

has had stewardship of every aspect of the nuclear navy, from fleet operations and training to reactor design and ultimate disposition of spent nuclear fuel. The dedication required of this mission is extraordinary, and our Nation has benefited from Admiral Donald's steadfast leadership.

Over the course of his career, Admiral Donald excelled as an undersea commander. He served as the commanding officer of the nuclear-powered attack submarine USS Key West, commander of the elite Submarine Development Squadron Twelve and Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, and Allied Submarine Command, Atlantic. Other highlights include tours at the Bureau of Naval Personnel, the Joint Staff, and as commander of all U.S. submarine forces.

While at Naval Reactors, he has ensured the safe operations of the nuclear navy. Nuclear-powered warships have safely steamed over 150 million miles and operated for more than 6,400 reactor years without an accident. The most recent 20 million miles and 800 reactor-years have been achieved under Admiral Donald's leadership.

Among his many achievements, one of the most impressive is the consistent and quiet success of the Naval Reactors Facility, NRF, in Idaho Falls. The highly complex and scientific work done at NRF requires not only a highly skilled, diligent workforce but the trust and confidence of the people of Idaho. As a result of Admiral Donald's work, that confidence has flourished.

Admiral Donald has been instrumental to the future of the Navy, having overseen the highly successful construction of many Virginia-Class attack submarines, the final design and construction of the next-generation USS Gerald R. Ford aircraft carrier, and the initial design of the Ohio-class replacement ballistic missile submarine. All three platforms incorporate impressive new technologies into the nuclear propulsion plants that have proven to be safe and reliable for nearly 70 years. These ships will allow the Navy to continue to protect America and our interests around the globe and would not be possible without the steadfast leadership of Admiral Donald.

Admiral Donald's selfless commitment to serving our Nation has left us safer and better prepared to respond to threats around the world. He leaves a legacy of service, dedication to the Navy, and commitment to the environment. With our deepest gratitude, we wish him the very best in retirement after an impressive and impactful career.●

CANONIZATION OF BL. KATERI TEKAKWITHA AND BL. MARIANNE COPE

● Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the contribution of two great heroes, Kateri Tekakwitha and Marianne Cope. These two individuals from upstate New York worked

tirelessly during their lifetimes to bring faith and health to every soul they touched. Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha and Bl. Marianne Cope have served as an inspiration for generations of the faithful both in America and abroad, and are now being recognized with the highest honor of sainthood.

Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha was born in 1656 to a Mohawk father and Algonquin mother along the Mohawk River in upstate New York. After surviving a devastating smallpox epidemic, Kateri was introduced to Christianity by Catholic missionaries. Despite severe disapproval by her tribe, Kateri was baptized into the church as Catherine and lived the rest of her life caring for the sick and elderly in the Mohawk River region. She is informally known as Lily of the Mohawks and will become the patron saint of ecology, the environment, and Native Americans. Although she died young, Kateri's reputation as the first Native American saint will live forever. Her commitment to the Christian faith has served as an inspiration not only to Native American Catholics, but to all American Catholics.

The other beatified person, Bl. Marianne Cope, was a member of the Sisters of St. Francis in Syracuse after growing up in Utica, NY. As the eldest daughter of German immigrants, she worked in a factory to support her family and delayed answering her religious calling until her siblings were self-sufficient. Once she was able to commit to the church, Marianne dedicated her work to establishing a series of hospitals, both public and Catholic, in Syracuse and central New York. These hospitals were some of the first to treat patients regardless of race, religion, or nationality. Marianne was also one of the first hospital administrators to advocate for patients' rights and to accept medical students for clinical instruction. In 1883, she moved to Hawaii to care for those with leprosy, a task that was declined by many other religious groups. Throughout her time in Hawaii she remained a dedicated caretaker and symbol of hope to patients who had been exiled because of their illness.

These two extraordinary women will be declared saints on October 21 in Vatican City by Pope Benedict XVI in St. Peter's Square, marking the end of a long process of examination undergone by all candidates for sainthood. The ceremony will venerate Kateri and Marianne in the eyes of Catholics all over the world.

I would like the U.S. Senate to honor Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha and Bl. Marianne Cope and recognize their unparalleled commitment to faith and their unending sacrifices for the people most in need across New York and our Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO SSG CHARLES ALLEN

● Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, On January 22, 2011 SSG Charles Allen of

Oklahoma lost his two legs and almost lost his life in an IED blast in Afghanistan in Arghandel Valley. But his will to live and the help of his wife and family have given this American Hero all the motivation he needed to win his battle for recovery. SSG Allen makes us all proud to be Americans. The following poem entitled PRAETORIANS was penned by Albert Caswell in his honor and his recovery. I ask unanimous consent that said poem be printed in the RECORD.

