

The girls who have returned have told of the deplorable abuses Boko Haram fighters made them suffer.

No one should be subject to the depravity of an organization that doesn't value human life, let alone young girls simply trying to get an education.

Unfortunately, since 2012, Boko Haram has conducted a violent campaign of mass kidnappings of women, girls, and boys in Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, and Niger.

Boko Haram remains one of the deadliest terrorist groups in the world, killing more than 13,000 people since 2013. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees says almost 2.5 million people in Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, and Niger have been displaced—that is forced from their homes—because of Boko Haram's brutality.

And the terror continues.

Just in February, Boko Haram militants stormed the town of Dapchi in Nigeria and abducted 111 girls and 1 boy.

Thankfully, most of those children have been returned to their families, but, heartbreakingly, some died during their ordeal, and one girl still remains a hostage.

The New York Times recently ran a stirring front page piece about some of the Chibok girls who have been freed. I applaud the extraordinary bravery of those survivors, who have come forward to share their stories and experiences at great risk to themselves.

The courage and strength of the girls who are still being held captive to remain resilient in the face of unspeakable brutality is deeply moving.

As a testament to their fortitude, let us all recommit ourselves to ending discrimination and violence against women and girls, to ensuring the safety and welfare of women and girls, to pursuing policies that guarantee girls education, and to the release of the remaining Boko Haram captives.

Thank you.

REMEMBERING DAN AKAKA

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I would like to take a moment to recognize the life and achievements of Dan Akaka, a veteran, educator, U.S. Senator, and most importantly, a dear friend of mine. Dan passed away recently after 93 years of life imbued with the aloha spirit, and I have been reflecting on his legacy of quiet but effective work in the Senate.

Dan Akaka was a tireless advocate for indigenous people. As I was working on the 2013 reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, his cooperation and persistence as chairman of the Indian Affairs Committee helped include important provisions to protect Native-American women from violence. He also worked hard to support vital programs that provided education, healthcare, housing, and other basic services for Tribes across the country.

A World War II veteran himself, Dan was a strong supporter of the National

Guard. He was one the first cosponsors to support my National Guard Empowerment Act and give the Guard the representation that it deserved. He will also be remembered for fighting to have the valor and sacrifice of Asian-American soldiers in World War II recognized, sponsoring legislation that awarded long overdue Medals of Honor to those who had been discriminated against because of their race.

Hawaiians were lucky to have him as a champion in the Senate, and I was lucky to have him as a friend.

I ask unanimous consent that the New York Times article "Daniel Akaka, Former Democratic Senator From Hawaii, Dies At 93" be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the New York Times, Apr. 6, 2018]

DANIEL AKAKA, FORMER DEMOCRATIC SENATOR FROM HAWAII, DIES AT 93

(By Adam Clymer)

Former Senator Daniel K. Akaka, a Democrat who represented Hawaii for 36 years in Congress and successfully fought for the belated recognition of Asians and Asian-Americans who had fought for the United States in World War II, died on Friday in Honolulu. He was 93.

Jon Yoshimura, the senator's former communications director, confirmed the death, saying Mr. Akaka had been hospitalized for several months. The Associated Press reported.

A World War II veteran, Mr. Akaka sponsored legislation in 1996 that led to a re-evaluation of the service records of Asian-Americans who had fought in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the 100th Infantry Battalion during the war.

As a result, almost two dozen Medals of Honor, the military's highest award, were ultimately bestowed belatedly, some posthumously, on Asian-American veterans, most of them of Japanese heritage. Only one had been awarded during the war itself.

After a White House awards-presentation ceremony led by President Bill Clinton in 2000, Senator Akaka said the medals had dispelled apparent wartime discrimination against Asian-American military personnel.

The most prominent recipient was Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Mr. Akaka's much better-known colleague—and Hawaii's senior senator—for 22 years in the Senate. Mr. Inouye, who died in 2012, had lost his right arm while serving with the 442nd in Europe.

