

Where are our priorities when we are content with not passing a prescription benefit plan for our seniors—including these honorable men and women—and then say that we will not fight for adequate funding for our VA hospitals? I find these misplaced priorities disturbing and I think it high time we finally did something about it.

We should remember the words of George Washington: "The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation." Today, after one of the most meaningful days in our year, it is time for us to show our commitment to our veterans and, by doing so, show our soldiers that their service means something to this country and to this government—that we won't just send them into harms way and forget about them when they come home. We will remember their service and always keep faith.

AMERICA'S POWER

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, I join my colleagues today to commemorate September 11, 2002, and the Special Joint Session of Congress held in New York City. Americans are a generous people, with both our time and our money. We are a people committed to our religious beliefs. We are a people who place great value on education and the individual. We seek opportunity at every turn for our children, and we strive to take care of those who are elderly, infirm, and less fortunate.

We are also a people who take great pride in the protections we collectively offer one another through a common defense. We wear most humbly the mantle of "Super Power."

Last September 11, our collective vulnerability in securing the borders of our nation was made known to all. In those initial chaotic hours, we watched the opening battle of what is now called the "War on Terror."

Like many states, Alabama lost sons and daughters that day. Indeed, five Alabamians died in the Pentagon. Families were broken and great symbols of our might and entrepreneurial achievement made waste. We felt, and I believe we still feel, a collective pain in our hearts that will never heal. But the world has witnessed the development of a new resolve among Americans. A resolve too quiet for too long.

In the past year, we have taken a long and hard look at our defense posture. We have found great problems that must be fixed. We have found strength. We have committed our uniformed services to battle, and we must give our President tools and the authority to get the job done.

Nearly a year has elapsed. Our emotions still run high.

America is demanding much from itself and its governmental leaders. The creation of the Department of

Homeland Security has resulted in a vigorous and healthy debate and a strong interest in making our homeland safer and improving our intelligence gathering capabilities.

Fundamentally, the homeland defense debate is about change. Specifically, it is about protection of American citizens.

I am proud of this country and how we have reacted. Everything has not been perfect, but great progress has been made. Noted columnist Mr. Charles Krauthammer recently wrote, "National character does not change in a day. September 11 did not alter the American character, it merely revealed it." I could not agree more.

The American character displayed "courage, resolve, resourcefulness and above all resilience" Krauthammer wrote and I agree. We are a great power and indeed a super power.

We are a nation that believes in freedom and progress and are forgiving and slow to anger, but when aroused we have proven once again we can be a terrible force.

Our President is leading us with strength and resolve. Homeland defense is but a part—an important part—of that resolve. Foreign policy initiatives, social policy changes and prosecution of the War on Terror are other aspects as well. Of the latter, winning is no simple matter. Patience, superior planning, and the support of the military are all required to complete the tasks which lie ahead.

The nation has met the challenge this year. Now we must work hard as the memories of the horror of September 11 fade, to finish the job of making our homeland safe and ensuring that our magnificent military continues to expand its capabilities and world leadership. We must not sleep.

CLARENCE MILLER POST OFFICE

Mr. VOINOVICH. Madam President, I speak today on behalf of a bill considered by the Senate, H.R. 4755, to designate a post office in Lancaster, OH, as the "Clarence Miller Post Office Building." I strongly support this bill honoring a long-time Member of the Ohio Congressional delegation.

Clarence Miller is a native and life-long resident of Lancaster, OH. The third of six children, Clarence grew up during the difficult times of the Great Depression. He learned the value of hard work at an early age and began his professional life by delivering newspapers for the Lancaster Eagle Gazette. After graduating from high school, he started his career at Ohio Fuel and Gas digging ditches. Through determination and hard work he eventually earned a position of electrical engineer. While employed full time at Ohio Fuel, he joined his family in opening a small electric wiring business in Lancaster and worked there during his "off" hours.

At Ohio Fuel, Clarence was introduced to politics when he participated

in a civics course offered to help employees better understand government. Clarence was enthralled by the subject and soon began teaching the course.