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

PRAETORIANS

Watch over me! Stand Guard!
Stand Ready, Stand Long, Stand Hard!
For you are The Spear of Freedom, that's
who you are! Throughout . . .
Throughout history . . .
There has, and will always be! Those who go
off to war!
Men of might, who so fight to be free! Who
our freedoms do so secure!
Like the Roman's, The Praetorian's! To
watch over us continually!
All the more!
Who will stand?
And who will fight?
And who will do what is right? What is right!
And who will lay down their own fine lives?
Who will give up their strong arms and legs,
so very bright? And make the angels
cry!
All in what their fine hearts have made, all
their most magnificent lives!
Who will so march off to war?
And so leave all that they so love and adore!
To watch over us throughout the night!
Bathed all in freedom's light!
All in that darkness of most evil war, as on-
ward they so fight! The Praetorian's,
are of the ones who so insure!
Standing guard, the ones who so fight on-
ward so ever more! Airborne, all for our
victory to insure!
Who but live to fight with their Band of
Brothers, but just one day more!
Magnificent Men,
who all for our nation their fine hearts are
Airborne! Who upon them all, the title
of hero is now so worn! Who go but
where angels so fear to tread!
Even thought their fine blood runs red!
As up to new heights their fine hearts have
soared!
For these are the men who are the Airborne,
all in times of war! To Fight the Fight,
as in their arms their brothers hearts beat
no more! As it was on one such faithful
tour . . .
Charles, as when your fine heart went even
higher, went Airborne! While, lying
there so very close to death . . . with
but not much left . . . When, some-
thing so deep down inside your fine
heart, would crest . . . With your two
legs gone and not much left . . .
As to new heights you so pledged . . .
For you had a family back home,
and you held on as you would not so leave
them so all alone.
When, Oklahoman said his recovery would be
Sooner not later! As you were gone . . .
AIRBORNE!
On the road to recover,
beyond all of that pain and heartache mov-
ing on! As we looked back and you were
gone!
As now You So Teach Us!
As now You So Reach Us!
As a Star was born!
And a great American family. . . .

Out of such tragedy somehow has somehow
 moved on! With your lovely wife by
 your side . . .
 And your beautiful children in your arms as
 you've cried! For you had something to
 live for!
 Touching all our hearts so deep inside!
 As the word Hero Charles, in front of your
 name comes before! And one day up in
 Heaven Charles you will be Airborne!
 As a PRAETORIAN with wings, to watch
 over us once more!•

TRIBUTE TO SAM HAMRA

• Mrs. McCASKILL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and congratulate my friend, Mr. Sam Hamra.

Born in Steele, MD, Sam received both business and law degrees from the University of Missouri and served as an officer in the U.S. Army Field Artillery and Second Armored Cavalry Regiment. He began practicing law in Springfield, MO, and later became the city attorney for Nixa and St. Robert and the governmental relations attorney for Branson.

As Sam's practice became more successful, he never forgot his modest roots, or those less fortunate. In 1976, Sam was elected president of the newly formed Legal Aid Association of Green County, MO, known today as the Legal Services of Southern Missouri, LSSM. The Legal Aid Association was created to help low income citizens whose legal needs would otherwise be unmet. Under Sam's leadership, LSSM has helped thousands of Missourians in 43 counties.

On October 11, Legal Services of Southern Missouri will dedicate their new building, the "Sam F. Hamra Center for Justice." It is my hope that this building will help LSSM provide services to Missourians for many years to come.

In addition to his contributions to the legal community, Sam is very active in many local organizations. He served on the board of the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame, the Springfield area Sports Hall of Fame, and the Springfield/Branson Transportation Study Committee. As the chairman of the Springfield Chamber of Commerce Building Fund, he raised over \$300,000 for the construction of a new Chamber building.

Sam's dedicated service is an inspiration to all Missourians. His achievements and commitment to helping those in need deserves the highest commemoration and I am proud to honor him today.

Mr. President, I ask that the Senate join me in honoring and congratulating Mr. Sam Hamra.•

HONORING TECHNICAL SERGEANT BRIAN BELL

• Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Technical SGT Brian A. Bell, who died at the age of 54 at his home in Brookfield, NH on August 5. Brian served his country

bravely for 29 years in both the 157th Air Refueling Wing of the New Hampshire Air National Guard, and in the United States Navy, deploying to Kuwait in 2005 and 2011.

