

left after a year when he realized his poor vision would prevent him from becoming a pilot. Jay moved forward and joined the Army. "Jay was always . . . positive, ambitious," remembered a friend. "He was always your good conscience."

As one of Sergeant Martin's sisters, Lark Adams, put it, "He was just a shining star. He followed the rules. He did what he was supposed to. He was an example to everyone."

After his death, Jay's fiancé Maria Padilla, explained that he would have wanted to see those close to him "laughing because he left us doing what he loved. He left us being the soldier he was so proud of being."

I hope his family and all who loved Jay will find comfort in that image of the proud and selfless soldier who won several awards including the Army Commendation Medal and the Army Good Conduct Medal. But I also hope they find joy in their memories of the young man who devised hide-and-seek strategy with his friends, who was a swim and track star at Forest Park High School, who took such great pride in his Dodge Stratus RT, who played video games in his grandmother's kitchen, and who debated the future of the F-14 with his uncle.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Jay's father Dwight Martin and stepmother Penny Martin; his grandfather Harry Martin; his four sisters, Lark, Dove, Raven and Shannon; his fiancé Maria, and all the other relatives and friends who are bereaved. We honor him as a hero and together mourn his loss.

#### MATTHEW SHEPARD ACT OF 2007

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

On July 7, 2002 in Tampa, FL, Devin Scott Angus attacked Sonny Gonzales and Stephen Hair as the two men were leaving a gay pride event at the Florida Aquarium. Angus allegedly yelled antigay slurs at the men, dropped his pants, and screamed additional obscenities. He then attacked Gonzales and Hair, repeatedly punching and kicking them. Gonzales suffered a gash in his head, while Hair suffered a skull fracture, a cracked sinus, and a broken front tooth. According to reports, Angus' sole motivation was the victims' sexual orientation.

I believe that the Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Matthew Shepard 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.

#### HONORING EARNELL LUSTER

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, every day, millions of American make sacrifices for their families and friends. Yet the man I honor today has made the ultimate sacrifice for neither kin nor kind. Earnell Luster is a former Marine and a great American. As a life-long resident of Minneapolis, MN, he exemplified the role of a Good Samaritan within his community. Mr. Luster sacrificed his own life for the sake of another, and his bravery and courage makes him a hero.

On February 15, 2007, Mr. Luster was walking by an apartment building in south Minneapolis when he came across two women who were being repeatedly beaten by a male attacker. Being the man he was, Mr. Luster could not walk away from what he was witnessing. He sprang into action by demanding the attacker halt his assault upon the women. By doing so, he gave the women enough time to escape their attacker. Tragically, the attacker turned his anger on Mr. Luster and delivered several blows to his head that proved to be fatal. That evening, in an act of true selflessness, Earnell Luster gave his life for another.

His actions that evening exemplify the life he lived. As a well-respected elder in his church and within his community, Mr. Luster lived a life full of joy, duty, and great conviction. His service to the Marines in the mid-1970s demonstrates the strength of his character. Mr. Luster enjoyed life, especially the opportunities that he had to go fishing with his twin brother Earnest.

Earnell Luster's tragic death is evidence that crime can affect each one of us. Our commitment to fighting crime must not ebb and flow with the statistics.

My thoughts and prayers remain with Earnell's twin brother Earnest, his mother Lorraine Scott, and his entire family. Mr. Luster's selfless act of bravery earns him a place in the hearts of Minnesotans and Americans everywhere.

#### TRIBUTE TO SENATOR TED STEVENS

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I rise to join in this body's hearty congratulations to our colleague from Alaska, Mr. STEVENS, as the longest serving Republican Senator. The remarkable thing about TED STEVENS is not the number of years he has served but the amount of service he has put into those years.

The Founders did a unique thing when they created the Senate. They knew that democracy should both let the majority rule most of the time but also protect minority viewpoints from the tyranny of the majority. They cre-

ated a House of Representatives based on proportional representation. Meanwhile, in the Senate, they gave every State, large and small, exactly two votes. They then went a step further, and created the Senate as a body that operates by consensus. The result is a place where one person with a good idea can impact the entire body.

TED STEVENS is a living embodiment of the wisdom of our Founding Fathers. He is precisely the kind of Senator they hoped for: forceful, persevering, principled and indefatigably devoted to his State's interests.

Alaska is a unique State and Senator STEVENS reflects its style and unlimited potential exceptionally. In every aspect, Alaska is a long, long way from Washington, DC, and its unusual bureaucratic culture. We all benefit from the independent, self-reliant spirit of Alaska that the Senator brings, reminding us of the pioneer heritage of the West. I am personally appreciative of the Senator's hospitality when visiting in his home State. I thought we had "wide open spaces" in Minnesota, but Alaska's are certainly both wider and more open.

When President Abraham Lincoln's Secretary of State, William Seward, finalized the purchase of Alaska, it was thought to be a folly. How blessed we all are as Americans to have its abundant wilderness and natural resources as part of our national experience.

