

an incredibly dear friend. Karon Kaye Tinsley Goolsby passed away on Monday, June 19, 2023.

Kaye is someone who has been an incredible friend to me for two decades now. She lived in Katy, TX, and was married to the love of her life, Gary. Their son Greg was born in 1981. She loved her family. She loved her grandkids.

Kaye was a grassroots organizer unlike any other. Kaye was incredibly active in the Texas Federation of Republican Women and in the National Federation of Republican Women.

I still remember when I first met Kaye. It was 2004. It was at the Republican National Convention. I was a 33-year-old young lawyer. I was serving as the solicitor general in Texas, and I had hopes to run for office, but I didn't know a whole lot of people in politics. At that convention, I met Kaye.

She lit up any room she was in. She had a personality that was incandescent. As Kaye would later observe, for some reason, this kid—that would be me—just followed her everywhere she went. And at the end of the day, it wasn't complicated. Kaye knew everybody.

When I followed Kaye from one grassroots activist to another to another, Kaye would turn around and introduce me to one after the other, after the other, after the other and say: Have you met TED? Have you met TED? Have you met TED? She had the energy of an atom bomb. It was unstoppable.

Kaye became one of my very closest friends and most trusted advisers. When I first launched a campaign for attorney general of Texas, I remember sitting in Kaye's car for about 3 hours trying to convince her to come support our campaign, that I needed her. She, quite rightly, said: Are you out of your mind? You don't have the support. You don't have the money. You don't have the name ID. How on Earth can you possibly win?

My answer was: Kaye, with your support, we can do anything.

After about 3 hours, her husband Gary, who is also a dear friend, told her: Kaye, just say yes. He is going to keep asking you until you do.

She finally laughed and said yes.

That race for attorney general never ended up materializing. The vacancy we thought existed ended up not happening.

But 2 years later, I launched a campaign for U.S. Senate, and Kaye was my grassroots chairman. I will tell you, in that race, I was supposed to have no prayer. My opponent in that race was the incumbent Lieutenant Governor, who was personally worth \$200 million, who had put \$35 million of his own money in the race, and I had never been elected to anything. The last thing I was elected to was the student council. But we had a weapon unlike anything else: We had Kaye.

You have to understand, Kaye would be on three cell phones at once, calling people relentlessly. She would greet

them all the same way. She would go: Hey, sugar. And “sugar”—she could drag that second syllable out for three sentences. And she would be talking to people all over the State.

Early on in the Senate campaign, we rolled out a list of Republican women leaders in TFRW across the State who would endorse my campaign. We rolled out a list. It was like a cannon shot. It shocked everyone. That was 100 percent Kaye. That was Kaye on the phone with one after the other, after the other, saying: Trust me. This kid, he is going to do what he said.

After that, a few weeks later, we rolled out a second endorsement list with over 80 leaders of the Republican Women's Club all over the State.

In response to that release, my opponent in that race fired his campaign manager. That is how big a deal it was. He had assumed that all the Republican Women's Clubs across the State would be with him. But he did not understand that when you had Kaye working the phones, and working the phones, and working the phones—and I would travel around with Kaye from event to event to event, and she couldn't be stopped. She would take me to this person, to that person, to the next person. It was relentless.

In 2016, when I ran for President, Kaye was my national grassroots chairman. Kaye and I spent hundreds of hours on the bus together in Iowa and out on the ground in New Hampshire and South Carolina and all over the country. And, I will tell you, Kaye would talk to Republican women in every State.

Mr. President, you are from the great State of Hawaii. I guarantee you, Kaye was on the phone with Republican women in the State of Hawaii.

She had an energy that was fiery. And, boy, she could get mad. Kaye has chewed me out probably more than my wife Heidi has. She would get mad at this or that or whatever you did, and she would tell you exactly what she thought.

I remember, once, Kaye was really mad at me. I don't even remember for what. But I had to drive all the way out to her house in Katy, TX, and sit in her living room while she spent about an hour and a half explaining to me how I had screwed something up that she was mad at me for.

She also made me eat some of her homemade brownies. Kaye had a lot of wonderful gifts, but cooking was not one of them. And the brownies were pretty terrible, but I told Kaye they were delicious and I appreciated it and I took my medicine.

Kaye and I, as we were talking to Republican women's groups—I used to say all the time that “Republican women are the heart and soul”—and when I say that, Kaye, from the back of the room, would call out, “and the brains,” and everyone would laugh, and I would say, “and the brains of the Republican Party.”

It started off as an ad-lib joke, but it became something we said all over the

State and eventually all over the country.

Kaye had kidney disease and liver disease. She spent the last several months waiting on the list for a transplant. Kaye was a tiny lady. She needed a small liver. Several times it looked like they were going to find a liver, a kidney.

Just a few weeks ago, I got a text from Gary: It looks like we have got one. Surgery is tomorrow.

