

Senator FEINSTEIN down in a condescending—many would say—chauvinistic way. She reacted not defensively but with strength and poise and integrity. And within 3 minutes, she put this colleague in his place. By the end of it, everyone in the room, on both sides of the aisle, was smiling. That was DIANNE to a tee—powerful, prepared, unflappable.

She had to be. Whenever she did something, she was often the first to do it. She was elected as the first woman president of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, the first woman to serve as mayor of San Francisco, the first woman to serve as U.S. Senator for California, the first woman to chair both the Senate Rules and Intelligence Committees, the first woman member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. The list goes on and on and on and on.

Our Nation will be forever thankful to Senator FEINSTEIN for the accomplishments she fought for.

I, too, am personally indebted to DIANNE, not just as a colleague—which, of course, I am in so many ways as a colleague—but as a friend and as a father of two daughters.

DIANNE's work extended far beyond the U.S. Senate floor, as she gave a voice, a platform, and a leader to women throughout the country for decades.

DIANNE didn't just push down doors that were closed for women, she held them open for generations of women after her to follow her.

She gave a voice, a platform, and a model for women across the country who aspire to roles in leadership in public service who want to leave their own mark on the world, who want to make this country a better place for others.

Today, there are 25 women serving in this Chamber, and every one of them will admit they stand on DIANNE's shoulders.

So DIANNE's impact extended far beyond the Senate floor and far beyond politics itself.

Today, we grieve. We look at that desk, and we know what we have lost. But we also give thanks—thanks to someone so rarefied, so brave, so graceful a presence that someone like that served in this Chamber for so many years.

In closing, let me just say this: The sign of a leader is someone who dedicates the whole of their spirit for a cause greater than themselves; the sign of a hero is someone who fights for others, who endures for others no matter the cost, no matter the odds; and the sign of a friend is someone who stands by your side to fight the good fight on good days and on the bad.

DIANNE FEINSTEIN was all of this and more, a friend, a hero for so many, a leader who changed the nature of the Senate and who changed the fabric of the Nation—America—for the better.

As the Nation mourns this tremendous loss, we are comforted in knowing how many mountains DIANNE moved,

how many lives she impacted, how many glass ceilings she shattered along the way. America—America—is a better place because of Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN.

Today, I join with my colleagues in mourning our beloved friend and colleague.

I yield the floor.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). The Republican leader is recognized.

#### REMEMBERING DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, you know how we always refer to each other as "my friend" from whatever State it is. Honestly, frequently, that is not true.

But Elaine and I were actual friends of Dick and DIANNE. Elaine served on a corporate board with Dick for a number of years. When they were in town together, we would frequently have dinner together.

Elaine and I got married shortly after the 1992 election, and I remembered that DIANNE gave us a small depiction of the Capitol. I looked at it this morning because it is still on the wall and remembered our dear colleague as a truly remarkable individual.

As the majority leader has pointed out, she was an incredibly effective person at every line, at level, and she was at all of those levels on the way to the Senate.

Those of us who were fortunate to call DIANNE our colleague can say we served alongside the longest serving female Senator in American history.

DIANNE was a trailblazer in her beloved home State of California, and our entire Nation is better for her dogged advocacy and diligent service.

Over the past three decades, the senior Senator from California was also the steady hand leading sensitive and consequential work as head of the Intelligence Committee and the Judiciary Committee. Her name became synonymous with advocacy for women and with issues from water infrastructure to counterdrug efforts.

Of course, as the first woman to lead her hometown board of supervisors and then govern as mayor, she was making history and making a difference long before she came to the Senate.

And as much as this institution and the American people will remember DIANNE's devoted public service, as I indicated earlier, Elaine and I will also remember and cherish the friendship of 30 years we were fortunate to share with DIANNE and Dick.

So, today, I know the entire Senate family is gathering around Senator FEINSTEIN's loyal staff. Our thoughts and prayers are with DIANNE's daughter Katherine, her granddaughter Eileen, the entire Feinstein family, and with

all who mourn our dear colleague and friend.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, before I yield to the President pro tempore, I would like to acknowledge DIANNE's daughter Katherine with Speaker PELOSI in the Gallery.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The President pro tempore.

