

After the War, Senator HEFLIN became a trial lawyer in his native Alabama, which began his career-long fascination and devotion to the law. In 1970, he was elected Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, where he received the moniker that many know him by in this body—Judge HEFLIN.

That nickname describes well his tenure here in the U.S. Senate and provides context to the issues he championed as a Senator.

As a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, he brought an unparalleled understanding of the judicial process and judicial interpretation to the Senate. Judge HEFLIN was instrumental in improving our Federal courts, and he worked tirelessly to improve and reform our Nation's judicial system.

HOWELL HEFLIN also brought his wealth of legal knowledge to his role as chairman of the Senate Ethics Committee. While largely a thankless and sometimes tedious position, he never shirked his responsibilities to his colleagues and to the reputation and integrity of the Senate.

Most of all though, HOWELL HEFLIN was always looking out for the people of Alabama. Not surprisingly he's been dubbed the "Spokesman for Southern Agriculture" for his unwavering and vigilant support for Alabama's rich agricultural heritage.

While often tagged as a conservative Democrat, he displayed the fervor of many a New Deal Democrat when he came to the Senate floor to speak passionately about issues that directly affected his constituents—from rural electrification, Federal crop insurance, the peanut subsidy program to the space station and civil rights legislation.

But, most of all HOWELL HEFLIN brought a sense of quiet dignity and tolerance to this body. When he announced his retirement from the Senate, he spoke with great fervor about the need for a new level of political discourse and conduct in our Nation.

He said: "We must set a new course in this Congress and across the land—a course of moderation, tolerance, responsibility and compassion." These words epitomized HOWELL HEFLIN's service in this body, and in my view they are the essence of what service in the U.S. Senate is all about.

This place will not quite be the same without HOWELL HEFLIN's indomitable presence, his deep Southern drawl and his wonderful sense of humor. They will not easily be replaced.

But for every Member of this body there comes a time to move on and embrace new challenges and new goals. That time has come for the Judge. I wish HOWELL and his wife "Mike" best wishes in their retirement and all their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL SIMON

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, as the Senate fast approaches the end of the 105th Congress, I would like to take this opportunity to bid a fond farewell to one of our most distinguished colleagues—Senator PAUL SIMON from Illinois.

Throughout his entire life, PAUL SIMON has been devoted to his fellow citizens and has never wavered from the firmly-held beliefs and principles that guide his public life.

From his first job in 1948, at the tender of age 19, as the Nation's youngest editor-publisher, PAUL SIMON was focused on helping his community. From his position at the Troy Tribune he led an impressive crusade against local criminals and machine politicians.

In 1954, he officially began his career in public service as a member of the Illinois House of Representatives. He went on to serve in the State Senate and as Illinois Lieutenant Governor until coming to Washington as a Congressman in 1974 and finally becoming a Senator in 1984.

Throughout that time, PAUL SIMON never lost touch with his Midwestern roots, his reformist ideals or with his constituents, who continued to return him to office, year after year.

PAUL SIMON was one of the first politicians in this Nation to disclose his personal finances, starting in the 1950's.

Additionally, throughout his career he focused on helping provide educational opportunity for the American people. In the Illinois Legislature, he was one of the first lawmakers to propose legislation that would provide a public education for children with disabilities.

Later he was one of the original sponsors of similar landmark legislation on the Federal level, which became the law of the land in 1975.

PAUL SIMON helped lead the way in attacking the problem of illiteracy by working to pass the National Literacy Act.

In 1994, he continued to lead the way on education by working to open up new school-to-work opportunities, and he was the lead sponsor of the President's effort to reform our student loan program. I was pleased to work with Senator SIMON and today we can both look with pride to the new direct student loan program.

Throughout his career, PAUL SIMON has represented the traits of fairness, integrity, and honesty, which has earned him the respect of all members of this body.

This was never more evident than last week, when all the members of the Senate gathered together to honor him by donning imitations of his trademark bow-tie. That salute to our distinguished colleague was an appropriate tribute to a man as unique and distinctive as PAUL SIMON.

To Paul and his wife Jeanne, I wish him the best of luck in all their future endeavors. For a man who has written 15 books I can't imagine that we've heard the last of PAUL SIMON and I look forward to enjoying his wise counsel in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR HANK BROWN

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I would like this opportunity to pay tribute and bid farewell to our distinguished colleague from Colorado—Senator HANK BROWN.

