

suit he wore the day he was shot, the condolence book signed by world leaders at his funeral. (Margaret Thatcher: "Well done, Thou good and faithful servant.")

Much recently has been written about who he was—a good man who became a great president—but recent conversations about Reagan have me pondering some things he was not.

He wasn't, for instance, sentimental, though he's often thought of that way. His nature was marked by a characterological sweetness, and his impulse was to be kind and generous. (His daughter Patti Davis captured this last week in a beautifully remembered essay for *Time*.) But he wasn't sentimental about people and events, or about history. Underlying all was a deep and natural skepticism. That, in a way, is why he was conservative. "If men were angels,"

They are not, so we must limit the governmental power they might wield. But his skepticism didn't leave him down. It left him laughing at the human condition, and at himself. Jim Baker, his first and great chief of staff, and his friend, remembered the other day the atmosphere of merriness around Reagan, the constant flow of humor. But there was often a genial blackness to it, a mordant edge. In a classic Reagan joke, a man says sympathetically to his friend, "I'm so sorry your wife ran away with the gardener." The guy answers, "It's OK, I was going to fire him anyway." Or: As winter began, the young teacher sought to impart to her third-graders the importance of dressing warmly. She told the heart-rending story of her little brother, a fun-loving boy who went out with his sled and stayed out too long, caught a cold, then pneumonia, and days later died. There was dead silence in the schoolroom as they took it in. She knew she'd gotten through. Then a voice came from the back: "Where's the sled?"

The biggest misunderstanding about Reagan's political life is that he was inevitable. He was not. He had to fight for every inch, he had to make it happen. What Billy Herndon said of Abraham Lincoln was true of Reagan too: He had within him, always, a ceaseless little engine of ambition. He was good at not showing it, as was Lincoln, but it was there. He was knowingly in the greatness game, at least from 1976, when he tried to take down a sitting president of his own party.

He was serious, and tough enough. Everyone who ever ran against him misunderstood this. He was an actor, they thought, a marshmallow. They'd flatten him. "I'll wipe the smile off his face." Nothing could wipe the smile off his face. He was there to compete, he was aiming for the top. His unconscious knew it. He told me as he worked on his farewell address of a recurring dream he'd had through adulthood. He was going to live in a mansion with big rooms, "high ceilings, white walls." He would think to himself in the dream that it was "a house that was as available at a price I could afford." He had the dream until he moved into the White House and never had it again. "Not once."

He ran for president four times and lost twice. His 1968 run was a flop—it was too early, as he later admitted, and when it's too early, it never ends well. In 1976 he took on an incumbent Republican president of his own party, and lost primaries in New Hampshire, Florida, Illinois (where he'd been born), Massachusetts and Vermont. It was hand-to-hand combat all the way to the convention, where he lost to Gerald Ford. People said he was finished. He roared back in 1980 only to lose Iowa and scramble back in New Hampshire while reorganizing his campaign and firing his top staff. He won the nomination and faced another incumbent president.

In Reagan's candidacy the American people were being asked to choose a former movie star (never had one as president) who was divorced (ditto) and who looked like he might become the most conservative president since Calvin Coolidge. To vote for Reagan was not only to take a chance on an unusual man with an unusual biography, but also to break with New Deal-Great Society assumptions about the proper relationship between the individual and the state. Americans did, in a landslide—but only after Jimmy Carter's four years of shattering failure.

None of it was inevitable. The political lesson of Ronald Reagan's life: Nothing is written.

He didn't see himself as "the great communicator." It was so famous a moniker that he could do nothing but graciously accept the compliment, but he well understood it was bestowed in part by foes and in part to undercut the seriousness of his philosophy: "It's not what he says, it's how he says it" He answered in his farewell address: "I never thought it was my style or the words I used that made a difference: it was the content. I wasn't a great communicator, but I communicated great things." It wasn't his eloquence people supported, it was his stands—opposition to the too-big state, to its intrusions and demands, to Soviet communism. Voters weren't charmed, they were convinced.

His most underestimated political achievement? In the spring of 1981 the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization called an illegal strike. It was early in Reagan's presidency. He'd been a union president. He didn't want to come across as an antiunion Republican. And Patco had been one of the few unions to support him in 1980. But the strike was illegal. He would not accept it. He gave them a grace period, two days, to come back. If they didn't, they'd be fired. They didn't believe him. Most didn't come back. So he fired them. It broke the union. Federal workers got the system back up. The Soviet Union, and others, were watching. They thought: This guy means business. It had deeply positive implications for U.S. foreign policy. But here's the thing: Reagan didn't know that would happen, didn't know the bounty he'd reap. He was just trying to do what was right.

