

who had been fired because of her gender identity. Today, nearly 40 years later, our Nation still has a long way to go in protecting the rights of transgender Americans. But with that case, Lowell helped introduce a legal rationale for enshrining transgender rights into the Civil Rights Act—which happened decades later.

During our many years of friendship, Lowell never once called me on behalf of a paying client. Others would speak for them. The one time Lowell did call me about a case, it involved a man who had no voice in our system of justice. He was an accused terrorist who had been imprisoned in Guantanamo Bay for 15 years with no formal charge and no hope for a trial. Many considered the case a lost cause. Others considered it too controversial to touch. But Lowell never gave up. He believed that, even though the road to justice may be long, he had a responsibility to reach the end of it. So he pushed onward, for years, with a group of lawyers who shared his belief that Guantanamo was a “stain on our justice system.”

Lowell even traveled to Guantanamo Bay six times, when he was in his 80s, to meet with detainees. And eventually, he and his cocounsel negotiated the release of four men who had been held captive for years. Lowell poured his whole heart into the case, as he did with every case. When he saw injustice, in any form, he couldn't help but think of his family who fled Ukraine. And he couldn't help but act.

Really, there is a simple explanation for Lowell's long record of legal victories: He not only had a big, generous heart—but a big, sharp mind to match. In the words of the head of the Illinois ACLU, Colleen Connell, Lowell was a “lawyer's lawyer . . . you could only be impressed [by] how he was able to conceptualize and bring a legal argument to life.”

And Lowell shared his wisdom and love for the law with everyone who worked with him. Perhaps his favorite part of leading Sachnoff & Weaver was mentoring younger litigators. He would take them under his wing and share whatever legal wisdom he could. These young lawyers became known as Lowell's “ducklings,” a nickname that has stuck even to this day, when said ducklings are now in their 60s and 70s.

It was while working at Sachnoff & Weaver that Lowell joined forces with his most powerful ally in the fight for justice: his wife Fay Clayton. They met while working as lawyers in the same department, and things remained strictly professional for a few years. But soon enough, the sparks flew. They fell in love and became quite the power couple, working together to build a more equitable system of justice for everyone.

Fay was captivated by the same qualities that so many of Lowell's friends loved: his zeal for life, learning, and creative expression. When they first started dating, Lowell would even surprise Fay with poems he had writ-

ten for her. And his gift for writing was another of Lowell's passions that only grew as the years went on.

Lowell and Fay were true believers in the idea that, no matter how busy life becomes, we should always find time to engage with our lifelong passions and chase new adventures. And together, that is exactly what they did—from scuba diving off the coast of Mexico, to growing vegetables, baking challah, going to jazz and classical music concerts, and swimming.

Of course, nothing made the two of them happier than sharing their love for adventure with the children and grandchildren. As one example, Lowell and Fay made a promise to each one of his grandkids: Pick any place in the world you want to go, and we will take you. And they made good on that promise, traveling to Australia, Kenya, Peru, Greece, and Croatia. It was a true family world tour.

And in honor of Lowell's lifelong love for learning, his children have paid a fitting, final tribute. They created a writing prize, named in Lowell's honor, at his alma mater Senn High School. It is a gift that will support a new generation of changemakers, so they can follow Lowell's footsteps in the fight for justice.

I mentioned Lowell's love for poetry. One of his favorite poets was William Butler Yeats. Yeats once observed, “The world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for our senses to grow sharper.” Lowell lived his life sharpening and fine-tuning his senses to discover the world's magic things. He did it through the law, through his relationships, and through his voracious appetite for knowledge. And by devoting his life to healing our world, he uplifted countless others in their journey to discover those magic things. He set an example we would be wise to follow. The world has lost a good man.

Loretta and I join Fay; Lowell's children Scott, Marc, and Kate; his stepchildren Kim and Suzanne; his grandkids Allie, Sam, Joel, Monica, and Sasha; and his great-granddaughter Sofia in mourning his loss. We miss him dearly. And we send our love to you all.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT TAYLOR MITCHELL

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, today, I want to honor U.S. Army SSG Taylor Mitchell who tragically lost his life last month in a Blackhawk training exercise at the young age of 30.

