

"Always touch base with those concerned before taking action."

"How fast would you get it done if the Russians were in South Attleboro?"

"When you've won, stop talking, close your briefcase and leave."

"Message to Garcia."

"Who, what, where, when; don't bother me with why."

The phone calls, at all hours, that began with no "hello" and ended with dial tone.

The road shows known to his staff as "Dome on the Roam", or more precisely, "Bruce on the Loose."

And sometimes just that big foxy grin.

We saw that his qualities of friendship and loyalty had an almost physical force; that he had your back even if you made mistakes (no one ever was thrown under the bus); and that he was a better friend the more the chips were down.

Politics is full of fair weather friends; Bruce Sundlun was your stormy weather friend. Politics is full of people who take tiny cautious steps with their finger up constantly testing the winds; Bruce stepped boldly down the path he thought was right, even if that meant stepping right in it.

People wonder what lives on after they die. Well, Bruce, we do. And every one of us has been changed: made better, and stronger, harder-working and more resourceful, by your vibrant elemental force in our lives.

We've gone on to be judges and lawyers, to run state and federal agencies, to become Senators and councilmen and Lieutenant Governors, banking leaders and senior partners in national accounting firms, but none of us ever will be more proud of anything than the simple title: "I was a Sundlun staffer."

Soozie and Marjorie, Tracey and Stuart and Peter and Kara: Thank you. Thank you for sharing your husband and father with our state. For those who loved and were changed by him, I thank you. For those who knew and were touched by him, I thank you. And for those who never knew him directly, but whose lives are better today because of what he did, I thank you.

As I close, I want to take you back to a scene from that wonderful movie I saw as a kid, "To Kill A Mockingbird." As you'll recall, Atticus Finch takes on the courageous but unpopular defense of a black man wrongfully accused of rape. At the end of the trial, Atticus's daughter Scout—proper name Jean Louise—is up in the gallery of the courtroom, with the black townspeople, who aren't allowed down on the regular courtroom floor. The courtroom floor empties, but they remain, and slowly stand. As Atticus packs his papers together, closes his bag, and walks out, an elderly man leans down to the little girl and says, "Stand up, Miss Jean Louise. Your father's passing."

At the end of this service, as Bruce is taken to his gravesite after 91 years of a life well and fully lived, we will all stand up. And rightly so. A governor will be passing.

FELLOWSHIPS FOR UNDERGRADUATE TRAINING AND USEFUL RESEARCH IN ENERGY-RELATED SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS FIELDS ACT OF 2011

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the FUTURE STEM Act. This legislation

will give undergraduate students opportunities to expand both the breadth and depth of their education in multidisciplinary science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields in real world research settings from National Labs to businesses. An American workforce that is highly skilled in STEM fields is necessary for the United States' economic competitiveness and job creation in innovative industries.

Industries that drive Washington state and our nation's economy, such as health care, biotechnology, information technology, manufacturing, aerospace, transportation, construction, and energy efficiency and clean technology, all need career-ready STEM-trained graduates to remain competitive and cutting-edge. In fact, workforce projections for 2014 by the U.S. Department of Labor show that 15 of the 20 fastest growing occupations require significant science or mathematics training to successfully compete for a job. Yet, despite our high unemployment rate, the U.S. is falling behind in STEM graduates and many of these job openings are not being filled by American workers. The U.S. Department of Education reports that America now ranks 20th internationally in our share of graduate degrees awarded in engineering, computer science, and mathematics.

We need focused programs to ensure that the next generation of high-tech workers is prepared to enter the strongest STEM-related industries in Washington state and across the nation. The FUTURE STEM Act seeks to address these problems by exposing students to STEM fields as undergraduates, getting young people early experience in professional settings.

The FUTURE STEM Act establishes a pilot undergraduate student fellowship program to award competitive grants to partner institutions to provide student work experience that will overall improve education and training in support of STEM fields. Under the grants, students will engage in a 10-week fellowship and be placed in real research settings at community colleges, universities, businesses, National Laboratories, and other research settings. The fellowships will pay \$4,500 to the student for a ten-week project, plus up to \$2,000 reimbursement for housing and travel expenses. An additional \$3,500 per project is reserved for equipment, instrumentation, and other educational and training materials needed for the project; supporting outreach efforts to recruit students; encouraging collaboration between government, industry, and academic partners; and assessing the activities funded under the Act. These allowances are on par with existing fellowship programs.