HANK BROWN will be leaving the U.S. Senate after an all-too brief, yet impressive stay in this body. A dedicated and thoughtful legislator, his leadership and intellect will be sorely missed.

Beginning with his experiences in the House of Representatives to his one term here in the Senate, he's been an outspoken leader on issues of foreign policy, deficit reduction, trade, and the military.

His integrity, fairness, and commitment to principles were evident in his approach to all these issues.

I had the pleasure of working with Senator BROWN on both the Budget and Foreign Relations Committees. In both committees, I've been impressed with his perseverance and dedication to developing innovative policy options.

Senator BROWN possesses a rare but important enthusiasm for delving into the Government's fiscal situation. His dedication to discuss budgetary issues is particularly evident in his extra-curricular activities.

While many of us are consumed by the lengthy schedules of day-to-day congressional affairs, HANK BROWN took the time to earn two graduate degrees while a Member of the Congress. In 1988, while still in the House, he earned a degree in accounting, and 2 years earlier, he received a master's degree in taxation. His scholarly grasp of budgetary matters is evidence of his abiding commitment to be well-informed and aware of all possible policy directions.

Senator BROWN has been equally dedicated to foreign policy issues. His amendment to expand NATO to include former Communist states in central and Eastern Europe is just one example of his efforts. The NATO amendment gained bipartisan support because of his strong analytical grasp of the issue and an important willingness to seek out compromise.

HANK BROWN's efforts on this issue stand as an example to us all that a political process often accused of inefficiency and gridlock can work when ideas and cooperation are elevated above the cynical tone too often found in this Chamber.

Senator BROWN is also a distinguished Vietnam veteran, awarded the Air Medal with gold stars, the Vietnam Service Medal, the National Defense Medal, and a Naval Unit Citation. He served in the Colorado State Senate from 1972 to 1976, and was named "Outstanding Young Man of Colorado." Afterwards, he spent 10 years in the House of Representatives before being elected to the Senate in 1990.

Senator BROWN's experience as a military veteran and long-term public servant is indicative of his tireless devotion to addressing the problems that face our Nation today.

His extraordinary public service has been marked by his intelligence, firm commitment to principle, and genuine sense of duty to the State of Colorado. He has made a place for himself in this Senate that will far outlast the time spent here.

I wish him and his wife Nan the best of luck in all their future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO SAM NUNN

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, after 24 years of service we are sad to see Senator SAM NUNN of Georgia go. Like his uncle before him, the Honorable Carl Vinson, chair of the House Armed Services Committee, and that other eminent Georgian, the Venerable Richard Russell, chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, he has served with distinction, ensuring our Nation's defense in the shifting sands of the post cold war. SAM NUNN can claim credit for overhauling the much maligned procurement system and for streamlining excess base closings. Additionally, he is responsible for engaging the Department of Defense in the war against drugs. With bipartisan support, he sponsored the comprehensive Omnibus Anti-Drug Substance Abuse Act of 1988 that addresses every facet of the issue: law enforcement, interdiction, treatment, education, and increased cooperation with the international community and our own Internal Revenue Service. The latter signals the agency's return to its former G-man days, targeting organized crime and the narcotics industry.

Among our esteemed colleague's forays on crime are his chairmanship and current ranking minority leadership on the Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. In this venue, SAM probed the fraud and abuse of student financial aid. He likened the Nation's PELL Grant Program to "an open bank with no security guards and no tellers". As a result of this and other investigations like it, reform measures were included in reauthorization of the Higher Education Act in 1992.

Other significant achievements belonging to SAM include a 1974 bill which created a mechanism for tracking down runaway parents and holding them financially responsible for their children, definitely a harbinger of family values. He saw the value of providing numerous initiatives for small businesses, including the Small Business Development Center program which provides management and technical assistance to small businesses across the country, and the Preferred Surety Bond Guaranty Program enacted in 1988 and designed to encourage more standard surety companies to participate in the Small Business Administration's Guaranteed BOND Program, strengthening the heart of the American economy, the small businessman. And lest you ever think that SAM forgets the agricultural heritage of Georgia, he cosponsored the Conservation Reserve Program that encourages

farmers to retire highly erodible and environmentally sensitive crop land on a 10-year cycle. Georgia, along with the rest of us, can thank him for the Georgia Wilderness Act of 1984 and the creation of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area.

