

That set the record for the longest successive tenure as a mayor in the history of the United States.

That would be impressive enough by itself. But even while he was serving as mayor, Frank Rodgers also found the time to hold several other public service appointments. He served as secretary to the New Jersey Racing Commission between 1963 and 1964. He served as clerk to the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Hudson County from 1964 to 1982. And he served as a member of the New Jersey Highway Authority from 1976 to 1978.

In 1978, he was elected to the New Jersey State Senate where he served until 1983. And from 1984 to 1994, Mayor Rodgers served as a commissioner of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority.

Mr. President, who could help but be in awe of this committed public servant? Who could help but wonder how he stayed so popular for so long?

The answer is actually quite simple.

Mayor Rodgers has devoted his life to the people of New Jersey. He has doggedly pursued our vital interests, although in the time he served as mayor, those interests have changed dramatically.

When Mayor Rodgers was first elected in 1946, America had just won World War II. Mayor Rodgers was swept into office on a veteran's ticket, and he focused, in his first term, on post-war concerns.

Over the years, Mayor Rodgers continued to respond to the needs of his constituents, whether they were young or old, veterans or new immigrants.

More recently, he has proved adept at tackling more contemporary issues, including transportation, crime, and economic development.

Mr. President, I believe that we can all learn a great lesson from Mayor Rodgers, a gracious statesman who faced Harrison voters 29 times without a defeat.

Over the last five decades, Mayor Rodgers has developed a close working relationship with the people of Harrison. He did so by listening to their concerns, responding to their needs, and always sticking to his word.

Those are characteristics that all of us, in the private and public sectors, could learn a lot from.

I yield the floor.

IN MEMORY OF ROSE KENNEDY

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I rise to honor the memory of a woman and a mother from Massachusetts. Not just any woman, not just any mother, but a most extraordinary example of both.

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy's long life will be remembered by a grateful Nation as a legacy of parental strength and family leadership.

To those of us who remember images of her campaigning with her sons, or mourning in quiet dignity, she shall always reflect a moment in time when we believed in ourselves, in our fami-

lies, in our faith, and in our ability to survive.

She lived through incredible victories and wrenching tragedies, but through it all her resolve, her deep religious devotion, and her profound belief in family and community, gave this Nation a vision of who we could be.

To my generation she defined faith, courage, and dignity, and once said, "A mother should be a bulwark of strength." And in her courageous response to sorrow, and in her reflections on how good life can be, and on how lucky we are, she was that bulwark of strength for all of us.

During good times and bad times that touched the hearts and lives of every American, we looked to her for guidance and for a mother's perspective, and she gave us both.

She set a standard of parental leadership that will live long after those of us lucky enough to have shared God's Earth with her are gone.

I remember being invited to Hyannis, and meeting Rose Kennedy for the first time. And I remember being moved by her intensity and concern, by a warmth and graciousness that recalled a proud time when our belief in ourselves demanded that we accept what God has bestowed upon us, and that we bare the burden and share the bounty.

Rose Kennedy was an extraordinary woman and mother. Now it is time we pay tribute to her for what she sacrificed for service to the community.

Mr. President, I know I speak for every member of this institution and for the people of Massachusetts in offering my deepest and most sincere condolences to my friend and colleague, the senior Senator from Massachusetts, and the entire Kennedy family.

I say to Senator KENNEDY and to his family that we will always remember Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, and that we are a better people for having had her among us for over a century.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the eulogy delivered by the senior Senator from Massachusetts be printed in the RECORD.

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

TRIBUTE TO ROSE FITZGERALD KENNEDY

On my office wall, there is a note from Mother, reacting to a comment I once made in an interview. "Dear Teddy," she wrote in the note, "I just saw a story in which you said: 'If I was President * * *'. You should have said, 'If I were President * * *', which is correct because it is a condition contrary to fact."

Mother always thought her children should strive for the highest place. But inside the family, with love and laughter, she knew how to put each of us in our place. She was ambitious not only for our success, but for our souls. From our youth, we remember how, with effortless ease, she could bandage a cut, dry a tear, recite, from memory the "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere," and spot a hole in a sock from a hundred yards away.

She sustained us in the saddest times—by her faith in God, which was the greatest gift she gave us—and by the strength of her character, which was a combination of the sweetest gentleness and the most tempered steel.

She was indomitable for all her days. Each summer for many years, we would gather 'round at night, and sitting at the piano, Mother would play "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," the song that became her own special ballad:

Just around the corner of the
street where I reside,
There lives the cutest little girl
that I have ever spied.
Her name is Rosie O'Grady,
and I don't mind telling you,
That she's the sweetest little Rose
the garden ever grew.
I love sweet Rosie O'Grady,
and Rosie O'Grady loves me.

