

where he was. It is almost impossible to conceive of the idea that maybe I didn't even meet him personally because, in looking at where he was in Afghanistan and when he was there, where he was in Iraq and when he was there—I was there at the same time. Ironically, even in northern Uganda. Not many people even know where Uganda is, but in a minute I will share a few things that are going on there and what Scott Hagerty was doing.

Scott died on June 3, 2008. He gave his last full measure when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle while he was on patrol in Zormat, Afghanistan. Scott was a member of the Army Reserve and was assigned to the 451st Civil Affairs Battalion, Pasadena, TX.

Born and raised in Oklahoma, Scott graduated from Stillwater High School in 1984. As a senior in high school, he joined the U.S. Army at the rank of a specialist. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science, pre-law, and international relations from Oklahoma State University—OSU—in 1993.

He received his commission through the ROTC program and then completed the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course at Fort Sill. After serving on active duty, he continued his service in the Army Reserve. He spent 11 years with the 291st Regiment in Oklahoma before transferring to the U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command, Airborne, in 2004.

Scott married his wife, Daphne, 12 years ago. They have two sons, Jonathan 10 years old and Samuel 21 months. Scott loved his family and enjoyed being a father. He spent his life helping others gain the same freedoms and experience the same joys that he had.

Scott was deployed for a 12 month tour in South Korea and then served in Iraq from October 2004 to August 2005. As a civil affairs officer, he worked with Iraqis and Iraqi civilian authorities in helping them rebuild their government and country.

Prior to his tour in Afghanistan, Scott spent a tour in Djibouti, Africa, to help promote stability and prevent conflict in the region. His mission included repairing wells in northern Uganda, where he and fellow soldiers restored more than 60 wells and provided 250,000 local residents with clean water. In Africa, he was also involved in providing suitable facilities for basic medical care for children.

This is the part I find very interesting and coincidental. Scott was involved in northern Uganda. In northern Uganda, there are some things that are going on that not many are aware of. There is the LRA, the Lord's Resistance Army. One individual—his name is Joseph Coney. Joseph Coney, for 30 years, has mutilated and tortured little kids, recruited them to be in the army as his boy soldiers—12, 13, 14 years old. If they refuse to do it, they make this individual go back and murder his own family, back in the villages. I have

been there. I have been in the same villages, the same places where Scott was.

Scott didn't have to do this. This is something that was beyond the call of duty. It is heavy lifting. I saw a picture of him in an orphanage in northern Uganda. I have been to that same orphanage. There are not many of our troops who have done what Scott Hagerty has done. He wrote about his experience there saying:

I have always dreamed of being a soldier, even as a little boy, so I know I am doing the job that was destined for me.

He deployed to Afghanistan shortly after being assigned to the 451st Civil Affairs Battalion in February. His family said, "Scott was very proud of his career in the Army, and we know he died doing what he loved . . . serving his country."

Scott received numerous military honors, including two Meritorious Service Medals, six Army Achievement Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals and a Korean Defense Service Medal.

I am saddened by the loss of my fellow Oklahoman. I am proud of his service, integrity, and commitment to our country. I read through some of the comments written in Scott's on-line Guest Book from people who knew him at different points in his life and I would like to share a couple with you:

I had the honor of serving with Maj Hagerty in Gardez, Afghanistan. He was a father figure to me. I have great respect for him. He is truly my hero and will be missed more than he knows. I know he is looking down and watching over us as we continue our mission. We love you Maj Hagerty and will never forget you.

The Highland Park family are mourning the loss of a wonderful parent at our school. Scott was not only a devoted soldier, but a devoted husband and father . . . Scott's presence will be missed at home and abroad. Thank you Scott! We are very proud of you! Highland Park Elementary School.

Another one: Growing up with Scott, I was impressed by his quiet strength. I always knew there would be great things in his future as we stumbled toward adulthood . . . Thank you for the sacrifice you have made for my family.

And lastly a comment left by his team that he worked with in Africa: Sincere condolences to the family of Maj Scott Hagerty from the present and third Civil Affairs team in northern Uganda. We only had e-mail contact with him, giving updates on how things were going here, as he was still interested—he was the first team leader here and broke a lot of ground. I am sure he stands guard over us all now.

Today I pay tribute to Scott, a man who exemplified integrity and courage and gave his life as a sacrifice for his family and our Nation.

