

coal technologies, and tackle the gulf oil spill. We need to set aside controversial and more far-reaching climate proposals and work right now on energy legislation that protects our economy, protects West Virginia, and improves our environment.

I agree wholeheartedly. We on the Republican side have said we have an energy policy, and that it is all of the above.

I will yield at any time to my friend from Connecticut, since he had time reserved. Apparently, he doesn't want it.

It may be that the caucus that met yesterday was united in the idea that cap and trade is dead. But I don't think that is necessarily true with the Obama administration.

I am glad to yield to my friend. My understanding is that they only have 4 more minutes, and a unanimous consent request will be made here. I am almost out of time anyway.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I am told we have time. Floor staff will let me know. We have a little more time available.

Mr. INHOFE. I ask the Chair, how much time is remaining before—the Senator from Nebraska has reserved time; is that correct?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Evidently not.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, let me conclude and say I will come back and talk about this at a later time. I do believe President Obama's pollster has some ideas that became public. I will share this last point.

Joe Benenson, the President's campaign pollster, did a survey for somewhat of an extremist environmental group, and, among other things, he found that based on his interpretation of the survey result, pushing for cap and trade and tying opposition to it to big oil is a potent political weapon for Democrats against Republicans this fall.

I think that says it all. People are using the tragedy in the gulf for political purposes. This is something we want people to understand.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

U.S. ARMY SPECIALIST BLAINE REDDING

Mr. JOHANNIS. Mr. President, I rise today to remember a fallen hero, U.S. Army SPC Blaine Redding of Plattsburgh, NE.

Blaine was a proud member of Company A, 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, of the 101st Airborne Division, operating in one of the most dan-

gerous areas of Afghanistan, the Kunar Province.

On June 7, only 4 weeks after arriving in that country, Specialist Redding was killed when his vehicle was struck by a remotely detonated improvised explosive device.

His death is a great loss to our Nation and to Nebraska, his home State.

Blaine was a model of persistence, determination, and patriotism. Faced with challenges during his adolescent years, he realized that military service was the best way to fulfill his longings.

Blaine overcame an early departure from high school by earning a general equivalency diploma to join the U.S. Army. He was determined to sustain a family history of service to our country in uniform, beginning with a great-grandfather and continuing through subsequent generations.

Fort Campbell became a very special place for Specialist Redding. He and his brother, PFC Logan Redding, were assigned to the elite 101st Airborne Division.

But more important, he met his future wife Victoria, or Nikki, while at Fort Campbell. They were married on March 13, 2010. With this came a renewed sense of responsibility to defend this great Nation and its principles of freedom.

Specialist Redding knew combat operations, having completed already a year-long tour in Iraq. The rugged terrain and close proximity to the Pakistan border of the area of Afghanistan where he was poses special challenges to allied forces. Losses have been heavy in this region. Specialist Redding was comforted by his brother being deployed nearby. Ultimately, Logan would aid in returning his brother's body to the United States.

Specialist Redding will be remembered in different ways. His Army buddies sometimes refer to him as "a perfect soldier," a great "mortal man."

To family and friends, he had a priceless personality. To his wife Nikki, he was a devoted husband with a very big heart.

The decorations and badges earned during a far too brief Army career speak to his dedication and to his bravery: the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and the Purple Heart. He proudly wore the Combat Infantry Badge and Air Assault Badge.

Today, I join Nikki, family, and friends in mourning the death of their beloved husband, son, brother, and friend. Blaine made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our great Nation, and we owe him and his family an immeasurable debt of gratitude.

May God be with the Redding family, friends, and all those who mourn his death and celebrate his life. We will remember Blaine as we remember all the Nation's fallen warriors who gave their lives so that we may live in peace. Their names are etched on the con-

science of our Nation in glory undimmed unto the end of our people.

I also offer my prayers to all those serving in uniform today, and especially those serving in peril overseas. May God bless them and their families and see them through these difficult times.

Mr. President, I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING DOUGLAS GRAVEL

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I wish to take a few minutes to recognize three individuals, two of whom are no longer with us, and one is a man who just retired from a life of dedication to his community and family. I wish to spend a few minutes talking about the three of them, if I may.

The first is a friend of mine who passed away several weeks ago, an individual who made a wonderful contribution to our country.

Doug Gravel was a wonderful friend, a great champion of American education, and a person who attracted a legion of friends, supporters, and followers throughout his life.

Although he never lived for fame or even for recognition, Doug Gravel was instrumental in shaping the way we teach our children in this country, from one end of our Nation to the other.