That next morning, I woke up praying for Kaye, until I got a text a couple of hours later that said the surgery fell through; the transplant wasn't a match.

I have never known someone like Kaye Goolsby. Kaye loved this country—loved it. She loved Texas. And she was so fierce and so full of life.

When Kaye passed, I texted her husband, and I later put out on Twitter—I said the angels were weeping and so am I. But I will tell you this: I have no doubt that, right now up in Heaven, Kaye Goolsby is organizing and reorganizing everything. She is going to the angels saying: This isn't right. You need to change this. You need to move this over here. We can do better.

After a long struggle with liver and kidney disease, Kaye has gone to be with the Lord. Those of us she left behind, we are hurting. We will miss her. I will still wonder, when my phone rings, if on the other end is going to be that lilting southern accent saying: “Hey, sugar.” But we are going to have to wait a little while to hear it again.

This is one of my favorite pictures. You can see the joy. She could laugh. She brought that joy to everyone else. Her grandkids called her Kaye-Kaye. My daughters called her Kaye-Kaye too.

To Kaye Goolsby, my dear, dear friend, the heart and soul and the brains, we love you, Kaye.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Washington.

TARIFFS

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, today is a very good day for one of Washington's most famous products; that is, Washington apples. And that is because retaliatory tariffs that had been put on Washington apples in India really impacted our growers across Washington State.

I want to thank Ambassador Tai, and I want to thank the Biden administration—Secretary Raimondo especially—and I also want to thank Ambassador Garcetti for making sure that, in the negotiations leading up to today's visit by Prime Minister Modi and discussions between the United States and India, removing these retaliatory tariffs on apples was included on the list.

So, today, our growers know that they can go back to marketing a great worldwide product, our Washington apples, that had access to what at one point was a \$120 million market. This retaliatory tariff being removed will help boost sales to India. It will help

the bottom line of farmers in Washington State, and it will be essential for the 1,400 growers that I have just recently visited along with my colleague Senator STABENOW, in discussion of this year's farm bill, to say these are important markets for Washington products.

We heard from people like Jorge Sanchez from Northern Fruit in East Wenatchee that "India was a critical market for the Washington apple industry, and the tariffs have hit the producers of Red Delicious apples especially hard."

These growers are looking forward to an opportunity to rebuild this market access. This deal also includes removing some of the tariffs on chickpeas and lentils, also a great Washington product that suffered under these retaliatory tariffs. India was a top export market for U.S. chickpeas and lentils prior to the tariffs, and these important pulse crops are a very great product to see into the Indian market.

At its peak, the pulse crop value was over \$180 million. And they, in the last year, with the retaliatory tariffs over the last 6 years, had dwindled down to next to nothing. That is why it was so important to speak directly to Prime Minister Modi, to ask him to consider more trade with the United States, to open up these opportunities for us, Washington and India, to work together and for the United States and India to work together.

Trade and investments are an essential part of our relationship with India. They are essential for all our allies and partners. And they should be in tandem with growing our partnership on critical, leading-edge technologies. I know the discussions that will happen today at the White House and in the future will be about marrying our technology economies as well—very important work to be done in the post-CHIPS and Science legislation that was passed—and working together on important national security issues.

But today is also very good news because it shows that the partnership between the United States and India can get us off of these retaliatory tariffs, help our farmers grow new market opportunities, and produce and sell our product in India, a very growing market for our apples and lentils.

So I want to thank everybody involved again—President Biden, Commerce Secretary Raimondo, Ambassador Tai, and Ambassador Garcetti—for making this happen.

I look forward to hearing Prime Minister Modi's comments—and Foreign Minister Jaishankar—for continuing to see the work that our two countries are going to do together.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—TREATY
DOCUMENT NO. 112-8

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the motion to reconsider with respect to the treaty

document No. 112-8, Tax Convention with Chile, be considered made and laid upon the table and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. CANTWELL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 178.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Xochitl Torres Small, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 178, Xochitl Torres Small, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

Charles E. Schumer, Gary C. Peters, Tammy Baldwin, Patty Murray, Tim Kaine, Christopher Murphy, Debbie Stabenow, Alex Padilla, Elizabeth Warren, Tina Smith, Brian Schatz, Benjamin L. Cardin, Mark R. Warner, Martin Heinrich, Sheldon Whitehouse, Richard J. Durbin, Raphael G. Warnock.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 56.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Rosemarie Hidalgo, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 56, Rosemarie Hidalgo, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice.

Charles E. Schumer, Ben Ray Lujan, Peter Welch, Tina Smith, Tammy Duckworth, Tim Kaine, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Raphael G. Warnock, Christopher Murphy, John W. Hickenlooper, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Baldwin, Benjamin L. Cardin, Edward J. Markey, Jack Reed, Mazie Hirono.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 33.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Kymberly Kathryn Evanson, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows: