

home State of President Barack Obama, America's first African-American President.

It is also home to the first African-American woman ever to serve in this body, Senator Carol Moseley-Braun.

The author and poet Carl Sandburg, another son of Illinois, wrote, "Nothing happens unless first we dream."

In Illinois' 200 years as a State, its sons and daughters have never stopped dreaming of ways to make life better and fairer, and working to make those dreams come true.

As we begin our third century as a member of this great Union, we intend to continue that proud tradition.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

REMEMBERING GEORGE H.W. BUSH

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I am honored to join my colleagues here to talk about President Bush. The outpouring of appreciation from the country has been significant.

His son, the 43rd President, said that it takes a long time for the determinations of history to come in. I think the 41st President had almost 25 years for people to begin to put his Presidency in the right kind of historical reference, the right context of looking back and seeing not only what happened then but what has happened since then because of what happened then. I am pleased that he and Barbara were able to live long enough after that significant Presidency to see what happened.

Certainly in Missouri, we claim part of the Bush family. His mother grew up in Missouri. The Walkers were from Missouri. He treated Missouri like it was one of the States that he was connected to by relationship. His grandfather and later his Uncle Herbert and the rest of the family would go in the summer to Walker's Point, named after that Missouri part of his family, just like the Walker Cup is named after that part of his family.

The impact of his mother is pretty great. I heard the President talking the other day, in an interview with Jenna Bush, about whom he would look for when he got to Heaven. That was a couple of years ago, I think. He said: Well, if Barbara has gone there first, I think the right answer would be that I am going to look for her first. But then he said: I think my mom and my dad, and he said their daughter Robin, whom they lost when she was 3 years old.

So his mother was an important part of his life. You could tell that when talking to him or to his children, when they remembered their grandmother, and you could see a lot of what she taught him in him, including that competitive nature. They don't name sporting cups after your family unless your family begins in competition. There was that competitive nature, but that was also based on never bragging about yourself. To be a real competitor like the President was and not brag

about yourself is not always an easy thing, but, certainly, maybe to his political detriment, it was part of his upbringing.

Another part of his upbringing included, in many ways, the best values of that World War II generation: Stand up straight, take responsibility, share credit, and take blame. Those were all part of who George Herbert Walker Bush had become—that idea that you should do what you are supposed to do and that idea of the importance of service to others. If you are going to be part of the team, if you are President Bush—I heard Jon Meacham, his biographer, say that he tried to kind of get into the depth of that: What about this commitment to service, and aren't there lots of ways to do that, and can't you have service without recognition? But President Bush, understanding the conflict, actually, in what he believed and the profession he had pursued said: Well, there is nothing wrong if you are going to be on the team to want to be captain of the team, whether it is captain of the Yale baseball team, which he was, or the President of the United States.

The Yale baseball team leads me to another thing that the Presiding Officer and I know when we think about him; that is, the willingness as a young man to serve—and to serve immediately. In fact, at 17, still in high school, after Pearl Harbor, he talked about going to Canada to join the Canadian Air Corps because you could do that at 17, but in our country you couldn't join the Air Corps until 18. There was no Air Force yet. It was the Army Air Corps or the Navy Air Corps. He was persuaded by, I assume, his mom and dad, and others, by saying: Well, let's finish high school first, and then when you are 18, you can join the U.S. Air Corps. He did that, I believe, on his 18th birthday, or really close to his 18th birthday, to become then the youngest aviator in the war at the time when he got his flying credentials and serving in that way. That was part of that generation.

Then, the war was over, and he and Barbara get married right before the war ended. Then he goes to college. That young man with a wife and a baby goes to college and becomes the captain of the baseball team. He was a man with really always great athletic ability and great grace in so many ways. He had grace under pressure and grace with others, but grace in sports, as well, and the ability to do that.

Now, when you are the captain of the Yale baseball team, you can talk a lot about the team instead of yourself. When you decide to enter politics, there is an almost total contradiction between pursuing political office and not talking about yourself. It just doesn't quite work that way. You have to be willing to do that. We could always see in President Bush that reluctance to cross the line his mother had taught him and talk about himself and talk about his accomplishments. Even

at his best, he was held back, in many ways, by that reluctance—what he would see as bragging on himself.

His public service was significant and broad-based. I believe you could make the case that perhaps no one had ever been better prepared to be President than George Herbert Walker Bush, but in that effort to become President, you have to run first. I remember in 1980 hearing Barbara Bush talking about this. I remember this because it was so unusual. I don't remember anybody else saying anything like this when they decided to run for President in 1980. When he ran for President, I heard Barbara Bush say this when asked: This guy has run for Congress once; it is the only elected office he has ever had, the House of Representatives and reelected. And she said: Yes, but George has a big family and thousands of friends.

Now we see, at the end of his life, how that network of friends continued to be an important part of who he was, but I don't recall a single other person ever successfully running for President on the basis that he had a big family and lots of friends. But that was his unique way to associate with people, which included the thousands of letters he wrote. As the Vice President said yesterday, he wrote to friends over the years, and as it turned out, in retirement. He wrote letters to almost anybody who would write him. He would respond as, again, his mother probably taught him to do: If somebody takes the time to write you, you take the time to write them back. He was a man of appreciation and thank-you notes and sympathy notes. So that network of friends and family eventually became very important.

Now, where I live in Missouri, we were the ultimate bellwether State for about 100 years. My friend from Ohio would come close to being able to take that crown for a while. Ohio has usually been a winner in Presidential elections. But for 100 years, from 1904 to 2004, we voted for the winner every time but one. So that last part of that—that last 20 years of that time period—very much is the time period where President Bush 41 and Bush 43, for that matter, were part of national politics.

Missouri would have been a significant place for him anyway. His brother lived there—his younger brother Bucky, who passed away in the last few years—and Ambassador Burt Walker was there. So there are lots of inter-related and connected family members.

So we saw Candidate Bush and then Vice President Bush and then President Bush in our State a lot. I was the elected secretary of State when he was Vice President, and I was the secretary of State when he was President. So I had the chance to benefit from knowing him.

I had a chance to go to Walker's Point a few times and to go to church with the Bushes. If you were with the Bushes on a Sunday, either you were

going to be left by yourself or you were going to go to church, because that was as much a part of who President Bush was as anything else—maybe a bigger part than anything else.

He said that in his faith—the Episcopal faith. Maybe he wasn't about sharing publicly his faith, but he was absolutely committed to his faith. In fact, he raised the money to build a chapel at Camp David during his Presidency. There had not been a chapel there before. A number of Presidents, starting with Franklin Roosevelt, had used Camp David, but it was President Bush who decided: Well, church services on Sunday in the cafeteria could be in a better place; let's do what we can.

So he raised the money privately to build the chapel that is there today.

The Missouri connection goes a little bit further. Not only did Missouri vote for President Bush in 1988—and if my story is going to have any truth to it, I would have to point out that Missouri voted for Bill Clinton in 1992, because we were still voting for the winner by pretty much the margin of whatever the national average was in the last 50 years of that 100-year saga.

After Desert Storm, President Bush looked around to find a place to do the first Fourth of July parade, and he came to Marshfield, MO, in the county where I was born—Webster County. I was going to be grand marshal of the parade that year, as I recall, but when it became apparent that the President wanted to come to be in that parade, I was more than willing to concede that he should be the grand marshal of that parade, and I walked not too far behind him.

Then, in 1992, after the convention—I believe it was the first kickoff—the first campaign kickoff was at Branson, MO, and I had the chance to be there with him. We went to a country music show at the Moe Bandy Theater. Loretta Lynn was sitting with the President and Mrs. Bush, and their good friend from Texas, Moe Bandy, was performing. That was a part of America and a part of our music that the President loved. I think the kickoff rally itself was outside in the parking lot, at Silver Dollar City, and the Herschend family was there. JoDee Herschend just this week died, as well, after a long fight with cancer.

All of those connections go back to the big family and thousands of friends. There was nowhere in that matrix that I just talked about where President Bush didn't leave with more friends than he had when he came—friends whom many times he figured out how to develop a lifelong connection to.

All of us could use more of that skill. There is social media and the quick response, but the letter writing and the phone calling and the thinking about when you need to reach out to people in a way they can transparently feel it continues to be important. The other things are not unimportant, either, but

his connectedness took a little more effort than some of ours do.

Let me just say, in terms of preparation and how it paid off, he was CIA Director, a Member of Congress, one of the very first Envoys to China, before we had official relationships, Envoy to the United Nations, Vice President of the United States, and his making connections and contacts and friendships.

There was Desert Storm. Saddam Hussein invades Kuwait, and the President says: "This will not stand." He assembled what may have been the greatest coalition of nations at any time. The nations that weren't willing to fight were often willing to help others to pay for the fight. I don't know if anybody else could have put that coalition together the way President Bush did, but he put that coalition together with maximum force and to guarantee minimum loss and suddenly freed Kuwait and showed that the United States was still going to stand up for people who couldn't stand up for themselves.

Then, there was the collapse of the Soviet Union. We have just enough time now to look back. I have heard many others over the last few days talk about how that could have gone so badly wrong for all of the other countries that were trying to emerge from the domination of Russia and the Soviet Union. But George Herbert Walker Bush was on the phone, reaching out, talking to leaders, saying the things that actually had just been predicted by the West Germans themselves to be impossible—that, somehow, East Germany could become part of West Germany. That is exactly what happened. The President encouraged, stood beside, and went out of the way to be sure that Helmut Kohl, the leader of West Germany, had the kind of support that he and his government needed. He reached out to bring this country, which had been isolated for 40 years, back as part of their country and into the country. So all of these East European countries that were emerging from Soviet domination had a chance to move from domination to democracy. That would not have happened the way it happened if somebody less prepared and less capable had been there. Character paid off then, and character is being recognized today for the value it has. As thousands have walked by the casket in the Rotunda of the Capitol of the United States of America, millions of others have thought about what a life of character means, about what the willingness to take responsibility means, and about how important it is to share credit, to take blame, to be prepared, and to believe there is great value and virtue in serving others. That is what George Herbert Walker Bush did.

As we think back at the impact he and Mrs. Bush and their family have had on the country, there is a great lesson to be learned. I hope we are all taking time to learn it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, the Presiding Officer knows I spent a little time in the Navy. So did my father. My father enlisted in the Navy right before World War II broke out. He was not 18.

George Herbert Walker Bush, I think on his 18th birthday, just out of high school, enlisted in the Navy as a seaman second class. About a year later, he was off to Corpus Christi Naval Air Station, where I earned my wings as a naval flight officer a long time ago. He became an ensign, I think at the age of 19, and became, maybe, the youngest Navy pilot around that time that they had in the Navy, if you can believe that. A year or so later, I think in September of 1943, he was on the USS *San Jacinto* in the Pacific and flew avenger bombers with the 3rd Fleet and 6th Fleet. When you think about it, at that point in time he must have been about 20 years old, flying avenger bombers. That is pretty amazing.

When I was 20 years, I was a sophomore or junior at Ohio State. The idea of flying missions, as we did stuff in the summers with Navy ROTC in Corpus Christi, flying airplanes and so forth—to be flying missions in the Pacific theater in the middle of World War II is pretty astounding.

In 1944, he would have been maybe 20 years old, not quite 21. He was a lieutenant JG. I think I made lieutenant JG when I was 22 or so. But later that year, in 1944, when he was still about 20 years old, he was shot down off the coast of Chichijima by a Japanese anti-aircraft flier while flying a mission to bomb an enemy radio site located on the Bonin Islands about 600 miles south of Japan. In some of my missions during the Vietnam war, we flew by there. He was rescued by the U.S. submarine *Finback* after he had floated around the ocean for a while in an inflated raft. God bless the folks on the *Finback*. They somehow found out he was out there and found him. It was like finding a needle in a haystack. I have done a fair number of search and rescue missions out of a P-3 airplane. To find somebody on a little dingy from an airplane is hard enough, but to find them from a submarine is even more difficult. It is miraculous to me that on September 2, 1944, they found him and saved him.

In November of 1944, he returned to his ship, the USS *San Jacinto*, and participated in operations in the Philippines until his squadron was sent home. I have some fond memories of operating missions in the South China Sea out of the Philippines and off the coast of Southeast Asia. But his career took him there. I think at that time he was about 21, an old guy, in the Navy.

A year or so later, in September of 1945, he was discharged from the Navy. He had served 58 combat missions during World War II, for which he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. You don't get much better than a Distinguished Flying Cross. So there were three air medals—I had one, and this guy had three—and the Presidential Unit Citation awarded to his

ship, of which he was a member for a number of years. That is one heck of a record for a guy who signed up as a seaman second class at the age of 18 and 3 years later finished up after flying all those missions when he was 21. I am still thinking about what I was doing when I was 21. I wasn't doing this. I was looking forward to going into the Navy on Active Duty and ended up in Southeast Asia with John McCain, from Arizona, one of our colleagues and the Presiding Officer's wingman in the Senate for a number of years.

I had never met George Bush when he was on Active Duty or in the Navy. I was not yet born. My dad served about the same time, never at the same time at the same duty station, although they both spent a fair amount of time in airplanes. My dad was a chief petty officer.

My guess is that George Bush got pretty good leadership training from his parents, but, starting from the age of 18, the Navy took over and provided him with exceptional leadership training. I would like to think some others—including John McCain, hopefully yours truly, and some others with whom we served, not just in World War II but in subsequent wars, including Vietnam and even today—received great leadership training in the military. George Herbert Walker Bush was trained, as was I and as were many of our peers, that leaders are humble, not haughty. Think about that: Leaders are humble, not haughty. Speeches were given last week as we gathered in the Capitol, and thousands of people have walked by his casket since. If there was ever a leader I have met who was humble, not haughty, it was George Herbert Walker Bush.

He was trained that leaders lead by their example. It is not do as I say, but do as I do. That is what he was like. He had the heart of a servant throughout his life. I can't remember all of the different roles in which he served. Maybe our Presiding Officer can help me; maybe the Senator from Tennessee who has joined me can fill in the blanks. But it was a pretty amazing career, which includes jobs I wasn't even mindful of. A lot of us remember he was head of the CIA. Everybody knows he was President and Vice President. But there were so many other jobs—Ambassador to China and a host of other challenging positions—that he fulfilled every step of his life.

He was a Congressman and served in the House for 4 years. This is really instructive; if Senator ALEXANDER would correct me if I am wrong, my recollection is that he ran for the U.S. Senate not once but twice and was not successful either time. Sometimes we learn more when we are unsuccessful than when we are successful.

He was the kind of leader who thought that part of being a leader is staying out of step when everybody else is marching to the wrong tune. He was the kind of leader who felt that a leader should be aspirational and ap-

peal to people's better angels. He was the kind of leader who surrounded himself with really good people. I have known a bunch of them, and so have some of you. He surrounded himself with exceptional people.

He was the sort of leader who, when the team did well, he would give credit to the team, and when the team fell short, he would take the blame. He was one of those leaders who actually sought to unite people, not divide people. We hear a lot these days about building bridges and building walls. He was a bridge builder, never much for building walls.

One of my favorite quotes about politics is that our friends come and go, but our enemies accumulate. All of those years, the people he ran against—Bill Clinton certainly comes to mind, but others, as well—had great affection for him and loved him. There is some secret there that the rest of us could probably learn from.

The other thing I am especially mindful of him as a leader is that he was interested in doing what was right—not what was easy or expedient, but what was right. He treated other people the way he wanted to be treated—the Golden Rule. He was interested in doing things well, and he wanted people around him to do things well—sort of like, if it isn't perfect, make it better. He was not one to give up.

For those reasons, and others, I would like to say that he was the kind of leader we need more of in both parties—here, in the executive branch, and in other branches of our government. We could use more like him, men and women. But those of us who were lucky enough to be around him, to learn from him, and to see him in action, whether he was successful or not—it was a great opportunity for us.

I have the opportunity now to serve as the senior Democrat on the Environment and Public Works Committee; our chair is JOHN BARRASSO. The chairman of the HELP Committee is here on the floor today, Senator ALEXANDER. He and I, in earlier days—when he was a member of the Public Works Committee—worked on the Clear Skies legislation. President George W. Bush, the son of President George Herbert Walker Bush, proposed something called Clear Skies legislation—sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, and mercury. As I recall, Senator ALEXANDER and I, maybe along with Senator Voinovich of Ohio, worked on something. I call it “Really Clear Skies” because sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, and mercury make CO₂, carbon dioxide.

Much has been made of late of the environmental record of Richard Nixon. I never thought I would be extolling the virtues of Richard Nixon as our President, but I have quite a bit in the last several years as the senior Democrat on the Environment and Public Works Committee. I am the only Democrat I know who quotes President Nixon. Richard Nixon said, among other things, that the only people who don't

make mistakes are people who don't do anything. Isn't that good? The only people who don't make mistakes are people who don't do anything. We all make mistakes. I probably learn more from my mistakes than from the things I have done right.

People talk about the environmental legacy of Richard Nixon. He signed legislation creating the EPA; he signed legislation creating the Clean Air Act; he signed legislation creating the Clean Water Act. He did some amazing stuff, for a Republican President, with respect to the environment.

Not as much has been made of George Herbert Walker Bush's environmental record, but I have some notes that I am going to refer to here to help refresh my memory and maybe expand a little on what others know.

In the House of Representatives, when we were working on the 1990 amendments of the Clean Air Act, I had the opportunity to coauthor a couple of little pieces of that legislation, which he actually signed, so I feel a sense of ownership. He, as President, signed into law the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990.

On the Friday after Thanksgiving, a couple of weeks ago, here in our Nation's Capital, 13 Federal agencies released a major report laying out the alarming impact that climate change is having on the environment, our public health, our economic growth, and our weather. I never thought I would see the day when we are measuring rainfall by the foot instead of by the inches. I never thought I would be seeing wildfires in California, Montana, Washington State, and Oregon that are bigger than my State of Delaware. I never thought I would see this many category 5 hurricanes. I never thought I would see two 500-year floods in Ellicott City, MD, just a short way up the road here. They didn't come every 500 years; they came one year after the other. I never thought I would see that kind of weather.

These Federal agencies put out a report a couple of weeks ago, laying out some of the alarming impacts that climate change is having on our environment, public health, economic growth, and our weather. That report is known as the “National Climate Assessment.” It is put out every 4 years as a result of an act signed in 1990 called the Global Change Research Act of 1990. Who signed it? Why, it was President George Herbert Walker Bush who signed it into law all those years ago.

The 41st President raised the alarm decades ago about a threat that he referred to as the “ozone hole.” That is what he called it, the ozone hole. The Clean Air Act of 1990, which he signed into law, hoped to implement the Montreal Protocol, a landmark international treaty to deal with the problem. The protocol is highly widely regarded as a success. The treaty is widely regarded as a success. A couple of years after that, he helped form the United Nations framework. If I am not

mistaken, I think he was maybe our Ambassador to the United Nations as well.

In 1992, he helped form the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which has now been embraced by every nation on Earth and is taking place this very week in Poland. Countries from throughout the world are there.

I mentioned earlier the 1990 amendments of the Clean Air Act, which turned out to be some of the most important environmental laws that we have on our books in this country, and that law enabled the government to control the nearly 200 toxic substances that are present in our air and pose threats to human health. That same law paved the way for cleaner running cars and clean fuels that have dramatically reduced pollution from smog.

I can remember when I was in the Navy, spending part of the summer at the Long Beach Naval Station on a big jumbo tanker. I like to run, and I remember running close to L.A. in the summer—late sixties. I remember on some days that I ran, I felt I was doing more damage to my lungs than I was doing good for my body, running and breathing that kind of air. The air in California was awful. It is not perfect today, but it is a whole lot better, except when there are all these fires they have to put up with.

According to the EPA, the 1990 amendments of the Clean Air Act, over the first 20 years of enactment, have also prevented 160,000 premature deaths, reduced illnesses and diseases related to air pollution, and spurred \$2 trillion in overall economic benefits.