The Montessori method of teaching, familiar to many people, was developed a century ago by Maria Montessori in Italy. It was designed as a system to educate the whole child by empowering children to guide their own development. It encourages kids to develop their own unique personalities and fosters their curiosity in the world around them while removing environmental obstacles to their progress.

For many children, the Montessori method has proven to be an unqualified success. Many of its methods are incorporated in public education in this country as well. Its revitalization in the latter half of this century can be traced back to a very small group of individuals—parents who lived in my state in Greenwich, CT. One of those people was a fellow named Doug Gravel.

Realizing there was no clearinghouse for parents, teachers, and school administrators interested in the Montessori method, Dr. Nancy McCormick Rambusch established the American Montessori Society at the Whitby School in Greenwich, CT in 1960. It is today America's oldest Montessori School, and Doug Gravel was right there with Nancy Rambusch when the program started.

At that time, the fate of the Montessori School was in doubt. In fact, an article in 1964 in *Time* magazine confidently predicted that the American Montessori movement would die out entirely within a few years.

The critics, obviously, were terribly wrong, as they often are, thanks in no small part to the work of Dr. Nancy Rambusch and Doug Gravel. The American Montessori Society grew and prospered. Today, the society has 11,000 members in 50 nations around the world, and it works to ensure that the high standards and excellent education that have come to symbolize the Montessori schools are available to children everywhere.

I was very privileged to serve as honorary Chair of the society's annual conference back in 2007 when it celebrated the 100th anniversary of Montessori education. I am pleased that the organization's archives from the Montessori Society are housed at the research center at the University of Connecticut, named for my father.

As part of my work for the organization, I had the honor of getting to know Doug Gravel very well. His commitment to quality education was matched by his commitment to treating those around him with respect and compassion.

His warm personality, his wise mind, and his tremendously sharp wit were a source of great joy to his friends and to the many whom he educated—and entertained—throughout his life and certainly in his capacity as a Montessori trainer and headmaster of the Caedmon School in New York.

My family will always have a special love for Doug Gravel. I come from a family of educators, starting with my great-grandmother Catherine Murphy who came to this country unable to read or write her own name. But soon after arriving in Connecticut she got herself elected to the local school board because she knew the future belonged to those who were educated.

My father's three sisters, my brother Tom, and my sister Carolyn all became teachers as well. In fact, Carolyn, in particular, carried on my father's passion for Montessori education at the Whitby School in Greenwich, CT, back in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Doug was such a good friend to Carolyn, to our entire family, and to educators everywhere, for that matter.

On behalf of all those grateful for the good work Doug Gravel did for American education, for the great person he was, I offer my condolences to his beloved Maria, his brilliant and beautiful daughters Mary and Anne, and his cherished grandchildren. I offer that wonderful family my thanks and the thanks of many thousands of parents and children, all of whom benefitted because there was someone named Doug Gravel who modernized and revitalized American education.

TRIBUTE TO PRESTON J. EMPEY

Mr. President, the second individual I wish to recognize has no particular

fame in any way at all. He is just a wonderful human being who announced his retirement. I rise today in the midst of all the work we are doing to support ordinary Americans, working families—people who go about their daily lives in every way to try to support their communities and their families.

In particular, I rise to celebrate one of them, a man named Preston Empey—“Press” to his friends and family.

In 1953, Press Empey, who had served in the Navy during World War II and then gone on to college, got a job at the Cloverleaf Dairy in Provo, UT, where he was soon promoted to manager.

Press Empey worked hard to support his young family. And over the past 60 years, he became legendary for treating his customers as though they were members of his own family.

Milk was cheaper in those days when Press started out. It was also something you got from a place you knew instead of a cold case at a convenience store or grocery store.

To our younger members, some of the people who work in this Chamber, the idea of having a milkman show up at your house sounds like ancient history. It is not that ancient. It was not that many years ago when most Americans were familiar with someone who actually delivered the milk. Press did it, up until a few weeks ago, in his community for almost 60 years.

Press's customers got to know him—some so well that if they were not home when he delivered the dairy, they trusted him to go inside and put it in the refrigerator anyway. And he got to know them. When hard times befell customers—as they certainly have in every one of our communities over the years—and they could no longer afford their shipments or products, he worked with them to ensure they got their deliveries every day and at some future point paid him back for the products and services they were receiving.

