

around their shoulders, and tell them it was "ok."

As Richard grew up, he made friends, played Little League, and followed his favorite sports teams. He was an avid fan of the University of Dayton Flyers basketball team and The Ohio State University football team. His support of the Buckeye's football team, however, caused a bit of tension in the Gilbert home every year in the late fall. It seems Richard's brother was a Michigan Wolverines fan and according to their mother, when the Wolverines and the Buckeye's squared off, "You didn't even want to be near the house when those boys watched the game!"

When Richard wasn't discussing football with his brother, he was often found discussing something with somebody. He was an incredibly articulate and intelligent young man, able to spout facts about anything from sports to religion to politics. His friends would often call Richard over if they were having a dispute and needed someone with the knowledge to settle it.

Richard also loved music. He was a self-taught guitarist, who composed his own music. According to friends, he loved heavy metal and he was always at peace when composing or playing his guitar.

Of all his interests, however, Richard's greatest love was of politics. After discovering that President Harry Truman was one of his distant cousins, Richard made it his goal to ascend one day to that same office. His passion for politics earned him the nickname "The Governor" from his friends, and his mother jokingly recalls that, "[h]e was a natural-born politician. When you asked him a question, he'd talk for a half-hour and never give you an answer!"

Richard had hopes of running either for Mayor of Dayton or the Dayton City Commission after he returned from Iraq. I remember being at calling hours and talking with people who told me about his aspirations, and how they thought he would be a great politician, a great public servant. He would have been great in either position.

Richard was, like many of our service men and women, deeply affected by the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Prior to the attacks, he was working on the assembly line at Behr Dayton Thermal Products. He had just purchased a house, not far from his mother. Richard was also studying political science at Sinclair Community College. He had thought about joining the military, but had held back because he didn't want to cut his long hair.

After September 11, however, Richard saw a clear duty to his country and to protecting all of us from future threats. In December 2001, he joined the Marines, where he was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit based in Hawaii. His lifelong friend, Marine SSgt Lonnie McMurchy, remembers the phone call he got from

Richard. Lonnie tried to talk him out of the Marine infantry, telling Richard that his intelligence would be more valuable in another area that might also be less dangerous, but, according to Lonnie, "He wanted it. He wanted the infantry. He wanted to go fight [and] defend our country."

In joining the Marines, Richard stood up for freedom, leaving behind a good paying job, a new house, and his beloved friends and family. He put his life on hold so that we could safely go on with our own.

Richard served our Nation with a dedication and fervor that was noteworthy even to one of his fellow Marines. According to JJ Holmes, who wrote in an email message on an Internet tribute to Richard:

I served with Gilbert, and we became very good friends, which is saying a lot, because I didn't make many good friends while I was in the Marines. I guess it's because I'm picky about the company I keep. And it doesn't get much better than Gilbert to have as a friend. We had very different religious and political views, yet it never hindered our relationship, because we had a mutual respect for each other.

I know this though, out of all the Marines in our Company, Gilbert never complained once about his duty to his country. I could see every day I spent with him how proud he was to serve. Not to diminish the belief of all the other Marines in their duty, Gilbert shined a little more. His dedication was unwavering. [He was] an example to all Marines. I know without a doubt through our conversations we had sitting on the backs of our packs waiting to move out, that if Gilbert had to go, he wanted to leave us the way he did—fighting for the country he believed in more than anything.

As a child, Richard wrote an essay about his father, Richard Gilbert, Sr., who was a Vietnam veteran. In the essay, Richard described his dad as a hero. Today, Mr. Gilbert says this of his son: "[H]e was my hero, and he was the bravest person I ever met."

This sentiment was echoed by his friend, Lonnie McMurchy: "He was a warrior. He was a son, a brother, an uncle, a friend, and a U.S. Marine. He wanted nothing more and nothing less."

Richard Gilbert wanted our country to be safe from the dangers of terrorism, and he wanted the Iraqi people to be safe and free. He gave everything he had for those things, as they were the things in which he so firmly believed. Richard stood so that freedom could flourish. We will never forget his service and his sacrifice.

My wife, Fran, and I continue to keep his family and friends in our thoughts and in our prayers.

