

a dear friend to many. All of us could learn a thing or two from Jimmy. His moral code and business skills were an inspiration to young entrepreneurs of all types. He lit a fire inside them, and that is what true leadership is all about. Jimmy's life may have come to an end, but his legacy will continue to live on; he inspired others to do great things.

At this time I would like to ask my colleagues in the Senate to join me in commemorating the life and times of Mr. Jimmy Lee Vance, a true American entrepreneur and philanthropist.

A news article was recently published in Corbin, Kentucky's own Times-Tribune newspaper, recognizing the achievements Mr. Vance made throughout his lifetime. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Times-Tribune, Feb. 13, 2012]

JIMMY LEE VANCE—REMEMBRANCES OF JIMMY LEE VANCE

BORN SEPTEMBER 29, 1941—DIED DECEMBER 20, 2011

Jimmy Lee Vance was born in Hart County September 29, 1941, and raised on a small farm by his parents, the late Lee Walter and Eva Vance. He was preceded in death by his sister, Norma Reed. He graduated from Canmer High School and served in the U.S. Navy. He received an honorable discharge and used a military G.I. Bill scholarship and graduated with a BS degree in accounting from Western Kentucky University. Jimmy and his first wife, Mildred, had two children: Jason Vance (wife Kim) of Corbin, and daughter Kim (husband Shannon Rahn) of Richmond Hill, Georgia. Jimmy later married Donna Barton in 1990, and they were together until his death December 20. He left two step-children, Amber Noell and Kari Moore, and eight grandchildren, Erika Vance, Hunter Rahn, Wes Rahn, Lee Vance, Jaci Beth Noell, Lauren Moore, Jaken Noell, and Ryan Moore, and a sister, Virginia Patenaude and husband Pat of Canmer, Kentucky.

Jimmy worked for the Internal Revenue Service's Louisville office and later purchased Henry Martin's respected Corbin CPA firm. Jimmy continued the growth of the business and later sold it to Mary Lynn Long. Jimmy then focused his attention on real estate and business development. He and his partners transformed the land near Corbin's I-75 Exit 25 on Cumberland Falls Highway. This is one of the most formidable business areas off the I-75 Expressway, with the opportunity for continued growth. He was a business leader willing to take risks, with a vision of not just seeing how things are now, but how they could become with initiative and creativity.

A major Technology Center now managed by Corbin High School was one of Corbin's first major operations built on land Jimmy and his partners developed. Many meetings and training sessions have been conducted in this facility, including Chamber of Commerce luncheons, wedding receptions, and political events which have brought many people to our area. The Technology Center is impressive and will be a key asset to our area for many years.

The Corbin Arena rests on top of a mountain facing across Cumberland Falls Highway toward the Baptist Regional Medical Center and west to I-75 Exit 25. This majes-

tic entertainment center would never have happened if Jimmy and his partners and government leaders had not worked together to make it possible. The location of the arena on top of the mountain, right or wrong, can't be blamed on Jimmy. His group helped make this location for the arena possible. The challenge in making it a success rests on the shoulders of our local leaders and all of us.

Many of us enjoy visiting Applebee's or Dino's or Fiesta Mexicana for an enjoyable meal. Exit 25 has 40,000 cars and trucks pass by each day on I-75, and many stop off to eat, shop, buy gasoline, or stay in our motels. PT Pro's attractive Therapy Center adorns this property developed by Jimmy and his group. Several young business leaders such as Darryl and Mark Lawson told me, "Jimmy wasn't too busy to give us good suggestions on real estate, or tax issues, or good business ideas. He helped us so much." Sometimes when Jimmy and I had lunch, someone would come up needing money for a meal or pay bills, and Jimmy without any fanfare gave them help. Those were things about Jimmy you didn't read in the papers.

For years he and Donna owned and operated the Landmark Inn, which has been a key place for many travelers to stop for rest on tiring trips. A good Redhound buddy, Bob Coleman, who passed away last year, often came to Corbin from Bristol to see Redhound games and friends. Employees at Landmark took good care of Bobby. Jimmy and his family also owned at one time the Best Western Motel. Jimmy told me about Donna's knowledge in handling business decisions. Donna has been a valuable person in Jimmy's businesses program.