No matter what befell him—bad weather, injury, illness, even mechanical troubles—he would be there on time even if it meant starting his day hours before sunrise. Once, after his truck rolled over on the highway, Press calmly got it back on the road, dusted himself off, and made every single delivery that day.

Still, when he was asked about his greatest accomplishment, he paused and said: “Well, we’ve raised five children.” He and Glenna did just that. He and his lovely wife had great fun. I have known the family for years. They are remarkable people, hard-working, diligent, delightful human beings.

Once Press invited some friends, including my late father-in-law Karl Clegg, to go hunting in the Utah mountains. Maybe because Press couldn't bear to be away from that dairy truck of his, he decided that it would make a fine camper for all of them. After all, it had good insulation, lots of space for

sleeping, and, best of all, a cooler stocked with ice cream.

Off they went, taking the dirt roads and crossing streams, drawing, one can imagine, wide-eyed stares from fellow hunters in huge SUVs as they bounced along in the dairy truck through the mountains and hills of Utah. The cooler turned out to be a fine meat locker as well, although Press and Karl's snoring echoed off the truck's walls and posed an obstacle to others who might have wanted to sleep. They had a great trip in Press Empey's dairy truck.

For more than half a century—almost 60 years—Press has been an institution. He is now retiring at the age of 83, not because he is tired but because his trucks, in his own words, are plum worn out.

That is good news for his lovely wife Glenna and wonderful family who will get a little more of Press to themselves after a life spent sharing his generosity of spirit and profound dedication with their neighbors and his customers. As I said, for more than half a century, they have been a hard-working American family.

I am pleased to congratulate Press on his retirement and join my wife Jackie and our family in wishing him and Glenna many years of happiness and joy.

REMEMBERING BILL STANLEY

Mr. President, lastly, I wish to spend a minute talking about a wonderful man who passed away a few weeks ago in my home State of Connecticut. I rise to talk about the rich and eventful life of one of Connecticut's great champions and favorite sons, William Stanley of Norwich, CT.

Bill Stanley was a stockbroker for 46 years, although that is about the last thing anyone would ever think of when asked to describe him. That was his job, but his life was far more interesting and far more complicated than that. He was active in politics. He served for a term in the State senate. He was an influential adviser and trusted friend to my father, who served in this body, as well as former Governor and Senator Abe Ribicoff, and Ella Grasso, the first woman elected Governor in her own right in the United States, among many others.

He served as the official photographer of his hometown newspaper, the Norwich Bulletin. He had his own radio show for more than a decade, and he published the history of his community on a regular basis.

But most importantly, Bill Stanley's life was defined by his love for his community of Norwich, CT, and the incredible work he did for many years to boost its prominence and champion its virtues and favorite sons, regardless of who they were.

When Bill was a very young boy in elementary school, he wrote an essay for school and attempted to redeem one of American history's most despised figures and a native son of Norwich, CT—not that his connection to the community is often bragged about—Benedict

Arnold. Sure, he was a traitor, young Bill wrote, but what about his positive attributes, he suggested. Bill Stanley was suspended for 3 days from elementary school because of that essay. But that did not shake him. It is not that Bill abided treason but Benedict Arnold could not have been all that bad in Bill Stanley's mind—after all, he was from Norwich.

Later in life, he would insist that Samuel Huntington, not George Washington, should be recognized as our first President. Why? Well, among other things, Samuel Huntington was from Norwich, CT.

Each year, the Second Company Governor's Footguard of New Haven—Benedict Arnold's organization—would convene a ceremony at the cemetery where Samuel Huntington was buried. Why? Well, as the Footguard's Major Commandant said, "We did it for Bill." Because Bill Stanley is from Norwich. Well, 2 years ago, they even made Bill an honorary captain in the Footguard.

Bill fostered a lifelong crusade to create a Founding Fathers museum, designed to recognize the Presidents elected under the Articles of Confederation and the Continental Congress, to secure Norwich's rightful place. Samuel Huntington was the first President under the Articles of Confederation, so there is some legitimacy to Bill Stanley's case, although it has never been recognized by many more than Bill Stanley and those of us who come from Norwich, CT.

When the executive editor of the Norwich Bulletin asked Bill to write a regular column about Norwich history, each one began, "Once upon a time." It became so popular that he eventually published 10 books, which earned \$¼ million, which Bill promptly gave to charity. Because it wasn't all about glorifying Norwich's past—Bill made it his mission to build a better future as well for his neighborhood and friends and the people he cared deeply about.