Senator Akaka also successfully pursued legislation that provided onetime compensation for members of the Philippine Scouts, an American-led unit of mostly Filipino and Filipino-American recruits who fought alongside United States troops but did not qualify for Veterans Administration benefits.

And he secured a formal apology for the United States's role in the overthrow of Queen Lili'uokalani of Hawaii in 1893 as well as a transfer of land that the federal government had taken.

But he failed in repeated legislative efforts to have native Hawaiians recognized as an indigenous people so that they might receive federal benefits similar to those provided to American Indians and natives of Alaska.

During his Senate years Mr. Akaka had stints as chairman of its Committee on Veterans Affairs and of its Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. Akaka was an outspoken critic of the war in Iraq. On March 17, 2003, three days be-

fore the United States attacked that country, he warned the Senate:

"If we pursue our current path, we will have a war lacking in many things essential to achieving complete success. It will be a war without broad international support, without sufficient planning for post-conflict reconstruction and stability, without a definite exit time and strategy, and without a firm price tag.

"Moreover," he continued, "it will be a war with serious ramifications for our long-term readiness capabilities for homeland security and for managing other crises."

A steadfast liberal on most issues, he was known as a champion of federal workers, complaining that his Senate colleagues too often denigrated them and cheerfully froze their pay.

He chaired a Senate subcommittee on the federal work force and was the chief sponsor of the 2012 Whistleblower Protection Act, which provided safeguards against retaliation to federal workers who report waste, fraud and abuse.

Daniel Kahikina Akaka was born in Honolulu on Sept. 11, 1924, the youngest of eight children. His father was of Chinese and Hawaiian descent; his mother was Hawaiian. He attended public schools.

After service with the Army Corps of Engineers, he graduated from the University of Hawaii in 1952 with a degree in education and taught music, social studies and math in elementary, middle and high schools. He later became a school principal and earned a master's degree.

After Hawaii was admitted into the union in 1959, he was an official in the state's Department of Education and was named director of the Hawaii Office of Economic Opportunity, an antipoverty program.

Mr. Akaka was first elected to the House in 1976 and easily re-elected afterward. In 1990 he was appointed to fill a Senate vacancy caused by the death of Spark Matsunaga. He was elected that fall and re-elected in 1994, 2000 and 2006. He announced in March 2011 that he would not run again in 2012.

Mr. Akaka, who lived in Honolulu, is survived by his wife, Mary Mildred Chong, whom he married in 1948; a daughter, Millannie Akaka Mattson; four sons, Daniel Jr., Gerard, Alan and Nicholas; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

While he was never known as a key lawmaker, Mr. Akaka was familiar to watchers of C-Span: his name came first whenever the Senate roll was called and, in his early years, he relished presiding over that body, a duty many of his colleagues regarded as tedious.

In 1992, the Senate presented him with its Golden Gavel Award for presiding for at least 100 hours.

"I really was proud of being able to chair the Senate floor over the years and really looked forward to it," he said in a 2011 interview for this obituary.

Even in his final years, he left instructions with the Democratic cloakroom that he would preside in a pinch, saying, "Any time you can't find somebody, call me."

REMEMBERING HESTER GOODENOUGH CALDWELL

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I want to take a moment to remember a Vermonter who, with seemingly boundless energy and enthusiasm, devoted her life to her family, her students, her friends, and her community. Hester "Hep" Caldwell, who died on April 10, 2018, will be forever remembered and admired for a life well lived.

Hep, who lived to be 89, was one of those people who just about everybody liked immediately. She loved people, she loved sports, she loved the outdoors, and she loved living on West Hill in Putney, VT, with her husband, John, whom she first met when they were both just 10 years old.

For decades, Hep taught history and John taught mathematics at the Putney School. Besides challenging her students in the classroom, Hep's many passions—hiking, skiing, gardening, classical music—inspired all who knew her. She set an example for generations, young and old, in her home, in the classroom, in woods, fields, and on the slopes and summits of mountains in all seasons of the year and by her many years of community service.