Industries such as aerospace, solar power, and advanced biofuels would be eligible to compete to host STEM students in the pilot program. In Washington state, students could be employed at Boeing, Washington State University, Everett Community College, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), or at countless other locations. PNNL's Energy and Environment Division currently employs some undergraduate and community college students as interns and I am told that they would be eager to employ more under the program created by this Act.

All of America's students deserve the opportunity to pursue a STEM career. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, STEM fields are expected to add 2.7 million new jobs

by 2018, yet women and minorities are vastly underrepresented in those fields. In a survey of female and minority chemists and chemical engineers, 77 percent said significant numbers of women and minorities are missing from the U.S. STEM workforce because "they were not identified, encouraged or nurtured to pursue STEM studies early on." For that reason, this legislation will give preference to students from groups that have been historically underrepresented in STEM fields.

It is crucial that we support, promote, and encourage students to pursue pathways toward careers in STEM fields. The FUTURE STEM Act will facilitate an overall improvement in STEM education and help prepare our nation's students for a high-tech future, while helping to maintain and improve our global excellence in science and technology. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which will help to ensure America has the high-skilled STEM workforce that is necessary to increase our global competitiveness.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING OFFICER PETER FIGOSKI

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor New York Police Officer Peter Figoski, who made the ultimate sacrifice on December 12th. Peter Figoski will be remembered as a man of service to his country. A 12-time decorated NYPD veteran from West Babylon, Officer Figoski was a loving father to four daughters and a respected member of his community. There is no question that he will be greatly missed by the New York police community and by the many others he touched. The 200 officers that lined up outside the Jamaica Hospital Medical Center to salute their fallen colleague is a true testament to that. I am proud that Officer Figoski was my constituent.

As the son of a New York police officer, I understand the selfless and vital role played by our first responders. They put their lives on the line day in and day out to keep us safe. My thoughts and prayers are with the family and loved ones of Officer Figoski. In closing, I would also like to commend his partner, Officer Glenn Estrada, for risking his life to bring the killer to justice. I yield back.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 12, 2010, I requested and received a leave of absence for the rest of the week.

For the information of our colleagues and my constituents, below is how I would have voted on the following vote I missed during this time period.

On rollcall 927, To strengthen Iran sanctions laws for the purpose of compelling Iran to abandon its pursuit of nuclear weapons and

other threatening activities, and for other purposes, I would have voted "present."

On rollcall 928, To provide for the application of measures to foreign persons who transfer to Iran, North Korea, and Syria certain goods, services, or technology, and for other purposes, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 929, To award Congressional Gold Medals in honor of the men and women who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 930, To designate the property between the United States Federal Courthouse and the Ed Jones Building located at 109 South Highland Avenue in Jackson, Tennessee, as the "M.D. Anderson Plaza" and to authorize the placement of a historical/identification marker on the grounds recognizing the achievements and philanthropy, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 931, To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 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, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 932, To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 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, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 933, On Approving the Journal, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 934, To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 225th anniversary of the establishment of the Nation's first Federal law enforcement agency, the United States Marshals Service, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 935, To ensure public access to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain in the Hanford Reach National Monument for educational, recreational, historical, scientific, cultural, and other purposes, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 936, To provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to the Maniilaq Association located in Kotzebue, Alaska, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 937, On Ordering the Previous Question, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and related agencies Appropriations for FY 2012; I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 938, On Agreeing to the Resolution, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and related agencies Appropriations for FY 2012; I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 939, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Concur in the Senate Amendment, Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012; I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 940, To provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado; I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 941, On Agreeing to the Conference Report, Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs; I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 942, Directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections

in the enrollment of H.R. 3672; I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 943, On Passage, Making appropriations for disaster relief requirements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012; I would have voted "aye."

I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the RECORD.

