

He is survived by his parents Mark and Patricia Elsner, of Reynolds, GA, two sisters: Kelsey Dion, Reynolds, GA, and Jackie Boals of Cedar Grove, TN, two brothers: Justin Werve of Shattuck, OK, and Mark Elsner of Paris, TN, grandmothers: Jane Elsner of Reynolds, GA and Carol Willoughby of Las Vegas, NV.

Dion's half-brother, Justin Werve, who was deployed to Iraq twice with the Air Force, said he tried talking Dion out of joining the Army, but he couldn't be dissuaded. "He wanted to serve his country," Werve said. "He did it for the same reason I did it: to make sure his family stayed safe."

The family held a funeral service for Private Dion on January 16, 2010 and he was laid to rest with full military honors in Andersonville National Cemetery, Andersonville, GA.

Today we remember Army PVT John P. Dion, a young man who loved his family and country, and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

STAFF SERGEANT JACK M. MARTIN III

Mr. President, I also would like to honor Army SSG Jack M. Martin III. Sergeant Martin and another soldier died September 29, 2009 when a bomb buried beneath a road detonated while they were helping to resupply a school construction project in the Jolo Islands, Philippines.

Jack, the youngest of five children, was born April 5, 1983 in Maquoketa, IA and later moved to Oklahoma where he played football and was an honors student at Bethany High School, graduating in 2001.

He started out in the Army Reserve where he volunteered to go to Iraq, but when that deployment was canceled he met with a recruiter looking for special forces volunteers. After enlisting and completing the special forces qualification course in 2004, Jack earned his Green Beret and was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group, Fort Lewis, WA.

"Both of his grandfathers served in the Army during World War II. My father was a medic in World War II. I think that influenced him. Jack wanted to serve his country," his father said.

He is survived by his wife Ashley, his parents Jack and Cheryl Martin, his brother Abe, and three sisters: Mandi, Amber and Abi.

Today we remember Army SSG Jack M. Martin III, a young man who loved his family and country, and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

FIRST LIEUTENANT DAVID T. WRIGHT II

Mr. President, I would also like to pay tribute to the life and sacrifice of Army 1LT David T. Wright II. First Lieutenant Wright and another soldier died September 14, 2009 of wounds sustained after enemy forces attacked their vehicle with improvised explosive devices in southern Afghanistan.

Born July 7, 1983 in Norman, OK, David did not let his football and track talent go to waste after graduating from Moore High School in 2002. He

went to the University of Oklahoma on a track scholarship and earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 2006.

After completing basic training and officer training, he was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, WA. On July 21, 2009 he was deployed to Afghanistan as part of II Platoon Bravo Company, 5th Brigade, II Infantry Division; Striker Brigade/Combat Team.

While deployed he wrote home about the honor he felt for his country and his fellow soldiers as they protected a village. He said he had no hard feelings toward the villagers, although some were angry with the soldiers.

"These people deserve a better existence," he wrote, "and hopefully my efforts will help, in a small way, provide that to them."

That letter was waiting for his parents Tim and Michele, when they returned to Oklahoma after receiving his body.

The family held a funeral service on September 22, 2009, in Norman, OK. He was laid to rest with full military honors in I.O.O.F. Cemetery.

"It was 9/11 that did it for David," the Rev. Randy Nail said at his memorial. "He wanted to do something about it, and he did."

David is survived by his parents Michele and Tim, of Moore, OK, his uncle Mitchell Scott, and his wife Angie, of Farmington, MN, and cousins, Hunter and Hailey Scott. He is preceded in death by his grandparents Betty and Junior Scott, and his uncle Michael Scott.

Today we remember Army 1LT David T. Wright II, a young man who loved his family and country, and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL MICHAEL T. FLYNN

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to an exceptional officer in the U.S. Army. LTG Michael T. Flynn will retire in August after more than 33 years of distinguished service to the Army and the Nation.

Throughout his career, General Flynn has personified the Army values of duty, integrity, and selfless service across the many missions to which he has contributed.

A native Rhode Islander, General Flynn graduated from the University of Rhode Island and was commissioned as a second lieutenant through the university's ROTC program. He was assigned to the "All-American" 82nd Airborne Division, and since then, has served in a variety of command and staff assignments, leading men and women during times of peace and war. Over the course of almost four decades of service, he has commanded at the platoon, company, battalion, and brigade levels.

As an intelligence officer, General Flynn was often deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, serving as the director of

intelligence for Joint Special Operations Command, U.S. Central Command, the Joint Staff, and the International Security Assistance Force-Afghanistan and U.S. Forces-Afghanistan.

For the past 2 years, General Flynn has served as the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, DIA, focusing on strengthening integration and collaboration with the Combatant Commands and making the agency more flexible and responsive to intelligence requirements. He has overseen DIA's rapid tactical, operational, and strategic intelligence support to U.S. warfighters as they confront a variety of threats—from militancy in North Africa and the crisis in Ukraine, to tracking terrorists and weapons proliferation.