Family members describe Sergeant Mitchell as an “all-American man” with a positive outlook, a love of flying, and a desire to serve—all of which prompted him to enlist in the U.S. Army in 2014. After completing training at Fort Jackson in South Carolina, he was assigned to the 2nd Calvary Regiment in Vilseck, Germany, as a healthcare specialist. Upon meeting requirements to become a flight para-

medic, he joined the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade at Fort Riley, KS, as a flight paramedic noncommissioned officer. In November 2020, he transitioned to the 101st Airborne Division of Combat Aviation Brigade, continuing this role until the time of his death.

He is survived by his wife Hayli Jo; his parents Jay and Darlene; brothers Garrett, BJ, and Joseph; grandmother Patricia Scoper; and six nieces and nephews.

Alabama is grateful for Sergeant Mitchell's willingness to serve in our Nation's military, and we mourn the tragedy of a life taken too soon. His love of country and devotion to duty are an inspiration. We will make sure that his legacy is never forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO BRAD WATTS

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, over the years, I have taken a moment to recognize the hard work and dedication of my staff as they depart and advance their professional development. One of the most capable staffers I have had the honor of working with is Brad Watts, who served as my chief counsel for more than 4 years.

Brad is truly one of a kind. He is tenacious, tireless, and objectively brilliant. He has earned a reputation for being someone you want on your team advocating on your behalf because he will fight for you tooth and nail and leave nothing on the table. And he has earned a reputation for being someone you don't want to see on your opposing team because he is one tough negotiator who can take you to hell and back.

Brad became my chief counsel shortly before the 116th Congress, which is when I first became chairman of the Intellectual Property Subcommittee. I don't think Brad came in knowing much or anything about intellectual property, which is regarded as one of the most difficult areas of law for even the most intelligent lawyers to pick up.

Not only did Brad pick it up, he excelled at it. Our subcommittee was the most active one on the Senate Judiciary Committee during the 116th Congress as we explored ways to improve and modernize our intellectual property system.

Perhaps most notably, we held a historic 3-day sprint of hearings during which we heard from 45 different witnesses about the broken state of patent eligibility. Only someone as hard-working as Brad could have made that happen.

Brad was also instrumental in negotiating, writing, and passing some of the most consequential bipartisan legislation in generations during the 117th Congress, addressing issues long considered to be “third rails” in American politics.

One example was the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. Brad was masterful throughout the negotiation process as Senators and their staff worked

nonstop to forge a compromise. The end result was passing the first law in more than three decades aimed at reducing violence, expanding access to mental health services, and improving community safety. And we did it in a way that protected the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans.

Later that year, Brad was assigned another important task: making major modifications to the Respect for Marriage Act and winning enough votes to pass it through Congress. It is a sensitive issue for both sides of the political spectrum that required a well-thought-out approach, and Brad played a key role in reaching that compromise that included a number of new legal protections for religious institutions and nonprofits. These new protections struck the right balance, and the bill earned the bipartisan support it needed to pass both Chambers and be signed into law.

Neither of those bills would have even gotten a vote had Brad not been at the negotiating table and burning the midnight oil every single day.

I take pride in playing an active role in the professional development of my staff, and it was no surprise that the private sector also took notice of Brad's personal dedication and policy expertise. The Chamber of Commerce hired him to serve as their vice president of innovation policy. It is a testament to the work he put in to quickly become of the Nation's top policy experts on intellectual property.

While I am sad to see him go, I am also very proud of the work he has done through his service to the State of North Carolina and the U.S. Senate. And I am excited to see the great things he will accomplish in the coming years. To borrow a line from one of Brad's favorites, the legendary Dolly Parton, "You'll never do a whole lot unless you're brave enough to try."

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MATT ROTHSCHILD

• Ms. BALDWIN. Madam President, today I rise to honor Matt Rothschild, executive director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, on his retirement. Over the span of Matt's 43-year career, he has been a tireless advocate for democracy, social and economic justice, and civil rights and liberties.