When she finished, her voice would lilt, and her eyes would flash, and she would ask if we would like to hear it one more time. And we always would.

All her life, Mother also loved learning, and she was an excellent student herself. We still have her report card from Dorchester High School. In her 3 years there, she received 71 A's, 22 B's, and 1 C. I asked her about that C, which was in geometry. She said there must be some mistake. She didn't remember anything but A's.

One spring some years ago, when she was in her nineties, I took her on Good Friday to the Three Hours devotion. But the nurse warned me in advance that Mother had to eat, so we would have to leave after only an hour.

At one o'clock, I whispered: "Mother, it's time to go." She looked at me and sternly said: "Not yet, Teddy." So I asked a second time, and her answer came in a tone that was distinctly not a whisper: "Teddy, the service is not over yet."

By now, the congregation was discreetly staring at us and clearly thinking: See, he's trying to get out of Church early, but that sainted Mother of his—isn't she wonderful?—just won't let him.

Later that night, of course, Mother and I said the Rosary, as she did every night, by herself or with any of her children or grandchildren who happened to be home. In the Kennedy family, you learned the glorious Mysteries at an early age.

You learned just as early how to catch a pass, sail a boat or serve a tennis ball. All her life, Mother was interested in our games. The summer she turned 101, I went into her room and showed her my tennis racket. She said, "Are you sure that's your racket, Teddy? I've been looking all over the house for mine."

Jack once called her the glue that held the family together. We learned a special bond of loyalty and affection, which all of us first came to know in the deep and abiding love that Mother shared with Dad for 57 years.

From both of them together, we inherited a spirit that kept all their children close to each other and to them. Whatever any of us has done—whatever contribution we have made—begins and ends with Rose and Joseph Kennedy. For all of us, Dad was the spark, and Mother was the light of our lives. He was our greatest fan; she was our greatest teacher.

She was born in 1890, the year of the Battle of Wounded Knee, when Benjamin Harrison was in the White House. And she never let us forget that she had lived so much of the history that we only read about. Our dinner table was her classroom, and the subject was the whole world of human events.

One evening early in 1984, when mother was 93, she asked if we thought President Reagan would run again. One of our guests

replied, "Of course he'll run, Mrs. Kennedy. After all, he's very young. He's only 73." Mother looked at the guest for a second and then answered him with a twinkle in her voice: "You're just trying to flatter me. I know that he's the oldest President in American history." Unless it came from her, there was no blarney when Mother was around.

So what now secures for Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy the high place in history that she will have? I think it is most of all the warm place she holds in the hearts of so many people everywhere, from Boston to Dublin, from Berlin to New Delhi to Buenos Aires. Millions who never met her sensed the kind of rare and wondrous person she was, a shining example of the faith that sustained her through even the hardest sorrow. She had an inner strength that radiated from her life. She was a symbol of family in this country and around the world.

She cared for a retarded child as much as for the most powerful statesman. She truly did believe that we are all, royalty and disability alike, created in the image and likeness of God.

She was the granddaughter of immigrants who saw her father become the first Irish-Catholic Congressman from Boston, and her son and grandson succeed him. She saw three sons serve in the Senate—actually she was sure that it was her campaigning that put us there—and we all thought that as usual she was right. She saw the son who proudly carried her Fitzgerald name become the first Irish-Catholic President of the United States.

And she was just as proud to see a new generation of her family carrying on her belief in public service.

But Mother also taught us that you do not have to run for office to make a difference. She was equally proud of her daughters and the contributions they have made. Jean—the founder of Very Special Arts and now, like our father before her, the Ambassador. Pat, for the pioneering support she has given to young writers. Eunice, founder of Special Olympics and the leader of a global revolution of human rights for the retarded and disabled.

And Mother had a special place in her heart and prayers for our sister Rosemary, for her bravery and the things she taught us all.

Mother gave not only to her children, but she gave her children, fired with her own faith, to serve the Nation and the earth. To us, she was the most beautiful Rose of all the roses in the world. Her life shows us the truth and the way.

Mother knew this day was coming, but she did not dread it. She accepted and even welcomed it, not as a leaving, but as a returning. She has gone to God. She is home. And at this moment she is happily presiding at a heavenly table with both of her Joes, with Jack and Kathleen, with Bobby and David.

And as she did all our lives, whether it was when I walked back through the rain from school as a child, or when a President who was her son came back to Hyannis Port, she will be there ready to welcome the rest of us home someday. Of this I have no doubt, for as they were from the beginning, Mother's prayers will continue to be more than enough to bring us through.

