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## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 28, 2018, at noon.

## Senate

MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2018

The Senate met at 4 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JONI ERNST, a Senator from the State of Iowa.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations, providing us with every good and splendid gift.

Today, we thank You for the gift of Senator JOHN SIDNEY MCCAIN. We are grateful for his sacrificial willingness to take the road less traveled, to rise above partisanship, to provide a profile in courage, and to give his life in service to You and country. Lord, we praise You for his awareness that humanity is wrapped in a blanket of mutuality, so we should not ask for whom the bell tolls. Comfort his beloved Cindy and all his loved ones. Bring solace to the multitudes who mourn his death. May his consequential, patriotic, and heroic legacy challenge us all to leave the world better than we found it.

We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JONI ERNST led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, August 27, 2018.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JONI ERNST, a Senator from the State of Iowa, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,  
President pro tempore.

Mrs. ERNST thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### REMEMBERING JOHN MCCAIN

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, on Saturday evening, a great loss echoed throughout our country. Six decades of patriotic service came to an end.

We have suspected for some time that we would bid farewell to our colleague, the senior Senator from Arizona, JOHN MCCAIN. JOHN took full advantage of the months since his diag-

nosis. His hard work continued, but happy reminiscing, fond farewells, final reflections, and time with family actually came to the fore. I was privileged to spend a small share of that time with JOHN. We sat on his back porch in Sedona under the desert sky, replaying old times. JOHN did things his way these last months.

For his colleagues here, the time confirmed a sad but obvious truth: The Senate won't be the same without JOHN MCCAIN. I think it is fair to say that the passion JOHN brought to his work was unsurpassed in this body. In more than 30 years as a Senator, he never failed to marshal a razor-sharp wit, a big heart, and, of course, a fiery spirit.

When JOHN saw an issue the same way you did, you knew you had just found your most stalwart ally. You would thank your lucky stars because when you found yourself on the other side of that table, as I think all of us learned, you were in for a different kind of unforgettable experience. Either way, serving alongside JOHN was never a dull affair. I found myself on both sides of that table over the years. JOHN and I stood shoulder to shoulder on some of the most important issues to each of us, and we also disagreed entirely on huge subjects that helped define each of our careers.

JOHN treated every day, every issue, with the intensity and seriousness that the legislative process deserves. He would fight like mad to bring the country closer to his vision of the common good. But when the day's disputes were over, that very same man was one of our most powerful reminders that so much more unites us than divides us;

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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that we should be able to differ completely on policy and stay united in love of our country. JOHN himself once put it:

We have nothing to fear from each other. We are arguing over the means to better secure our freedom, and support the general welfare. But it should remain an argument among friends who share an unshaken belief in our great cause, and in the goodness of each other.

JOHN and I sure had those fights, and we sure had that friendship. I am just glad we never found ourselves in opposite dugouts. You see, JOHN and I spent years as neighbors in the Russell Building. Often, when softball season rolled around, our offices would take the field together as one united McTeam, we called it.

As a seriously wounded war hero and a childhood polio survivor, I would have to say JOHN and I didn't exactly have the makings of an elite double-play duo. I took the mound once or twice, but I admit, we mostly offered moral support. Moral support. Really, that is what JOHN MCCAIN gave this body and this country for so long. His memory will continue to give it because while JOHN proudly served with us as the Senator from Arizona, he was America's hero all along.

Just this month, Congress finalized a major bill for our All-Volunteer Armed Forces that we named after JOHN. This might seem like a small detail, but, really, it was a fitting capstone for a career so thoroughly defined by service in and then service for the ranks of those who wear our Nation's uniform.

Generations of McCains have served with distinction in our great Navy. As JOHN described his Scottish heritage in one memoir, "The McCains [were] bred to fight." And fight they have. One by one, McCains have entered the academy's gates in Annapolis. One by one, they marched past a centuries-old battle flag bearing the phrase "Don't Give Up the Ship."