#### REMEMBERING DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, yesterday, the senior Senator from California came onto the floor through those doors to do her job. She voted. She voted to make sure that our country would continue to move forward and not shut down. That was DIANNE. She did her job every day. She cared about her country. She cared about her State. She cared about doing a job, no matter how tough it is, for the future of America, and she did it with dignity and respect every single minute.

Today, you will hear accolades from across the country, lists of legislative accomplishments from her early days, all the way through her career. What I just want to say today: It is a true loss to America. It is a loss to her family.

My heart is with you.

It is a loss to her colleagues from California who have served with her and know her as I do—as a tower of strength—to our colleagues on the floor who have worked with her on a laundry list of legislation that you will hear about and is way too long to list today.

But, to her constituents, you need to know we depended on her just as you did, and she was here every day to fight for you, no matter what. She fought for women. She fought for those who were victims of gun violence. She fought for foreign policy that was remote to most people, but she knew every detail. And when DIANNE spoke, the rest of us stopped and we listened.

Mr. President, she was a friend. I was sworn into office just a few weeks after she was, and she was always there for us, in matters big and small, in matters of our country, in matters of policy, and always as a friend.

To those of you who don't know, she was the most generous Senator I have ever known. I remember one time when I noticed that her purse was really nice, and I said: DIANNE, that purse is beautiful.

Two days later, I got one delivered to my door. That was DIANNE. She saw people. She knew people. She saw that she could be someone whom we all needed, and she saw that she could be there when she was needed—and she was there.

I will have more to say about my friend of more than 30 years over the next few days, and I am sure we will hear so much today. But I am so sorry I didn't hug her when she went back out that door yesterday.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Maine.

## REMEMBERING DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise with great sadness today to honor my friend and our colleague Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN. She was a pioneer and a strong and dignified leader.

DIANNE, who was the longest serving woman in Senate history, had a career marked by many firsts: the first woman to serve as mayor of San Francisco, the first woman Senator to represent California, the first woman to serve as the chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and the first woman to serve on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

DIANNE was such a strong presence in the Senate. She was a determined and tenacious advocate. Many of us worked closely with her on the Intelligence Committee, where she was such an excellent chairman. She was always fair, respectful, informed, and strong. We worked together on the Appropriations Committee as well, where she chaired the Energy and Water Subcommittee. Many of us were her allies on the Violence Against Women Act and the Respect for Marriage Act.

The Senate and the country have lost a model Senator—elegant, graceful, kind, compassionate, strong, informed, intelligent.

I have also lost a dear friend. I put up this watercolor painting that DIANNE did and gave me so many years ago. It has hung in my office ever since, and it will have a place of honor there always. Every time I would pass by, I would look at it and think about how talented DIANNE was in so many different areas. I treasure this painting.

When I became engaged 11 years ago, it was DIANNE who sponsored a reception for me and my now-husband Tom Daffron in her home in Washington. My story is very similar to that of the Republican leader.

I was also reminded when I heard Senator MURRAY talk about DIANNE's generosity. At one point one year, she bought seersucker suits for every woman who was serving in the Senate so that we could all participate in Seersucker Thursday. That was DIANNE. She paid attention to the smallest details and to the largest issues that affected not only our country but the world.

Most of all, DIANNE was such a role model for girls and women. She was a role model for us who came to the Senate, after she began her storied tenure here. I will miss DIANNE terribly. My heart goes out to her family, and may she rest in peace.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

## REMEMBERING DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, we mourn the death of a trailblazer, my colleague and friend Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN.