I have to say this in the case of Scott: This is not goodbye, Scott. It is job well done. We love you, and we will see you later.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I would like to comment on the kindness

of the Senator from Oklahoma. I think that so often we forget the sacrifice that our American people have made so we could bring some stability to Afghanistan and to Iraq.

Now, 2 weeks ago I attended a service actually on the front steps of the Ohio Capitol Building where we commemorated the lives of 23 individuals from the Lima Company that was extraordinarily hit in Iraq. Tears rolled out of my eyes and everyone else there as a mother of a man by the name of Hoffman talked about her son and the sacrifice that he made and why he made that sacrifice.

I think that too many Americans are not aware of the fact that we have lost over 4,000 people in Iraq and that 30,000 of them have returned, and half of them are going to be disabled. I think it underscores that we need to be very responsible in our future activity in Iraq so that the parents of those young men and women do not feel that their lives were lost in vain.

I am sure, Mr. President, you have mixed emotions, as I have, about where we should be going there. I heard Jim Dobbins today. Jim was at the State Department for many years. He was talking about our next moves in Iraq and how difficult it is because on one hand, we know that we have to move our troops out of there for the benefit of our volunteer Army. Because of the deployments, they are stretched, and they are not getting the re-ups that they need.

At the same time, we want to make sure we do not move too fast so we end up with a civil war there. So it is a dilemma. But the people who get lost in all of that are the folks who have lost their loved ones. And it grieves me that we have spent almost \$650 billion on that war, and we have never asked the American people to participate.

The only ones who have participated are the families whose sons and daughters have come back in body bags, and that loss will be with them for the rest of their lives. So I think all of us ought to think about those families and pray for them and pray that those of us in responsible positions will be enlightened by the Holy Spirit to make the right decisions for them, their families, for our country, and for the world.

#### TRIBUTE TO SECOND BLUEGRASS CHAPTER HONOR FLIGHT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the second Bluegrass Chapter Honor Flight. I had the privilege of meeting 38 World War II veterans from the Commonwealth of Kentucky who arrived in our Nation's Capital yesterday morning to see the memorial on the National Mall dedicated to them.

Thanks to the national nonprofit organization, Honor Flight, which transports World War II veterans from anywhere in the country to see their memorial, and a group of dedicated volunteers, veterans from all over the state

are able to make this memorable trip, free of charge.

The World War II Memorial was completed in 2004 and is a fitting tribute to the men and women who put on their country's uniform to fight the greatest and most destructive war the world has ever seen. Anyone who has ever visited this special place will agree that its stateliness is nothing short of awe-inspiring much like the men and women for whom it was built and who are so deserving of their title as "the Greatest Generation."

On the memorial's field of gold stars, known as the Freedom Wall, the inscription reads "Here We Mark the Price of Freedom." The veterans from my home State of Kentucky who visited today paid that price with their blood, sweat and tears; their families paid with sleepless nights and constant fear for the safety of their loved ones; and many of their fellow fighters paid with their lives.

We should remember the bravery of the men and women who served, and the World War II Memorial is a fitting tribute for all those who sacrificed in defense of our Nation and our way of life.

Mr. President, it is really a moving experience to be in the company of some of the men and women of the "Greatest Generation," and I ask unanimous consent that the names of the World War II veterans from Kentucky who were here yesterday be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection the names were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### KENTUCKY WORLD WAR II VETERANS

Elmer Morgan, William Coffey, Curtis Lesmeister, Lewis Grahm, Morgan Bradford, Leslie Spillman, Ralph Holman, Richard Thompson, William Richmond, Frank Parks, Vaiden Cox, James Wells, Daniel Rateau, Kenneth Becker, Morris Alford, James Hartman, Richard Doty, Melvin Campbell, Sr., Salvador Miceli, Veachel Life.

Alexander Fehr, Kenneth Fehr, Charles Nichter, George Johnides, Jarl Harris, J.B. Price, Bernard O'Bryan, Robert Emerson, Harold Mauck, Gordon Mauck, Kelvin Keath, Asa Elam, Harold Staton, Benjamin Rau, Robert Blakeman, Edward Wilson, Jean Pogue, John Pogue.

