

A confessed recovered drug addict, Gray, now 27, first met former Knox County Attorney Charley Greene Dixon six years ago in drug court.

Gray said without Dixon and the drug court program, he'd "probably be dead."

"He was good to me," Gray's voice quivered as he spoke. "He went beyond his job to help me."

Gray came to "check on" staff members and offer tight hugs, his tears contagious and shared among the group. His story is only one of the many dozen that include some selfless act or shattered belief that work should end at 5 p.m. Dixon, as most have said, was different.

Dixon, who helped hundreds, like Gray, win battles against drugs, poverty, and domestic violence, lost his own battle to colon cancer early Monday morning.

The former county attorney first learned he was ill while on vacation in May 2013. Not long after, on June 30, he resigned his position to then assistant county attorney Gilbert Holland, to focus on getting better. The community he had served so valiantly came together in prayer vigils around the courthouse square, hoping for a miracle.

"The loss will be felt by this community for a long time," Holland said. "Charley dedicated his life to bettering the lives of the people of Knox County. His efforts were never contained by the traditional role of his office. He invented ways to reach out to the community."

Along with Dixon's successful drug court program that has graduated thousands, he was well-known for a long list of community-minded projects—many of which he initiated. Reaching youth was at the forefront of his vision for a successful Knox County—Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs, Faith-Based Basketball Cheerleading, Anti-Drug Abuse Poster Contest, a Car/Bike Show for Youth, and a Prevention Camp.

A new youth-related program will take place next fall one of the last requests Dixon made of long-time friend and colleague Claudia Greenwood, who worked with Dixon on grants and public relations.

"He's already told me that next year he would like for us to do a pumpkin patch event and have a pumpkin decorating contest and display the pumpkins in the banks," Greenwood said. "He was always so creative, coming up with things to do with the kids and the community," Greenwood said. "He thought of that while he was sick and wanted to make sure he told us about it."

Finding time to grieve in a busy office hasn't been easy for Dixon's staff. The phone calls keep coming—clients and the public are priority as usual. Among the foot traffic, phone calls, and full email boxes, "it hits" them that Dixon's guidance is gone. And though the quiet moments are few, that's when the staff members feel the waves of emotion and loss wash over them.

"Yesterday, when the media wanted statements, it hit me hard," Greenwood said. "My first thought was that I needed to ask Charley what to say."

Dixon, expected to do great things for his community, succeeded in filling the large shoes of his grandfather John Dixon who served as Knox County attorney for several decades. When elected, the younger Dixon brought his grandfather's legacy and one of his employees into office with him.

"I've worked for Charley this October will be 19 years," Sherry Vaughn said. "I worked for his grandfather five and a half years before that until he passed away. I went to school with Charley; he's been just like a brother to me."

"He loved kids," Vaughn said. "He did everything he could for the children in Knox County. His own children were his whole world. Words can't describe how we feel about the situation. He has struggled for a

year and now he's a lot better off. He's up there now looking down at us."

Dixon's wife, Marcia, like her husband, is active in community service. Often, the couple worked together and at times involved the entire family—the children, Callie Ann and Charleston Arthur, included. The late Dixon's wife knows her community, their hometown, is better off for having had her husband as a leader.

"Charley was very dedicated not only to our family but to our Knox County community as well," Marcia Dixon said. "His goal was to help others, and he believed that if he could make one life better he was a success. I feel blessed to have shared many joyful years with him and want everyone to be able to say as an old Hebrew proverb says, 'Say not in grief: He is no more,' but live in thankfulness that he was."

Knox County's Chamber of Commerce members named Dixon Knox County's Man of the Year last fall and tagged him a "hometown hero."

Dixon's introduction as Man of the Year heralded a long list of community-minded projects that he participated in, implemented, or, in some cases, created.

Dixon served as the chair of the Knox County UNITE (Unlawful Narcotics Investigation, Treatment, and Education) Coalition since May 2005. The former county attorney was also instrumental in securing grant funding through the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky; a grant from PRIDE; a Coal Severance Grant; a Fatherhood Grant and a EUDL Grant to fund programs for young people that promoted prevention for underage drinking.

Dixon made sure his office staff actively participated in Back to School Expos, PRIDE Pick-Up, Relay for Life, the Child Identification Program, the Knox County Reading Celebration, the local August Arts Adventure, and the annual Redbud festival.

Dixon was an active military advocate—photos of local service men and women lined the hallways leading to his office. He called it "Faces of Freedom."

Funeral services for Dixon are at Barbourville First Baptist Church, Friday, June 27 at 2 p.m. Burial will follow in the Barbourville Cemetery.

Visitation is at Barbourville First Baptist Church, Thursday from 5 to 9 p.m. and Friday after 10 a.m. until the funeral hour at 2 p.m. Hopper Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Dixon's family requests contributions be made to the Knox County Chapter of the American Cancer Society in loving memory of Charley Greene Dixon, Jr.

TRIBUTE TO JIM SHARPE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise to honor the long and distinguished career of Jim Sharpe. Now retired, Mr. Sharpe opened his first business in Somerset, KY, in 1947. Since that time he has opened several more, pioneered the houseboat business, and has become an irreplaceable fixture in his community.

Lake Cumberland is known by many as the "houseboat capital of the world"—a designation that is owed in no small part to Jim Sharpe. Jim was one of the first to pioneer the industry—building his first houseboat in 1953. Much has changed since he sold that first 10-by-24-foot steel boat, and Jim has been there for it all, often leading the way. Houseboats are now much bigger—up to 20 by 100 feet—and are made of aluminum and have on-

board heating and cooling systems. One thing that never changed, though, is Jim's passion for building his customer's dream boat.