While honorable service was in his DNA, JOHN's story was never simple. At Annapolis, as he would come to explain with some relish, his major distinctives were mostly the weakness of his grades and the length of his disciplinary record. The first miracle in JOHN's military career was the fact that he somehow made it through school. But he prevailed, and bigger tests soon came. He stared death in the face aboard the USS *Forrestal* and again when he was shot down and dragged, battered and broken, into the hands of our Nation's enemies. Five and a half hellish years in captivity. Merciless beatings for the uniform he had worn and the values he would not renounce. That stubborn, rebellious streak went from a stumbling block to a saving grace. Stubborn virtue sustained JOHN. He declined early release in solidarity with his brothers. He never gave up the ship.

We all know this story. But while JOHN didn't shy from sharing his experiences, he insisted he was no hero and

no saint. He measured his life in simpler terms. When asked after this diagnosis last year how he would like to be remembered, here is what he said: "He served his country, and not always right—made a lot of mistakes, made a lot of errors—but served his country, and I hope we can add, honorably." He will certainly get that wish.

For many, the service and sacrifice that JOHN rendered overseas would have been more than enough—more than a lifetime already—but somehow JOHN MCCAIN was convinced that he still owed his country more. In 1983, he arrived in Congress. JOHN knew exactly what it meant to swear to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States." When he was sworn in here in the Senate 4 years later, he was no stranger to pledging to protect the Constitution from "enemies, foreign and domestic."

The following years brought legislative accomplishments, to be sure. While JOHN's constituents were lucky to have him as their Senator from Arizona, JOHN also remembered that our titles say "United States Senator." He worked across the aisle on the Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs, whose work helped heal the wounds of war and normalize relations with Vietnam. He led congressional delegations and overseas travel that were famously as grueling as they were educational. JOHN was seemingly immune to jet lag, and he was never more excited than when he had an opportunity to share American values abroad.

And, of course, he was singularly devoted to the men and women of our Armed Forces. From countless visits with deployed units in Iraq and Afghanistan to his committee meetings right here in this body, JOHN honored their sacrifices in a way that only he could. He never forgot that notwithstanding the grandeur of our military might and technological prowess, our armed services are made up of people—of our constituents, of volunteers, of the brave.

JOHN's favorite novel was Ernest Hemingway's "For Whom the Bell Tolls." I suspect we will hear it quoted quite a bit in the days ahead. The lead character is an American ex-pat named Robert Jordan who risks everything in the Spanish Civil War. He is a little bit brash, maybe a little hotheaded. In fact, he is a dynamite specialist whose specialty literally is blowing things up, and he goes down fighting, right down to the book's final pages. I am sure some of us can imagine why JOHN might identify with this guy.

I recently rediscovered something JOHN wrote a few years ago about this book. He noted that his favorite literary hero wasn't some contrived caricature of a hero from central casting. The book is full of complexities. The character has to face all of the messiness of life and war. His idealism is challenged. But he realizes that the imperfections of this world don't mean the concept of sacrifice is outdated.

They don't make love of cause or country into something quaint or naive. They only make patriotism, service, and hope that much more noble and necessary.

It takes one kind of heroism to undergo unimaginable pain and suffering as a POW but then persist in loyalty. It takes another kind of heroism to sustain that passion for decades more, to withstand the slings and arrows of politics, the compromises, the disappointments, the defeats, and yet still consider it a joy and an honor to serve. Few have either kind of heroism. JOHN MCCAIN had both.

Fortunately, all that intensity came paired with a world-class sense of humor. As we all know, JOHN really hated to lose. The line he used after his Presidential campaigns still makes me laugh. Some would ask how he was coping with defeat. JOHN would say:

Actually, I'm sleeping like a baby. You know—I sleep for two hours, wake up, and cry.

Seriously, it is hard to describe this larger-than-life figure without lapsing into what sound like clichés.

