

He has climbed nine Himalayan peaks. He has climbed Mount McKinley. He has climbed 99 of the highest summits in Colorado, and that is the place where we have the great Rockies. Those are big mountains. He once attempted to scale Mount Everest but was stopped by a severe storm. Some of us, while we were waiting to finish our work on Saturday, told me they were hoping to go skiing on Sunday.

I said: Where are you going to go skiing?

I don't know the name of the place.

How high is that place?

Eight hundred feet.

In the Sierra Nevada mountains where I am from, and the Rockies, that is not a mountain. We have mountains in Colorado and Nevada.

MARK UDALL once attempted to scale Mount Everest and was nearly there when one of the most violent storms came. Using good sense, he decided they shouldn't do it, and it was the right thing to do. People die by saying they are stronger than nature. He understands his limitations, and his limitations are not very much. MARK is a tremendous athlete. He could do anything athletically. He has the genes of his dad, Morris Udall, whom I had the good fortune of serving with in the House of Representatives. Morris Udall is the only person to have played professional basketball being blind in one eye, couldn't see, but he was able to adjust his perceptive qualities with a basketball hoop to play professional basketball.

We all felt MARK'S loss when his brother Randy was found dead. He was found dead in the place he loved more than anyplace else, the Wind River Mountains in Wyoming. That is where Randy loved to go. That is where MARK loves to go. People told Randy he shouldn't go alone, but he went alone and it appears maybe he had a heart attack while he was out there. They found him several weeks later in the mountains he loved, dead. It was real tough for MARK, who looked up so much to his brother. MARK, though, has met many mountains and done many great things.

He served in the House of Representatives where he was stellar. But it is the work in the Senate where his greatest feats have been accomplished. In 2013 there were storms in Colorado and there was catastrophic flooding. It was very bad. Lives were lost, homes washed away. The people of Colorado needed help, and MARK would not stop. He held up legislation until the people of Colorado got what they deserved. He helped secure nearly \$1 billion in Federal assistance for the people of his State, money to rebuild homes, bridges, roads, and reestablish lives.

While he dedicated himself to protecting the people of Colorado, he also was committed to safeguarding the constitutional rights of all Americans. Who has done more in exposing what has been going on with the invasion of people's privacy? No one has done more

than MARK. He has done this in a number of different ways. But as a member of the Intelligence Committee, his work sounded the alarm about the National Security Administration's bulk data collection program. He fought to end the CIA's detention and interrogation program, and together with Senator FEINSTEIN has pushed to make public the committee's study of the CIA's torture program.

People have said: Perhaps if MARK had not been so concerned about individual rights, about the bulk data collection, about the torture, maybe he would have been reelected. But that is not MARK UDALL. He comes from a family with a long tradition of public service, as I have indicated. His uncle Stewart was Secretary of the Interior, after having served in Congress for many years representing the State of Arizona, as did his dad Mo Udall. Mo Udall was one of the most recognizable Congressmen in the entire 20th century, having run for President, and he had a sense of humor that was really quite remarkable.

Here in the Senate MARK has cousins. It has been interesting. During the last few years, we have had a lot of cousins: MARK, TOM, MIKE LEE, Gordon Smith—all cousins, first cousins. How did that come about? MARK would, as he did just a day or two ago, look and kind of smile and say: It could have been polygamy. And it was. But they are a very, very close family, a very close family.

In spite of the closeness of TOM and MARK—two brothers could not be closer than these two men. They climb mountains together. I have talked to them about putting on crampons, these spikes you put on your shoes to climb the ice. These are adventurers.

So we are going to miss MARK. But he has forged his own path and his own legacy.

Now, as his time in the Senate draws to a close, he will carry that legacy to other endeavors.

I wish MARK all the best. It has been such a privilege to serve with him. He will be deeply missed.

#### TAX INCREASE PREVENTION ACT OF 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 627, which is H.R. 5771.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 627, H.R. 5771, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF VIVEK HALLEGERE MURTHY TO BE MEDICAL DIRECTOR IN THE REGULAR CORPS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS THEREFOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND REGULATIONS, AND TO BE SURGEON GENERAL OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

NOMINATION OF DANIEL J. SANTOS TO BE A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

NOMINATION OF FRANK A. ROSE TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (VERIFICATION AND COMPLIANCE)

NOMINATION OF SARAH R. SALDANA TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

NOMINATION OF ANTONY BLINKEN TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nominations of Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Massachusetts, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to qualifications therefor as provided by law and regulations, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service; Daniel J. Santos, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board; Frank A. Rose, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance); Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security; and Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### MURTHY NOMINATION

Mr. BARRASSO. I rise today to oppose the nomination of Dr. Vivek Murthy to be Surgeon General of the United States. The Surgeon General is known as America's doctor. Americans have great respect for this important position. They expect their Surgeon