

the Banking Committee with a vote of 20-5.

Dr. Clarida currently serves as managing director and global strategic advisor at PIMCO, a position he has held since 2006.

Previously, he served as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Economic Policy from 2002 to 2003 and as a senior staff economist with the Council of Economic Advisers from 1986 to 1987.

In his academic career, he was an assistant professor at Yale University from 1983 to 1988 and has served as a professor of economics at Columbia University in various capacities since 1988.

If confirmed, Dr. Clarida will play an important role in monetary policy normalization.

Dr. Clarida has written extensively about monetary policy and, along with others, developed a framework for monetary policy analysis that has been widely cited and used by policymakers around the world.

Such expertise will be especially important as the Fed continues to wind down its balance sheet and raise interest rates after years at the zero lower bound.

The Fed has also begun the important work of implementing S. 2155, the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act, which was signed into law on May 24 of this year.

If confirmed as a member and Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors, I look forward to working with Dr. Clarida on these important issues.

The Board of Governors currently has vacancies, with only three sitting members to carry out its vital work.

I strongly support this nomination today and urge my colleagues to do the same.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HOEVEN). The majority leader.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the pending cloture motions on Executive Calendar Nos. 911, 783, and 720 be withdrawn, and that at 3:45 p.m. today, the Senate vote on the following nominations in the order listed with no intervening action or debate: Executive Calendar Nos. 910, 911, 783, and 720; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

I further ask unanimous consent that the pending cloture motions on Executive Calendar Nos. 633, 635, 636, 674, 676, 692, 693, 731, 779, 782, 838, and 893 be withdrawn; and that following disposition of the Patelunas nomination, the Senate vote on the following nominations in the order listed with no intervening action or debate: Executive Calendar Nos. 633, 635, 636, 674, 676, 692, and 837; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be im-

mediately notified of the Senate's action.

I further ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Democratic leader, during the week of September 4, the Senate vote on the following nominations in the order listed: Executive Calendar Nos. 693, 731, 778, 779, 782, 838, 839, and 893; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Minnesota.

REMEMBERING JOHN MCCAIN

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, last week, we lost an incredible patriot, Senator, and American—our friend and colleague Senator John McCain. My heart goes out to his wife Cindy, his mom, his daughters, and family.

In the Navy, John exemplified heroism and bravery, and in the Senate, he was a mentor to so many of us. He taught us how to work with leaders on the world stage, but then he taught us something just as important; that is, how to work with each other when we are here and back home.

This past month, my husband and I got to visit John and Cindy at their ranch in Arizona one last time. Even while battling brain cancer, he continued to be engaged in the issues of our time. He continued to have that signature McCain humor and that grit.

My last memory of John was, I had brought a few of his books to him, and he was getting tired and pointed to one sentence in one of the books and said to me: That, that is what matters.

The sentence was this: "Nothing in life is more liberating than to fight for a cause larger than yourself." No one proved that more than John McCain.

LINDSEY GRAHAM just gave beautiful remarks about his best friend—his best friend who had taught him so much, who taught him how to pick yourself up and be resilient when things go wrong, who taught him how to always put your country first.

I saw that resilience firsthand when John invited me to go with him and LINDSEY on a trip to Asia. It was an incredible moment in his own life. It was right after he had lost that Presidential election—something he had dreamed of attaining for so long, and it didn't work out. Did he just go home and not do his work? No. He dove right in and took a young Senator with him to Asia, along with his best friend LINDSEY, and some of his most beloved staff.

What I saw on that trip I will never forget. He was literally a few months out of losing a Presidential election, but he was still excited about the world around him. He was excited when the Defense Secretary called him with something he wanted him to work on with him.

He had great humor when he read about President Obama's latest pur-

chase of a dog and other things, and he just said it and smiled and put the newspaper down.

He loved introducing me to people whom I thought I would never meet, and he loved sharing those stories. On every leg of the trip between countries, he would read books. He would read books about World War II. He would read books about anything in history that he thought was relevant to today. He loved it for the sake of history, but he also loved it because he believed history teaches us something; that you can't ignore history; that you take the lessons of history and bring them with you forward.

John's own history was incredible—a Navy pilot during Vietnam. After being shot down, he was held and tortured as a prisoner of war for over 5 years in that infamous Hanoi Hilton.

On the trip to Asia, we went to that prison, and I saw the cell where John had been held for those 5 years—the cell in which he made the decision to allow other prisoners to be released before him because he didn't want to look like he got special treatment. That was a moment I will never forget. Then, we went on a tour of the rest of the prison. Again, with that signature wry humor and resilience, as the guide was showing us a new exhibit, which included happy pictures of prisoners of war sitting around a Christmas tree or playing table tennis, and she proudly showed us those pictures, he nodded his head with all the media behind him and then whispered to me: I don't remember any of this.

