartisan consensus, a unanimous report which provides advice to the Secretary of Defense and will provide advice to both the House and the Senate.

As I said, there has already been a hearing before the Senate Committee on Armed Services, and I know the House committee is going to invite members of the Commission to brief it as well.

It is my hope that the recommendations of this bipartisan Commission will be followed by the Congress and by the President and the Secretary of Defense because I think they represent some very strong conclusions about what is necessary to enhance our national security.

A third thing Senator McCain wanted to do as chairman of the Committee on Armed Services was to hold a series of

hearings or briefings before the committee that focused on the advances in technology that were having and can have an important impact on our national security—in many cases, on the kinds of things that we acquire in support of our military superiority, things like hypersonics and artificial intelligence, super-advanced computing, cyber technology, and the like.

After speaking with the chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services now, Senator Inhofe, it is my understanding that he, in fact, has a plan to carry out this legacy of Senator McCain and hold a series of briefings early next year on all of these technological issues so that our Members will be better able to evaluate the kinds of things that will help our military have superiority in the future. I am happy to have had some small part to play in advancing that.

There were a couple of other more specific things that Senator McCain didn't work on but which bear his name that I wanted to mention.

One, I cosponsored and helped secure passage of S. 2827, which was a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation at the University of Arizona. This was something that Senator McCain helped to create and to foster throughout his career. I am also pleased to announce that this legislation names the foundation's environmental conflict resolution center after the late Senator John McCain. I am pleased to make that announcement here.

There is one other item that we are continuing to try to accomplish in Senator McCain's name. We are not across the finish line yet, but we hope to get there. That is something called the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps Act, S. 1403. This bill carries the name of Senator McCain, and it was one of his favorite projects. It expands volunteerism in our national parks and public lands.

I can tell you that while John McCain came to Arizona having lived in many other places of the world and in the United States, primarily as a result of his service in the Navy, he acquired a love for the State of Arizona which is unequaled among all of us who have been there for a very long time. He loved the beauty of the State, the ruggedness of it, the incredible variety in the flora and fauna. When I would visit John and Cindy's home in the Sedona area, I could always count on being taken on a hike around the perimeter of the property to show me all of the interesting things he had discovered over the last several months, in-

cluding where the hawks live and where the owls live, and where they found the rattlesnakes, and all of the other things that pleased him to be a part of that environment.

So we are hopeful that we can get this Service Corps Act passed, if not in the latter part of this session, at least perhaps early next year.

I want my colleagues to know that although Senator McCain passed away in the early part of his Senate term, he was working on a lot of things that his staff and I wanted to continue to move forward, and I am just pleased we have been able to move these items forward and wanted my colleagues to appreciate that, as well as his friends and constituents in the State of Arizona.

I thank my colleagues here who helped to make some of these things possible and urge that they continue to focus on the one item of unfinished business that can perhaps be accomplished next year.

I conclude by thanking the Governor of the State of Arizona for appointing me to serve for part of the remainder of Senator McCain's term. It has been a great honor and privilege for me to again serve the people of the State of Arizona, particularly to succeed my friend and colleague John McCain.

I yield the floor.

TRIBUTES

TO

JON KYL

Proceedings in the Senate

THURSDAY, *December 13, 2018*

ORDER FOR PRINTING OF SENATE DOCUMENTS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be printed as a Senate document a compilation of materials from the Congressional Record in tribute to retiring Members of the 115th Congress, and that Members have until Friday, December 21, to submit such tributes.

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

TUESDAY, *December 18, 2018*

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, on another matter, to the untrained eye, it might seem that I have completed my thanks and farewells to all my Republican colleagues who will depart at the end of this Congress, but I would be remiss if I did not also mention the junior Senator from Arizona, our good friend JON KYL.

When Senator KYL bid farewell to this body in 2012, it took me quite a while to come to terms with the prospect that we had cast our final votes together. I went through stages of grief. Eventually, I came to acceptance, but, as it turned out, the great State of Arizona was not quite finished with this distinguished leader after all. If JON had planned on a relaxing, undisturbed post-Senate career, then, his biggest mistake was leaving a record as one of the most earnest and effective legislators this body had seen in recent memory, because when the people of Arizona needed to step in and honor the towering legacy of our friend John McCain through the end of this Congress, his counterpart of 18 years was the natural choice.

As the entire Nation mourned the loss of a decorated hero and statesman, JON KYL volunteered his even keel and sound judgment to fill the void, and while the Senate may

have changed in some small ways in the 6 years since JON left us, he has likely noticed over the past few months that some things never do. This floor remains the stage for the most important policy challenges facing our country. There is still an urgent need for hard-working public servants with expertise to enter the fray, and he is still the junior Senator from Arizona.

From his first day back, JON has smoothly continued Senator McCain's habit of making an outsized impact for his State. He cast his vote to confirm a well-qualified Supreme Court nominee. He has joined in advancing major legislation, and he has continued his advocacy for improving our Nation's military readiness.

As we say good-bye one more time, I know every Member of this body will join me in gratitude that JON answered the call when his experience and talents were needed.

Like the others who have been lucky enough spending 18 years with JON already, I am especially grateful for this opportunity to work alongside such a dear friend. So I want to thank JON for his abiding commitment to service. We wish him and his wonderful wife Caryll much health and happiness in the years to come.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. KYL. Madam President, I just want to thank my colleague, the majority leader, for his comments about me.

He asked if there were differences between the time that I served before and this most recent time, and I must say that the thing that I have noticed most is the kindness with which I have been treated by my colleagues and by staff—I am talking about colleagues and staff on both sides of the aisle—and by other people who work here at the Capitol, including, most especially, the Capitol Police.