RECOGNIZING KELLY MEARS, ADRIAN PARSONS, SAM JEWLER, AND JOE GRAY WHO ARE ENGAGED IN A HUNGER STRIKE FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VOTING RIGHTS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to recognize the extraordinary dedication of four young people who are engaged in a hunger strike for District of Columbia voting rights, budget autonomy and legislative autonomy, an unprecedented step in the District's 210-year struggle for equal citizenship. D.C. residents Kelly Mears, Adrian Parsons, and Sam Jewler, in the tradition of Mahatma Gandhi, began their hunger strike on December 8, and were joined the next day by Joe Gray, a Maryland resident. Unfortunately, this unusual journey ended for one of the strikers, twenty-four-year-old Kelly Mears, who was unable to continue with the three other strikers due to medical complications. The four visited members of Congress during the final days of negotiation on the fiscal year 2012 appropriations bills, and as the District government faced a possible shutdown over a federal spending bill and payroll tax fight. The hunger strikers have written a declaration of grievances. They are asking members of Congress to find ways to show solidarity with them. Representative KEITH ELLISON of Minnesota came to the floor during my special order on the shutdown threat and the spending bill's prohibition on the District's use of its local funds for abortions for low-income women. We are grateful to Representative ELLISON for reading the declaration of the hunger strikers into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and for his decision to abstain from food and water for 24 hours in solidarity with them. Since the fiscal year 2011 spending deal was announced in April 2011, which prohibited the District from spending its local funds on abortion services for low-income women, 72 people, including D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray and D.C. Council members, have been arrested for acts of civil disobedience in protest of the treatment of D.C. residents as second-class citizens. However, the D.C. hunger strikers will always be remembered as a special inspiration and for a special sacrifice. It is a sacrifice we had no right to ask for. Even now, we ask these young people not to endanger their health. They have been heard. We will never forget them. I ask the House to join me in honoring Kelly Mears, Adrian Parsons, Sam Jewler, and Joe Gray.

STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMAN JOHN B. LARSON AND EULOGY DELIVERED BY HIS SON, THOMAS S. BRENNAN, HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDGE JOHN D. BRENNAN

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. John Brennan was a venerated citizen of my hometown, East Hartford. He served his country, his state, and his community in several elected, appointed, and volunteer positions; most recently he presided as a Judge where he served until he was 93, and did so with vigor, and a sense of humor. Growing up in East Hartford when you're poor John Brennan, if you were type casting, you'd say he looked like Henry Fonda, and we along with his beautiful wife Mary, raised four children, Susan, Jack, Peter, and Tome, all of who I was fortunate to know, and know how devoted to their father they are. At his funeral service it was his youngest son Tom, who gave the eulogy on behalf of the family, there is so much I could say about John Brennan, he commanded blind respect and rightfully so. Nothing I could say however captures the feeling, the sentiment, the public servant, and the father as Tom Brennan's remarks on his father that follows.

EULOGY HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDGE JOHN D. BRENNAN

(By Thomas S. Brennan)

First of all I'd like to thank everyone for coming to join our family today. I know how absolutely thrilled my father would be to see all of you here, even though I know also that he was a little disappointed to have only made it to the age of 94, when he was still in his youthful prime with so much left to be done. But in many ways he almost was still in his prime, and I think that said a lot about how he lived his life—he never lost his youthful enthusiasm and he had a genuine appreciation for whatever the moment offered. He was someone who from the beginning was endowed with many gifts and he made use of those gifts in a variety of arenas throughout his life.

My father often described his childhood growing up in East Hartford of the 1920s as an almost idyllic "Huck Finn" sort of existence—kids running free playing baseball down in the meadows, riding a rope swing into the Connecticut River or racing carrier pigeons that neighborhood kids would keep in backyard coops. Like many of the Irish back then, his father worked on the trains and would release the carrier pigeons when he was way down the lone toward New York. In that era, those pigeons making their way home might very well have sailed past Yankee Stadium when Babe Ruth was slugging a home run, or over houses where families were gathering around a radio waiting for FDR to speak, before circling down over the farms and tobacco fields that once surrounded this town. It was a simple working class world and he grew up during the Depression, so there wasn't any choice then but to make the most out of whatever you were lucky enough to have.

The arrival of World War II took him far away from the innocent small town life and it became one of the defining experiences of his life. The world was suddenly opened wide and he was thrilled to be riding on the tide of history. And of course, to hear him tell it, it was one giant adventure—we never knew