We then went to an exhibit that was brand-new of his flight suit, and it was a pristine flight suit with his name embroidered on it. Next to it was a picture of him and the plane being shot down, and the flight suit was all torn up. They would show us the flight suit, and he took pictures and smiled. Then, as we were walking away, he said to me: That was not my flight suit.

That was John McCain. When he walked around the streets of Vietnam, a place where he had been held prisoner for 5 years, he was like a rock star. Do you know why? Because he had come back there so many times, bringing different Americans with him, working on issues that mattered to them, working on trade issues, normalizing relations. They loved him there. That was him; that was John McCain.

The other thing about him was there were so many Senators that he mentored, but I always loved how he would take some of the new women Senators under his wing and make sure they went on these trips. In many of the rooms where we met with foreign leaders, it would be, again, John and LINDSEY and I. Of course, Senator McCain went first as the leader of the delegation, and then all of these male foreign leaders would next look at LINDSEY GRAHAM because they figured he was the next senior, which was correct. But John McCain would stop

them and say: I am sorry. Senator KLOBUCHAR is the lead Democrat in the delegation, and she will be going next. At that singular moment, he would send a message to the foreign leaders: Yes, she is to be treated with respect and equality; she is the Democratic lead on our trip.

Part of being a mentor to someone is also urging them on, and many of us here know what it was like to get one of those backhanded McCain compliments, which didn't always seem like a compliment but truly was.

My favorite was when I would do some kind of Sunday show or something like that, and he would have liked what I said, I would have guessed, but he would call and leave a message: Well, you did a pretty good job on that show, talking about immigration—well, pretty good for a Communist.

I know some of my Republican colleagues were never called a Communist, but that was his word of affection for many of us on the Democratic side.

I think part of this work that he did in mentoring women Members and staff had to do with the incredibly strong women in his own life—his wife, Cindy; his mother; his daughter, Meghan; and his family. That was a part of John McCain that I think people don't know.

The last thing I will mention—and LINDSEY talked about this—is that his legacy must live on; that is, what he taught us about working with the rest of the world.

The last trip I took with John McCain was to Lithuania and Latvia, Estonia, Ukraine, and Georgia. He planned that trip right after the last Presidential election. The President-elect had been talking negatively about NATO, and there had been discussions about our dealings with Europe. I think he felt it was very important to show the world that there were people in the Senate, leaders in the Senate, who stood by those Baltic nations that had declared their independence, and that is why we went on that trip.

Somehow we found ourselves on New Year's Eve in a blizzard in the middle of the night on live Ukrainian TV with President Poroshenko. The President of Ukraine wanted to show American support for their democracy and their quest to stay independent despite the foreign invasion by Russia. So as we stood there, the President gave Senator McCain a machine gun, a Ukrainian-made machine gun. They are very proud of their armaments there. McCain was holding it, and then he went to Senator GRAHAM, and he gave Senator GRAHAM a pistol. I was standing there, and McCain said to me: I wonder what you're going to get. It looks like you're getting a flat box.

I opened up the box, and it had two daggers in it. Senator McCain decided that I was deserving of a pistol and somehow arranged to have one brought to me.

But then what happened was the Navy confiscated every single weapon,

and a year later, Senator McCain was still saying to me: What happened to my machine gun?

That trip was more than just about that delightful moment. That trip was about his standing with us, with all of these leaders, to send that incredibly important message in his own words from a few years before, in 2013, when he spoke to that pro-democracy crowd of protestors in Ukraine, telling them: America is with you. And they roared “thank you” back at him. He said: “The United States has a special responsibility to champion human rights—in all places, for all peoples, and at all times.”

So he would send this message to our allies. He would look for those hot spots. He would look for those moments when it was necessary to show our allies and friends and those struggling for human rights and democracy that they had a friend in the United States.

He knew that supporting our allies is also about supporting ourselves—and I will use John's words here—in supporting “their hope . . . their faith . . . and their friendship.” That was John McCain.

So when I think about protecting the future of our country and the work that must be done in this Chamber and his devotion to making friends on both sides of the aisle, I think about the decency that he brought to politics, not always—not always happy every moment of his life in politics, but always decent. That was best reflected at a rally that happened in my State in the waning days of his Presidential campaign when a woman stood up, when he could have just embraced what she said, but he didn't. The woman said of then-candidate Obama: “I have read about him. . . . He's . . . an Arab.”

Without missing a beat, John shook his head and very politely said: “No, ma'am. He's a decent family man . . . [whom] I just happen to have disagreements with.”