Putney will not be the same without Hep, but she has left her mark there and in her children and grandchildren in ways that will live on for generations.

I ask unanimous consent that Hep Caldwell's obituary in the Valley News be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From Valley News, Apr. 22, 2018]

HESTER GOODENOUGH CALDWELL

PUTNEY, VT.—Hester Goodenough Caldwell, born Nov. 30, 1928, died on Tuesday, April 10, 2018. Hep died as she lived: sustained by her love for her family and her ability to meet challenges with laughter and quick wit. Hep was born in Woodbridge, Conn. to Erwin and Helen Goodenough. She grew up loving the outdoors and playing alongside her three older brothers and male cousins, excellent preparation for her future schooling and her later ability to simultaneously embrace and challenge traditional gender roles. At the age of 10 she entered Putney School, where she met the boy she would later wed, John Caldwell. After graduating from Smith College in 1950 and marrying John, she returned to Putney School in 1953, where she taught history for 37 years even as she raised four children and earned her Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from Wesleyan University. During her tenure at Putney School, Hep also held a variety of positions including head of the history department, dean of faculty, field hockey coach, and ski coach. An avid hiker, she led student ski trips to Tuckerman's Ravine, drawing on her years of skiing for Putney School and on the ski patrol at Smith. Together, Hep and John exemplified partnership as they raised their four children, worked at Putney School, and traveled to Switzerland, France, Italy, Austria, Finland, Norway, Australia, Tonga, Wales, England, Japan, Yugoslavia, China and Russia on learning, hiking and skiing expeditions.

In their later years, Hep and John became co-sponsors of Camp Caldwell, a series of mini-camps for their 10 grandchildren, where they nurtured family ties, promoted the benefits of physical labor, and cultivated a respect and love for the natural world. In the spirit of 5:00 AM barn duty at the Putney School, the little grandkid campers could not have 7 AM breakfast until they had dipped in the icy cold spring-fed pond at the bottom of the hill, which of course Hep and John had done themselves an hour or so earlier. Other camp activities ranged from "waking up the chickens and feeding them" to drawing straws to see which pair would

have to wade into the swamp mud to remove the water-cress that had infested the pond's water. Now adults, some of the grandkids' fondest memories include their time together with Hep and John.

Hep contributed significantly to her community, serving as a founding member of the new Putney Library, Chairperson of Brattleboro Community Chorus, head of the Putney's Democratic Party and as a Justice of the Peace, presiding over scores of marriages. Inspiring her children, grandchildren and students to do good in this world, lifting hearts with her piano playing, Hep's legacy lives on in her children and grandchildren, all of whom love skiing and other outdoor activities, many of whom are engaged in teaching and coaching.

Hep faced old-age challenges in her final years, but she never lost her quick laugh and ability to find levity in whatever was happening around her. She was pre-deceased by her daughter, Jennifer and her brother, Ward. She will be greatly missed by her husband, John, her three children, Tim, Sverre, and Peter and her ten grandchildren, Tyler, Alexa, Anya, Lucy, Sophie, Lucinda, Heidi, Austin, Isabel, and Patrick, and her brothers, John and Jim. A gathering to reflect on and celebrate her life will be held at the Putney School Aug. 4.

REMEMBERING FRANK GAYLORD

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, on March 21, 2018, Vermont lost one of its finest sculptors, Frank Gaylord.

Frank Gaylord, a Granite City resident, was a beloved member of the Barre community. Frank influenced the city and its residents, and the city in turn influenced his art. The local granite quarries of Barre provided ample materials for Frank to hone his sculpting skills.

Frank served his country not just in World War II, receiving a Bronze Star for his service, but also in creating the Korean War Veterans Memorial, his most famous work, which resides on the National Mall in Washington, DC. The memorial is visually striking; Frank captured the movement and feel of war, the 19 figures of diverse American soldiers are shrouded in ponchos and seem to walk endlessly. Frank called the day the memorial arrived on the National Mall as the highlight of his life.

