

going through, and his drawings depicted that. Bill Mauldin's work as a military and civilian cartoonist and writer brought a spirited, insightful, and human touch to the issues and people whom he covered. He is perhaps best known for two of the cartoon characters he created, Willie and Joe, whose adventures took them across various battlefields of World War II.

Willie and Joe were both young enlistees on the front lines of combat, very much like Mr. Mauldin himself, a 1940 callup to the Army from the Arizona National Guard who spent a considerable amount of time in the North African and European battle theaters.

Willie and Joe were not the straight-edged soldiers we often find in official wartime publications or Hollywood films. Rather, these two cartoon heroes lived the lives of men defined by the difficult surroundings and tasks at hand during World War II—soldiers resolved to give their all in the few matters they could control and resigned to hope for the best in those which they could not.

I think the late historian Stephen Ambrose said it best in the introduction to a re-issue of Mauldin's widely read post-war cartoon compilation entitled "Up Front." According to Ambrose, Bill Mauldin's cartoons "caught on and live on because in them everything is accurate. . . . Willie and Joe's boots and smelly socks, their baggy, dirty uniforms, their knives, rifles, ammunition, mortars, web belts, canteens, beards, haversacks, helmets (with crease marks or holes), the rations—this is how it was."

Ambrose really got it right. Mauldin's unique ability to capture the young soldier's perspective on day-to-day life during the war in an inclusive and patriotic manner earned his work the distinction of regular publication in numerous military newspapers, including Stars and Stripes and the 45th Division News. His work also won him the respect of fellow soldiers across the globe, one of whom recently described Willie and Joe as "a secret weapon on our side."

Willie and Joe were featured in Mauldin's first post-war compilation of cartoons and essays entitled "Back Home." The success "Back Home" had in bookstores across the country propelled Mauldin to even greater fame, winning him the opportunity to publish several more works and even act in a few motion pictures.

In fact, Mauldin is so well respected that in 1945, at the age of 23, he received a Pulitzer Prize soon after Time magazine featured him on its cover. Following the conclusion of World War II, Mauldin began a career as a political cartoonist for several major U.S. newspapers, including the Chicago Sun-Times and then the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, stirring up high-profile issues along the way. He won a second Pulitzer Prize in 1959 for a cartoon he drew depicting the Soviet Union's harsh treatment of renowned writer and

Nobel Prize winner Boris Pasternak. Bill Mauldin has touched my generation with one of his most famous drawings, a drawing I certainly remember and I know anyone in my generation remembers. It was a drawing from now what has been 40 years ago of a statue of Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln Memorial with his face cupped in his hand, weeping, following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

I will not forget that image, and I am sure there are many Members of the Senate and across this country who will not forget that, either.

Bill Mauldin was a creative, artistic genius who could capture so much about people and the human condition in the simplicity of his drawings. He could capture in those cartoons what words alone could not. Bill Mauldin had the gift and he used it well. On Veterans Day this year, we should thank Bill Mauldin for that gift and for his service to our Nation, for what he did to represent in drawings the average GI in World War II—and in a sense the average GI throughout our long history as a country—for what he did to communicate to so many the way life was for our troops.

I would also like to take this opportunity to send that same message of thanks on this Veterans Day to all of our current and former service men and women. Whether on the islands of the South Pacific, in the air over France, or on land in France or in Germany, on the beaches of Sicily, the mountains in Korea, the jungles of Vietnam, the deserts of Kuwait, more recently in the caves of Afghanistan or the streets of Baghdad, our service men and women have defended America and they defended our values with great valor. We must never forget that veterans served for us, they served for our children, for our grandchildren, and for future generations not yet born.

Today on this Veterans Day our service men and women continue to serve around the world. We pause again tonight to thank our veterans, thank those who have served in the past, and to remember our service men and women who are serving at this very hour tonight.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERETT "EP" HOWE

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, this Veterans Day, members of the Rapid City and Ellsworth Air Force Base communities will gather to honor Everett "Ep" Howe for his lifetime of dedicated service. Today I salute the life and work of one of South Dakota's finest patriots.

For nearly 70 years, Ep has dedicated himself to serving his community and his country. He began his career in the public service, joining the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1921, and serving as Park Ranger and U.S. Border Patrol Officer before joining the military in 1944. He proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1944 to 1948, including

a tour with the 9th Marine Aircraft Wing during World War II.

Discharged as a Marine Sergeant, he returned to Rapid City, his wife, Grace, and a career in construction. To say that, in many ways, Ellsworth Air Force Base is "The House That Ep Built," is no measure of hyperbole. Not only has he donated land and raised money for the base, he actually contributed to the construction of some of its buildings. During his time with both Hacket Construction and Corner, Howe, & Lee Construction, he worked on a number of projects at what is now Ellsworth, including the construction of the original Rapid City Air Force Base, which opened in 1942.

Throughout his life, Ep has been a tremendous supporter and friend of the military. A longtime committee member of the South Dakota Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and of the Rapid City Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee, he has been particularly dedicated to strengthening relationships between civilian and military communities. He has received several awards for his work in the military community, including the Department of Defense "Lifetime Achievement Award" and the South Dakota National Guard Major General Williamson Militia Award.

In addition to supporting the military, he has been a tireless and dedicated servant of his community. He has served on the South Dakota Highway Commission, the Rapid City Area Disaster Foundation, the YMCA Board of Directors and Board of Trustees, and the American Legion. He has also been a dedicated member of First Presbyterian Church in Rapid City, the Rapid City Chamber of Commerce, and the local Elks Lodge. Not surprisingly, Ep has received a number of awards for his work in the community as well, including being named "Mr. Rapid City" for his lifelong service as a community leader.

On Veterans Day, a bust of Ep will be unveiled in Building 450 on Ellsworth Air Force Base. It is only fitting that this bust will occupy the building where leaders of the South Dakota National Guard regularly meet. Ep's bust will look down on the proceedings and provide these leaders what he has provided so many South Dakotans over the years; a friendly countenance, moral support, and a model for community leadership. I commend Ep for his lifetime of accomplishment, and offer my deepest gratitude for the work he has done and continues to do.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise to express my sympathy over the loss of James Wolf, a fellow Nebraskan and Specialist in the United States Army. Specialist Wolf was killed on November 6, 2003, in Mosul, Iraq, when a bomb exploded near the convoy he was traveling in. He was 21 years old.

Specialist Wolf was an engineer assigned to the Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 52nd Engineer Battalion of the 43rd Area Support Group, based in Fort Carson, CO. He was one of thousands of brave American service men and women serving in Iraq who confront danger everyday. Their tremendous risks and sacrifices must never be taken for granted.

In October, Specialist Wolf spent 2 weeks of leave with his family in his hometown of Scottsbluff, NE. While there, he visited his alma mater, Scottsbluff High School, and thanked students for writing to him in Iraq. Specialist Wolf leaves behind parents, Bob and Chris; brother, David; and sisters, Elli and Rachel. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

In Iraq, Specialist Wolf assisted with the construction of housing and schools for U.S. soldiers and Iraqi citizens. He will be remembered as a dedicated soldier with an optimistic outlook on life.

For his service, bravery, and sacrifice, I ask my colleagues to join me and all Americans in honoring Specialist Wolf.

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statements were ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

SSG DANIEL BADER

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of SSG Daniel Bader, a member of the Air Defense Artillery Battery, 1st Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment.

SSG Daniel Bader lived in Colorado for most of his life, but he always loved Nebraska. As a child growing up in York he watched his father put on his Reserve uniform for weekend duty. From his father's example, Daniel Bader learned that sacrifice is part of life and serving your country is an honorable way to live life. While in high school, Daniel Bader followed in his father's footsteps and joined the Guard himself and after graduation he went on to active duty. He excelled in the Army, rising to staff sergeant in just 8 years. In addition to being a soldier and a patriot, Staff Sergeant Bader was also a loving husband and father. In these family roles he also served honorably. Daniel Bader will forever serve as an example for all Americans of the kind of life in service one can live.

Staff Sergeant Bader was on his way home for 2 weeks' leave when his helicopter crashed in Fallujah on November 2. He leaves behind his wife Tiffany and a 14-month-old daughter Taryn Makenzie. A devoted family man, Daniel Bader had asked to be buried next to his grandfather at Rose Hill Cemetery in Palmer, NE. I know my fellow Nebraskans and all Americans join me in honoring and remembering Daniel Bader and the sacrifice he made for his family and our Nation.●

SSG CHRISTOPHER W. SWISHER

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today to honor SSG Chris-

topher Swisher, a native of Lincoln, NE and a member of 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment.

Staff Sergeant Swisher's mom once said, "Chris was military from the day he was born. Knowing this keeps me going." As a young boy, Christopher W. Swisher wore camouflage T-shirts and dreamed of joining the military. After graduating from Lincoln Northeast High School, he worked hard to overcome his dyslexia and joined the Army.

Chris Swisher came from a Nebraska family with a proud military background. His older brother Terry served bravely as a Marine in Operation Desert Storm. The brothers played war games as children, both dreaming of the day they could wear the uniform of the United States military.

Staff Sergeant Swisher was killed on October 9, 2003 when his unit was ambushed while on patrol in Baghdad. He was supposed to be home by then, originally scheduled to return on September 29, but like many of our soldiers serving in Iraq, his tour was extended. His family was disappointed but Chris Swisher was doing what he loved to do.

All Nebraskans grieve for the Swisher family and we offer them our thoughts and prayers. The Swisher family can take some comfort in the brave words Chris spoke to his mother before he left for duty in Iraq: "I'm doing what I want to be doing because I'm protecting my family, my home and my country."●

PO3 DAVID J. MORENO

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today to honor PO3 David J. Moreno, a member of the 4th Marine Division Detachment, Naval Medical Center, San Diego.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Moreno dreamed of becoming a doctor. The California native lived briefly in Gering, NE and attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln before joining the Navy. It was in the Navy that he discovered his love for medicine. He earned his Emergency Medical Technical License and served the men and women of our Armed Services honorably as a Navy medic.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Moreno died from a non-hostile gunshot wound in Hamishiyah on July 17, 2003. David Moreno died while serving his nation in a job he truly enjoyed. His sacrifice, along with the sacrifices made by his brothers-in-arms in Iraq and elsewhere during the global war on terrorism, serves as a reminder to Nebraskans and all Americans that freedom and liberty do not come easy. The cost of freedom and liberty is measured in sacrifice and David Moreno made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve these ideals for the rest of us. His sacrifice for freedom, liberty and our Nation is remembered today as we send our thoughts and prayers to his family in Nebraska and elsewhere.●

SSG BRETT J. PETRIKEN

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today to honor SSG Brett Petriken of Omaha, NE.

A member of the 501st Military Police Company, Staff Sergeant Petriken served his nation bravely. In times of war, danger lurks at every turn and he knew this to be true, especially in a war zone like Iraq. Staff Sergeant Petriken lost his life when a heavy equipment transporter crossed the median and struck the Humvee he was in on May 26, 2003, in Samawa, Iraq.

Brett Petriken is a shining example of a soldier who put his life on the line to protect those he knew and loved and even those he didn't know and love. His family should think of him and remember what is most important to them, his role in their lives. Americans should think of him and remember that he died in the line of duty upholding the ideals of freedom and liberty and protecting the United States from the new invisible foes that represent a tremendous threat to our nation. As a nation we are grateful to soldiers like Brett Petriken and others like him who make the ultimate sacrifice so that others can live free.●

SP NATHANIEL A. CALDWELL

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Army SP Nathaniel A. Caldwell of Omaha. Specialist Caldwell, a member of the 115th Military Police Company, Army National Guard, was killed when his vehicle rolled over while responding to a civilian call on May 21, 2003 in Baghdad, Iraq.

Specialist Caldwell joined the armed services shortly after September 11 to serve his county. His commitment to protecting America at home and abroad is inspiring to us all. Nebraskans can look to Specialist Caldwell as an example of an American inspired to serve his Nation. He did so bravely. His sacrifice will forever remind the nation of the danger that comes with the duty to protect our Nation's interests and to preserve the flame of liberty for Americans and for all the world's people.

I know I join all Nebraskans in offering our thoughts and prayers for his family in Texas, Oklahoma, and elsewhere.●

CPT TRAVIS A. FORD

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today to honor CPT Travis A. Ford of Ogallala, NE. Captain Ford always gave 100 percent in everything he did. He excelled in high school sports and brought his enthusiasm to the Yell Squad at Husker football games while he attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

As a Marine, he was selfless. A member of the Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 267, Marine Aircraft group 39, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, he volunteered to fly extra shifts so that younger Marines could get some sleep in the early days of the war. When his AH-1W Super Cobra attack helicopter crashed on April 4, 2003, during combat operations near Baghdad he became the first Nebraskan to give his life in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Captain Ford will be greatly missed and our thoughts and prayers are with