I have found that when people want to learn something really important, they prefer an example to an explanation. As I have tried to learn my way around this institution, Senator STEVENS has been a role model, an example, and a friend. I thank him for his kindness.

But even more I thank him for his service which has made this Nation safer, stronger and freer for all. He makes his great State and all his colleagues proud to say they know TED STEVENS.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### HONORING NORM GRAYSON

• Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I honor in the RECORD of the Senate Norm Grayson, an outstanding realtor and a great friend, and to acknowledge a very special occasion.

On June 15, 2007, Norm will celebrate his 40th year in the real estate business and host a barbeque for hundreds of friends in Oconee County. Although I cannot be there in person, it is a privilege to stand in this Senate and honor this tremendous milestone.

Norm and my father Ed were the best of friends. Both men are legends in Georgia real estate. Norm has earned CRS, CCIM, and CRB designations, as well as the Home Builders CBI designation. Among his many achievements, Norm has served as president of the Athens Board of Realtors and the Athens Home Builders Association.

For his outstanding accomplishments and commitment to the highest ethical standards, Norm was named Realtor of the Year by the Georgia Association of Realtors in 1980. The Georgia Association of Realtors also honored him in 1987 with its President's Award and the Athens Board of Realtors recognized Norm in 1996 with its Lifetime Meritorious Service Award.

Norm and his lovely wife Faye are great Georgians and wonderful friends. Norm is a class act who is well loved in work and at home. It gives me a great deal of pleasure, and it is a privilege to recognize on the floor of the United States Senate the contributions of Norm Grayson to the real estate industry and the State of Georgia. He is an inspiration.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF COFFEE GROWERS OF COLOMBIA

● Mr. LEAHY. I wish to speak briefly about the National Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia.

The federation is a nonprofit grassroots organization that organizes and monitors the extensive network of coffee growers throughout Colombia. Since 1927, it has worked to build an economically and environmentally sustainable coffee culture, strengthen community networks of coffee growers throughout the country, and promote exports of Colombian coffee worldwide. The federation will celebrate its 80th anniversary on June 27 and should be commended for its accomplishments.

Coffee is grown today in more than half of Colombia's 1,098 municipalities, employing some 2 million people comprising 566,000 families. Many of these people live and work in small towns and rural areas, not unlike the farmers of my own State of Vermont. In fact, several Vermont companies, including Green Mountain Coffee and Coffee Enterprises, sell coffee produced by Colombian coffee growers who are supported by the federation.

In a country where everyone has been affected by the armed conflict and the economic and social disruption it has caused, the Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia has focused increasingly on supporting the social aspects of coffee growers' lives. The federation has worked to bring trained teachers, schools, health clinics, roads, electrification, and other infrastructure to coffee-growing communities. It has provided technical training and the benefits of federation-sponsored research and development to coffee growers to help them improve yields and quality and to market their product. The results speak for themselves. Today, Colombia is the world's second largest coffee exporter by value, totaling \$1.677 billion of coffee exported in 2006.

The Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia should be recognized and commended for the 80 years that it has contributed in important ways to the well-being of the Colombian people.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1585. To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2079. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting, the report of legislative proposals relative to the National Defense Authorization Bill for fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2080. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary (Personnel and Readiness), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, relative to a study of initiatives to expand the relationship between the Department and Job Corps; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2081. A communication from the Acting Deputy, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of the results of a public-private competition; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2082. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary (Personnel and Readiness), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the status and results of the Department's List of Institutions of Higher Education Ineligible for Federal Funds; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2083. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Barry M. Costello, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2084. A communication from the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to exceptions granted by the Secretary for government securities brokers and dealers; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2085. A communication from the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the

Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a modification of the auction process for issuing United States Treasury obligations; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2086. A communication from the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to material violations or suspected material violations of regulations dealing with Treasury auctions and other Treasury securities offerings; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2087. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Manufactured Home Dispute Resolution Program" ((RIN2502-AH98)(FR-4813-F-03)) received on May 30, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2088. A communication from the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2006 management report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2089. A communication from the Acting Legal Advisor to the Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "MariTel, Inc. and Mobex Network Services, LLC—Petitions for Rule Making to Amend the Commission's Rules to Provide Additional Flexibility for AMTS and VHF Public Coast Station Licensees" ((FCC 07-87)(WT Docket No. 94-257)) received on June 4, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2090. A communication from the Chief of the Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "In the Matter of Facilitating Opportunities for Flexible, Efficient, and Reliable Spectrum for Use Employing Cognitive Radio Technologies" ((FCC 07-66)(ET Docket No. 03-108)) received on June 4, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2091. A communication from the Chief of the Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "In the Matter of Modifications of Parts 2 and 15 of the Commission's Rules for Unlicensed Devices and Equipment Approval" ((FCC 07-56)(ET Docket No. 03-201)) received on June 4, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2092. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; 2007 Management Measures" (RIN0648-AV56) received on May 30, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2093. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; U.S. Atlantic Billfish Tournament Management Measures" (RIN0648-AV25) received on May 30, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2094. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law,