He was able to put into practice all he learned when he was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Lancaster City Council. Subsequently, he was elected to a full term and then was elected mayor. Following his term as mayor, Clarence served the people of 10th District of Ohio in the U.S. House of Representatives for 27 years, from 1966–1993. Representative Miller served for 6 years on the House Agriculture Committee and the Public Works and Transportation Committee, and then he was selected to serve on the Appropriations Committee, where he served for 20 years, and fought hard to reduce Federal spending during times of skyrocketing deficits.

Mr. Miller's achievements did not go unrecognized by his fellow Ohioans. His many awards include honorary doctorate degrees from Marietta College and Rio Grande College, and the Phillips Medal of Public Service from Ohio University.

I thank my colleagues for their consideration of this matter important to the people of Ohio.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CHANDLER RAYMOND KELLER: IN MEMORIAM

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to share with my colleagues the memory of one of my constituents, Chandler Keller, of Manhattan Beach, California, who lost his life on September 11, 2001. He was a passenger on American Airlines Flight 77. As we all know, that plane crashed into the Pentagon, killing everyone on board. Mr. Keller was a 29 year-old lead propulsion engineer and project manager with Boeing Satellite Systems in El Segundo, California.

Chandler Keller was known to his family and friends as "Chad". He was born in Manhattan Beach, California. Chad mostly grew up there, with the exception of some time spent in Hong Kong, New York and Sydney, Australia due to his father's work assignments with Security Pacific Corporation.

As a child, Chad enjoyed a great love of rocketry and an avid interest in space. As a young boy he had an innate ability to understand machines and how to make them work. In 1993, Chad graduated from the University of Colorado's aerospace engineering program and pursued his career at Hughes/Boeing, working in their satellite launching program.

Chad and his wife, Lisa Hurley Keller, were married on July 22, 2000 at the Old Mission in Santa Barbara. During their brief time together Chad and Lisa enjoyed travel, outdoor activities, and most of all, being with one another.

Chad Keller enjoyed surfing, skiing and snowboarding. He loved to cook

and possessed a wonderful sense of humor. "He had the ability to bond with people, and he touched many lives during his short life. He lived his life to its fullest," says his father, Dick Keller.

In celebration of his life, the Keller family established the Chandler Keller Memorial Scholarship at the University of Colorado. It is to be awarded to well-rounded aerospace engineering students. Chad was posthumously awarded the Defense of Freedom medal for his work with the Department of Defense in conjunction with Boeing Satellite Systems.

Chad Keller is survived by his wife, Lisa Hurley Keller; parents Kathy and Dick Keller; brothers Brandon and Gavin; mother-in-law and father-in-law Shirley Ann and Jim Hurley; and brother-in-law James Hurley.

Mr. President, none of us is untouched by the terror of September 11th, and many Californians were part of each tragic moment of that tragic day. Some were trapped in the World Trade Center towers. Some were at work in the Pentagon. And the fates of some were sealed as they boarded planes bound for San Francisco or Los Angeles.

I offer this tribute to one of the 54 Californians who perished on that awful morning. I want to assure the family of Chad Keller, and the families of all the victims, that their fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, aunts, uncles, brothers and sisters will not be forgotten.●

DINO XAVIER SUAREZ RAMIREZ: IN MEMORIAM

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to share with my colleagues the memory of one of my constituents, Dino Xavier Suarez Ramirez, who lost his life on September 11, 2001. Mr. Ramirez was a 41-year-old civil engineer returning to Los Angeles from vacation when the flight he was on, American Airlines Flight 11, was hijacked by terrorists. As we all know, that plane crashed into the World Trade Center, killing everyone on board.

Xavier Ramirez was born in Guayaquil, Ecuador and completed his primary and secondary education there, receiving certification in mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology. Mr. Ramirez achieved his goal of becoming a civil engineer by working during the day and completing his university studies at night. He majored in civil engineering at the University Laica Vicenete Rocafuerte de Guayaquil. "He was very intelligent, and his hobby was reading. He knew very much about the history of nations because of his reading," recalls his mother, Blanca Vilma Ramirez.

Upon coming to this country, Mr. Ramirez worked to have his degree recognized here. In his native country of Ecuador he worked in the construction of roads. His mother further recalls that,

"He worked very hard and was not afraid of any kind of job, wanting only to go beyond himself in what he did." Xavier Ramirez is survived by his mother, Blanca and his brother, Klinger David Suarez Ramirez.

