

REID asking you for advice on parliamentary procedure is about like Wynton Marsalis asking you for advice on how he can play the trumpet better.

In my Senate office, Richard has managed a broad portfolio, including budget and taxes, infrastructure, economic development, and a good share of appropriations. He has completed more than 37 years in public service in Congress, beginning in 1975 as a special assistant to Iowa Senator John Culver. In 1977, when I was still in the House of Representatives, he came to work in my congressional office in Ames, where he met his future wife, Laura Forman. Richard moved to my Washington office in 1980. He has been with me, now, for three and a half decades, making him the longest serving Harkin staffer on record.

Richard often says, with pride, that he is the guy in the office who handles asphalt and cement. What those two items translate into are new roads and bridges, revitalized downtowns, economic development, jobs and opportunity. Cities across Iowa, from Dubuque to downtown Des Moines and across to western Iowa, all bear abundant evidence of Richard's excellent work over the decades.

I have never encountered a staffer who can match Richard's mastery of the appropriations process—not just the know-how and know-who of appropriations, but even more importantly the tenacity and persistence required to advance specific projects over the course of many years and sometimes for more than a decade.

I don't know how many times folks in Iowa have thanked me for things that Richard played a huge role in getting done. Let me name just a few of them.

He deserves special credit for his many contributions to making downtown Des Moines the attractive, economically vibrant urban landscape it is today, including the downtown loop on the Martin Luther King, Jr., Parkway, as well as projects like Riverpoint and the Science Center, all of which have spurred development on the south side of town. He played a similar role in assisting the revitalization of Dubuque by securing funds for the brilliant development of the city's Mississippi waterfront.

Richard is fond of describing roads, rivers, and canals as the "arteries and veins of commerce," and he has been devoted to securing robust investments in essential infrastructure projects all across Iowa. I would mention, for example, Federal funding for the Des Moines to Burlington four-lane highway, and Highway 61 improvement in eastern Iowa.

Twice during Richard's tenure in my office, he has played a critical role in helping Iowa to recover from catastrophic floods. Following the devastating weather and flooding in 1993, he helped to secure major Federal funding to help Iowa cities, towns, and farms to recover. Likewise, after the

once-in-a-century flood of 2008, Richard dedicated himself to securing resources to help Cedar Rapids, Iowa City, and many other communities to rebuild better than ever.

Let me mention several other achievements:

Richard played a key role in defeating a 1994 appropriations amendment that would have severely damaged ethanol's expansion in the U.S. gasoline market. The vote on the motion to table was 50 to 50, with the Vice President casting the deciding "aye" vote.

He secured vital funding for airport expansion and upgrading in Des Moines and at other Iowa airports.

Richard played the key role in securing nearly one-half billion dollars to upgrade USDA's National Animal Disease Center at Ames.

He obtained Federal funds for the High Trestle Bridge over the Des Moines River on the recreational trail between Ankeny and Woodward.

Earlier this year, he successfully persuaded the Army Corps of Engineers to keep the lower Mississippi River open for navigation during a time of persistently low water.

Thanks to Richard's dogged efforts, we were able to secure funding for the new Federal courthouse in Cedar Rapids.

These accomplishments are Richard Bender's living legacy.

And no recounting of Richard's legacy in Iowa would be complete without mentioning his central role in devising and implementing the modern Iowa caucuses system. In 1971, Richard was working as a staffer for the Iowa Democratic Party, which was seeking a way to increase the active involvement of rank-and-file members in choosing our party's Presidential candidate. The party also needed a timely and effective way of reporting voting results. Richard's creativity, as well as his training in mathematics and statistics, made him the key player in developing the Iowa Democratic Party caucuses. Today, the caucuses are little changed from what he developed four decades ago.

Richard Bender is the quintessential selfless public servant. For him, it is never about personal gain or glory; it is about serving others. Nobody works harder. Nobody puts in longer hours. And nobody produces more consistent results than Richard.

Indeed, I also add a debt of gratitude to Richard's wonderful wife, Laura, and his beloved son, Michael. They, too, have sacrificed as Richard has spent such long hours both in the office and working at home on weekends and in the evening. Lots of people, when they retire, say that they are looking forward to spending much more time with their family. Richard really means it. I know that he has big plans for Laura and Michael, including travel, in the years ahead.

It is difficult to find words that do justice to how profoundly grateful I am to Richard for his wise counsel and

loyal service on my staff over the last three and a half decades. In addition, on behalf of my colleagues here in the Senate as well as in the House, so many of whom have also benefited from his counsel, I want to thank him for his exceptional service to the Congress and the American people.