In 1987, St. Jude Common, a retirement home, opened on three acres of land Bill donated to that charity. He used his political acumen to raise \$4.5 million in State funds to open the home, and another \$400,000 from the Diocese of Norwich.

A friend who served with him on the home's board of directors recalled:

Every year at Christmas, he would make sure we set up a dinner for all the residents. I would always attend to see the joy he had in bringing joy to others. He captured the Christmas spirit and was always a joy to be around.

Bill Stanley was truly a joy to be around. He was a fascinating guy, who always had an interesting story and was busy as he could be up until his last illness. He was a great friend to my family. My father loved him dearly. He was a loyal and true friend in so many wonderful ways. I am glad I never had a tough race against someone from Norwich as well.

I join his beloved wife Peg, his son Bill, Jr., whom I know so well, and his

daughters Carol and Mary in mourning Bill Stanley's passing, and I join every man, woman, and child in Norwich, CT, in giving thanks for the wonderful life of William Stanley.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

KAGAN NOMINATION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, last month, the President nominated his friend and member of his administration, Solicitor General Elena Kagan, to a lifetime position on the Supreme Court. Ms. Kagan has never been a judge and only practiced law for 2 years as a junior associate before her current position as Solicitor General. She has largely been an academic, administrator, and policy advocate and advisor.

So we have not had a lot of information about her background.

But recent documents from her time as a policy advocate in the Clinton administration have shed more light on her views. And, in my view, they help answer the question some have asked as to whether she would be able to transition into a very different kind of role; namely, that of an impartial jurist Americans expect to sit above the political fray.

As a judge on our highest court, Ms. Kagan would no longer be a member of President Obama's team. Rather, her job would be to apply the law evenhandedly to persons and groups with whom she might not necessarily empathize. And in that regard, it is instructive to see how she's viewed the law and applied it when it comes to persons and groups with which she may not agree.

I previously discussed Ms. Kagan's role in the Citizens United case. Here was a case in which the government said it could block a small nonprofit corporation from showing a movie that it made about then-Senator Hillary Clinton because it viewed the film as the kind of political speech that was prohibited by Federal campaign finance laws.

This was not only the first case Ms. Kagan argued as a member of the Obama administration; it appears to have been the first case she has ever argued in any court. And in it, she and her office took the position, at different points in the case, that the Federal Government had the power to ban videos, books and pamphlets if it didn't like the speech or the speaker, a shocking position for the solicitor general of a nation that has always prided itself

on a robust exchange of ideas under the first amendment.

The justices on the Supreme Court, conservative and liberal alike, also seem to have been taken aback by this position. As were legal commentators of all political stripes; but now, in looking at some of the documents from her time as a political advisor in the Clinton administration, perhaps her views before the Supreme Court in Citizens United are not that surprising after all.

As a part of President Clinton's team, Ms. Kagan co-wrote a memo in which she said it was unfortunate that the Constitution stands in the way of many government restrictions on spending on political speech. She also wrote that many of the Supreme Court's precedents that protect political speech in this area were, to quote her memo, "mistaken in many cases."

We have also learned from the documents produced by the Clinton Library last week that Ms. Kagan was a member of the campaign finance working group at the Clinton White House. These documents appear to show that in this area, at least, Ms. Kagan placed her political desires over an evenhanded reading of the law and of the rights that the Constitution protects.

What is more, these newly released documents show that Ms. Kagan went out of her way to prevent the professional lawyers at the Justice Department from officially noting their concerns that the legislation being considered in Congress could infringe on Americans' first amendment rights.

In the mid-1990s, for example, the Office of Legal Counsel was concerned with the constitutionality of campaign finance legislation making its way through Congress. As a July 17, 1996, memo by Ms. Kagan put it: The OLC believed that all of the campaign finance bills under consideration by the House at that time "present[ed] serious constitutional issues."

Now, Ms. Kagan did not say these lawyers were wrong. In fact, she noted that their concerns were to be expected in a case like this. But allowing them to express their legal analysis would have been at odds with the Clinton administration's political strategy, a strategy she helped develop.

She was determined, as one memo put it, to "try to head off DOJ . . . letters" that noted constitutional problems. So she called a political appointee at the Justice Department and told him that Clinton's Office of Management and Budget "might well disapprove" any such opinion letter from the Justice Department.

The phone call evidently worked. The documents we have now seen show that the political appointee with whom she spoke called back and told her the "OLC did not have adequate time to prepare comments on the campaign finance legislation and, given the possibility that such comments might not go through, would not attempt to do so." What a coincidence.