

Norma accomplished many great things in her life, yet perhaps her greatest accomplishment was the loving care and nurture she always displayed to her son Randy and his wife, whom she dearly loved. She also adored being a grandmother, and took great pride in her family and the relationships they shared. I had the pleasure of hosting Norma's granddaughter Emily as a Senate page several years ago and I could see first-hand the great traits Norma had instilled in her granddaughter.

I am grateful I had the opportunity to work with Norma for many years, and consider her a true friend. She believed in public service and demonstrated her commitment to excellence on so many occasions. She was a fierce advocate for the military and spent years working as a liaison for me at Hill Air Force Base where she garnered the respect and admiration of the military leaders on the Base. Her influence in so many areas will never be forgotten.

Norma's life touched many and she will be forever remembered as someone who truly cared about her family, her friends, and in doing good for her community. Elaine and I would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Norma's family at the loss of their mother and grandmother; and pray that they will find some peace and comfort in the memories they have shared.

TRIBUTE TO MARREEN CASPER

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, thank you for the opportunity today to pay tribute to a wonderful woman, dedicated public servant and loyal friend Marreen Casper. Marreen is retiring from my staff at the end of the year and she will be very missed.

Marreen joined my staff in 1999 and has been a shining star. She has tackled some of the most difficult assignments that have faced my Utah Senate Offices. She started as a Federal grants coordinator and caseworker. However, when a need arose to fill a very important position in my organization, she willingly sold her house, and packed up and moved to St. George, UT to become my Southern Utah Field Director.

Marreen has filled this position with dogged determination, and a noteworthy attention to details. She quickly immersed herself into the community and became a true Southern Utahn. She was always available to meet with and listen to the citizens of this area of our State. She has attended literally hundreds of local government meetings, and discussed the issues affecting Southern Utah with many mayors, county commission and council members, and community leaders every day she served. She has such a warm demeanor and accepting personality that people from all walks of life and positions felt comfortable to discuss with Marreen the issues important to them, and know that she would try to do something to help. She has

made friends in every nook and cranny of southern Utah and earned the respect of many.

One aspect of her job that many do not realize, is the travel she undertook to fulfill her duties to the best of her ability. Marreen's field area includes one of the most remote and unpopulated areas in the continental United States. Traveling in her area can get very harrowing at times, but Marreen never let it stop her from doing her job. She has traveled the icy roads in the dead of winter, attended outdoor meetings in the searing heat, and even crashed on an ATV she was riding on for an event that sent her to the Emergency Room.

And some of the issues Marreen has worked on might seem trivial to some, but have long-ranging impacts on rural Utah. These issues have ranged from prairie dogs, desert tortoises, and Mexican wolves; to fighting with the Army Corps of Engineers over whether a dry wash is a "navigable body of water." I am not sure that she will miss the tedious nature of some of these issues, but I am certain she will miss the people in the many communities she worked with to find solutions to the problems.

There has been no assignment ever given to Marreen that she did not fulfill willingly and with a great determination to see it through. In fact, Marreen has undertaken one of the most tedious, yet important projects every year the Hatch Family Christmas Card. This is a project I am certain she would like to have run from, yet year after year she planned, organized, and ensured that this card was sent to thousands of Utahns helping me stay in touch with so many constituents. For this seemingly thankless task, I want to sincerely convey my appreciation to her for her wonderful assistance that has meant so much to me and to the many who received it.

Although Marreen has accomplished many great things in her professional life perhaps her greatest accomplishments have come because of her wonderful partnership with her husband Ron, and her loving and tender care of her 5 children and 22 grandchildren. She dearly loves her family and expresses it often. She sincerely strives to be at every important function in the lives of her family and is often traveling great distances so she can be there for the noteworthy milestones.

She has also made her belief in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints central to her life and has served countless neighbors and friends through the goodness of her heart. In fact, when other folks might think their days of working with the youth in church service are over, Marreen accepted a call from her local Bishop to lead the Young Women's organization in her Ward. She then spent several years mentoring and helping these young women in various ways and through her beautiful example.