Richard, I am deeply grateful to you for a job extraordinarily well done. I join with the entire Senate family in wishing you, Laura, and Michael much happiness in the years ahead.

#### CONGRESSIONAL BADGES OF BRAVERY

Mrs. McCASKILL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor six outstanding members of the U.S. Marshals Service—Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal Patrick James and Deputy U.S. Marshals Theodore Abegg, Travis Franke, Nicholas Garrett, Jeremy Wyatt, and John Perry—who played an instrumental role in the March 8, 2011, apprehension of a fugitive in St. Louis, MO, an incident that claimed the life of Deputy U.S. Marshal John Perry and resulted in the wounding of Deputy U.S. Marshal Theodore Abegg, as well as St. Louis Police Officer Jeff Helbling.

I commend the heroic service and incredible sacrifice of all these marshals, four of whom are from my home State of Missouri: Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal Patrick James and Deputy U.S. Marshals Theodore Abegg, Travis Franke, and Nicholas Garrett. Deputy U.S. Marshal Jeremy Wyatt and fallen Deputy U.S. Marshal John Perry hail from Illinois. Last week, my colleague Senator DICK DURBIN of Illinois joined me at an awards ceremony in St. Louis to honor these distinguished U.S. marshals.

Before I talk about the bravery these law enforcement officials demonstrated in the line of duty, I need to mention the tremendous service the U.S. Marshals Service provides to the people of this country every day. As the Nation's oldest Federal law enforcement agency, the U.S. Marshals Service plays several crucial roles, including protecting Federal judges, operating the Witness Security Program, seizing illegally obtained assets from criminals, and apprehending Federal fugitives—a function which led to its cooperation with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and the formation of the U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force in St. Louis. Since the Marshals Service's inception in 1789, over 200 federal marshals, deputy marshals, special deputy marshals, and marshals guards have lost their lives in the line of duty. When the U.S. Marshals Service's steadfast devotion to crime prevention and mitigation is considered alongside its traditional witness protection and judicial security duties, the law enforcement officials of this agency truly exemplify the values of "Justice, Integrity, Service."

From my days as a prosecutor, I know how critically important the U.S.

Marshals Service is to the Federal justice system and the impact these officials have in communities across Missouri. These highly trained men and women help form the backbone of our legal system, and I salute the countless acts of bravery performed by Federal law enforcement officers across Missouri and this Nation.

On March 8, 2011, members of the U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force, which included St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department officers, engaged in an effort to apprehend a dangerous fugitive in St. Louis. In approaching the fugitive's residence, the officers and deputies, discovering there were two children at the home, safely removed them and entered the home behind a ballistic shield. Team Leader Deputy John Perry provided cover for Deputy Garrett, who used the shield to approach the second floor location of the fugitive. While ascending a stairwell, the officers and deputies were fired upon by the fugitive. Both Deputy John Perry and St. Louis Police Officer Jeff Helbling were wounded in the initial exchange of gunfire. While other task force members engaged the fugitive, Supervisory Deputy James prompted Officer Anna Kimble to alert supporting officers of the shooting over the radio system.

With two task force members injured, Deputies Abegg and Franke entered the home, and Supervisory Deputy James authorized Deputy Abegg to launch a rescue operation to secure Deputy Perry. Using ballistic shields, Deputies Abegg and Garrett, followed closely by Deputies Franke, Wyatt, and Supervisory Deputy James, entered the residence in order to retrieve the wounded marshal. In the course of the rescue attempt, Deputy Abegg was wounded in the leg. Deputy U.S. Marshal Melissa Duffy administered first aid to Officer Helbling, and Deputy U.S. Marshal Shawn Jackson provided protective cover, allowing wounded Deputy U.S. Marshal Abegg to withdraw. In the end, task force team members subdued the fugitive, although, tragically, Deputy Perry's wounds later proved fatal.

The sincere dedication of these marshals to duty and their strong sense of justice are an inspiration to the American people. Marshals like these place themselves in harm's way every day, forsaking the safety many of us take for granted. They and their families make precious sacrifices so that we, the American public, may enjoy the freedom to live our lives to an extent made possible by the knowledge that someone stands watchful and ready on our behalf.

Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal Patrick James and Deputy U.S. Marshals Theodore Abegg, Travis Franke, Nicholas Garrett, Jeremy Wyatt, and John Perry for their distinguished service to the people of this country.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last week was National Police Week, and

last Wednesday was National Peace Officers Memorial Day. On Monday, May 13, 2013, I joined my colleague, Senator CLAIRE MCCASKILL of Missouri, at a ceremony in St. Louis to honor six brave deputy U.S. marshals who were awarded the Federal Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery.