Despite being one of the founding fathers of the industry, houseboats do not constitute the totality of his life's work. Jim has owned and operated several other businesses in Somerset in addition to Somerset Marine. In 1966, he developed Food Fair groceries, which he grew into a chain of 13 stores. Two years later, he opened up Somerset's first fried chicken restaurant, Kettle Fried Chicken, and in 1974 he bought a car dealership, Pulaski Motor Company.

Although he's now retired, Jim still has plenty to keep him busy. Jim has four children and nine grandchildren, and he has also found time to pick up golf and travel the country. Jim's family is all the stronger for the influence of Jim's dear departed wife, Mary Jo, who left us in 2008. Married in 1950, they were one of the most thriving and generous entrepreneurial couples that Kentucky has ever seen, with distinguished careers in the grocery and food retail business, automobile dealerships, marinas, restaurants, and most notably the houseboat industry which I have already mentioned.

Jim Sharpe's drive and determination in his business, his commitment to his community, and his love of his family can serve as an example to us all. Jim is also a proud veteran of the U.S. Navy, and we are grateful for his service. I ask that my U.S. Senate colleagues join me in honoring this upstanding and patriotic Kentucky citizen and veteran.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BRUCE BLACKWOOD

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Bruce Blackwood, a 2013 summer intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Bruce is a graduate of Southern Methodist University, having majored in history. Bruce is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Bruce for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO ALEX CARAMES

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Alex Carames, a 2013 summer intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Alex is a rising senior at Columbia University in New York, NY. Currently, Alex is majoring in economics

and political science. Alex is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Alex for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO BLAKE MURPHY

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Blake Murphy, a 2013 summer intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Blake is a student at the University of Florida. Currently, Blake is majoring in finance. Blake is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Blake for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO ALYSSA NIEVES

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Alyssa Nieves, a 2013 summer intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Alyssa is a rising senior at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL. Currently, Alyssa is majoring in public relations. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Alyssa for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO AUSTIN SCHNELL

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Austin Schnell, a 2013 summer intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Austin is a junior at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX. Currently, Austin is majoring in economics, public policy, and political science. Austin is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Austin for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO ANDREW SHADID

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Andrew Shadid, a 2013 sum-

mer intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Andrew is a junior at Wheaton College in Wheaton, IL. Currently, he is majoring in interdisciplinary studies. Andrew is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Andrew for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

CONGRATULATING MOOREMART

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate MooreMart, a New Hampshire nonprofit organization that sends care packages to service-members and children overseas, as it celebrates its 10th anniversary.

MooreMart was born from Moore family members Paul, Carole, and Beverly's desire to send supplies to Brian Moore and his fellow soldiers stationed in Iraq. In the early years of their effort, they strove to send 10 packages a month to U.S. troops overseas. Today, MooreMart ships more than 1,000 packages every 10 weeks. Its mission has grown over the years, and now MooreMart also sends school supplies, toys, and clothing to local children in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Over the last decade, MooreMart has built and shipped more than 61,000 care packages and nearly 8 tons of relief supplies to troops in conflict zones, including to every Armed Forces unit deployed from New Hampshire. Each package includes toiletries, food items like s'mores and Girl Scout cookies difficult to find overseas, and letters and cards from schoolchildren and volunteers. All of the packages are assembled by volunteers and individually addressed to a servicemember.

MooreMart has successfully reached out to organizations both public and private, involving State and local agencies, faith communities, and businesses in its work. More than 11,000 volunteers have helped build the care packages, among them veterans, families of active servicemembers, and families who have lost loved ones in service to our country.

MooreMart represents the very best of New Hampshire, bringing comfort to those who selflessly defend our Nation. I am proud to congratulate this organization and the volunteers who carry out its mission on their 10th anniversary.●

HONORING VANCE HOME GUN

● Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I wish to honor Vance Home Gun, an emerging leader in Montana and member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

As I travel around Indian Country in Montana, I see a lot of challenges that

still need to be addressed, but I also see a lot of cause for hope. Vance Home Gun embodies that hope.

Vance was first introduced to a Salish language camp at the age of 11. Inspired by elders and other community members, Vance resolved himself to become a fluent Salish speaker and to encourage his peers to get involved in the preservation of the Salish language.

Vance has taken a leadership role within his tribe to revitalize Native languages through his organization called Yoyoot Skkwimilt, or Strong Young People, that utilizes peer-to-peer methods to teach language and culture.

I also want to congratulate Vance on receiving a scholarship to attend the University of Oregon this coming fall. On behalf of all Montanans, I wish him luck and look forward to his return home when he finishes his studies to continue making a difference for Montana and his tribe.

Since joining the Senate 5 months ago, I have cosponsored two important pieces of legislation that promote and preserve Native languages for generations to come.

I know that support for comprehensive and culturally-relevant language programs will set our Native children on a path for success in school and life and allows them to reach their full potential.

Vance encapsulated the urgency behind Native language preservation when he stated, "Time is of the essence, and our young Native people are the key to revitalizing our language. Helping them is revitalizing our identity."

It will take leaders like Vance to implement these vital language programs for the benefit of cultural preservation and revitalization.

I stand with Vance to help preserve the Native languages and traditions for generations to come.●

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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2631. A bill to prevent the expansion of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals