

and passed bills and did what she wants was not because she was just—they were just going to accept her as she was at that moment in time. It was the hard work. It was the relationships. It was the leaderships.

When I heard about the seersucker suit, I had the same experience. I am brandnew in the Senate. I don't have much resources. And DIANNE calls to get my measurements. That actually happened. And she got me one of those suits as well.

When I talk to young women about them getting involved in politics these days, a lot of them shy away from it. We still aren't where we are supposed to be with the numbers. One of the reasons they give is the attacks; they can't handle the negativity. When I think of DIANNE, she just kept her head high. I literally think of her posture. She kept her head high. She walked through every storm. Things would fall on the side, but she had a mission and her mission would be whatever was her responsibility of that day. Whether it was the Patent Reform Act, whether it was getting her groundbreaking report done on torture, whether it was the work she did in leading the historic legislation on the assault weapons ban, she kept her head up high and she led. That was her instinct. No matter what happened in this place, no matter what clothes changed, no matter who changed, she always led. And we will miss her today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

REMEMBERING DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I served beside Senator FEINSTEIN on the Judiciary Committee my entire time here, and I worked closely with her on the Intelligence Committee during the time we overlapped there.

I am honored to join my colleagues in participating in this remembrance to her. It has been said, I think, over and over again, of her elegance, as Senator COLLINS said; of how put together she was, as Senator MURKOWSKI said; of how gracious she was, as pretty much everyone has said. Her preparedness was another standout virtue in this body.

I have heard her say "I am going home to read tonight." Serving with her on those committees, I saw over and over again the amount of work that she put herself and her staff through to make sure that she was well-prepared. I never saw a Member of this body better prepared than Senator FEINSTEIN.

But the characteristic that I most associate with her is bravery—whether it was the bravery of throwing herself into California politics as a young woman at a time when not many women were doing that or the way she bravely handled the murders at city hall and her response to that or whether she was willing to come here, when women were few, and break glass ceil-

ing after glass ceiling after glass ceiling.

But the place where I saw her bravery most was when we worked together on the Senate Intelligence Committee torture report. I was kind of Robin to her Batman in that effort. And I still remember her, right about where Senator MURRAY now is, delivering her legendary speech that blew the cover off the CRA torture report. To get there, she had to get through massive counterattacks from the CIA on her and on our Intelligence Committee staff. She had to oppose the Bush administration that was pushing back against her from the very highest levels.

And when the administration changed, she had to show the same bravery and the same resistance against pretty much equal pressure from the Obama administration to shut up and go away. Well, shut up and go away were not things that Senator FEINSTEIN was willing to hear, and the moment that she spent on the Senate floor delivering that report was one of the moments that I am proudest of in the time that I have been here at the Senate.

Let me close by talking about her last weeks here because I think you have to see those last weeks here in the context of her preparation, her determined effort to be as perfect as she could be, and her bravery because it was not easy for her to come and do the work that she did in those last weeks.

But she knew that we needed her. She knew that despite how difficult it was, despite the difficulty she would have in meeting her own standards of perfection, it would have been easy just to go, but she knew that we needed her. We would have lost our majority in the Judiciary Committee without her, and I view her last months and weeks in this body as the last episode of her long career of bravery.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

REMEMBERING DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, over the next days and weeks and months, we are going to hear a lot about our dear friend DIANNE FEINSTEIN, and I am so glad that some of her friends from California and the Speaker—former Speaker—NANCY PELOSI and her family are here to just be with us in these first moments of our learning of her passing.

And we all have stories to tell about DIANNE, but when I joined, for example, the Intel Committee, and she was chairing it, she said: MAZIE, this is not a committee that you can just parachute in and not spend the time really learning about our intelligence community and all that—and I really took that to heart. I spent many, many hours on that committee, even though we could never talk about it. And then at one of the earlier hearings of the Ju-

diciary Committee—and I really marveled at this. It was a hearing that had to do with guns, and I always associate, of course, DIANNE with her courageous fight to ban assault weapons. And one of the newer members of the Judiciary Committee, as I was, chose that hearing to lecture DIANNE FEINSTEIN about her efficacy on guns, and I thought this was so untoward against someone who had spent so much of her time fighting for gun safety. But she just said: I have not spent all these years on this committee to be lectured by you, which I thought was really quite tactful.

