

hard work. Frank taught his son the elements of the food industry, imparting to Sam invaluable lessons that he would later implement as he established and operated several Italian delis and distributed food to Utah stores and restaurants. Lunch at Granato's was a mainstay for people from all walks of life. Some of the most interesting political discussions, for people on both sides of the aisle, have taken place in the "boardrooms" of Sam's beloved restaurant.

To Sam, everyone was his best friend. Sam enthusiastically greeted every person who walked in the door of Granato's, whether he had known you for decades or had just met you. His mantra was always, "How can I help you?" Time after time, I watched Sam put his arm around someone, lean in, and offer a word of encouragement or help.

Sam contributed to so many areas of Utah life. He was a successful businessowner, an effective Salt Lake councilman, an advocate for the needy, and a loving husband and father. He often brought people together—Mormon and Catholic, Republican and Democrat—and would bridge the gaps that confronted us. He represented a better era in politics in which we focused more on where we agree than where we disagree.

With Sam's passing, Utah has lost an important member of its community. Sam was a man whose small stature belied his huge impact. Elaine and I extend our deepest sympathy and love to his wife, Ann, and to their four children. May our Heavenly Father's loving arms encircle them as they mourn his loss and celebrate his life. I will miss my friend and his kindness and support, but I know that the contributions he made will continue to bless our State for generations to come.

HONORING OFFICER PHILLIP MEACHAM

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise to honor the service and sacrifice of Officer Phillip Meacham, of the Hopkinsville Police Department, who lost his life in faithful service to his community.

Like all members of law enforcement, Officer Meacham put his safety at risk each and every day for those he was sworn to protect. However, on March 29, 2018, tragedy struck in a targeted act of violence when an individual impersonating a police officer fatally shot him.

For a small community like Hopkinsville, KY, Officer Meacham's killing appalled everyone to their core. This type of senseless violence had no place in their or any community, and Officer Meacham's loss sent shockwaves throughout western Kentucky. During his funeral procession, hundreds of people—both friends and total strangers—lined the streets to honor him.

Officer Meacham joined the Hopkinsville Police Department last May after

more than a decade at the Christian County Sheriff's Department. His honorable service to this community will be remembered for years to come by the men and women who served with him in uniform and by the wife and young daughter he left behind.

As the community mourns Officer Meacham, we are all reminded of the ever-present danger that the brave members of law enforcement face. Officer Meacham's courage and heroism were hallmarks of his service, and his community is safer because of him.

I would like to express my deepest condolences to Officer Meacham's family, to the Hopkinsville Police Department, and to all those who knew him. I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in honoring this Kentucky hero.

TRIBUTE TO KAY ADKINS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Kay Adkins, the president and CEO of Ashland Community and Technical College, ACTC, on her upcoming retirement after more than 5 years of leadership to this Kentucky institution. A western Kentucky native, Dr. Adkins knew this would be her last post before a well-deserved retirement that will begin at the end of June.

After earning her doctorate in educational administration from Illinois State University, Dr. Adkins held leadership positions at community colleges around the country. Just before coming back to the Commonwealth, she served as the president of Yuba College in Marysville, CA, where she found success in diversity, strategic planning, and the establishment of the Yuba College Foundation.

During her time at ACTC, Dr. Adkins helped the organization fulfill its mission to provide accessible, affordable, and quality education to its students. A member of the school's board of directors said, "She's the total package." A former chairman of the board credits her leadership with making ACTC a leader of Kentucky's community colleges.

One of her many accomplishments in Ashland was the establishment of the Holy Family Community Collegiate High School, which helps students earn 2-year degrees while they pursue a high school diploma. Dr. Adkins also strengthened the relationship between ACTC and many of Kentucky's colleges and universities, so students could transfer their credits to a 4-year program. In the face of economic hardships in the region, she helped develop second-career retraining programs to help displaced or out-of-work Kentuckians.

Dr. Adkins' efforts have already shown impressive results. Under her guidance, ACTC awarded a record number of credentials to its graduates each of the last 3 years. She has also built close ties with the employer community in an effort to increase the num-

ber of scholarships available to students and help them begin meaningful careers after graduation. Her leadership has benefited students and the community.

Now, she plans to spend retirement in her native western Kentucky with her husband, playing golf and traveling. I would like to congratulate Dr. Adkins on her successful career and thank her for years of dedication to Kentucky's students, and I urge my colleagues to join me.

TRIBUTE TO ALBERT HALE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, today it is my privilege to congratulate Albert Hale, of Laurel County, KY, on his recent retirement after more than four decades of public service to his community. Hale left his position as emergency management director for the county earlier this year, and I would like to take this opportunity to join with the men and women of Laurel County in thanking him for his diligent service.

After graduating from high school, Hale began working for the Kentucky Department of Transportation as a heavy equipment operator. Then in 1994, he added second career working on a part-time basis for the county's sheriff's department. Since he took on that new responsibility more than 20 years ago, Hale had been ready to answer any call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Almost a decade later, Hale retired from the transportation department and began working full time for the sheriff's department. In that role, Hale coordinated with the U.S. Forest Service to assist in its efforts to patrol the area surrounding the Laurel Lake. In 2008, Hale left the sheriff's department for a position in the Laurel County jail's work-release program where he worked with inmates to help them find employment opportunities.

Two years later, Hale heard about a vacancy at the Laurel County Emergency Management Department. He applied and joined the department in 2010 as its director. In this role, Hale leads the support organization to help his community prepare for, respond to, and recover from a wide range of emergency situations. In this position, Hale had the opportunity to collaborate with emergency management professionals from across Kentucky.

As director, Hale remembered one particular event with great satisfaction. After a powerful tornado in Laurel County, a number of organizations and individuals came together to protect the community and to help it rebuild. In the face of a disaster, the citizens of Laurel County worked collaboratively to help their neighbors in need.

Throughout his long career, Hale has dedicated himself time and again to the service of his community. As he fondly looks back on his career, he also remembers the many family holidays