I never expected to be welcomed back with that degree of kindness, and I have commented that it might be a nice thing if we could extend that same degree of kindness to each other every day, rather than to just those who come back after a long absence.

But I do very much appreciate your comments, Mr. Leader, and most especially your leadership and friendship over the years. Thank you very much.

The PRESIDING OFFICER [Mr. KYL]. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, before I begin, I would note my long friendship with the Presiding Officer. I was delighted to see him come back to the Senate. I wish him well now as he leaves the Senate. He is always welcome, by both Democrats and Republicans, when he comes back.

I realize the Presiding Officer is constrained and cannot respond to whatever I say about him, but I assure him that I will stay within the Senate rules and say only nice things because that is all I know about him. . . .

Mr. INHOFE. . . . One of the significant individuals on this report [of the National Defense Strategy Commission] was Senator KYL from Arizona. The reason I say that is, Senator KYL, in my opinion and in the opinions of many people, has been historically in the U.S. Senate and has been, perhaps, one of the most—if not the most—knowledgeable of individuals on the threats we face and on our capabilities we have in this country. It is unique that Senator KYL is on this Commission because, when he got on the Commission, he was not a member of the U.S. Senate. He came back after the death of Senator John McCain and is serving for what appears to be just a short period of time. So he is in the unique position of serving on the Commission and of having been, for many years, in a position to help us meet something we have not met before that is a real challenge. . . .

Mr. THUNE. . . . Mr. President, I also want to mention Senator KYL, who announced he is retiring from the Senate for the second time.

Senator KYL initially retired at the end of the 112th Congress after a distinguished Senate career but stepped up to fill in after we lost Senator McCain earlier this year.

Senator KYL is rightly renowned in this body for his statesmanship and his deep knowledge, and it has been a pleasure having him back in the Senate, even if that was just for this brief time. . . .

WEDNESDAY, *December 19, 2018*

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I am going to be here on another matter in a moment, but I wanted to add my thanks to the great work that Senator KYL has done.

I remember coming here as a freshman Senator in early 2009, and JON KYL was one of the people who was kind enough to take me in. We didn't always agree. I still remember a very famous battle over slots at National Airport. But JON KYL has always been someone I have enormous respect for. I think Senators on both sides of the aisle have respect for him, and we very much appreciate his willingness to come back into service, fulfilling part of the tenure of his dear friend, Senator McCain.

I know enough about JON KYL to know that, shall I say, his livelihood prior to coming back into the Senate was quite good, and his willingness to give that up to serve Arizona and the country is a real tribute to the individual and the patriot he is. We will all miss him, and I wish him all the best going forward.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I want to add my thanks to my colleague from Arizona. I came to speak on something else, and I will say this: If there is one individual I have tried to emulate since the day I came to the U.S. Senate, it has been JON KYL. He represented Arizona well, but, more important, he represented the KYL name well. JON, I am grateful that you would come back for this short period. Godspeed as you leave.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to salute my colleagues who are departing the Senate at the conclusion of the 115th Congress: Bob Corker of Tennessee, Jeff Flake of Arizona, Orrin Hatch of Utah, Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota, Dean Heller of Nevada, Joe Donnelly of Indiana, Claire McCaskill of Missouri, Bill Nelson of Florida, and JON KYL of Arizona. All of these Members have dedicated themselves to serving their constituents, their States, and our country. The institution of the Senate and the Nation as a whole are stronger because of their service and commitment.

I have been privileged to serve with each and every one of them and want to spend a few moments thanking each of them for the wisdom and experience they brought to their work and for their friendship. . . .

I want to turn my attention to three Members I had the privilege to work with and serve with on the Committee on Armed Services. . . .

Finally, I would like to recognize Senator JON KYL. I thank JON for his willingness to serve again following the passing of Senator John McCain.

I had the privilege of serving with him in his prior stint in this body. He served for many years in Republican leadership, including as minority whip. He was also a longstanding member of the Committee on Finance. I was not on this committee, but given my advocacy for extending unemployment insurance—for which there was a critical need at the time—I did have a chance to serve with him on the Conference Committee for the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012.

It was a pleasure to serve with him. He is a man of principle, a man of great decency and dignity, someone who has honored the Senate with his service, honored Arizona with his service, and makes us all very proud to know him. It was indeed a pleasure to serve, all too briefly, with him as a member of the Committee on Armed Services.

I would like to thank him for his service and wish him well as he leaves this body once more. To all my colleagues, I give them my greatest respect and admiration for their service to their States, to the Senate, and to the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

FRIDAY, *December 21, 2018*

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, December should be the happiest month of the year, as we await Christmas and the New Year, but in the even numbered years, it is bitter-sweet as we say good-bye to colleagues who will not be returning in the next Congress. While the body often seems to be polarized and contentious to the public that knows us only from media appearances, the fact is that partnership and alliances across the aisle are part of the fabric of the body, and friendships of unlikely allies abound. This is not to say that we don't disagree on issues; we very much do. But we strive for these disagreements never to erode our collegiality.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those with whom I have been proud to serve: Mr. Hatch, our President pro tempore, Mr. Corker, Mr. Flake, and Mr. Heller on my side of the aisle for their distinguished service. To my friend, Mr. KYL, it has been a pleasure to serve with you again. On

the Democrat side of the aisle, Mr. Donnelly, Ms. McCaskill, Mr. Nelson, and especially my dear friend, Ms. Heitkamp, the Senator from North Dakota. Each of these individuals cares deeply for the Nation, for the States they have represented so ably, and for the Senate.

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