

Alfred Rose said his son and his wife met at North Carolina State University and married, living at Fort Campbell, Ky., the base of the 101st Airborne Division. Michele (Basso) Rose gave birth to their daughter Meghan Louise at Fort Campbell on July 31, and the baby never met her father, the elder Rose said.

Rose said that he was able to hook up a Web camera so his son could watch the baby over the Internet from Iraq, but that he died before he was able to get leave and come home to visit his new daughter. She is the couple's only child.

Rose said his son died with three of his fellow crew members, all of whom were very close friends. According to news reports, the Black Hawk was transporting two officials from the Army's Judge Advocate General corps from the Pentagon when the helicopter was hit.

Alfred Rose, himself a retired lieutenant colonel from the 82nd Airborne Division, said his son's mission on Nov. 7 was to transport "command and control" personnel from Mosul to Tikrit. His son was the crew chief.

He said his son was born in Attleboro, Mass., but grew up in North Carolina, attending high school in Fayetteville. He was captain of the wrestling team and also played soccer, was also involved in drama and debate. He graduated second in his class and attended North Carolina State on a full Navy scholarship.

But he switched to the Army even after receiving orders to the Navy's prestigious flight school in Pensacola, Fla., his father said, to combine his love of flying and his wish to be a family man. Navy flight training involves six month stints on aircraft carriers. "However, the world situation turned sour and he was deployed nearly continuously from Bosnia to the NCO School in Virginia and immediately to Iraq. Scott badly wanted to join his unit, which was already over there," his father recalled.

His father called him "the Tom Cruise of the Lancer flight line, he loved his work, he loved to teach others." "He was one of those rare great men, soldier, leader, husband, father . . . our son," he said.

The elder Rose said his son's unit was not expected back from Iraq until February or March 2004. According to an article in the Fayetteville Observer, Rose had started flying when he was 14 years old. In college, he started studying aeronautical engineering, but switched to history.

His son called his helicopter "Goat 26431." He named it so in honor of his grandfather's military aircraft, which was also nicknamed Goat. His grandfather also died on active duty.

The father said his son's helicopter came under fire the morning of Nov. 7. A second Black Hawk helicopter was following close behind and was not hit, but Rose said those in the second helicopter heard the impact of the weapon, saw flames erupt and his son's helicopter crash. At the time the helicopter was hit, they were about 280 feet above the ground and had slowed to make a landing in a designated area.

His son received a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart, as well as the Army Commendation medal. His wife's father and stepmother, Alfred and Paula Basso, live on Poppe Road in Springfield, according to William Young, director of the David Memorial Chapel, which is working closely with the military to plan Saturday's funeral. Details of the service are still being worked out, according to a spokesman at the funeral home.

Young said Rose would not be buried in Vermont as his remains were being cremated. The elder Rose said that a memorial account in his son's name has been set up to benefit his infant daughter at the Bryant Credit Union in Springfield.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

On October 25, 2003, a Miami, FL, teen was charged with a hate crime after police say he harassed a 19-year-old woman driving with a gay pride sticker on her car.

The teen leaned out of his car window at a traffic light to make an obscene gesture toward the young woman and said to her, "We hate faggots . . . we kill people like you." The truck pulled up to her again at the next light where he continued to make lewd comments and gestures. The teen cut in front of the woman and hit his brakes, causing the woman's car to swerve, according to police. Police say the driver then swerved his truck three times toward the woman's car, running her off the road.

I believe that Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

SBA ASSISTANCE FOLLOWING HURRICANE ISABEL

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I wish to call to the attention of my colleagues the well-coordinated and rapid response of the good people from the United States Small Business Administration in the days and weeks that have followed the disaster caused by Hurricane Isabel.

Virginia is still recovering from this terrible natural disaster. In Virginia, initial assessments indicate that 1,062 homes were destroyed; over 8,800 homes sustained major damage; 1.8 million customers lost electricity of varying duration from a day to over a week; there were 28 deaths in the Commonwealth; crop losses are in the tens of millions; and total damages are in the billions to homes, businesses, transportation and other infrastructure facilities.

Our Commonwealth was devastated and the residents of Virginia, as they always do, have come together to help neighbors repair damages, to help families find housing and to console those who lost loved ones in their time of grief.

Soon after the storm cut across Virginia, and the economic impact began to be felt, I contacted Small Business Administration leaders, seeking to bring direct assistance to these affected businesses. On September 22,

SBA representatives responded quickly. My colleague, JOHN WARNER, and I toured the significant damage to many flooded small businesses in Old Town Alexandria, VA.