ARMY SERGEANT CHARLES  
"CHUCK" WEBB

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, this evening I honor the life of Army SGT Charles "Chuck" Webb, from Hamilton, OH. Chuck was a member of Company A, 82nd Engineering Battalion, 1st Infantry, Division, based out of Bamberg, Germany. On November 3, 2004, Ser-

geant Webb was killed near Salman Pak, Iraq, when a roadside bomb detonated. He was 9 days shy of his 23rd birthday.

Days before his death, Chuck had told his squad that he didn't want them in harm's way if he could help it and that he would be taking the lead whenever possible. That was the kind of person Chuck was—always looking out for others, always giving them strength, always keeping them safe.

Chuck was born in San Antonio, TX, on November 12, 1981. He moved with his family to Hamilton when he was in sixth grade. Chuck was an easy going, likable kid. He had a passion for history, especially World War II history. He and his father, Conley, could talk at length on the subject, and Chuck was known for his ability to recall facts and figures from specific battles.

Conley, a veteran of Vietnam and Desert Storm, was also the source of Chuck's interest in the military. Chuck's sister, Teresa, remembers when Chuck was 5 years old, and the family dressed him up in his father's BDU's and gave him a plastic machine gun. They took pictures of Chuck dressed up in his father's uniform in front of a large American flag. Teresa says he looked like a "miniature G.I. Joe."

Chuck was proud of his military heritage, and his family and friends were proud of the person Chuck became. His junior high school principal, Tom Alf, remembers Chuck as "a fine young man—quiet and polite. I remember his smile . . . he always had a smile."

Chuck also always had an eye out for others. His sister, Teresa, remembers a phone call she got from her brother in the dead of winter a few years ago. "Teresa," Chuck said, "I need a huge favor." Apparently, Chuck had been approached by a homeless man asking for money. The man had no coat and instead of money, Chuck gave him the coat off his back. He then struck up a conversation with the man and found out that he was trying to get to the other side of the city to meet his wife and kids. That's when Chuck called his sister to come and pick up his new friend and give him a ride.

"That's just the kind of guy Chucky was," Teresa recalled, "He'd give you the coat off his back if you needed it."

In 2000, Chuck graduated from Hamilton High School. He still had a passion for history and had determined he wanted to become a teacher. Chuck decided to take advantage of the G.I. Bill, while also following in his father's footsteps. Just weeks after graduation, the boy who had once posed as a "miniature G.I. Joe," became the real thing when he enlisted in the Army.

During basic training, Chuck broke his foot. He was also, at this time, set to marry his high school sweetheart, Stephanie. Chuck wanted everything to be perfect on that day and had his tuxedo specially altered so that the cast on his foot would be unobtrusive.

Friends remember Chuck being incredibly happy on his wedding day, shedding tears as he said his vows. Chuck was a very sensitive person, who wore his emotions on his sleeve.

The same qualities that made Chuck an exceptional human being made him an exceptional soldier. He was beloved by his fellow service men and women. In a deployment to Kosovo, Chuck earned the nickname "Cabbage Patch," because of, what his sister Teresa describes as, "his chunky face, deep blue eyes, and blonde hair." His buddies made a gift of a modified cabbage patch kid to Chucky by giving the doll a "high and tight" hair cut, adding some tattoos, and dressing it in tiny BDU's. Chuck's mother still has that doll. It sits in a room dedicated to her son in Alexandria, AL.

In Iraq, Chuck led a squad of 10 men. They specialized in mine clearing, bridge building, and in assisting the Iraqi patrols. Their mission was one of rebuilding and security. In carrying out this mission, Chuck was known for protecting his men, putting their safety before his own. He often led patrols, "on point," meaning he was out front in combat formations, leaving himself the most exposed to danger. This leadership style led to a Purple Heart, when Chuck was wounded by shrapnel from a previous roadside explosive, and earned him the admiration of his fellow soldiers.

SSG Scott Swanson speaks for many of those who knew Chuck when he said this:

[He] was a great NCO—one who soldiers looked up to for knowledge, strength, and most of all, courage. I'm honored to be able to call [Chuck] my brother in arms.

In an email posted on an Internet tribute to Chuck, fellow serviceman Sergeant Shane Uras, wrote the following:

Chuck—it's been two months now, and I'm still having trouble getting it through my head that you're gone. I love you bro, and there's not a day that goes by that your memory doesn't make me a stronger person. You were my best friend and godfather to my son Luca. . . . We are having a huge party when we get back in your memory and are going to send the video of it and other videos to your parents so they understand how big a part you played in our lives while you were away from them. I love you man, and I'm proud to have known you. Your country is grateful for your sacrifice—I know my family and I are. God bless you Chuck!

