

Jim also loved the United States, the U.S. Navy, and Japan, in that order.

Jim hailed from Minnesota and grew up in Milwaukee. After graduating from Marquette University, he was commissioned in the U.S. Navy in 1963, a path that would lead him to become the founding policy visionary of U.S.-Japan security relations. Jim spent years in Japan with the Navy, commanding a ship home-ported there, and was the first U.S. Navy officer to study at the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force Staff College.

Dr. Auer in 1973 wrote a Praeger Special Study in International Politics, *The Postwar Rearmament of Japanese Maritime Forces, 1945-1971*, based on his PhD dissertation at the Fletcher School. It was also published in Japanese. This book had an important and relevant-for-today forward by Admiral Arleigh Burke, retired U.S. Chief of Naval Operations. Jim's research in Japan led him to close friendships and mutual respect with the Japanese Navy that continued throughout his life, to include the naming his first of three adopted children after two distinguished Japanese admirals.

Jim's significant duty station was in the Pentagon, Office of the Secretary of Defense, as Special Assistant for Japan. When President Reagan's team entered the Pentagon in 1981, Jim was immediately recognized as invaluable by his new bosses, a young 35-year-old former Senate staffer named Rich Armitage, and James Kelly, both of whom had served in the Navy and later became senior diplomats.

During the Cold War, Japan was an afterthought to senior officials, who relied on Dr. Auer implicitly for advice and words to write and speak. All senior Pentagon leaders' speeches and remarks on Japan were drafted by Jim Auer, and almost all were spoken as Jim had written. When Japan was considering breaking the 1% of GDP policy, Japan officials called Jim to ask him what the Secretary of Defense would say if it was decided and announced. Jim thought for a minute and then wrote and read to them what the Secretary would say. With confidence in Jim Auer's on-the-spot drafted statement, Japan decided to break the barrier. When it was announced the next day, Secretary Weinberger's statement was exactly as Jim said it would be.

U.S. security policy toward Japan before Dr. Auer was based on senior U.S. officials asking or demanding Japan to "do more" and to increase its budget. Under Dr. Auer, security policy more successfully emphasized and encouraged Japan's own set of security goals, which would grow to be very supportive of the Japan-U.S. relationship.

Jim decided to leave Washington in 1988 to move to his wife's family farm near Nashville. Jim did this for his family, and former governor of Tennessee Lamar Alexander urged Dr. Auer to set up a Japan-related center at Vanderbilt University. Jim founded the Center for U.S.-Japan Studies and Cooperation and served as the Center's leader while a professor and lecturer at Vanderbilt for more than twenty years. The Center's signature event was the annual U.S.-Japan Technology Forum, which led to increased technology exchange and cooperation between the U.S. and Japan that we are seeing the fruits of today.

In 2006, Dr. Auer edited an English language edition *Who Was Responsible?*, a groundbreaking two-volume study by the Yomiuri Shimbun, a major Japan newspaper, of Japan's disastrous 1931-1945 war. No such critical analysis had been done in Japan at that time.

In 2008 Jim was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun with Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon by the Japanese Government in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the

mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and the United States.

In 2016 Dr. Auer was awarded the prestigious Sankei Newspaper Seiron Taisho award, as the 31st recipient and only non-Japanese to receive it. Prime Minister Abe gave congratulatory remarks.

If Jim were with us right now, he would say that all of the above is ok, but the most important event of his life was marrying Judith Manning. Judy was a school teacher in Yokosuka whom Jim met in Tokyo in 1978 and married one year later. She was intelligent, kindhearted, and warm, and Jim was grateful for her every day of his life. He frequently said she was the reason he could do what he did, and he loved her dearly. Judy was his best friend, a thoughtful hostess, a wonderful mother and grandparent. All who knew Judy believed she was special.

Jim accomplished a lot in his life, but he always gave credit to others. He was kind and generous to juniors and students. He tutored many, in and out of government. Jim was a gentleman in the classic sense of the word, with gracious dignity, a ready smile, and modest demeanor. Americans and Japanese that Jim worked with may have sometimes disagreed with him, but all of them, from leaders to peers to subordinates, liked him. Jim was beloved and respected by his students at Vanderbilt University. In particular, he had a special bond with all the fellows who studied under him at the Center, and he loved them very much. They, along with all those whom Jim touched, carry on his legacy.

Jim is survived by his three children, musician Teichiro, educator and care assistant Helen, U.S. Marine Major John Ed, and five grandchildren, Noah, Sophia, Charlotte, Lydia, and Violet.

REMEMBERING MICHAEL LOVELL

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the life and exceptional career of Michael Lovell, president of Marquette University, who died on June 9, 2024 at the age of 57. Mr. Lovell's passing has deeply impacted not only the Marquette University community, but also the entire State of Wisconsin.

Mr. Lovell was born in 1967, and from a young age, he excelled in academics. Lovell earned a bachelor of science, master of science, and PhD in mechanical engineering from the University of Pittsburgh. However, his commitment to science did not end there. Lovell authored over 100 articles in engineering journals, contributed to 12 book chapters, and collaborated on a book titled "Tribology for Scientists and Engineers." As a researcher, he spearheaded investigations securing nearly \$30 million in research grants from various sources, including foundations, corporations, and government entities like the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, and the Department of Education. His work yielded multiple technological advancements, resulting in the acquisition of 7 patents and 14 provisional patents. In recognition of his contributions, Lovell was formally inducted into the National Academy of Inventors.

In 2008, Mr. Lovell arrived in Milwaukee to serve as the dean of the Col-

lege of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Lovell went on to serve as the interim chancellor of UWM and then secured the permanent position in 2011. Just a few years later, in 2014, Lovell was presented with the opportunity to take on the role of Marquette's president. He stated, "It became clear to me I was called to Milwaukee six years ago to become Marquette's president. It was never really my plan, but I'm just glad I decided to follow it."

Michael Lovell's decade-long stewardship of Marquette University exemplified a profound commitment to innovation, entrepreneurship, and community development, all rooted in the Jesuit values that guided his leadership. His tenure as Marquette's first lay president marked a transformative era for the institution, characterized by tireless dedication to its mission and the well-being of its students, faculty, and staff.

Beyond the confines of academia, Michael Lovell's influence extended into the fabric of Milwaukee itself. His collaborative spirit and vision for partnership brought together diverse stakeholders to address pressing societal challenges and drive economic growth in our communities. From his instrumental role in establishing the Northwestern Mutual Data Science Institute, to his advocacy for initiatives tackling issues like poverty and psychological trauma, Lovell's legacy as a catalyst for positive change will endure for generations to come.

Yet, amidst his professional achievements, Michael Lovell's personal journey stands as a testament to resilience, faith, and unwavering courage. His brave battle against cancer, fought with remarkable strength and dignity, serves as an inspiration to all who knew him. Even in the face of adversity, he remained steadfast in his commitment to serving others, leaving an indelible mark on those whose lives he touched.

As we mourn the loss of Michael Lovell, let us also celebrate his enduring legacy and the profound impact he made on Marquette University, the city of Milwaukee, and beyond. May his memory serve as a guiding light for all who strive to follow in his footsteps, dedicated to the pursuit of excellence, compassion, and the common good.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAWRENCE ANDERSON PIE SOCIAL

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Lawrence Anderson Memorial Pie Social.

Named in honor of the event's founder, the Lawrence Anderson Memorial Pie Social serves as the unofficial kick-off for Laramie County and statewide candidates. The pie social is held biennially on the last Sunday in June in Pine Bluffs, WY.

The pie social started in 1984 when Lawrence recognized the need for community members to connect directly with those who seek to represent them. He developed this cornerstone event as a forum for fellowship with friends and neighbors. As the Pine Bluffs Post notes, folks from “. . . Eastern Laramie County eagerly look forward to the premier social event of the campaign season.”

We all know the best way to celebrate our common goals is to share a meal. Lawrence took this principle to the next level, asking all who attend to bring a homemade pie. Lawrence was the kind of leader who used the lessons he learned growing up on his family's homestead to solve community issues. He was never afraid to do the work himself and was, as the Pine Bluffs Post notes, “Known for years as one of the hardest workers in the Republican Party. Lawrence Anderson earned the nickname ‘Mayor of North Burns’ which he held with pride.”

Lawrence, his late wife Joanne, and the entire Anderson family, leave a legacy of service to Eastern Laramie County. I served with Rodney Pete Anderson, when he represented Wyoming House District 10 in the legislature. Leonard Anderson, Lawrence's brother, served as the mayor of Pine Bluffs.

Although Lawrence left us in 2018, his quiet brand of leadership remains. We are all better for learning from his humble and patient spirit. He embodied the Wyoming Code of the West. From farming to serving on the boards for Community Action of Laramie County and Laramie County School District 2, Lawrence did what had to be done, was tough, but fair and always rode for the brand.

Lawrence leaves behind a large family. His children are Mark Anderson and wife Judy; Craig Anderson and wife Gail; and Sharon Anderson—grandchildren are Jolie Sawyer; Kelly Janes and husband David; Brett Anderson and wife Lori; Ryan Anderson and wife Alli; Jeremy Anderson and wife Rachel; Robert Anderson; and Taya Anderson; along with numerous great-grandchildren.