I have been privileged to have known DIANNE throughout her entire career in

this Chamber and my entire time as well. She was my friend and seatmate on the Senate Judiciary Committee for over 20 years. When you are that close to someone politically—day in, day out, week in, week out—you pick up on the things that mean the most to her. Certainly, her family was the highest priority to her, over all things, but her life experience created what we know as the legacy of DIANNE. How many times she told the story of serving on the pardon and parole board for the State of California—the cases that she remembered in detail that had occurred decades ago stuck with her and inspired her when it came to her service on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

I think that situation also inspired her when it came to legislation, where she was looking for fairness. We certainly all know her efforts in dealing with the Violence Against Women Act. That was an extraordinary effort by her, on a bipartisan basis with Senator MURKOWSKI, Senator COLLINS, Senator ERNST, Senator PATTY MURRAY, and so many others.

In addition to that, she recounted many, many times that terrible, unimaginable tragedy when the mayor of San Francisco was killed along with Harvey Milk, a commissioner. She was there at the bloody scene afterward. She recounted that so many times in the midst of her debates over an assault weapons ban.

Think about that assault weapons ban. It was almost the holy grail in politics. So many people said that is the one thing we absolutely have to do; it has to be done. She did it. She, along with Senator SCHUMER, who was then a House Member, put together the bill that established an assault weapons ban and reduced the number of deaths in America by gunfire. They did it, and she was the leader, inspired by that terrible tragedy with Mayor Moscone.

I can also remember, there was a time, years ago, when we engaged in debate in this Chamber on stem cell science and biology. It was a complicated debate. Many of us liberal arts lawyers were lost as they went into the detail. DIANNE not only led that debate; she had mastered the subject. And time and again in the caucus, when we would discuss it, she would be the one to stand up and straighten everyone out on the basics. She was a gifted person in that regard.

But I do want to say that there is one thing that Senator COLLINS noted that I noted many times. Members of the Senate, in the committee hearings, were given a notepad in front of them—the Senate Judiciary Committee was no exception—and a pencil nearby to make notes in the course of our business. Sitting next to DIANNE all those years, I can't tell you how many flowers I saw her draw on those notepads. I asked her for one, one time. She signed it, and I have kept it. But it is an indication of the sweetness and the elegance in her life; that, on the one hand,

she could be arguing the most serious life-and-death issues in the committee but, on the other hand, show that kind of dignity and determination to bring the human side to the debate.

She was one of the best, and I was honored to call her a friend.

There were many times that she made the rollcall in the Senate Judiciary Committee, the last year or 2, when I know it was an extraordinary sacrifice. She was going to show up because that was her responsibility. I respected her so much for that. And the committee divided 11 to 10, I needed her. She knew it, and she was there. She answered the call.

She served California with such distinction. She often talked about her beloved Golden State, but we all know that she was also a treasure to the Nation.

DIANNE FEINSTEIN inspired many, particularly many women, to public service. She served California well, and she served our Nation, and it was my honor to serve with her.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Alaska.

## REMEMBERING DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, there will be many opportunities in the next few days and in the weeks following to reflect on the life and the contributions of Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN and, as has been noted, the significant legislation that she advanced over three decades here, what that meant to her State, to her constituents, really, to her country, but also to us.

And as I think about the work that we all take on here, we know that we are capable of much, but we are made even more capable by extraordinary staff. And one of the things that I have noted over the years is the extremely loyal staff that Senator FEINSTEIN had built around her. I know that they are grieving today, as is DIANNE's family and so many friends. But I think we acknowledge them at the same time of this very significant loss of not only a colleague but of a friend.

And I think it is important that people understand that, here in the U.S. Senate, a place that can be so divisive at times, true friendships actually exist. And whether it is the Republican leader and his wife over the years dining together or, as Senator COLLINS has stated, just the very generous nature of Senator FEINSTEIN sharing—sharing her works, sharing her art, sharing a purse—I still have that seersucker suit.

I still have that seersucker suit. When we all engage in the annual ritual of donning the seersucker suit—mine is now 20 years old; I think yours is, too—our reality is, it is a direct reminder of the spontaneous generosity of a woman.

DIANNE FEINSTEIN was generous. She was gracious. She was thoughtful. She was kind. There were many times when