The least understood facet of Reagan's nuclear policies? He hated the rise of nuclear weapons, abhorred the long-accepted policy of mutually assured destruction. That's where the Strategic Defense Initiative came from, his desire to protect millions from potential annihilation. The genius of his program: When developed, America would share it with the Soviet Union. We'd share it with everybody. All would be protected from doomsday.

The Soviets opposed this; the Rejkavik summit broke up over it, and in the end the Soviets' arms spending helped bankrupt them and hasten their fall. Years later I would see Mikhail Gorbachev, who became Reagan's friend. He was still grumpy about Reagan's speeches. "Ron—he loved show business!" Mr. Gorbachev blustered. The losses of those years must have still rankled, and understandably. It's one thing to be outmaneuvered by a clever man, but to be outfoxed by a good one—oh, that would grate.

EXPRESSING HOPES FOR A FULL AND SPEEDY RECOVERY TO DEPUTY JOHN ROY STACY AND DEPUTY ANDREW EJDE, WHO WERE INJURED IN THE LINE OF DUTY ON JANUARY 23RD, 2011 IN PORT ORCHARD, WASHINGTON

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak to the tragic injury and loss of life that occurred in Port Orchard, Washington on Sunday, January 23rd.

Responding to a call of a man with a gun, two Kitsap County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to a local Wal-Mart. After making contact with the individual, the suspect sprinted away and fired his gun at the deputies. During the encounter there was an exchange of fire, resulting in the death of the armed man and a young woman. In this exchange, both of the Sheriff's deputies sustained gunshot wounds and were transported to a local hospital.

I am very saddened by this incident, and regret the harm that was done to the innocent people involved. Law enforcement officials in this country risk their lives every day so that we may all live without fear of harm, and at moments like these I believe it is important to reflect on the sacrifices that are made by these public servants on our behalf. Deputy John Roy Stacy has been with the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office for 9 years, while Deputy Andrew Ejde has served our community as a Deputy Sheriff for more than 6 years. Both represent the selfless commitment to the safety of their community that we prize in law enforcement officials and members of our armed services.

I would like to send my best wishes for a full and speedy recovery to these brave men who were hurt while protecting our community. They and their families will be in our thoughts and prayers during these difficult times.

HONORING THE THANKFUL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Whereas, the Thankful Missionary Baptist Church has been and continues to be a beacon of light to our county for the past one hundred twenty-eight years; and

Whereas, Pastor Jack Marks and the members of the Thankful Missionary Baptist Church family today continues to uplift and inspire those in our county; and

Whereas, the Thankful Missionary Baptist Church family has been and continues to be a place where citizens are touched spiritually, mentally and physically through outreach ministries and community partnership to aid in building up our District; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious Church of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the needy and empowered our community for the past one hundred twenty-eight

(128) years by preaching the gospel, singing the gospel and living the gospel; and

Whereas, Thankful Missionary Baptist Church has produced many spiritual warriors, people of compassion, people of great courage, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their Church, but with DeKalb County and the world their passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Thankful Missionary Baptist Church family for their leadership and service to our District;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim September 26, 2010, as Thankful Missionary Baptist Church Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, This 26th day of September, 2010.

HONORING POLICE OFFICER DAVID MOORE

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the hearts of Indianapolis residents are hurting right now because we have lost one of our true heroes in public safety. Police Officer David Moore passed away on January 26 after being shot on duty protecting the people of Indianapolis. Officer Moore answered his community's call to service when he joined the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department in 2004. Now, Officer Moore is moving on to a higher calling, as difficult as it may be for all of us to see him go.

There's no doubt Officer Moore knew the dangers of police work, as both of his parents were part of the IMPD family. But like so many who wear the badge in communities across our nation, David Moore took an oath to serve and protect others. To run to danger—not away from it. Officer Moore did just that, and our community is better and safer because of his service and sacrifice.

In honor of Officer Moore, let us never forget the daily sacrifices our law enforcement officers make in order to protect our families and neighborhoods. I ask my colleagues in Congress to pay respect to Officer Moore by going back to their districts and thanking their local law enforcement officers for the work they do and the daily dangers they place themselves in to protect us all.

I also ask the American people to join the city of Indianapolis in mourning the loss of this hero. Let us continue to keep Officer Moore's family and the entire law enforcement community in our thoughts and prayers.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS FOR THE FAIRNESS FOR MILITARY RECRUITERS ACT

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Fairness for Military Recruiters

Act, legislation to ensure that America's military recruiters are not denied or unfairly restricted access to high school campuses. Most students on the verge of completing high school undoubtedly think about the future. For some, immediately entering college is an option. Others choose to follow a different path, including taking full advantage of the benefits and educational opportunities offered through military service.