The quick response, expertise and enthusiasm of the SBA leaders gave hope to small business owners who were upset at the great losses and burdened by damage to their infrastructure, uncertainty when to reopen, loss of inventory, very little capital and lost incomes. The people saw that there was help, that it was not just their own sweat, worry and furrowed brows, but that the SBA was there to assist them directly.

Herb Mitchell, associate administrator for the Office of Disaster Assistance at the SBA, Anthony Bedell, associate administrator for the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Sue Hensley, associate administrator for the Office of Communications and Public Liaison and their leader Melanie Sabelhaus, Deputy Administrator for the SBA walked with us while we viewed the damage first hand, talking with business owners who were able to ask specific questions and receive answers and solutions.

On the spot, Melanie Sabelhaus of the SBA also set up an onsite Business Disaster Recovery Center with the local Chamber of Commerce in Old Town Alexandria to help business owners who suffered loss. Our top priority was to get small businesses dried out, disinfected and back in business, and I am proud that this team effort has proceeded successfully. By getting our boots in the mud, we were able to get a direct, human response to promptly assist distressed small business owners, who are the backbone of the American economy.

Later the same week they answered my call and came with me again to southeastern Virginia, to places such as Burwell's Bay in Isle of Wight County, Suffolk and Wakefield in Sussex County. There we witnessed the terrible devastation. People there not only experienced great trauma, difficulty and loss, they were still without power, looking to the SBA for assistance, which was able to provide human, personal attention to help get them up and running again. Small businesses such as Cameron Chemical and the Marina Restaurant, whose owners we were able to talk with, which were forced to close their businesses indefinitely, and which together employ dozens of hard-working Virginians were given hands-on assistance by the SBA to reopen in a timely manner. Low interest loans, business disruption assistance from the SBA visibly cheered their faces with hope and gratitude. Traveling with me again was Melanie Sabelhaus, along with Anne Bradbury, assistant administrator for congressional affairs and Becky Brantley, assistant administrator for disaster assistance.

I commend the Small Business Administration's leadership, under the direction of Administrator Hector

Barreto, Jr., and the entire team at the SBA. They responded to each of my requests and demonstrated knowledge, experience and genuine care by helping small businesses get clean, dry, rebuilt and open again for customers and employees. Their enthusiastic outreach truly gave hope to many owners and employees. And, as a U.S. Senator, one can often try to get Federal agencies to help people. From my perspective, the Small Business Administration is demonstrably one of the very best lead teams in the Federal Government. On behalf of Virginians, I thank them for their special care. Many small entrepreneurs are open for business due to our efforts. It is a satisfying job well done.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, regarding the voice vote on the nomination of Major General Robert T. Clark, U.S. Army, yesterday in the U.S. Senate, had such vote been a rollcall vote, I would have voted "nay."

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DELEGATE HOWARD "PETE" RAWLINGS

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Delegate Pete Rawlings. He was a big man with a big heart—who leaves an indelible mark on the people of Maryland.

The Baltimore Sun said Delegate Rawlings had "the passion of a civil rights activist and the analytical mind of a mathematician combined with the savvy of a backroom pol." I think that captures him perfectly.

Delegate Rawlings used America's unique opportunity structure to build a life of accomplishment and of service. But more importantly, he expanded that opportunity structure for thousands of others. In over a quarter century in the House of Delegates, Pete Rawlings was known as a man of principle who put his principles into action.

Mathematician and politician, educator and leader, Pete Rawlings may be best remembered for his untiring advocacy to improve education for all. He was an unfailing advocate for education. He used his power and influence to provide an unprecedented State commitment to education, a \$1.3 billion commitment that the State recognized it would be constitutionally bound to fulfill. Maryland's schools are better today because of Delegate Rawlings.

The passing of Delegate Rawlings is a tragedy, but his life was a triumph. His wife, Dr. Nina Cole, and his children, Wendall Rawlings, Lisa Rawlings, and Councilwoman Stephanie C. Rawlings Black are in my thoughts and prayers.

I ask that an editorial from the Baltimore Sun be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The editorial follows:

[From the Baltimore Sun, Nov. 16, 2003]

PETE

He'd thunder and preach, he'd deplore and beseech, he'd count pennies and votes and usually come out on the money.

With the death Friday of Del. Howard P. "Pete" Rawlings, Maryland lost an extraordinarily gifted leader and one of the most accomplished politicians of his era—known for both a tight fist and a caring heart.