#### TRIBUTE TO FREDERICK M. DOWNEY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to express my profound gratitude and heartfelt best wishes to Frederick M. Downey, a true friend and dedicated public servant who will be leaving my Senate office after serving 12 years as senior counselor and legislative assistant. Given all that we have been through together, Fred's departure is truly a bittersweet occasion. While I am excited for Fred as he pursues an exciting opportunity with the Aerospace Industry Association, I can't help but think what a great loss his leaving will be for me, my staff, and the people of Connecticut.

Fred came to my office having already amassed a long and distinguished

record in public service and national security. A distinguished military graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, Fred served in the U.S. Army for 24 years, rising to the rank of colonel. In the Army, Fred held a variety of infantry, troop, and staff positions in the United States, Europe, the Middle East, and in Vietnam.

Between 1988 and 1991, Fred worked in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans in the Department of the Army, where he was responsible for advising senior Army leaders on national security policy and military strategy. He played a leading role in examining the post-Cold War strategic environment, formulating options used by Army leaders when developing a national security strategy and force structure to meet the needs of the new international system. Fred also played an integral role in developing the Army's strategy for Operation Desert Storm. Fred then served as assistant to the director of net assessments, before retiring from the Army in 1993 and joining TASC, Inc. At TASC, Fred provided analytical services to the U.S. Government and our allies.

Even with all Fred had already done for our country, his instinct for public service proved strong; and in 1996 he agreed to leave TASC and accept a position as my legislative assistant for defense and foreign affairs. Naturally, I was delighted to have someone with his background and expertise join my team.

Fred's tenure in the Senate has been one of remarkable distinction. For over a decade, while America's role in the world has undergone profound and sometimes tumultuous changes, I have consistently been able to rely on Fred to give me the highest level of counsel on critical military and foreign affairs issues. In addition to his almost encyclopedic knowledge of military matters, Fred quickly demonstrated that he possessed keen legislative and political instincts. As my designated representative to the Senate Armed Services Committee, Fred has been indispensable in my efforts to transform America's military so that it is better suited toward the national security needs of a post-Cold War world. With Fred's invaluable assistance, I was able to develop and pass legislation establishing the Quadrennial Defense Review and the National Defense Panel, which requires the Pentagon to regularly assess what it will require to keep America safe in the future, as well as legislation establishing the U.S. Joint Forces Command. Also, as part of the annual Defense authorization bill, Fred and I crafted a series of provisions to reform the policy, procurement, and research and development process at the Department of Defense.

Fred was just as focused and passionate in helping advance foreign policy legislation that was both tough on America's enemies and representative of our Nation's core values. With his

strong guidance, I was able to enact a number of initiatives that promoted human rights and religious freedom abroad, increased American assistance to fight the spread of global HIV/AIDS, encouraged increased international cooperation and the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and authorized efforts to prevent genocide.

After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, when America was awakened to the grave threat posed by radical Islamist terrorism, Fred was steadfast in his efforts to advance legislation giving the Federal Government the tools it needs to protect Americans from further attacks. Working with my talented staff on the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, Fred played a vital role in producing legislation that implemented the recommendations of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States. Fred also teamed up with the committee on the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, which enacted the most sweeping reform of our Nation's intelligence community in over half a century, and on legislation creating the Department of Homeland Security.

Fred recognized early on that for the United States to ultimately succeed in the war on terror, it is not enough to just seek out and capture terrorists, but that we must also work to provide the people of the Middle East and the rest of the Islamic world an alternative to radical Islamism by promoting democracy and economic development. With this in mind, Fred toiled relentlessly to advance initiatives designed to expand America's diplomatic outreach to the Muslim world and to promote democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in the Middle East. He also guided to passage the Afghanistan Freedom Support Act, which committed the United States to aiding Afghanistan as it seeks to rebuild for the long term.

In 2005, when the Pentagon recommended that the Naval Submarine Base in Groton, CT, be closed, Fred worked tirelessly as a leader in an effort to keep it open. Once again, his advice was pivotal toward developing a successful strategy that demonstrated to the Base Closure and Realignment Commission that the unique synergy of submarine construction and operating talent in southeast Connecticut is critical to our national security. Connecticut truly owes a debt of gratitude to Fred for his perseverance and commitment to the well-being of our State.

Of course, I couldn't possibly discuss Fred's service in the Senate without mentioning all the times he and I have traveled the world together on official business. Whether it was our annual trip to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization summit in Brussels, or the numerous fact-finding trips taken to Iraq and Afghanistan, Fred was there to provide his thoughtful perspective.