That is not something you plan for; that is not an arc of your career where you have a moment and a strategy. That was his reaction in the moment when he knew that his dream was slipping away from him, and he could have said just anything about his opponent because he was mad that he wasn't winning. But he didn't. He took the high road. That was John McCain.

As we move forward in this Chamber, I hope we will remember his words, that the most liberating thing in life is “to fight for a cause larger than [ourselves].” He did that every single day, and we must now carry on that torch. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I want to join my colleague from Minnesota and other Senators in talking about our colleague, an American icon, who played an outsized role in our Nation's great story.

Navy captain, Congressman, and U.S. Senator, John McCain was first and

foremost a patriot. Throughout his whole life, a very prolific life, he lived the motto of his 2008 Presidential campaign, which was simply “Country First.”

I had the privilege of helping Senator McCain during that 2008 campaign. I was in the private sector then. I took time off to spend about 6 weeks with him, traveling around the country. I was on the campaign trail with a group of his loyal friends, including the first friend, LINDSEY GRAHAM.

I had known John for many years, but you really get to know somebody in a different way during the intensity and the pressure of a national campaign. I played the role of his opponent, then-Senator Barack Obama, to prepare him for his debates, and I took that role very seriously—maybe too seriously on occasion. It was my job to get under his skin and prepare him well for the debates, and I did it.

Many of my colleagues will tell you he was a fighter and a tough competitor and did not mince words. I was on the other end of that. After some spirited debates, I was very glad that in the real world I was actually on his side.

Needless to say, he wasn't happy with me during those debate sessions. I think Cindy McCain still hasn't forgiven me, by the way, for some of the things I said during the debate preparation, playing the role of then-Senator Obama. Even 2 years later, after I was first elected and joined him here in the U.S. Senate, he would introduce me to reporters here in the hall by saying: That's the jerk who played Obama.

The John McCain I got to know through the intensity of that Presidential campaign was principled. He was patriotic, he was passionate, and his heart was in the right place.

He also had a sense of humor that was intact. I remember when a bad poll would come out, he would gather us around and say: Don't worry. It's always darkest before it's pitch black.

One of the memories I will never forget was during one of those debate preparations in a theater at the Morgan Library in New York City. At the start of the debate practice, I was backstage behind a curtain because I wanted it to be realistic; I would be coming out from behind the curtain and going to the podium, just as you would do in a Presidential debate. It was in late September 2008—I think it was September 24—just as the financial crisis was hitting and hitting hard. It is difficult to go back to that moment today, but the mindset at the time was that we were in a true crisis. The stock market had crashed, and the country was mired in financial turmoil.

As I stood there behind the curtain, getting ready to come out, John McCain and two of his top campaign advisers were on the stage, getting into their own debate, and their debate was about whether to suspend the campaign, postpone the first debate that was scheduled to occur just a few days

later, and fly back to Washington, DC, to try to work out some legislative solution to bolster the then really shaky financial system.

I distinctly remember one of the advisers raising concerns that suspending the campaign would hurt them politically. They just couldn't do it.

By the way, that was a point of view that was shared by pretty much every political pundit and probably would be today.

I remember John McCain pushing back. He said: It is the right thing to do, to suspend this campaign. If we don't fix this, there won't be a country left to govern.

It is the right thing to do. If we don't fix this, there won't be a country left to govern.

He suspended his campaign and he returned to Washington to jump into the arena—like his hero, Teddy Roosevelt—and to try to fix things. John McCain was less worried about the political fallout than he was about what was at stake for our great country. Country first.

He didn't win that campaign, but I think he taught all of us a lesson about how to lose. He gave a generous concession speech that put country first. He was someone a lot of us looked to for counsel and worked with on many issues, often national security issues, in my case. He was an expert. I worked on some issues like Ukraine, but also on other matters.

Just in the last year, he played a key role in helping us enact reforms here in the U.S. Senate that are making a real difference right now in combating online sex trafficking. This was through legislation that I had introduced called the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act, or SESTA. This SESTA legislation was something he was very involved with. Cindy McCain has a long history in this area. She is a real expert on it, and she was instrumental in the legislation and these reforms, as was the McCain Institute.

John had a passion for it. He was the first Republican cosponsor of the bill and a passionate advocate. He believed in his heart that the sale of women and children online was just wrong, and it should never happen, certainly not in this country in this century.

About 6 months ago, this legislation, the SESTA bill, was about to be voted on. After getting permission from my Democratic coauthor, Senator RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, who agreed with me, I approached John McCain, and I asked him if we could name this anti-sex-trafficking legislation "the McCain bill," after him and after Cindy and all the work he had done—his passion for it. His response was immediate and classic McCain. He said: No, that wouldn't be right. I strongly support the legislation, but you all did the work. It isn't about me; it's about getting this done for those women and those children. Country first.