Not long ago, I found a beautiful poem that symbolizes what all of us feel today. Its title is "The Rose Still Grows Beyond the Wall:"

Near a shady wall a rose once grew,
Budded and blossomed in God's free light,
Watered and fed by morning dew,
Shedding its sweetness day and night.
As it grew and blossomed fair and tall,
Slowly rising to loftier height,
It came to a crevice in the wall,

Through which there shone a beam of light.

Onward it crept with added strength,
With never a thought of fear or pride.

It followed the light through the crevice's length

And unfolded itself on the other side.
The light, the dew, the broadening view

Were found the same as they were before;
And it lost itself in beauties new,

Breathing its fragrance more and more.

Shall claim of death cause us to grieve,
And make our courage faint or fail?

Nay! Let us faith and hope receive;

The rose still grows beyond the wall,

Scattering fragrance far and wide,

Just as it did in days of yore,

Just as it did on the other side,

Just as it will for evermore.

THE BIOMATERIALS ACCESS ASSURANCE ACT

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to be the primary cosponsor of the Biomaterials Access Assurance Act of 1995 to ensure the availability of raw materials and component parts for implantable medical devices. This bill, which we introduced as S. 2215 last year, is necessary for Americans to have continued access to a wide variety of life-saving devices, such as brain shunts, heart valves, artificial blood vessels, and pacemakers.

Currently, the manufacturers and suppliers of materials used in implantable medical devices are subject to substantial legal costs and possibly liability for selling small amounts of materials to medical device manufacturers. These sales generate relatively small profits and are often used for purposes beyond their direct control. Consequently, some of the manufacturers and suppliers of these materials are now refusing to provide them for use in medical devices.

It is absolutely essential that a continued supply of raw materials and component parts is available for the invention, development, improvement, and maintenance of medical devices. Most of these devices are made with materials and parts that are not designed or manufactured specifically for use in implantable devices. Their primary use is in non-medical products. Medical device manufacturers use only small quantities of these raw materials and component parts, and this market constitutes a small portion of the overall market for such raw materials.

While raw materials and component parts suppliers do not design, produce or test the final medical implant, they have been sued in cases alleging inadequate design and testing of, or warnings related to use of, permanently implanted medical devices. The cost of defending these suits often exceeds the profits generated by the sale of materials. This is the reason that some manufacturers and suppliers have begun to cease supplying their products for use in permanently implanted medical devices.

Unless alternative sources of supply can be found, the unavailability of raw materials and component parts will

lead to unavailability of life-saving and life-enhancing medical devices. The prospects for development of new sources of supply for the full range of threatened raw materials and component parts are remote, as other suppliers around the world are refusing to sell raw materials or component parts for use in manufacturing permanently implantable medical devices in the United States.

The legal concerns that are causing the unavailability of raw materials and component parts for medical implants are part of a larger product liability crisis in this country. Immediate action is necessary to ensure the availability of such materials and parts for medical devices so that Americans have access to the devices they need. Addressing this problem will solve one important aspect of our broken medical product liability system.

This issue initially came to my attention when I was contacted by one of my constituents, Linda Flake Ransom, about her 7-year-old daughter, Tara, who requires a silicon brain shunt. Without a shunt, due to Tara's condition called hydrocephalus, excess fluid would build up in her brain, increasing pressure, and causing permanent brain damage, blindness, paralysis, and ultimately death. With the shunt, she is a healthy, happy, and productive straight-A student with enormous promise and potential.

Tara has already undergone the brain shunt procedure five times in her brief life. However, the next time that she needs to replace her shunt, it is not certain that a new one will be available due to the unavailability of shunt materials. This situation is a sad example of a medical liability system that is out of control. It is tragic, but not surprising that manufacturers have decided not to provide materials if they are subject to tens of millions of dollars of potential liability for doing so.

It is essential that individuals such as Tara continue to have access to the medical devices they need to stay alive and healthy. Enacting the Biomaterials Access Assurance Act of 1995 would help to ensure the ongoing availability of materials necessary to make these devices. It would not, in any way, protect negligent manufacturers or suppliers of medical devices, or even manufacturers or suppliers of biomaterials that make negligent claims about their products. However, it would protect manufacturers and suppliers whose materials are being used in a manner that is beyond their control.

Mr. President, we must act quickly to pass the bill to ensure that the lives of Tara and thousands of other Americans are not jeopardized.

LBJ AND THE BALANCED BUDGET

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I would like to include in the RECORD an article by Jack Valenti that appeared