Other examples of Frank's work can be seen in many New England towns, including at the Connecticut capital and in Williston and Montpelier, VT. However, what Vermont will best remember Frank by was his dedication and determination to improve Vermont's own Granite City. Frank's contributions to the Barre Granite Association, as well as to the former Barre Players, will be missed.

Frank's passing is a loss to Vermont, to the community of Barre, VT, and to the Nation. I will always remember Frank when I see his work on the National Mall and throughout Vermont, and how he so beautifully captured our country's spirit.

I ask unanimous consent that the Times Argus article "He had an arts spirit: Famed Barre sculptor Frank Gaylord has died" be printed in the RECORD.

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

HE HAD AN ARTS SPIRIT: FAMED BARRE SCULPTOR FRANK GAYLORD HAS DIED

(By Eric Blaisdell)

BARRE.—The Granite City lost likely its most famous modern-day resident with the death of sculptor Frank Gaylord.

Gaylord, 93, died at his daughter's home in Northfield Wednesday night. Funeral arrangements have yet to be announced, and are being taken care of by The Hooker and Whitcomb Funeral Home.

Gaylord created the National Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. Other monuments created by Gaylord include the Firemen's Memorial in Eugene, Oregon; the Doctor Ashbel Smith statue in Baytown, Texas; the Policemen's Memorial in Jacksonville, Florida; the Toledo Mud Hens Monument in Toledo, Ohio; and the National Little League Monument in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

When Gaylord was growing up in Clarksburg, West Virginia, he recalled in a Times Argus story in 2015, his grandmother would give him plastic molds into which he would press clay to make reliefs. That transformed into sculpting clay animals and then he moved to carving soap, quickly learning how much material it actually took to make a full sculpture.

As he grew up, Gaylord was initially interested in taxidermy, which, at that time, was done by sculpting plaster molds, with the animal skins pulled over them.

Then World War II came along, and Gaylord became a paratrooper for two and a half years. Gaylord served with the 17th Airborne and fought in the Battle of the Bulge.

After the war, he used the G.I. Bill and ended up at the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh, which had both engineering and fine arts schools. He later transferred to Temple University's Tyler School of Art, where he focused on becoming a carver.

In 1951, Mac Durnovich of E.J. Batchelder Co. in Barre hired Gaylord. So he and his late wife Mary moved to Vermont. He knew the community's reputation, its rich ethnic heritage, and its renowned craftsmanship. He said in 2015 he knew he could learn there.

Master sculptor Giuliano Cecchinelli, of Barre, has known Gaylord since the 1960s. Cecchinelli said Thursday that Barre has never had a sculptor like Gaylord.

"He gave Barre more than Barre asked. . . . He made Barre, Vermont," he said.

Cecchinelli said Gaylord was a perfectionist when it came to his style of work, which had a more modern flair to it. He said when he first met Gaylord he could tell right away that Gaylord had class and that he would achieve what he wanted to achieve.

Cecchinelli said he owns several pieces of Gaylord's work, which he keeps in his home.

Sue Higby, executive director of Studio Place Arts in downtown Barre, has known Gaylord for 15 years. Higby highlighted his work at her studio in 2015.

"I'm truly very sorry to hear of his passing and his integrity as an artist will live on in Barre for years to come," she said.

Higby said Gaylord was a cultural intellectual who loved theater, dance and the human form. She also said Gaylord, more than most artists, had the ability to capture in his work the feeling of a ballet dancer's movement or the fluttering of a piece of fabric.

Jerry Williams owns and operates Barre Sculpture Studios. Williams has known Gaylord since the 1980s and at one point he owned the studio next to Gaylord's.

"Frank was a mentor to many sculptors, some of them still operating in town. Some of them have moved on and done other