For me, this Chamber is never going to be the same place without him. It is

as simple as that, and LINDSEY GRAHAM said that well earlier. For me, this place, the Senate, and our country, for that matter, are better off because of him. He dedicated his life to those liberties that we enjoy as Americans, and he took it upon himself to defend and represent them and try to spread them around the globe.

He joined the U.S. Navy to protect our country, spent more than 5 years as a prisoner of war, was stubbornly patriotic to his own detriment, and served in the House of Representatives and in the U.S. Senate, representing not just his Arizona constituents, which he did well, but as he viewed it, the entire country. Country first.

Now, as a gesture of our Nation's gratitude for the patriotic path he blazed, Senator McCain will lie in state in the U.S. Capitol, draped in the flag that he spent his life serving.

John McCain was a hero in the flesh right here in this century, and I feel blessed for having known him.

The last conversation I remember having with John was right out here in the anteroom off the Senate floor. It was during his very last days here. He was in a wheelchair. He had a brace on his leg, necessary because of the chemotherapy, and his voice was faltering. We sat and we talked, first about the SESTA legislation and Cindy's role. John always had a funny line. In this case he joked, saying: Passing that legislation will save my marriage.

Then he started talking about his kids. He went into detail about what they were doing, especially his sons in the military and what they were accomplishing and his daughter Meghan and her work in the media world, how proud he was of them. His voice strengthened, and his eyes shown with pride as he talked about each of them. I muttered something about that being another part of his legacy, and he gave me that crooked smile.

Family and country first.

My wife Jane and I send our condolences to John's amazing wife Cindy, to his seven proud sons and daughters, and to the entire McCain family.

Godspeed, John McCain.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

MR. BROWN. Mr. President, I appreciate what my colleague from Ohio said. I appreciate his comments about Senator McCain and Cindy McCain. I made remarks on the floor earlier about Senator McCain in my tribute to him, as my colleagues are all doing, as we should, and as people have done so well.

I appreciate particularly Senator PORTMAN's comments about the sex trafficking issue that Senator McCain was so interested in, and Cindy really led the way. I saw Cindy at a conference in Cincinnati, Senator PORTMAN's hometown. I live at the other end of the State. Her passion about that issue clearly infected John and his passion about that issue especially. North of Cincinnati, along the

75 corridor and especially in Toledo, we see how troubling that is. He took on so many issues that matter. I thank Rob for mentioning that.

NOMINATION OF RICHARD CLARIDA

Mr. President, today we consider the nomination of Dr. Richard Clarida for two positions at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors—Vice Chair for a term of 4 years and a member of the Board for an unexpired term of 14 years. That is the way the Fed works. A person is on the Board and then serves in some special—supervision or Vice Chair. Generally, those titles go along with the appointment.

The Federal Reserve hasn't had a full Board since August 2013. Why is that? President Obama nominated Allan Landon—a small community bank owner, I believe, from Hawaii—and Professor Kathryn Dominguez, who both stepped up to serve their country. They put a number of their life activities on hold in order to serve on the Federal Reserve. Yet the chairman of the Banking Committee—not the present chairman, Senator CRAPO—the former chairman of the Banking Committee simply refused to give a hearing on either of them.

We have seen that on the Export-Import Bank. We saw that on a number of Transportation nominations. We saw it on the Federal Reserve. Time after time, if Obama nominated someone, the Senate Banking Committee and the Senate floor refused to confirm.

Trump, as President now for only 18, 19 months, will have the ability to nominate six of the seven Fed Governors to 14-year terms. Think about that. Board members do vital work on monetary policy, and their work affects the financial situation of Ohio families. They set rules for the Nation's largest banks—the banks that caused the financial crisis.

You can't underestimate the collective amnesia of this body when it comes to financial deregulation and the financial amnesia of the Banking Committee, which continues to give Wall Street anything it asks for—more profits, more deregulation, and more tax cuts.

As I said, the Board sets rules for the Nation's largest banks—the banks that caused the largest financial crises and cost millions of jobs and so many families their homes.

As I have said a number of times, my wife and I live in the Cleveland ZIP Code 44105. In 2007, that ZIP Code had more foreclosures than any ZIP Code in the United States of America. You still see the residue of that and the results of those foreclosures. We know the pain that inflicted on millions of families across the country and thousands of families within 2 or 3 miles or 4 miles of my house. Yet we barely recognize anymore in this body what happened because this body didn't do its job, Federal regulators in the Bush administration didn't do their jobs, and Wall Street was so greedy.