In honor of the 40th anniversary of this iconic Wyoming event, I applaud the Laramie County community, this year's coordinator Mike Heath and the other leaders who have worked to continue this tradition. We are all fortunate to continue in the footsteps of Lawrence Anderson.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING RAYMON ENTERPRISES, INC.

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to

recognize Raymon Enterprises of Albion, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 1973, Don Martin founded Donco Industries in Waterloo. The company started by manufacturing passive sound absorption materials for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning—HVAC—systems with just four employees and two motorized machines. In 1979, after moving to a new location above a bowling alley in Eldora, Larry and Joynell Raymon took an interest in the business. The Raymons took a leap of faith and acquired the company in 1985, after moving operations to their current location in Albion.

In 2006, the Raymon family renamed the business to Raymon Enterprises. Today, the family company is a major manufacturer of commercial-grade grilles, registers, and diffusers used in HVAC systems across the United States and Canada. In 2022, Larry's son Chad was named president of the company that now employs more than 80 people and operates out of a 65,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility in Albion. In 2023, Raymon Enterprises celebrated its 50th anniversary, marking over five decades of high-quality products and incredible customer service.

Over the years, Raymon Enterprises has not only focused on company growth but also on giving back to the community. In 1988, Larry received the Small Business Administration's Des Moines District Small Business Person of the Year award. In 1992, the company was named the Marshalltown Chamber Member of the Year. Today, Raymon Enterprises holds membership with the American Legion, American Veterans, the Farm Bureau, and the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers.

As a member of the Army National Guard, Larry has a special appreciation for those who serve. Using their own funds, the Raymon family opened the Raymon Veterans Park in Albion. The park features a fully restored M110A2 Howitzer from Operation Desert Storm and, most importantly, a beautiful dedication plaza to honor America's veterans. In 2023, the park hosted its first Memorial Day service, attracting over 300 people who came to show their support and gratitude. The family hopes to continue the tradition each year on Memorial Day.

After years of leading the company, Larry passed away in February 2024. His leadership extended beyond business through his work to make a significant impact in Iowa and the Albion community. Larry served in the Army National Guard and founded the Marshalltown Economic Development Impact Committee, a community-based economic development organization that created over 100 new jobs in Marshall County.

The entire Raymon family exemplifies the spirit of perseverance and dedication to your community. I want to congratulate the Raymon family and

everyone at Raymon Enterprises for their continued commitment to Albion and the entire State of Iowa. As they continue forward, their legacy of excellence and community service is sure to inspire future generations. I look forward to witnessing their continued growth and success in Iowa.●

RECOGNIZING THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

• Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the work and legacy of the Kresge Foundation, an organization founded and headquartered in suburban Detroit, as they celebrate 100 years of philanthropy. Over the past century, the Kresge Foundation has remained true to its profoundly simple yet decidedly impactful founding mission to “promote the well-being of mankind,” while also serving as a leader and example for philanthropic efforts the world over. It is a privilege and honor to recognize the centennial milestone of this singular organization on June 11, 2024.

The Kresge Foundation was founded in Detroit in 1924 by department store businessman and philanthropist Sebastian Spering Kresge, whose S.S. Kresge Co.—and later, Kmart—brought affordable goods to everyday Americans in communities across the country. To help commemorate the 25th anniversary of his company's founding, Mr. Kresge set aside a \$1.3 million gift for the initial endowment of his foundation, followed up shortly after by an additional donation of 500,000 shares of common stock in the S.S. Kresge Co. This founding endowment not only allowed the Kresge Foundation to establish itself and its mission but to grow alongside the company it shares its name with, ultimately expanding into the global philanthropic organization it is today.

Beginning with its first charitable donation in 1925—a \$100 grant to the Salvation Army of Detroit—and expanding outward from there, the Kresge Foundation has built a record of transformative and innovative philanthropic work over its history. Through its grant-making efforts, particularly the use of its signature challenge grants, the Kresge Foundation has awarded over \$5 billion in funding over its 100 years to worthy causes across all 50 States, Washington, DC, two U.S. territories, and 18 countries around the world.

Today, its multifaceted work spans six key priority areas, which include arts and culture, community development, the city of Detroit, environment, education, and health and human services. From supporting cutting-edge medical research at the Kresge Eye Institute in Ann Arbor to building bridges to promising futures for Detroit school children at the School at Marygrove, the foundation's impact truly spans the breadth of human endeavor and need.

Perhaps its cornerstone partnership, however, lies with its commitments to