We have all heard our whole lives about the importance of patriotism and self-sacrifice, but we cannot take that culture of commitment for granted because just like our Nation's security and our American liberty, the very notion that some causes really are greater than ourselves only survives because servicemembers and statesmen like JOHN MCCAIN will fight and even die to defend it.

The bond between JOHN and his country was so deep, but, of course, other bonds ran deeper still. While JOHN's colleagues grieve our own loss, we also send our love and support to those who know him even better—those who call this man their husband, their son, their father, and their grandfather. We stand with JOHN's loving wife Cindy. We stand with Doug, Andy, Sidney, Meghan, Jack, Jimmy, and Bridget. We stand with his mother Roberta and with all of JOHN's devoted friends and loyal staff. Thank you for lending him to us longer than we had a right. Thank you for supporting him while he supported us.

JOHN MCCAIN has fought his last battles and cast his final votes, but the Nation he loved is still not done with him yet. This week will be dedicated to remembering him. On Friday, he will lie in state in the Capitol like other American heroes before him. As the days turn to weeks, I know we are all eager to come together and collaborate on ways we can continue to honor his memory.

Generation after generation of Americans will hear about the cocky pilot who barely scraped through Annapolis but then defended our Nation in the skies, witness to our highest values even through terrible torture, captured the country's imagination through the national campaigns that spotlighted many of our highest values, and became so integral to the U.S. Senate,

where our Nation airts and advances its great debates.

America will miss her devoted son, her stalwart champion, her elder statesman. We will miss one of the very finest gentlemen with whom I have had the honor to serve, but we will not forget him. I consider it our privilege to return some small share of the love JOHN poured out for this country.

It is our honor as Americans to say to the late, great JOHN SIDNEY MCCAIN III what we pray he has already heard from his Creator: "Well done, good and faithful servant." Well done. You fought the good fight. You finished the race. You kept the faith. You never gave up the ship.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

#### REMEMBERING JOHN MCCAIN

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, on Saturday, August 25, 2018, 9 years to the day since the death of his friend Senator Kennedy, our friend and colleague Senator JOHN S. MCCAIN passed away. Knowing his prognosis prepared us for the inevitable, but it has not softened the blow. We all feel a great and inexpressible loss. I know I do. I also feel lucky that I was able to call this great man a friend.

Today, I wish to share a few reflections, unorganized and incomplete though they may be. I suspect I will have more to say about Senator MCCAIN with the benefit of a few days' time.

Senator MCCAIN and I didn't get along very well at first. He was close to my mentor in the Senate, Ted Kennedy, but not so with me. I never served with Senator MCCAIN on any committee, where we get to know other Senators up close.

Before our friendship, my closest brush with him was over a comment he made during a debate on defense policy when he said that Long Island was "regrettably part of the United States." I blasted JOHN's pejorative, which, of course, prompted him to reply from the Senate floor:

I'm sorry there's at least one of my colleagues that can't take a joke. I apologize if I offended him and hope that someday he will have a sense of humor.

Like many, I was a victim of Senator MCCAIN's acerbic wit.

Things began to defrost when we worked together during the Gang of 14 to avoid a change in the Senate rules during the Bush administration, and a real tight and lasting friendship emerged from our collaboration on immigration reform.

We worked in close quarters for nearly a year—hour after hour, day after day, week after week—fine-tuning the only piece of major immigration re-

form to pass this Chamber in decades. We visited the southern border together to assess the gaps in our security up close. We were doing what the Senate was supposed to do—grappling with the biggest challenges, working in a bipartisan way to find solutions, overcoming obstacles that have so long bedeviled immigration reform and continue to stymie progress today. We couldn't have done it without JOHN MCCAIN.