I am truly grateful for the tremendous service Marreen Casper has given

to me, to her community, and to our great State. I will miss Marreen greatly but know that life holds many exciting and wonderful new opportunities for her to enjoy. I want to wish Marreen the very best in retirement and want her to know that I will be forever grateful for her good work and loyal friendship. May Heavenly Father bless Marreen and her family for the honorable person she is and the service she has rendered to so many.

TRIBUTE TO TOBY HYMAN

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, Toby Hyman has become something of an institution in the Senate over the course of her 17 odd years of service in the Office of the Senate Chief Counsel for Employment. I understand that she has consistently and tirelessly devoted herself to ensuring fairness for both Senate employees and their offices, helping them sort through anything from day-to-day concerns that arise to courtroom arguments to union disputes, even in the midst of an anthrax attack on her own office.

Those who know her best say that she displays compassion for employers and employees alike, a deep understanding of employment law and conflict, and great skill resolving disputes and achieving fair outcomes for all involved parties. By all accounts, the Senate body is better today for her efforts, which is why her retirement is received with bittersweet, much deserved well-wishes for the future by her colleagues.

Before her time here, Toby spent 20 years as a fine attorney at the prestigious Proskauer Rose firm in New York City. Prior to that, she served as the first female law clerk for the Honorable District Court Judge John F. Dooling, Jr. And prior to that, she was a fine young citizen of the great State of Massachusetts.

Toby grew up in a family like so many in Boston. She is a proud product of Boston's public schools, including the Girls' Latin School in Roxbury, who excelled in her studies and earned admittance to the government program at Radcliffe College, from which she graduated magna cum laude. Toby then continued to impress her friends and peers at Harvard Law School, where she performed as an able editor of the Harvard Law Review and, once again, graduated with distinction.

To afford these years of schooling, Toby simultaneously pursued a degree in Jewish Education from Hebrew College in order to earn money teaching in Hebrew schools. She wanted to give back to her community, pass on an education that she so enjoyed to the coming generation, and work with children, all while making a little money to sustain her during college. And so she made it happen. Pleased parents affectionately labeled one of her classes the "Hebrew Sesame Street."

Service to others—standing up for fairness and justice—has been a common thread running through Toby's

life. From her days back home in her native Massachusetts, to her career in New York City, to her visit to the Soviet Union in the late 1970s where she greeted oppressed Soviet Jews with encouragement and a helping hand, Toby has treated people with compassion and respect and has stood up for their rights and dignity. Most recently, during her time as an advocate for us all here in the Senate family, she worked with our offices to ensure a good and fair relationship between employers and employees.

So it is no surprise that Toby intends for the next chapter of her life to involve volunteer work teaching young children. She will continue in the example she has set throughout her life and career as an educator, mediator, and advocate for fairness. I thank Toby for dedicating so many years of her life to service in the Senate and look forward to all that she has yet to accomplish—and wish her congratulations on a well deserved retirement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING WILLIAM MEEHAN

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President I come to the floor today to remember William Meehan, an “icon” of Somerset, in the words of former fire chief Steven Rivard. He was a loving, and beloved, husband to JoAnne, brother to Robert and John, father to John and Steve, and grandfather to Jake, Owen, and Liam. William is remembered by those who knew him best as an impassioned cheerleader and reliable presence on the sidelines of his grandchildren's sports games, as a thoughtful and compassionate voice on the Board of Selectmen, as an affable, warm family man armed with a lively Irish humor.

William was an anchor of his family and of his town. His care for his town shone through his work and was reflected in his daily life. The people of Somerset recall a dedicated public servant who embodied the most noble qualities of a community advocate while eschewing the divisive demagoguery that too often finds its way into politics. In his 15 years as one of three selectmen for his town, he proved time and again that he was more interested in understanding the concerns of others and finding a just solution to any problem than he was in political bickering. And his example inspired those around him, with his son Michael venturing into public service and actually serving in my office for many years with great distinction.

In his last year on the board of selectmen, William was a part of the opening of the Veterans Memorial Bridge, a decade's long project to connect Fall River with Somerset over the Taunton River. And he was intimately involved in the process that put into motion plans for the new Somerset Berkley Regional High School. His interest was always in community over

conflict, in people rather than politics, and that is to what he devoted his life.