The intent of the Fairness for Military Recruiters Act is straightforward. The legislation simply reaffirms and strengthens existing federal law, enacted in 2002 under the No Child Left Behind, NCLB, Act, providing military recruiters the same access to high school campuses and basic student contact information that is provided to other institutions of higher education.

Before the enactment of NCLB, it was reported that nearly 2,000 high schools across the country either banned military recruiters from campuses or restricted access to student directories. In the years since the implementation of NCLB, despite early opposition from several school boards and administrators, most schools ultimately altered their policies and allowed some form of recruiter access.

Under current law, any high school that receives federal education funding must provide military recruiters access to its campus and student directory—the same access provided to colleges and universities. Schools are also required to notify parents and students of their right to "opt-out," which occurs when a parent or student 18 years of age requests not to be contacted by a military recruiter.

This is a balanced approach to ensuring that students are familiar with the multitude of education and career opportunities offered by any one of the military service branches. Military service promotes discipline and a strong work-ethic. Young Americans should not be discouraged from serving their country or, at the very least, considering the benefits of serving in the armed forces with the assistance of a military recruiter.

The American military is an all-volunteer force. Without patriotic and talented young Americans continuing to step forward, end-strength won't be the only thing adversely affected. So will American security.

Despite the necessity to recruit qualified candidates for the armed forces, there are some school administrators and activist groups who vehemently oppose the idea of military recruiters in high schools. There are reported instances of groups, known as "counter-recruiters," attending parent-teacher conferences and distributing opt-out forms. In one case last year, the New York Civil Liberties Union sent volunteers to stand outside 24 high schools, in the interest of discouraging students from interacting with military recruiters.

Others take a different approach. Amy Hagopian, a professor of Global Health at the University of Washington, who is equally committed to ending recruitment in high schools, wrote an article for the American Journal of Public Health that compares military recruiters with child sex predators. She alleges that military recruiter behavior is "disturbingly similar to predatory grooming."

What an insult to anyone who has ever worn a uniform in defense of our nation, especially those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom. The ultimate goal

of Hagopian—who was behind the first successful effort to close the door on military recruiters in high schools—and others who share the same viewpoint is nothing less than a complete, across-the-board prohibition against military recruiters.

Meanwhile, some school administrators have creatively interpreted notification and consent requirements in the interest of limiting campus visits or access to student contact information. There are numerous examples of this occurring, but a recent decision by the San Diego Unified School District, which incorporates several high schools in my congressional district, restricts all recruiters—military and private—to only two visits a year and needlessly complicates recruiter-student interaction.

This decision is in fact consistent with federal law since military recruiters are provided the exact same access as private recruiters. But most private recruiters interface with students far less regularly than military recruiters. Often time, private recruiter interactions are limited to college or career fairs, instead relying on other forms of advertising and outreach. Military recruiters on the other hand have a steadier presence in high schools and, while it is absolutely necessary that these recruiters follow school guidelines and not interfere with individual learning, decisions like this, whether intended or not, are a significant step toward shutting the door on our military.

When it comes to "opting-out," students and parents should make that decision on their own, without undue influence from activists and administrators with anti-military bias. Families that recognize and honor the commitment of our military to defending freedom should not be represented by the small minority of those who actively seek to marginalize or even denigrate the armed forces.

The legislation I am introducing protects the rights of parents and students to opt-out while also maintaining military recruiter access to high school campuses and directories. Schools would still be obligated to notify parents and students of their options, ensuring there is a mechanism in place that prevents contact information from being released.

The alternative suggested by some of my colleagues, in anticipation of the upcoming reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, is to create an opt-in process. In other words, military recruiters would be denied access to student information unless a parent sends in a release authorization form. They question whether the recruitment provision violates a student's right to privacy, even though it's consistent with federal law and court-tested privacy rights. An analysis by the Congressional Research Service acknowledges this fact, noting that, unlike medical records, the basic information available to recruiters is no different than information "typically found in a phone book."

The Fairness for Military Recruiters Act specifically prohibits the implementation of an opt-in process and clarifies the notification and consent requirement by placing the personal information and career interests of students firmly in the control of parents.

Mr. Speaker, our national security hinges on brave Americans coming forward to volunteer for military service. Restricting recruiter access to high schools would not only reduce the quality and effectiveness of the military, but