I will end with this. In February of 1990, President Bush said this about our changing climates. I want to quote him. He said:

We all know that human activities are changing the atmosphere in unexpected and in unprecedented ways. Much remains to be done. Many questions remain to be answered. Together, we have a responsibility to ourselves and the generations to come to fulfill our stewardship obligations.

Those are his words. Those words and the positions he took and the work his administration did on this front show real leadership and, maybe, the courage to stay out of step when everyone else is marching to the wrong tune and a willingness to step up and address that unprecedented challenge that is before us.

He lived to be 94. He was active and vibrant almost to the end. I think a number of us have had the opportunity to serve as Governor with both of his sons and to know them as friends and leaders of our country. The legacy of their dad lives on through the children he and Barbara helped raise.

We miss his personality. We miss his warmth and his good humor. We miss his affection, and we miss his leadership. I hope our colleagues and, certainly, I can learn from his example and learn again over and over again from the example he set to do the right thing, even when it is not easy.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I am delighted to hear the Senator from Delaware discuss some aspects of President Bush's time that aren't as well remembered, including his amendments to the Clean Air Act, on which the Senator from Delaware and I have worked.

In June of 1992, President George Herbert Walker Bush and his wife Barbara were walking across the South Lawn on a hot, sunny day to make a major announcement about school choice. Barbara turned to the President and said: George, you have on the wrong pants.

The President of the United States turned around, walked back in the White House, changed into the proper suit, came back out and made the announcement, one of the biggest of his time as President—to ask the Congress to provide one-half billion dollars to States and cities like Milwaukee and Wisconsin, which wanted to give low-income families choices of better schools for their children.

Before that, I can recall a 3 p.m. or so meeting on January 17, 1991. The meeting was about educational assessment—a very dull subject. The President had called it in the Cabinet Room. Governor CARPER will remember educational assessment from his days as Governor. The meeting went on and on. The President got up and left and came back after about 10 minutes. The rest of us thought very little about it. It turned out that, later, we found out he was calling Gorbachev in the Soviet Union to let him know in advance that the United States was about to start bombing Baghdad at about 5:30 that afternoon U.S. time. He had constructed and put on the public schedule that meeting on educational assessment so that the world wouldn't know what was about to happen.

A few weeks later, we were having lunch, and he was mulling over the prospect of putting 1 million American military men and women on the ground in the Middle East in the first Gulf war. He had a special feeling about that because of his background as a combat pilot in World War II. He knew what it meant to risk even one American life in that exercise.

All of us have memories and stories we could tell about the President, but I want to talk about three aspects of his service very briefly: No. 1, gentleman; No. 2, well prepared; No. 3, pioneer—a pioneer especially in education.

I have suggested to Jon Meacham, the extraordinary biographer of President George H.W. Bush, that a better title for his book might be "The Last Gentleman." Saying that to an author is like saying: You ought to rename your baby something else. That is not a very prudent thing to say.

I hope it is not true that he is the last gentleman, but his temperament and conduct when he won and when he

lost in war and in peace, with adversaries and friends, remind us that you can be tough, you can win the Presidency, you can be a combat pilot in a world war, and you can still treat others with respect, which he unfailingly did.

I was thinking last night as we stood outside on the steps and watched the casket being brought up—a beautiful evening, the sunset looking out over the Library of Congress, looking out over the Supreme Court—that with all the rancor we sometimes have here, as we work out difficult problems, we are pretty lucky to live in this country. We are pretty lucky to have the form of government that we have. We are extraordinarily fortunate that we can produce men and women, like George H.W. Bush, who bring out the best of us, which leads me to my second point: What I think of when I think of our former President, and those are the words "well prepared."

We have had lots of different kinds of Presidents of the United States with varying backgrounds, and many have been successful. It is hard to say exactly what will make a President successful. I actually think temperament has more to do with it than anything else. What we had in President George H.W. Bush may have been the best prepared President in our history: Congressman, candidate for the Senate, head of his national political party, the first Ambassador to China, head of the United Nations, Vice President of the United States, head of the Central Intelligence Agency.

If you are going to put somebody through a training course, a boot camp in order to be President of the United States, that is what you would do. You would take someone of extraordinary intellect, someone who may have graduated, in 3 years, Phi Beta Kappa from Yale, with extraordinary courage, and someone who could fly combat—the youngest aviator in World War II. You put them through that boot camp and say: Now you are the President of the United States.

How fortunate we were that he happened to be the one who came along then because the things he accomplished in his 4 years, the things he presided over, the things he led us to do as a country weren't that easy.

Take the disintegration of the Soviet Union. It is a very dangerous situation. They have a lot of nuclear weapons in the Soviet Union and a history of antagonism toward much of Europe and the United States. But President Bush, because of his temperament and his skill and the extraordinary team he had around him, presided over that in a way that allowed Mr. Gorbachev and the Soviet Union to come apart. It could have easily gone in another direction.

There was the reunification of Germany. You can be sure that France was skeptical about the reunification of Germany. Wouldn't you be, as well, if you had been involved in two World Wars in that century with Germany?