When Jimmy purchased the Holiday Inn in Williamsburg, he had a billboard on the property. It wasn't long until Jimmy was in the billboard business, and soon there were many billboards in our area. We take for granted that people will stop off the interstate and do business in our area. Jimmy's billboards brought many travelers off the interstate to businesses.

Jimmy purchased the Eagle Falls property, which could have been a great addition for Cumberland Falls State Park. Jimmy drove me on a tour of the Cumberland Falls State Park Camping and Recreation Vehicle area, and it was running out of space. Jimmy's property near the Falls area could have provided additional space to enhance the ability of Cumberland Falls to grow and offer more services. This dream of Jimmy's wasn't completed. Jimmy focused attention on the fact that Cumberland Falls State Park for years has not been promoted and expanded into the type of great attraction it could be. This beautiful and scenic place could become a major attraction for a large segment of the eastern part of our nation. It needs a golf course and some remodeling. Eighteen Kentucky State Parks have golf courses, but the big one closest to a highly travelled interstate highway, Cumberland Falls State Park, has no golf course. Some of Jimmy's close business partners have been Dr. Don Barton, David Myers, Harold Huddleston, David Rossi, Boyce Worley, Darrell Sanders, Becky Myers, and John Warren. Also included was the late Dave Hudson, who was a special friend with Jimmy.

Today many of us enjoy seeing movies at the Tri-County Cineplex, and Nelda Collings Barton, her daughter Suzie, and son-in-law Greg Razmus built this impressive complex on a site developed by Jimmy and his partners. Nelda and the Razmus family are a valuable entrepreneur team that has been so helpful in many ways to our community. It hurts when you lose entrepreneurs in local communities and areas. They create jobs in your own hometown. They help create other small business leaders who learn from them

and take on that same spirit. Jimmy, Donnie Witt and I had lunch each month and sometimes talked about the Bible. Jimmy said, "I love the 'Red' Letters in the New Testament because they are a simple message from Christ. They are words built on love, forgiveness, and grace."

Jimmy suffered a very damaging stroke in 2008, but with the help of his family was soon back working on his projects. Sometimes it was a struggle, but Jimmy kept going. A short time prior to his death, tests determined he had an advance problem with lung and bone cancer.

During Jimmy's last days in Baptist Regional Medical Center, he was well cared for by the medical staff and his family. Rev. Bobby Joe Eaton, Chaplain of the Medical Center, "ministered unto Jimmy with love and prayer." Bobby Joe is a wonderful blessing in our community.

Each time I visited Jimmy in the hospital in his last days, son Jason was by his side and Jimmy's daughter, Kim, came from Savannah to be with him. Frequently Jimmy's handsome red-headed grandson Lee was there giving support to his grandpa. Soon after Jimmy's death, Donna had a liver transplant and is recovering very well. The Barton family has shown great courage these last years as they have dealt with those difficult experiences in life we will all face at some time. Joan Barton has been an inspiration to all of us as she has recovered from a serious accident and has stood strong with her husband Don and their family.

In closing, there is an old song that sometimes comes to mind during times of sorrow and sadness. It is titled, "Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley." The words of one verse remind us of a journey we will face at the end of our lives when we say goodbye to family and friends and cross over to a new life with God.

"We must walk that lonesome Valley,
We have to walk it by ourselves.
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us,
We have to walk it by ourselves."

Our God walks that lonesome valley by our side and loved ones and friends give us comfort and love as we depart. God is with us as we begin our new life.

THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF 3-11

Mr. KERRY. Madam President, yesterday the world marked the anniversary of the triple tragedy—the earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear crisis—that struck Japan on March 11 of last year. I rise today to commemorate that heartbreaking day for our good friend and ally and to pay tribute to the remarkable resilience of the Japanese people in the face of this unprecedented series of catastrophic events. Even as Japan labors to rebuild devastated regions in the northeast, it continues to make enormous contributions to the international community, so let's take this moment to acknowledge the ambitious reconstruction effort underway in Japan and its indispensable role in world affairs.

Any one of these three events—a magnitude 9.0 earthquake that destroyed entire towns and villages, a tsunami that swept away thousands, and the ensuing nuclear crisis at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant—would have been enough to overwhelm and paralyze any country, any government. To

have all three occur at the same time simply strains the imagination. Yet the Japanese Government and the Japanese people responded to these events with their characteristic resilience, both in the immediate aftermath when local first responders and Japan's Self-Defense Forces responded so heroically in the face of almost unimaginable destruction and today in rebuilding shattered lives and communities by seeking new opportunities for economic growth and innovation, including through new green energy initiatives.

And if there is a silver lining to the tragic events of 3/11, it is that the U.S.-Japan alliance once more proved its own strength and vitality, demonstrating the deep bonds of friendship and affection that tie our two nations together. Together, we launched the largest joint military operation in our history, with more than 20,000 Americans supporting the Japan Self-Defense Forces in Operation Tomodachi. The Department of Defense alone provided 24,000 personnel, 190 aircraft, and 24 Navy ships to assist with humanitarian and disaster relief operations. To this day, our country's joint efforts continue through public-private partnerships for reconstruction and through the TOMODACHI initiative. This program, spearheaded by our Ambassador to Japan—and my good friend—John Roos, is focused on partnerships and programs to empower Japan's next generation and to strengthen ties between Americans and Japanese.

Madam President, nations and relationships between nations often display their truest colors during times of stress, challenge, and tragedy. As we look back at the events of a year ago and pause in remembrance of those who lost their lives, let's also give thanks for the strength, health, and vitality of the partnership between the United States and Japan.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DOUG NELSON

• Mr. KOHL. Madam President, I wish today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Doug Nelson on his retirement as President and CEO of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, ARCW. I am honored to have the opportunity to congratulate him on his extraordinary career and all that he has done to fight against AIDS. Under his leadership, Doug has helped ARCW provide support and care to countless individuals affected by HIV or AIDS. He has also brought awareness and advocacy to the forefront of the public sector and private philanthropy.

The AIDS epidemic remains one of the leading public health threats facing our Nation and the world today. When I was first elected to the U.S. Senate, Doug took the helm as president and CEO of ARCW. Since then, I have looked to Doug for his suggestions, insight and wisdom on how we can work

together to fight this disease, while providing assistance to those who have been diagnosed with AIDS or infected with HIV. I am proud to have been a cosponsor of the Ryan White Care Act in 1990, as well as its reauthorization, which has provided millions of dollars for the State of Wisconsin's AIDS drug reimbursement program. It is also why I fought hard in the Senate to ensure that the Ryan White Extension Act of 2009 would continue to provide these services to those in need.

Doug is a true agent of change. When he assumed his position as the second executive director, ARCW was among one of only a few small social service organizations committed to providing health care and support to individuals infected with HIV. Doug has played an integral role growing ARCW to become Wisconsin's largest provider of a broad range of medical, dental and mental health services for people living with HIV. Under his leadership, the ARCW Medical Center and pharmacy have provided thousands of individuals living with HIV and AIDS with the high quality medical care and support they need.

Over the last 24 years, Doug Nelson and I have worked in our respective roles and together to fight an historic epidemic. It is through his years of leadership that I am proud to say our State has provided high-quality care and support to those who are affected by this disease. In his retirement, Doug will not only leave a legacy of remarkable achievement at ARCW, but an unyielding hope for a brighter future. I want to take this opportunity to formally recognize Doug's many years of remarkable service and, on behalf of the people of Wisconsin, offer him the sincere thanks and appreciation he so deeply deserves.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 3606. An act to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies.

S. 2186. A bill to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to prohibit the Attorney General from administering or en-

forcing certain accessibility regulations relating to pools at public accommodations or provided by public entities.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Report to accompany S. 1925, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (Rept. No. 112-153).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 2183. A bill to provide funding for the Fugitive Extradition and Apprehension Trust Fund; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts):

S. 2184. A bill to provide exclusive funding to support fisheries and the communities that rely upon them, to clear unnecessary regulatory burdens and streamline Federal fisheries management, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. THUNE):

S. 2185. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, to award grants on a competitive basis to public and private entities to provide qualified sexual risk avoidance education to youth and their parents; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DEMINT (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2186. A bill to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to prohibit the Attorney General from administering or enforcing certain accessibility regulations relating to pools at public accommodations or provided by public entities; read the first time.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 2187. A bill to remove the sunset date for amendments to the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. BARASSO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. CASEY, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. Res. 394. A resolution commemorating the 150th anniversary of Italian Unification and the beginning of warm and abiding relations between the people of the United States and Italy; considered and agreed to.