Yes, he will be remembered as an outstanding Senator and defence expert in the Georgia tradition, but as you can see, he has been much more. Most of all, he has been someone that the people of Georgia and the United States were proud to have serve them as a Senator.

SENATOR PRESSLER'S SERVICE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION IN THE 104TH CONGRESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I rise to talk about a friend and long-time colleague, Senator LARRY PRESSLER from South Dakota. Not only does Senator PRESSLER serve South Dakotans' by fighting for the traditional way of life South Dakotans want and deserve, he serves the people of his State and all Americans as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Mr. President, by any measure the Senate Commerce Committee has been one of the most productive in the Senate and, indeed, in either body, during the 104th Congress.

I say this with the greatest sincerity. I know it is true because I have the pleasure of working side-by-side with Senator PRESSLER on the Commerce Committee. As a committee member, I have watched him work tirelessly on behalf of all Americans on some of the most far-reaching and challenging issues this Congress has faced.

Let me say a bit about the vast responsibilities the senior Senator from South Dakota has as chairman of the Commerce Committee. On a daily basis, Chairman PRESSLER labors on matters ranging from promoting the United States as an international tourism destination to shaping the dynamic course of a modernized national communications policy; from intervening on behalf of ranchers into questionable meatpacking concentration practices to working to make the skies as safe as possible for the travelling public.

These are just a few examples of the chairman's vast responsibilities. The list goes on. His job is no small task and in my humble opinion, Senator PRESSLER is a superb chairman.

As I think about significant national events we faced during the 104th Congress, the safety of our Nation's skies comes to mind. Two recent air tragedies, first in the Florida Everglades, and more recently, off the coast of New York, have focused the Nation on aviation safety. Long before he was chairman of the committee with jurisdiction over aviation, Senator PRESSLER worked aggressively to achieve safer skies for the travelling public.

As chairman, Senator PRESSLER made aviation safety one of the main priorities of his committee, holding various aviation safety hearings and leading Congress on working to improve air safety.

Much of his work on aviation safety and security should soon become law as part of compromise legislation he introduced reauthorizing the Federal Aviation Administration. Senator PRESSLER served as chairman of the joint House/Senate Conference Committee that produced the compromise FAA reform and reauthorization bill that will soon be on its way to the White House for the President's signature.

Among its provisions, the bill makes it easier for family members to get accurate information and counseling after a loved one has perished in a plane crash. The bill also calls for the immediate installation of explosive detection technology to beef-up security at our Nation's most vulnerable airports. This is why I chose Senator PRESSLER to represent the Senate on Vice President's GORE's Commission on Air Safety and Security. He has the kind of experience in aviation matters that the Gore Commission needs.

As he does time and time again, Senator PRESSLER also delivered for South Dakota in this legislation. Under his leadership, the bill reauthorizes the Essential Air Service program at a level of \$50 million per year. Mr. President, that doubles the size of this program so vitally important to South Dakota's, and this Nation's, smallest air ports. Senator PRESSLER's hard work ensures people living in our small communities will remain linked to the national air transportation network.

The bill also creates a new funding formula for the Airport Improvement Program. AIP is the program by which airports across the country, from the largest to the smallest, receive assistance in maintaining their core facilities such as runways and terminals. Once again fighting for the people of South Dakota, Chairman PRESSLER saw to it that the new AIP program guarantees that if overall airport funding is significantly reduced, smaller airports will not be disproportionately disadvantaged. Also of importance to smaller airports, the bill directs the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a rural air service study, including an examination of why air fares are so high in small air service markets and provides increased flexibility to small airports working on multi-year airport construction projects.

If we look at aviation in the context of global commerce, Senator PRESSLER has used his chairmanship to pry open air service markets for U.S. carriers worldwide. The German open skies aviation agreement, which PRESSLER helped secure earlier this year, is just one example. These agreements are good for our national economy, good for the airline industry and good for the consumer. Under PRESSLER's stewardship, we are making more progress