Friends remember William having lunch every day with peers or first responders or community leaders, and he would often be found chatting with neighbors and storekeepers around town or among the stands at local sporting events. He was a sportsman himself, with baseball second only to family and community. When he wasn't coaching Somerset Little League, as he did for many years, he could be found out on the golf course.

I understand that William would make time each day after lunch to venture to the park and watch the boats sailing the Taunton River. I imagine the gentle breeze off the water, the parade of ships coming and going with the sun high in the sky, and William sitting along the shore facing the water, breathing in the air and taking in the moment. We won't see him there any longer, but when we look out at the boats drifting by, we will think of William and remember the goodness he shared with the people of Somerset and beyond.

To JoAnne and William's family, I extend my deepest condolences. And to William, I wish him eternal rest watching over his family and all those he cared about so deeply. And I wish him the same peace he found along the river's edge.●

RECOGNIZING HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise to honor the Holy Rosary Church of Baltimore as it marks its 125th anniversary.

Holy Rosary Church was consecrated on December 8, 1887. From the beginning, the church provided a spiritual home for new Americans who emigrated from Poland. My own family were parishioners from the beginning. The church was the center of the community. It was the school. It is where new Americans came to practice their faith in their new home. While facing all the challenges of life in a new country, Holy Rosary provided a place of comfort and spiritual guidance. The Church provided a place to practice the beloved traditions of their Catholic faith. It became one of the largest Polish parishes in Baltimore. Its priests were beloved in the community. The church also had a parochial school staffed by the beloved Felician nuns. They not only taught the three R's—religion, reading, writing—they helped young people get on the path of citizenship. They were a bridge between the old world and the new.

My great grandmother was one of those immigrants who worshiped at Holy Rosary. Like so many, she came with little money in her pocketbook, but big dreams in her heart for a new and better life. And that life was nurtured by the Polish American community at Holy Rosary parish. In the 1920s and 1930s, Holy Rosary parish was the

largest of six Polish parishes in Baltimore and the largest in the Archdiocese. Over time, my family continued to attend Holy Rosary Church. My parents were married there.

Holy Rosary Church played a part in Baltimore's history. It is where we prayed through two World Wars and the Great Depression. It is where we prayed that the Iron Curtain would be lifted and Poland would be liberated. It is where we organized to help the Solidarity movement. It is where we welcomed Pope John Paul II to Holy Rosary when he was the Bishop of Krakow. That was the first time I met the Holy Father.

Holy Rosary was also where a stunning miracle occurred. It was where the Vatican recognized the healing of Fr. Ronald Pytel as a miracle through the intercession of Blessed Faustina Kowalska, one of the miracles that led to her canonization in 2000.

Today I honor the past, celebrate the present and have high hopes for the future of Holy Rosary parish. The members continue to live their faith of charity and hope. One hundred and twenty-five years ago the people of Holy Rosary came together to forge a parish community anchored on the beliefs of Roman Catholicism and the values of hard work, neighbor-helping-neighbor and patriotism.●

TRIBUTE TO TOM CASEY

• Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge the 30 years of service of Grays Harbor Public Utility District Commissioner Tom Casey and to congratulate him on his retirement. Commissioner Casey is the longest-serving Grays Harbor PUD Commissioner and is concluding his fifth term in office.

Commissioner Casey was elected to the Grays Harbor PUD Board of Commissioners in 1982. Prior to serving in public office, he was actively involved in energy and public utility issues from his home in Satsop, WA. Commissioner Casey also worked as a Policy Analyst in the Washington State House of Representatives.

Commissioner Casey's commitment to public power was not limited to only the Grays Harbor Public Utility District. Commissioner Casey served on the Board of Directors of Energy Northwest for 12 years, 8 of which were on the executive board. Commissioner Casey also served on the Executive Council of the Public Power Council for 16 years.

Commissioner Casey was also a key leader in the effort to create a Public Development Authority to transform the non-operational nuclear plant site in Grays Harbor County into an industrial park for economic development in a part of the state with high unemployment.

Commissioner Casey has been a fierce advocate for public power for decades. That spirit of advocacy for public power has been a keystone for