But later she said to me—she took me aside, and she said: Do you think I was too mean? Do you think I should apologize? And all I could think of was, Are you kidding? That was DIANNE FEINSTEIN. She was old school. She was very kind. And I am wearing a scarf that she gave to me. And you have heard some of my other colleagues talk about, if we admired something of hers, she would give it to us. Well, this scarf she was wearing at that moment, and I said: Oh, that is such a lovely scarf, and she just took it off and gave it to me.

I wear this scarf often. In fact, we had to be careful about admiring anything DIANNE had because she would likely take it off and give it to us. But this is one of the things that I will always remember about DIANNE FEINSTEIN, her courage, her integrity, her commitment to public service, literally, until the very, very end.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VAN HOLLEN). The Senator from New Hampshire is recognized.

REMEMBERING DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I want to offer my condolences to DIANNE's family, to her colleagues in California, to the Speaker Emerita, to my colleague Senator PADILLA, and to so many of our friends and colleagues who are watching today. I wanted to rise just because I am one of the newer women in the U.S. Senate, and I wanted to acknowledge the difference that DIANNE FEINSTEIN's example and work has made for me, for my constituents, for our daughters, and our granddaughters.

When I came to the Senate, the bipartisan women's dinners were long-established. I didn't have to think about how I would get to know my women colleagues and share experiences and learn the ropes from them because DIANNE FEINSTEIN and her other colleagues who were early pioneers in the Senate had already done some of that work for us. I didn't have to think about whether there was going to be a women's bathroom right off the floor that I could use just the way the men use their bathroom in quick moments because DIANNE FEINSTEIN and others had paved the way.

I didn't have to think about whether I would be accepted in the same way

that DIANNE FEINSTEIN had to because she had already done that really difficult work of being that much better than everybody else to make sure that she never let women down and that she never let her constituents down.

This morning, after Senator MURRAY called us and said that we are all going to be on the floor, I was rushing to get ready, and to Senator MURKOWSKI's point, I put on different shoes than I was planning to. They were shoes that DIANNE had admired. She had the same pair, and she told me they were good ones to wear.

I wore a scarf—it is not one DIANNE gave me but because I thought DIANNE would think it would add a little something to my presence today. In the last few months of her service, DIANNE graced us with her dignity and with her friendship. She had a way of sitting down next to me in caucus lunch and checking in. She knew I had had some particular caregiving challenges at home, and she would always say to me: Who is with Ben right now? Ben is our son. How are things with the family? I am not sure people really understand that women still have family responsibilities that aren't easily transferable.

She wanted me always to know that we had made a lot of progress but that there was still progress to make. And in her way of nudging us and being an example for us, she was reminding us that we still have work to do and she was counting on us to do it.

The last meeting that my senior Senator and I had with DIANNE about an issue that was really important to our State and we needed a vote on, she had been home in California recuperating, and she had just made it back to the Senate. And we went to meet with her in her hideaway, and I, frankly, didn't know what to expect. I didn't know how her health would be. She had a memo—it wasn't a short one—that laid out the entire issue that we were there to talk to her about. She went through that memo, several places, and said: Well, I read here that this is the case, and I read there that that is the case, and you both are telling me that you think I should vote in a particular way.

We went back and forth about a couple of issues. We reinforced our arguments, our belief in why she should vote to support our position. She asked us questions. She knew her stuff. She had read the memo. And she said for a number of reasons—and she laid them out—that she would vote with us.

She had muscle memory that pulled her up to her full height. She had the intellectual discipline and memory to understand how to cut to the chase and make sure she understood the essence of the issue we were dealing with. And she was reminding us of what you are supposed to do to serve your constituents, your State, and your country as a U.S. Senator.