In all of his assignments, General Flynn has provided outstanding leadership with integrity and has offered sound advice on numerous issues of importance to the Army and our Nation.

I know that he is looking forward to spending more time with his family in Rhode Island, and I wish Mike and his wife Lori the very best. On behalf of the citizens of Rhode Island and a grateful Nation, I thank General Flynn and his family for their many years of commitment, sacrifices, and service to our Nation.

BAY NOMINATION

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I wish to voice my concern over the nomination of Mr. Norman Bay to be a Commissioner on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission—and eventually Chairman of the entire FERC.

I have serious concerns with Mr. Bay's qualifications to serve as a Commissioner, let alone lead the entire agency, particularly at such a critical time for the Commission and the many issues it must address such as energy grid infrastructure, safety and reliability.

Mr. Bay has at best limited experience in the energy sector and, unlike many of the recent FERC Chairmen, has never served on the Commission. Mr. Bay's inexperience is only further illuminated when compared to the lengthy and significant energy sector experience of current FERC Acting Chairman, Ms. Cheryl LaFleur.

While I may not agree with Ms. LaFleur's various policy positions, there is no denying the fact that she has spent nearly her entire career learning the intricacies of a very complicated electricity grid.

We must have the very best people on FERC, and the Chair must be the best qualified for leading the agency. Mismanagement in this critical agency could have serious consequences for American families, small businesses, national security and energy infrastructure reliability. I do not believe in on-the-job training for such an important position. It appears there has been an undefined deal—some would say a

backroom deal—struck with the administration to give Mr. Bay a FERC apprenticeship, while the qualified Ms. LeFleur is forced out of her current role as FERC Chairman.

Certainly, the Obama administration knows enough regulators to have nominated one that would be ready to serve once confirmed. This presents the question: if he is not ready to serve, why was Mr. Bay nominated in the first place?

I am afraid that President Obama and his Senate cohorts want to use Mr. Bay and the FERC to carry out their radical energy agenda that uses the government to pick winners and losers in the energy marketplace, which will only cause prices to increase on those who can least afford more expensive energy.

I also think serious questions have yet to be answered by Mr. Bay about his time as FERC's Enforcement Director. His answers to questions by various members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee were vague at best and evasive at worst.

Some suggested that actions taken by Mr. Bay as Enforcement Director have had a chilling effect on wholesale electric markets and have already caused electricity prices to increase in certain parts of the country.

There is simply too much at stake for me to support a nominee we know so little about and who knows so little about the job for which he was nominated.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING JESSICA BISIAR

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Jessica Bisiar for her hard work as an intern in my Casper office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Jessica is a native of Casper, WY and a graduate of Natrona County High School. She currently attends Casper College, where she is studying political science and international studies. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last few months.

I want to thank Jessica for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.●

RECOGNIZING MARIDI CHOMA

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Maridi Choma for her hard work as an intern in my Casper office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Maridi is a native of Casper, WY and a graduate of Kelly Walsh High School. She will be a freshman at the University of Wyoming this fall, where she plans to study French and international studies. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last few months.

I want to thank Maridi for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.●

RECOGNIZING DYLAN CROUSE

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Dylan Crouse for his hard work as an intern in my Republican Policy Committee office. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Dylan is a native of Basin, WY and a graduate of Riverside High School. He currently attends Colgate University where he is studying history and Spanish. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts during his time in my office.

I want to thank Dylan for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his next journey.●

RECOGNIZING CAROLINE DANIELSON

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Caroline Danielson for her hard work as an intern in my Casper office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Caroline is a native of Casper, WY and a graduate of Natrona County High School. She currently attends Casper College and the University of Wyoming where she is studying distributed social sciences with an emphasis in political science. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last few months.

I want to thank Caroline for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.●

RECOGNIZING AMBER FRANKLAND

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to

express my appreciation to Amber Frankland for her hard work as an intern in my Casper office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Amber is a native of Casper, WY and a graduate of Natrona County High School. She currently attends the University of Chicago where she is studying Russian. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last few months.

I want to thank Amber for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.●

RECOGNIZING CAMERON FRY

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Cameron Fry for his hard work as an intern in my Republican Policy Committee office. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Cameron is from Laramie, WY and a graduate of Laramie High School. He recently earned a degree from the University of Wyoming where he studied finance and economics. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts during his time in my office.

I want to thank Cameron for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his next journey.●

RECOGNIZING LEEANN GRAPES

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to LeeAnn Grapes for her hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

LeeAnn is a native of Casper, WY and a graduate of Kelly Walsh High School. She recently earned a degree from the University of Wyoming where she studied international studies and Spanish. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last few months.

I want to thank LeeAnn for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.●