Fewer than two dozen of these badges have been awarded since Congress created them 2 years ago. In fact, these six deputy marshals honored in St. Louis are the first law enforcement officers from either Missouri or Illinois to receive the Congressional Badge of Bravery.

Two of the six men are from my State of Illinois. Deputy U.S. Marshal John Brookman Perry lived in Edwardsville; Jeremy Wyatt is from Granite City.

On March 8, 2011, they and four other deputy U.S. marshals, Theodore Abegg, Travis Franke, Nicholas Garrett, Supervisory Deputy Marshal Patrick James, joined members of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department to arrest a dangerous fugitive in south St. Louis. The officers knew there could be trouble that day when they went to serve the arrest warrant. The man they were looking for had a long criminal history and a record that included assaults on law enforcement officers. But they went anyway because that is their job: bringing in the bad guys so that others can feel safer walking down the street.

Deputy Perry was team leader for the Federal marshals. Tragically, though, he never made it home. He was killed and Deputy Marshal Abegg was wounded in a shootout with the man they went to arrest. His story deserves to be told, so that everyone can know the sort of man and law enforcement officer he was.

John Perry grew up in Glen Ellyn in northern Illinois. He had public service in his blood. His grandfather was the son of an Alabama coal miner who went on to be a Federal district judge in northern Illinois. His father was an administrative law judge. He earned a bachelor's degree in earth science and a master's degree in environmental science from SIU. But he wanted to work in law enforcement. He spent 16 years as a probation officer in Madison County, IL before joining the U.S. Marshals Service in 2001. The Federal marshals who worked with him said there was no one better when it came to tracking dangerous felons and bringing them in.

John was a great marshal, but apparently he had a little trouble with the "good cop/bad cop" style of interrogation. At his memorial service, one speaker recalled how, after what was supposed to have been a hard-core interrogation, the suspect emerged and told John's partner: "Your partner is the nicest guy in the world." Just imagine what the world would be like if the worst thing people could say about us was, "Sometimes he's too nice."

One of his last gifts to his community was that he was an organ donor. After he died, his heart, lungs, liver, pancreas, and kidneys were donated to people who would have died without them, along with skin and bone tissue to help as many as 100 more people. His spirit—and his commitment to duty—lives on in those people. It lives on in his friends and family, especially his three children. It lives on in the countless law enforcement officers whose back he watched and with whom he shared his professional knowledge and bad jokes. And it continues to be exemplified every day by his fellow deputy marshals who successfully apprehended their suspect on that fateful March day.

John Perry didn't lose his life. He laid down his life to keep his fellow officers and our communities safe.

I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Deputy U.S. Marshals John Perry, Jeremy Wyatt, Theodore Abegg, Travis Franke, Nicholas Garrett, and Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal Patrick James. They and all the law enforcement officers who risk their lives to protect ours deserve our respect and gratitude this week and every week.

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I also wish honor three St. Louis Metropolitan Police Detectives who played an instrumental role in the March 8, 2011, apprehension of a fugitive in St. Louis, MO, an incident that claimed the life of Deputy U.S. Marshal John Perry and resulted in the wounding of Deputy U.S. Marshal Theodore, Ted, Abegg, as well as St. Louis Police Officer Jeff Helbling. Before I talk about the heroic service and incredible sacrifice of these three officers, I have to mention the tremendous service the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department provides to the people of St. Louis every day. As the principal law enforcement agency serving the City of St. Louis, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, in addition to its routine functions, provides a variety of specialized services, including acting as a liaison with the U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force. Since its inception in 1836, over 160 St. Louis police officers have lost their lives in the line of duty. When the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department's steadfast dedication to community involvement is considered alongside its traditional crime prevention and mitigation duties, the officers of this department truly exemplify the mission "To Protect and Serve."

I know how valuable police officers and other first responders are to communities across Missouri. While I was Jackson County prosecutor, I witnessed firsthand the essential skills and hands-on training needed to keep our neighborhoods safe from crime. I know that our first responders form the backbone of our communities, and I salute the countless acts of bravery performed by law enforcement officers across Missouri.

On March 8, 2011, members of the U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task

Force, which included St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department officers, engaged in an effort to apprehend a dangerous fugitive in St. Louis. In approaching the fugitive's residence, the officers and deputies, discovering there were two children at the home, safely removed them and entered the home behind a ballistic shield. Upon entering the home and ascending a stairwell, the officers and deputies were fired upon by the fugitive. Both Deputy U.S. Marshal John Perry and St. Louis Police Officer Jeff Helbling were wounded in the initial exchange of gunfire. Tragically, Deputy Perry's wounds later proved fatal. While other task force members engaged the fugitive, Officer Anna Kimble alerted supporting officers of the shooting over the radio system and Officer Joe Kuster provided perimeter security. A rescue attempt was mounted by the U.S. Marshals, during which another deputy U.S. Marshal was wounded. In the course of the rescue attempt, the fugitive was subdued by task force team members.

I am proud these three officers hail from my home State of Missouri. Their sincere dedication to duty and endless compassion for the residents of the city they serve are an inspiration to the people of St. Louis. First responders like these place themselves in harm's way every day, forsaking the safety many of us take for granted. They and their families make precious sacrifices so that we, the American public, may enjoy the freedom to live our lives to an extent made possible by the knowledge that someone stands watchful and ready on our behalf.

Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department Detectives Jeff Helbling, Anna Kimble, and Joe Kuster for their distinguished service to the people of St. Louis. I thank them, and I thank all of you for joining me in recognizing these outstanding Missourians.

Finally, Mr. President, I wish to honor two deputy U.S. marshals who played an instrumental role in the March 8, 2011, apprehension of a fugitive in St. Louis, MO, an incident that claimed the life of Deputy U.S. Marshal John Perry and resulted in the wounding of Deputy U.S. Marshal Theodore "Ted" Abegg, as well as St. Louis Police Officer Jeff Helbling. Before I talk about the heroic service and incredible sacrifice of these two deputies, I have to mention the tremendous service the U.S. Marshals Service provides to the people of this country every day. As the Nation's oldest Federal law enforcement agency, the U.S. Marshals Service provides a variety of crucial services, including protecting Federal judges, operating the Witness Security Program, seizing illegally obtained assets from criminals, and apprehending Federal fugitives—a function which led to its cooperation with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and the formation of the U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force

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I am proud these two deputies are based in my home State of Missouri. Their sincere dedication to duty and strong sense of justice are an inspiration to the American people. Marshals like these place themselves in harm's way every day, forsaking the safety many of us take for granted. They and their families make precious sacrifices so that we, the American public, may enjoy the freedom to live our lives to an extent made possible by the knowledge that someone stands watchful and ready on our behalf.

Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Deputy U.S. Marshals Melissa Duffy and Shawn Jackson for their distinguished service to the people of this country. I thank them, and I thank all of you for joining me in recognizing these outstanding individuals.

#### REMEMBERING JIM McCUSKER, JR.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I wish to remember Jim McCusker of Clinton, CT. The State of Connecticut has lost a great public servant, former first selectman, and loyal Marine. Jim was an inspiring leader and model of public service, and I am grateful for our friendship. My heart goes out to Jim's wife, Judy, and their children and grandchildren, whom he loved tremendously. Countless friends, touched by his generosity and big heart, will also miss him deeply.

Jim will be remembered always for his lifelong dedication to the town and people of Clinton. As first selectman, he expertly managed the town budget and contributed tremendously in energy and spirit. He had a magnetic gift of connecting with his community and neighbors.

In addition to his leadership as first selectman, Jim spent more than a decade on both the Clinton Board of Finance and the Clinton Board of Selectmen. He was also involved with the Clinton Education Federation, Families Helping Families, Meals on Wheels, and St. Mary's Knights of Columbus.

In tribute to Jim's service to his country as a United States Marine, flags were hung at half staff. He was always there to give a smile and engage in earnest conversation. Jim loved to sing Irish songs on St. Patrick's Day. As a patriot and veteran, he will be particularly missed this Memorial Day. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and honoring Jim McCusker's long-time, selfless service. Although missed, he will not be forgotten. Jim's sense of humor, warmth with others, and dedication to country will be felt throughout Clinton for years to come.

#### REMEMBERING LANCE CORPORAL LAWRENCE R. PHILIPPON

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I have the great privilege of presenting a poem in memory of LCpl Lawrence R. Philippon of West Hartford, CT, who gave his life 8 years ago this May while supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom as a courageous member of the United States Marines. In the Marine Corps color guard, Lance Corporal Philippon carried the flag at the funeral for President Reagan, but yearned to be on the front lines. It was there, as a brave member of the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, 2nd Marine expeditionary force that he made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

As Memorial Day nears, we dedicate ourselves in gratitude to our heroes—our servicemen and women, both recent and throughout history—who have sacrificed and served for our freedom, protecting the founding principles we hold dear.

This special poem was written by Albert Carey Caswell, a longtime member