In recent days, many have reflected on his Presidential campaigns and his military service, and rightly so. He was also a natural legislator, able to seek common ground and having a sense of where to go. He knew when to give a little, and he knew when not to. He had deep principles, but he also knew how to craft a product that could actually pass, and the bill did, in the Senate, with large numbers of supporters from both parties. Had we passed immigration reform then, had the House done what the Senate did under John's leadership, we wouldn't be quarreling about immigration now, and our country would be a better, stronger, and more unified place.

We became so close over that year that JOHN MCCAIN started treating my staff like they were his own, and me the same. We spoke so frequently that I knew JOHN MCCAIN's cell number by heart, and I mistakenly repeated it during an interview when a reporter asked me how close we were. They had to edit it out to protect JOHN's privacy.

I can truly say that the times we spent authorizing and passing immigration reform were some of the proudest days in politics for me and the rest of the Gang of 8, in no small part because the success was shared with one great legislative leader, JOHN MCCAIN. He was so many things to so many people, a fierce friend to those who were lucky enough to have earned his friendship—you had to earn his friendship—and a real thorn in the side of those who earned his scorn. Many know that.

He was an unofficial ambassador for the United States, a comfort to our allies, and an unabashed champion for Western values. He was unafraid to take on Presidents. He was unafraid to take on his own party. He was equally parts funny and furious, foulmouthed and statesmanlike. He could put the "temper" in temperament. He was a brave and honest man. He was a patriot. He was all those things throughout his life, usually more than one at once, until his very last days.

Remarking on the character of America, Senator MCCAIN said we live in a "big, boisterous, brawling, intemperate, restless, striving, daring, brave, good and magnificent country." Truer words could not be said about the man himself—big, boisterous, brawling, intemperate, restless, striving, daring, brave, good, and magnificent.

As you go through life, you meet a few truly great people. JOHN MCCAIN was one of them. His dedication to his country and to the men and women

who serve and protect it was unsurpassed. Even in his last weeks, he was calling me every few days to make sure our Defense authorization bill was done and done right—not for him, not for his glory but because he cared about men and women who serve in our Armed Forces so deeply. His life is a story of American heroism personified, but maybe, most of all, he was a truth teller.

Perhaps it is a reflection of our politics that a man can be so well regarded for simply telling the truth as he saw it, or, maybe, recognizing the demands and failings of our politics, it is more of a reflection on the man that four decades of public life could not warp or dim his fidelity to the unvarnished truth.

I will miss him dearly. In the past year of his illness, during moments of doubt about the direction of our country, I found myself thinking about what JOHN MCCAIN would do or what he would say if he were here.

Truth be told, there is nothing I could say that could possibly add or detract from Senator MCCAIN's illustrious career. There is nothing any of us have done that compares to the sacrifice he made in a cellblock half a world away and half a lifetime ago—a sacrifice he made over and over for the country he loved and the principles he advanced.

So that generations will study his example, I have proposed we rename the Russell Senate Office Building, one of only three Senate office buildings, after JOHN MCCAIN. It would be a fitting tribute to a man who considered his service in the Senate—headquartered in the Russell Building, where his beloved Armed Services Committee also resides—the most significant in his distinguished career. The man whose name he would replace, Senator Richard Russell, a towering figure in the Senate of his day, was nonetheless an avowed opponent of civil rights and the architect of the Southern filibuster that long delayed its passage.

It is time that we recognize that as times change, so do our heroes. I will be introducing a resolution with Senator FLAKE to change the name of the Russell Building to the McCain Building. I hope my colleagues will cosponsor and support the resolution. It need not be the only way we honor Senator MCCAIN. We can honor him by trying to carry out the principles he lived by. We can try, as he did, to put country before party. We can try, as he always did, to speak truth to power. We can try, as he summoned us to try, to restore the Senate to its rightful place in our national political life.

Up until the very end, JOHN MCCAIN still believed the Senate was capable of solving our country's greatest challenges. He believed that our arcane rules and procedures, designed to frustrate one-party rule, were an antidote to the organization of our politics. At the very least, he believed in the Senate's ability to make progress, to set