Mr. Rawlings' intellectual grasp of policy detail and instinct for mastering the levers of power propelled him to a top post in the General Assembly. His greatest contributions arose, however, from his willingness to take on the unpopular yet critical tasks of fiscal management.

He never forgot his West Baltimore constituents, yet he had the rare courage to sometimes tell them no.

Such was the force of his conviction that he managed not only to survive such battles but to prosper. His remarkable legacy includes a new generation of political leaders he mentored along the way.

As a freshman delegate, part of a tiny minority of black lawmakers, Mr. Rawlings claimed his seat on the House Appropriations Committee in 1979 and immediately started breaking the rules. He publicly questioned every spending item, including those dear to the hearts of his committee mates, wanting to know what good the money would do for "his people."

Colleagues rolled their eyes. Who was this guy? They were used to machine-backed black legislators who were reliable votes, and to the "screamers" who would grandstand in protest of the system but never get anything done. In Mr. Rawlings, they found the passion of a civil rights activist and the analytical mind of a mathematician combined with the savvy of a backroom pol.

He was quickly tagged as a "comer," was named to a subcommittee chairmanship and by 1992 was awarded the gavel of Appropriations Committee chairman.

Running Appropriations in Annapolis isn't like in Congress, where the bounty flows seemingly without limit. In Maryland, the budget has to balance. Mr. Rawlings made it his business to try to ensure the taxpayers' money was being spent wisely.

He battled with Baltimore mayors and officials of Morgan State University. He authored reforms in education, housing and health care. He brought home the bacon as he saw fit.

The strongest testimony to his style may be his endorsement of Martin O'Malley in the 1999 mayoral race against black competitors, thus awarding the job of running a majority-black city to a white politician Mr. Rawlings thought better qualified.

Much of Mr. Rawlings' success stemmed from the sense that he was not interested in power for its own sake, but for what he could accomplish. That, and a deep bass voice that boomed with such moral authority it seemed to come from the heavens.

His passing robs Baltimore of its most effective and empathetic advocate. All of Maryland, though, is poorer for his loss. ●

COMMENDING MAJOR FIRMAN RAY ON RECEIVING THE SILVER STAR MEDAL

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, it is my great pleasure and pride to rise today to honor a true Montana hero—MAJ Firman Ray. Major Ray grew up in Butte and Stevensville. He attended the University of Montana. To this

day, he remains a staunch Grizzly fan. His mother Tempie Ray is a retired high school librarian in Stevensville. Firman is the nephew of Carl and Martha Davis from Dillon. At the Montana Constitutional Convention, I was Carl's intern. Furthermore, Firman's wife Sheila Hall Ray was my son's babysitter when we lived in Missoula. Firman and his family are 100 percent Montana.

MAJ Firman Ray has a distinguished career with the Army and he is only getting started. He has excelled in each of his positions since he was commissioned in 1991. Firman also survived the 9/11 attack on the Pentagon where his office was hit by the terrorists.

Today, we recognize MAJ Firman Ray to receive the Silver Star for distinguished gallantry in action against the enemy in Somalia in 1993. The Silver Star is the third highest medal awarded for combat service and the fourth highest medal that a soldier may receive. The Silver Star is awarded to a person who, while serving in any capacity with the U.S. Army, is cited for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force, or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

For those reasons and so many more, I am honored to announce that today MAJ Firman Ray will finally receive the distinguished Silver Star award for his valorous performance of duty with the U.S. Army in Somalia that is long overdue.

Many of you may remember the movie, "Black Hawk Down." MAJ Firman Ray, then Lieutenant Ray, was part of the team that the movie, Black Hawk Down, portrayed. It was during the predawn hours of September 25, 1993, that a U.S. Army UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter was shot down in Mogadishu, Somalia. Lieutenant Ray was part of AT Platoon that was given the mission to conduct a search and rescue operation at the helicopter crash site. Clearly understanding the urgency of the situation, Lieutenant Ray took his two lead MK-19 gun vehicles and instructed them to quickly advance to the crash site. Upon entering the site, intense small arms fire and sporadic rocket propelled grenade fire erupted. The gunners under Lieutenant Ray's command were able to destroy three enemy positions in a building just north of the crash site. While attempting to again secure the site, another firefight ensued on the west side. Lieutenant Ray dismounted and on the run, dodged under considerable fire to position the gun vehicles to establish security. Lieutenant Ray's unit was again under fire two more times where Firman moved the gun vehicles into strategic positions that were vital to