It is hard to lose someone like Chuck Webb. He was the anchor of his unit. His comrades looked to him for strength and depended on him to keep them safe. Such a role was not new for Chuck. His life was one of service to others. He was a caring, sensitive, devoted person who, quite literally, would—and did—give the "coat off his back."

The following lines, from Emily Dickinson, seem, in a way, to have guided Chuck's life. She wrote:

"If I can stop one heart from breaking,  
I shall not live in vain.  
If I can ease one life the aching,

Or cool one pain,  
Or help one fainting robin unto his nest  
again,  
I shall not live in vain."

Chuck Webb was a good person, who cared so much—so deeply—about others. We owe it to him to celebrate his life—a life devoted to easing the aches and cooling the pains of so many others. It is in these good deeds that his memory lives on.

My wife, Fran, and I continue to keep Chuck's family and in our thoughts and in our prayers.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### IMMIGRATION

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I will make some remarks on an amendment I have offered—S.A. 1140—along with Senators HATCH and GRASSLEY that is dealing with the appropriation of \$5 million, with that amount equally divided between two purposes. One, facilitating the Department of Homeland Security entering into memorandums of understanding with States and localities under section 287(G) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act. That is, the ability to enter into memorandums or agreements with States and localities in order that they may participate in a positive way in helping enforce the immigration laws of the United States. And, two, reimbursing States and localities for the costs they incur in training their law enforcement officers under these memorandums of understanding. Reimbursement would be permitted for expenses such as those related to travel and transportation to the training location, subsistence payments or per diem allowance and costs for securing temporary replacements for law enforcement personnel who are participating in the Federal training.

I am pleased Senators HATCH and GRASSLEY have cosponsored the amendment. I hope each of my colleagues will carefully consider it and vote for its passage.

The amendment is needed to confront two issues currently prohibiting the nationwide advancement of agreements under INA section 287(G). This is a provision in the Immigration Code that provides for cooperative agreements to be entered into—it is a section that is not being adequately utilized.

First, there is a lack of Department of Homeland Security personnel tasked with negotiating and overseeing the entry into 287(G) training agreements with the States. There is also a shortage of DHS resources and trainers to conduct State and local training courses in a timely manner, including annual refresher courses for States

such as Alabama that have already entered into 287(G) MOU.

Second, States that enter into MOUs must currently absorb the cost related to pulling their law enforcement officers off duty and sending them to an intensive 5- to 6-week training course. They are extensively trained under these agreements. If a State does not have the money to pay for these extended leaves of absence or to hire replacements for the law enforcement officers wanting to receive immigration enforcement training, then costs related to the training under the MOU can prohibit States from being able to participate.

If costs are prohibitive, many States will simply choose to go forward in the realm of immigration law enforcement either without training, or generally not participate in any meaningful way.

Immigration training for State and local officers is important to many of my colleagues. I hope they will recognize that this amendment is the way to show their support for such training.

In the realm of immigration law enforcement, the State of Alabama struggled for years to achieve effective cooperation between Federal enforcement entities and our State and local law enforcement officers. All too often I heard the same story from our Alabama sheriffs and police chiefs: We call Immigration and Naturalization Service when we arrest an illegal alien, and they say they do not have the time to pick them up. They tell us to let them go. They have told me, on occasion, that INS told local officers unless they had 15 or 18 individuals at one time, don't bother to call them.

As a result, Alabama requested that additional Federal immigration agents be assigned to the State, Alabama advocated that extra immigration detention bedspace be established in the state, and Alabama requested the Immigration and Naturalization Service be responsive to requests that illegal aliens be taken into Federal custody. Though some progress was made, most of the requests were only partially met, at best.

To address the problems, I arranged for an Immigration and Customs enforcement officer to travel to the State of Alabama for 2 weeks to train all of our State troopers on cooperation with the Federal Government in the enforcement of Federal immigration laws. State troopers reviewed fake documents, were taught about different categories of aliens, legal and illegal, and were shown how to use a computer database at the Law Enforcement Support Center (LESC), a database that had been used only three times in the State of Alabama the year before the training because the officers simply did not know how to use it.

In September of 2003, Alabama followed in the footsteps of the State of Florida and became the second State in the Nation to enter into an INA 287(G) agreement with the Federal Government. This law has been on the books