Mr. President, none of us is untouched by the terror of September 11th, and many Californians were part of each tragic moment of that tragic day. Some were trapped in the World Trade Center towers. Some were at work in the Pentagon. And the fates of some were sealed as they boarded planes bound for San Francisco or Los Angeles.

I offer today this tribute to one of the 54 Californians who perished on that awful morning. I want to assure the family of Dino Ramirez, and the families of all the victims, that their fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, aunts, uncles, brothers and sisters will not be forgotten.●

JOHN D. YAMNICKY, SR.: IN MEMORIAM

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to share with the Senate the memory of Captain John D. Yamnicky, Sr., of Waldorf, Maryland, who lost his life on September 11, 2001. He was a passenger on American Airlines Flight 77. As we all know, that flight was hijacked by terrorists and crashed into the Pentagon, killing everyone on board. Captain Yamnicky was a 71-year-old retired naval aviator who, since his retirement from the United States Navy in 1979, continued to work as a defense contractor for Veridian Engineering.

Captain Yamnicky was a gentleman and a scholar. He graduated from the Naval Academy in 1952, and devoted a 26-year career in service to this country. He served a combat tour in Korea and served two tours in Southeast Asia flying from aircraft carriers. He earned several military honors, including the Distinguished Flying Cross.

After graduating from the Naval Test Pilot School at Patuxent River, Maryland, in 1961, one of his first assignments was to determine the minimum acceptable airspeed for the A-4 aircraft after a catapult launch from an aircraft carrier. He was inducted into the Society of Experimental Test Pilots in recognition of his contributions. In 1963, after that honor, Captain Yamnicky reported to VA-146 at NAS in Lemoore, California.

Captain Yamnicky met his wife, Jann, while she was working as a nurse at Jacksonville Naval Hospital. They married in 1959 and had four children. Their son John David, of California, said of his father, "This guy was the head of the family, he made everyone feel safe. If he ever talked about accomplishing something, it was as a group or a team. He was a modest man."

Friend and colleague, Dennis Plautz, commented that, "John Yamnicky emphasized teamwork. His style was

never to leave a teammate straggling, rather work with them, help them, encourage them to maximize their potential."

He applied this attitude in all areas of his life, including his community contributions. Captain Yamnicky served on the Board of Directors at his daughter Lorraine's high school, St. Mary's Academy, was a member of the Knights of Columbus, and the Elks Lodge. He was proud of his volunteer contributions to the De La Brooke Foxhounds Hunt Club, where he and Jann were members for 25 years.

His best times were spent away from the office, riding on a tractor through the fields of his Waldorf horse farm. "He loved being out there. His nature was not to stand around. He was always out in the fields, always working on something," remembers his son, John.

Captain Yamnicky is survived by his wife Jann and their four children, John, Jr., Lorraine, Mark and Jennifer.

Mr. President, none of us is untouched by the terror of September 11th, and many Californians were part of each tragic moment of that tragic day. Some were trapped in the World Trade Center towers. Some were at work in the Pentagon. And the fates of some were sealed as they boarded planes bound for San Francisco or Los Angeles.

I offer today this tribute to one American who perished on that awful morning. I want to assure the family of Captain John D. Yamnicky, Sr., and the families of all the victims, that their fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, aunts, uncles, brothers and sisters will not be forgotten.●

DOROTHY A. DEARAUJO: IN MEMORIAM

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to share with my colleagues the memory of one of my constituents, Dorothy A. deAraujo, of Long Beach, California, who lost her life on September 11, 2001. Mrs. deAraujo was an 80-year-old retiree when the flight she was on, United Airlines Flight 175, was hijacked by terrorists. As we all know, that flight crashed into the World Trade Center killing everyone on board.

Mrs. deAraujo was returning to her home in Long Beach after enjoying a lengthy visit with her son, Joaquim ("Tim"), his wife Rita and their two sons, Jonathan and Jason in Bedford, Massachusetts.

Dorothy worked as an Executive Administrative Assistant in the business office of California State University, Long Beach for 20 years. She retired in 1979 and returned to the University as a student, earning her Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art. During her retirement, Mrs. deAraujo traveled extensively and pursued her passion for watercolor painting. She was a talented artist, and her paintings won several prizes in various competitions.