Margaret Thatcher was quietly opposed to the unification of Germany, according to Vice President Quayle, who should know about such things. Mr. Kohl, from Germany, was for it. Our President had to know those individuals well enough and be adept enough to preside over the reunification of Germany and the disintegration of the Soviet Union at the same time.

Balancing the budget wasn't popular within the Republican Party. When you look at the portraits of the Presidents in the White House, you often think, what did that President do that went beyond his base—that his original supporters might not have agreed with but that put the country first? When you look at Nixon, you think China. When you look at Reagan, you think the Berlin Wall.

When you look at George Bush, you think a number of things, but one of the things he did was balance the budget in a way that most Republicans didn't like. He paid a price for it when he ran for reelection, but the country and President Clinton, during the 1990s, benefited greatly from that fact.

Then, as Senator CARPER pointed out, he led the amendments of the Clean Air Act. I was in East Tennessee these last few weeks. We like the fact that you can see the Great Smoky Mountains, and they are not the "great smoggy mountains" anymore. That is true because of the Clean Air Act, which, more than anything else, has required coal plants when they operate to put pollution control equipment on them. They can still operate. There is nothing to keep a coal plant from operating in this country as long as you put pollution control equipment for mercury, nitrogen, and sulfur on it. Then they can be perfectly clean. That doesn't include carbon, but carbon you can't see. We like to see the mountains.

There were the decisions that were made that had to do with exhausts from trucks and cars. America is healthier, cleaner, and we can attract businesses to our State now that our air is clean. Before that, it was a problem.

The Americans with Disabilities Act was a difficult law to pass and a difficult law for many parts of our country to accept and, frankly, pay for. Think of the lives it has changed. No one who wasn't well-prepared for the Presidency could have passed that.

As I think of President Bush, I think first of a gentleman; second, well prepared; finally, a pioneer in education. Most of the time, when we think of President Bush, we think of his skills in foreign policy because they were considerable, and the challenges were great. For example, I didn't mention the Gulf War a moment ago—well, I did in a couple of cases, but I didn't mention putting 1 million troops on the ground, getting the rest of the world to pay for most of the war, and then deciding not to go into Baghdad and get mired down there. Those were decisions

that a skilled, well-prepared man would do.

He was also a pioneer in education, and that is what I would like to talk about. In 1989, President George H.W. Bush assembled all the Nation's Governors in Charlottesville to talk about education. Terry Branstad, the current Ambassador to China, was then the Chairman of the Governors. Out of that summit came national education goals that every child by the year 2000 would learn math, science, history, and geography in a proficient way.

President Bush then came up with America 2000 in the last 2 years of his term. I was Education Secretary when he launched America 2000. That was to help States and communities reach those national education goals State by State, community by community. So we had Nebraska 2000 and Nashville 2000 as Democrats and Republicans sought to do that. The importance of it was that President George H.W. Bush understood that to have lasting reform in education, it has to be owned by the States. It has to be owned by the community.

We saw that in the recent exercise in common core standards. Common core was developed by the Governors. It was moving through the country State by State by State. Then, when the Federal Government mandated it, in effect, there was a great rebellion because there wasn't buy-in.

It was the same situation with teacher evaluation. I led a fight to evaluate Tennessee teachers, and it was the hardest thing I was ever involved in. There was a big fight with the National Education Association, but we did it, and 10,000 teachers went up the career ladder. They bought into it. When it is ordered from Washington, they don't buy into it, and President Bush understood that. So his national education goals, his voluntary national standards, and his voluntary national tests were all voluntary. They were not imposed from Washington, DC. He created an environment, through America 2000, where States, cities, and communities could adopt them, and they were lasting.

Most of the steps that States, including my State of Tennessee, have taken to make schools better in the last 30 years were either started by or encouraged by George H.W. Bush since the National Governors Summit in 1989. That includes charter schools. In 1991 and 1992, President Bush encouraged every community to create start-from-scratch schools, as he called it, and many did. He created New American Schools Development Corporation with the help of Deputy Education Secretary David Kearns and raised about \$70 million and gave grants to that.

My last act as Education Secretary for President Bush was to write every school superintendent and say: Why don't you try one of these new charter schools that the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party has created. There were only 10 at the time in

1992. Those start-from-scratch schools suggested by President George H.W. Bush are now 5,000 charter schools in the country or about 5 percent of all the public schools in America.

Then came school choice. I began with the story of his walking across the south lawn to announce the GI bill for kids, to give money to States and districts to encourage school choice. The Democratic Congress, at the time, didn't appropriate the dollars he asked for, for start-from-scratch schools, and they didn't appropriate the money for school choice, but his persistent advocacy using the bully pulpit gave us national goals, national standards, national tests, accountability systems, school choice, charter schools—all of that—and the difference was, he insisted we not have a national school board in the process.

His successors all tended to have Washington edicts—President Clinton, President George W. Bush, and President Obama. I can understand why they felt that way. They were eager to see results, and so they said let Washington order Texas, Tennessee, and Wisconsin to do it, but, unfortunately, that backfires. That backfired on common core and backfired on teacher evaluation. As soon as we stepped back and used advocacy instead of edicts, as President Bush understood, we got more lasting results.