Besides his love of country, Brian was best known for his deep devotion to his family and friends. He appreciated the small things in life such as going to concerts with his wife, heading out on fishing or hiking trips and going kayaking. He took so much joy in being a grandfather to his two grandchildren, James and Jocelyne.

Brian dedicated more than half of his life to defending our Nation, a devotion matched by his loyalty to his community. People who knew Brian say he was always willing to lend a helping hand when it was needed. His friends and loved ones knew him as a man driven by a fierce determination to defend the freedom we hold dear as Americans. Our country is better off today because of his efforts.

Today and every day, Americans like Brian heed the call to defend this great nation. They offer their service so we may live freely and securely. I hope that, even at this challenging time, Brian's family can find comfort in knowing that we share a deep appreciation for his life in the service of others.

Brian is survived by his loving wife Christine, daughter Natasha Nemetz, mother Helen Sue Bickford, brother James D. Bell, III, sister Rosanne Combs, and his beloved grandchildren. He will be loved and missed by all.

I ask my colleagues and all Americans to please join me in honoring the life and service of Technical SGT Brian A. Bell.•

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT BRANDON CULLEN-TOWLE

• Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, it is my sad duty to rise in tribute today to the brave service of Staff Sergeant Brandon Cullen-Towle. Staff Sergeant Cullen-Towle, who was known as "CT" to his friends, died on August 25 in a motorcycle accident. He was as dedicated to his country as he was to his family and friends.

Brandon was born on April 29, 1987 in Dover, NH. He graduated from Dover High School where he was a three-sport athlete, playing football, basketball and baseball. Brandon briefly attended the University of New Hampshire before realizing his true calling to serve our nation in the United States Air Force.

Brandon successfully completed his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas and was assigned as a Tactical Air Control Party Member in the 14th Air Support Operations Squadron in Pope Field, NC. In this role, Brandon was responsible for calling in air strikes to support ground forces. He performed exceptionally well during his three tours of duty in Afghanistan; he took his responsibility seriously and it showed. In fact, Brandon's skill earned him a spot with the Special Op-

erations Forces Tactical Air Control Party in the 21st Special Tactics Squadron.

Brandon received many awards for his service, including the Order of the Purple Heart, three Army Commendation Medals, the Air Force Commendation Medal and an Army Achievement Medal. Most impressively of all, President Obama and Chief of Staff of the Air Force General Norton Schwartz personally recognized Brandon for his courageous service during a mortar attack in Afghanistan. After being injured himself in the fight, Brandon saved an interpreter's life and called in an airstrike that successfully secured the base and neutralized the threat. He demonstrated great courage and tremendous poise under incredible pressure.

Brandon is remembered by family and friends as a giving person with an infectious laugh and a contagious smile. Always willing to lend a hand to those in need, Brandon consistently put others before himself. He valued his relationships and had an impact on everyone with whom he came in contact; people simply gravitated toward him.

Our Nation can never adequately thank this young New Hampshire son for his willingness to serve his country and to protect our freedom, and also never fully thank his family enough for their sacrifice. I hope that Brandon's family knows that all Americans share a deep appreciation and abiding respect for his brave service.

Brandon is survived by his mother Laura Towle and her husband Dennis; his father Brad Cullen; his stepfather, Mike Towle; two sisters, Stephanie and Kaylee Towle; brother Kameron Towle; his significant other Marlena Cullen-Towle; grandparents Norma and James Hughes, Fern Cullen, Rick and Kay Towle; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. This young hero will be missed by all.

I ask my colleagues and all Americans to please join me in honoring Staff Sergeant Brandon Cullen-Towle.•

HONORING SPECIALIST JARED DAVISON

• Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and service of U.S. Army SPC Jared Davison. Specialist Davison, who died unexpectedly on September 4, was a dedicated servicemember, son, brother, and friend.

Jared was born on February 20, 1988 in Boston, MA. He graduated from Milford High School in 2006 and went on to attend Norwich Academy in Vermont and then the prestigious U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY. Jared served as a watercraft engineer with the 558th Transportation Company, Special Troops Battalion, 7th Sustainment Brigade at Fort Eustis in Virginia. Before his death, Jared was working toward a promotion to sergeant.

Jared first realized his passion to serve in the military on a family trip