After graduating magna cum laude from Harvard in 1980, Matt went to work as an editor for the Multinational Monitor, working for Ralph Nader in Washington, DC. In 1983, he moved to Wisconsin to take a job as staff writer with *The Progressive Magazine*. In 1994, he advanced to senior editor and chairman of the board of directors for the magazine. While with *The Progressive*, Matt was also the director of *The Progressive Media Project* and published the book, "You Have No Rights: Stories of America in an Age of Repression." While at *The Progressive*, Matt

wrote hundreds of stories on issues ranging from threats to civil liberties, to social justice, to peace, to environmental concerns. He interviewed notable figures in the arts, politics, and economics including Wendell Berry, Naomi Klein, Bill McKibben, Robert Redford, Alice Walker, Allen Ginsberg, and Joseph Stiglitz.

In 2015, Matt joined the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign where he focused the efforts of the organization on banning gerrymandering, protecting and expanding the freedom to vote, getting rid of dark money in politics, and opposing anti-democracy efforts. Matt has the distinguishing quality of being everywhere, all at once, and has taken his vital messages about protecting democracy to hundreds of radio and television broadcasts, newspaper articles, opinion columns, social media and, in person, doing talks to good government groups in nearly every community in Wisconsin, letting citizens know what is at stake and how to get involved to redirect Wisconsin's future. While at the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, he also wrote "Twelve Ways to Save Democracy in Wisconsin," which tells the story of what a once-progressive State lost after Act 10 was enacted in 2010 and the Republicans, through the creation of unfair maps, held a lock on government.

Matt has been a leading voice in Wisconsin for over 40 years. He has advocated tirelessly, doing so with kindness and good humor, always willing to engage with those who disagreed with him as much as those who did. Today, as Matt moves into retirement, he will step aside to leave space for others to fill because that is what Matt is about: paving the way for the next generation to continue the good fight. I feel honored to call Matt my friend and will be forever grateful for all he has done for the citizens in our State and for the voice he has given to democracy in these perilous times.●

TRIBUTE TO KEITH BICSAK

• Mr. DAINES. Madam President, today I have the distinct honor of recognizing Keith Bicsak of Cascade County for his longstanding commitment to providing medical response and transport for countless sick and injured Montanans through his role as a critical care flight paramedic.

For 52 years, Keith has diligently provided emergency medical services—EMS—to folks throughout the Treasure State. His time-honored career is a testament to his passion and expertise in providing emergent lifesaving care. Keith's calling to selfless service began with his family's own ambulance service, Bicsak Emergency Air Transport—BEAT—which later became Mercy Flight, its esteemed crew proudly serving Montanans today.

EMS providers like Keith and the lifesaving care they deliver remain a vital component to the overall health and wellness of the State of Montana

and the United States of America. These men and women choose to put their lives on the line as they stand ready to respond to any disaster or crisis they may encounter. Professionalism, expertise, and grace under fire enable these heroes to deliver swift and efficient lifesaving care to families in need.

Keith's passion for helping Montanans is evident through his distinguished career, as he now steps into a new season of life and enjoys a well-deserved retirement. As Keith reflects back on his time as an EMS provider, he is quick to point out the great experience it has been and the "work families" he has made along the way. He continues to encourage younger generations to pursue careers in emergency services to help build up Montana's EMS workforce in order to ensure needs are being met in every corner of the State.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Keith Bicsak for his revered 52 years of frontline service in helping Montanans reach health and safety. I am confident that Keith's work as an EMS provider will long be remembered and appreciated by families throughout the Treasure State. Thank you for your selfless service, Keith. You make Montana proud.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1339. An act to require the Federal Communications Commission to review certain rules of the Commission and develop recommendations for rule changes to promote precision agriculture, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2811. An act to provide for a responsible increase to the debt ceiling, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 39. Joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to "Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414".

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 35. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate a King Kamehameha Day Lei Draping Ceremony.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1339. An act to require the Federal Communications Commission to review certain rules of the Commission and develop recommendations for rule changes to promote precision agriculture, and for other