May her memory be a blessing.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

REMEMBERING DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I want to thank Senator PATTY MURRAY for bringing us all together today. It is a privilege to be on the floor of the U.S. Senate; it is a privilege to serve in the Senate; and it was a privilege to serve with someone as extraordinary as Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN. People know me as a Senator who cares deeply about women's rights, about LGBT equality, about children, family, safety. And anything that I have ever cared about, DIANNE was fighting for, long before I was ever in public service.

When we talk about public servants who leave legacies and when we talk about the giants on whose shoulders we stand, for me, that is DIANNE. She was unlike any Senator I met when I first got here in 2009. She had a really incredible combination of elegance, brilliance, stature, certainty, toughness, and kindness.

When I first got to the U.S. Senate, I didn't know anything. I was appointed. I hadn't just run a long election where I was telling the constituents of New York why I wanted to serve and what my vision for the State was. I was really, really new. I had been a House Member for 2 years. DIANNE asked me to lunch. She said: How can I help you, KIRSTEN? What would be most useful, for you, for me to do for you?

And I said: Well, could you just tell me a little bit about what is it like to be a Senator for a State of 60 million people. I have a State of 20 million people, so it is a lot, but I would love to hear how you have navigated this enormous job that you have.

And she just went through it. She took me step-by-step, everything that she did to manage her office. She would get a memo every week from her staff about where her legislation sat, what was happening, who were her bipartisan cosponsors.

She had a memo about how many calls her office had received, what the calls were about, what people wanted to talk to her about, what their concerns were. And that was extremely meaningful to me because she said: I have a copy of this memo, and I will give it to you. It is very confidential. It is just for me from my staff, but perhaps you can use it to model what you need from your staff every week to know if your office is working well, to make sure all the things you need your staff to be doing are happening.

It was just a small thing, but it was such a big thing to me at that time in my Senate career. And every step of the way, DIANNE always reached out. She always said—just as you said, MAGGIE—how are you doing? How are those boys of yours? Tell me how your struggle is. I never had to raise children while being a Senator. Tell me how that is.

She always cared. She always bothered. She always stopped. I have had many dinners with DIANNE. We had dinners together with our spouses. She would take me to her favorite res-

taurant in Georgetown. She would introduce me to her other favorite women who are public servants. And she always had something meaningful to talk about, a challenge, an issue, a crisis. At the first dinner, she wanted to talk about how the military was using nuclear weapons in a much more strategic way and changing the entire framework of what nuclear defense meant. She had that conversation with me and the then-chairwoman of Armed Services, of one of the key subcommittees in the House.

She always asked: What do you think? How are you going to challenge that problem?

Our most recent meeting was a glass of wine in her hideaway a week ago. We talked about what issues could we work on together. We agreed two of the biggest issues facing her State and my State were homelessness and affordable housing, and we decided we would start working on legislation together.

She didn't stop working when she was here just because she had health issues. She never stopped being insightful in the Intelligence Committee, asking the right question at the right time.

DIANNE's legacy is extraordinary. She is an icon for women's politics—the first female Mayor of San Francisco; first of the two women ever elected to the Senate in California.

There will be a lot of speeches about her, and so I am not going to talk about just her bio. But one of the areas where she really was a role model for me was in LGBTQ rights. She became a champion in the '60s. Sadly, she found Harvey Milk's body after he was assassinated. But she channeled that tragedy into her public service and made sure that while she was mayor of San Francisco that she made a difference for that community in her city and in her State.

During the AIDS epidemic, she helped create the global standard for AIDS health in San Francisco. When she ran for California Governor and became the first woman in her State to win a major party's gubernatorial nomination, despite losing that race, she went on to run for Senate to win. And we have seen her champion all those issues for same-sex marriage; reproductive rights; she helped pass the first assault weapons ban to keep our communities safe. These are all issues that I have always cared about and built on her record. If she didn't fight for those things, we wouldn't have been able to repeal don't ask, don't tell. We wouldn't have been able to make sure transgender servicemembers could still serve in the U.S. military. Without her hard work, we would not have been able to guarantee marriage equality at the U.S. Supreme Court.

This body is less because DIANNE's not here—that grace, that courage, that keen intelligence. She will be missed by me and by all our colleagues.

I brought the last gift DIANNE gave to me, a beautiful pencil drawing; again,