He was well prepared, a gentleman, and a pioneer of education. Some people are suggesting he might have been the most effective one-term President in the history of the Presidency. He could very well be, when you add it all up, with the Gulf war handled like it was, the reunification of Germany, the successful disintegration of the Soviet Union, the clean air laws, the Americans with Disabilities Act, pioneering in education with America 2000, balancing the budget. That is a lot to do in 4 years. Maybe James K. Polk is the only one I can think of who might give him a good run for his money in terms of that accolade.

I remember when the Gulf War was over and President Bush came to speak to the Congress. I will close with this. It was the first time I had a chance to sit and listen to a Presidential address as a Member of the Cabinet. I remember thinking after that wonderful victory that was so well done—with a million men and women on the ground and very few casualties; the rest of the world paid for most of the war; we avoided going into Baghdad. It was a very successful operation. The President's approval rating was at 91 percent. I remember thinking, I wish he would say: Now that we have won the war, let's turn our attention to home and apply the same sort of energy to America 2000, and then make America 2000 his entire domestic program. Perhaps it would have been difficult for Bill Clinton to defeat him that year if that would have been his domestic agenda. No one will ever know.

What we do know is, he was a gentleman; he was as well prepared as any

President in history for the job; he served at a time when we needed that preparation because the challenges were immense; he was a pioneer in education; and he may have been the most successful one-term President in American history—a man who put the country first and whom we all admired. George H.W. Bush.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. JOHNSON). The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I join my friend, the Senator from Tennessee, in saying a few words about the service of George Herbert Walker Bush. I would note the difference between him and me, though, is he, having served as Education Secretary and worked here under Howard Baker and having had a chance to work with and watch and listen to George Herbert Walker Bush firsthand, has the advantage over me.

I certainly know the Bush family and President Bush “41” from my experience in Texas. They were the dominant family and influence in politics in Texas—certainly during the time I grew up in politics.

I appreciate the comments the Senator from Tennessee has made. He and I had a conversation about what our side of the aisle needs, which is to do more in the area of supporting public education and which is, I think, probably at the top of the list of most people’s concerns.

Certainly, when you look at what happened in the midterm elections—particularly in the suburbs—and you talk to people about what motivated them one way or the other, education had to be way up high on that list. We simply need to find a way of working together and coming up together with creative ways to demonstrate our support for public education, and I think our constituents will respond very well to that.

Certainly, the Senator from Tennessee, as chairman of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, who is responsible for a lot of the healthcare-oriented legislation that emanates from this body—and that is another area where, frankly, we didn’t do as good a job as we could or should have done, explaining what we were for and what we could do actually to help bring premiums down and make healthcare more accessible. So I appreciate the contributions of the Senator from Tennessee to this body and his comments particularly about this great man. I think it is important to say he was not just a great man but a good man, George Herbert Walker Bush.

We know, to his family, he was a loving and caring father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. To his country, he was a devoted public servant who fought to defend our freedoms and led the Nation at the end of the Cold War and at the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Every time I think about the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, I think about

my dad who was a B-17 pilot in World War II. He was shot down on his 26th bombing mission over Nazi Germany. He was stationed in Molesworth, England. He and his fellow crew in the 303rd Bomb Group in the Eighth Air Force would fly their bombing missions from England—in this case, Molesworth Air Force Base across the English Channel and drop their bombs in Germany in an effort to bring an end to that terrible, terrible war.

Unfortunately, my dad died before the Berlin Wall came down. That is one of my regrets; that he was unable to see what ultimately happened as a result of that terrible war in World War II. One expert—I read one of his books recently—calculated that 31 million people died in World War II. It is a shocking number. We need to be reminded of what the horrible wages of war can be—20 million people died in the Soviet Union alone. I know that staggers our imagination. We need to remember our history or, in the words of a wise man, we will be condemned to relive it. Certainly, George Herbert Walker Bush’s contribution to ending the Cold War and bringing down the Berlin Wall are one of his most notable achievements.

He served first as a war hero. He actually enlisted in the Navy after the attack on Pearl Harbor. He, like a lot of other young men, decided this was the time to come to the aid of their country. After nearly losing his life after being shot down but being saved by rescuing forces, he came back home and, like so many of the “greatest generation,” he went to work and raised a family.

In my dad’s case, he, too, was part of the “greatest generation.” Fortunately, he got out of the prisoner of war camp and met my mother and married and had a family. He continued his education and, like so many of the “greatest generation,” made enormous contributions to this country in the post-World War II era that we are benefiting from even today.

We also know George Herbert Walker Bush represented his fellow Americans starting as a Congressman in Houston, TX. Then he moved on to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. He was Vice President. He was President.

It has been said that George Herbert Walker Bush was the best prepared person ever to have served as President by virtue of his experience and his resume. I think there is a lot of truth to that.

Alluding to the time in the Navy, you can say he was an anchor for our country during tumultuous times—steady and strong.

While he was a fierce defender of his principles and ideals, he was sometimes seen as a quiet soldier. Some people even commented that he was too nice a person to be President. I think that is a misconception. He was, it is true, both a good man and a great leader, but I think he showed us you could be both. Not all great leaders are good men. We are all flawed, of course,

but he showed that you could be both a good man and a great leader.

President Bush carried the lessons he learned in the Navy with him. Specifically, we heard from the Vice President yesterday at the ceremony in the Rotunda talking about a concept known to Navy pilots as the acronym CAVU, which stands for “ceiling and visibility unlimited.” I only mention this again after the Vice President talked about it yesterday because President Bush mentioned it on his 80th birthday. He said it summed up his attitude about his life perfectly.

He said:

But, you see, that is where my life is now. Thanks to my family and my friends, my life is CAVU.

Through all he did, his compassion, his love of country, his basic humanity, and strong optimism shone through, which made him such an attractive political figure. One reason for his tremendous success was because people liked him, and they believed in him. They believed he was doing what he did for the right reasons.

After a long and tough campaign for his second term as President—a campaign which he lost—he left a letter to newly elected President Bill Clinton. There has been some social media circulating this letter, but I think it is worth noting because it is a snapshot into his character and the type of man he was.

He wrote to President Clinton:

Your success now is our country’s success. I am rooting hard for you.

It takes a big man to say that to your competitor after a tough, losing campaign, but, again, this is a window into the character of a good and great man. Just like everything else he did, it was gracious and sincere. This letter conveyed the same sense of “it is not about me, it is about the country.” In a word, it is about patriotism—a word that embodies President Bush so well. He was the type of man who makes us look at our own lives and ask, what more can I do for my country and for my country men and women we all love?

After graduating from college, he went to Midland, TX. It was kind of an improbable place to go in those days, but he wanted to get involved in the oil business. Later, after his successes in Midland, TX, in the Permian Basin, which continues to be one of the greatest reserves of oil and gas in the United States, he went on to Houston and grew his business and ultimately, as I said earlier, ran for Congress.

Even though Texas was an adopted home for him, Texans loved and embraced him, as we did the entire Bush family. We were privileged to have President Bush as one of our own. He once said: “I am a Texan and an American . . . what more could a man ask?” I don’t think anyone could have said it better. Throughout his time in public service and even afterward, he could have moved anywhere in the world, but he chose to live his life in Texas and in

the warm embrace of the State and the people he loved.

President Bush felt a kindred spirit in Texas A&M University, choosing it first to bear his legacy through his Presidential library and a graduate school of government and public service and then later to be his and Barbara Bush's final resting place. I think President Bush identified with the university's unique culture, including its inculcation of patriotic values and the emphasis it places on hard work and public service.

President Bush taught us all that there is nothing more powerful in life than the power of a good example. He challenged all of us, and he still does by the standards he set for himself.

Joined today by my colleague from Texas, Senator CRUZ, we introduced a resolution recognizing the nearly 30 years of public service President Bush devoted to our State and our Nation.

President Bush is in the Nation's Capital one last time, where many have and will continue to have the opportunity to pay their respects and give their thanks for his extraordinary life.

President Bush once wrote in a letter to his mother: "Tell the truth. Don't blame people. Be strong. Do your best. Try hard. Forgive. Stay the course." President Bush never chose the easy road to sacrifice doing what he thought was just and right. In the words of Scripture, he fought the good fight, he finished the race, and he kept the faith.

In his book "All the Best," he writes that he wanted a plain gravestone like the ones in Arlington Cemetery, with his Navy number on the back. He also requested that a quotation be placed there as well: "He loved Barbara very much." This is the man he was. I know he has gone on to join the love of his life, Barbara, and their daughter Robin. A truly honorable and gracious man has gone home to God.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I am honored to follow the Senator from Texas and to have shared time with President Bush, as he has, and appreciate very much his service to this Senate and this country.

You know, the hardest thing they ever ask you to do in public office is eulogize someone you don't even know. But because you are a Senator and they think you have a name that everybody back home knows, they think that would be a good idea. It is the hardest thing for a Senator to do.

The easiest thing to do is to be asked to eulogize somebody you know and love. You don't have to look up things and read things and do a biography. But that, too, is also very hard. It is hard to hold back the tears when you talk about the experiences you had with someone who has gone on to a better place. That is the role I am in today.

George Herbert Walker Bush did so many things for me in my lifetime that

I can't begin to count them or recount them all for you, but I am going to tell a few of the stories. You have all heard about how he was in the CIA, how many planes he shot down, and how many times he did whatever he did. We all know he has a resume that is equal to none. I mean, nobody has one equal to his. We also know, those of us who knew him—and I know Senator CORNYN of Texas did—as a public servant, he was a passionate, compassionate, get-the-job-done, commonsense, conservative leader who wanted to see not just the promises made but the promises kept.

How did I meet George Herbert Walker Bush? I will tell you how I met him. He was Vice President of the United States of America. He was on Air Force One. He was Vice President under Reagan, who controlled Air Force One. We were riding from St. Augustine, FL, to Atlanta, GA, to do a fundraiser for me when I was running for Governor of Georgia. I knew him by reputation and by name and obviously by being in my party, but I didn't know him as a person.

He said: Why don't you fly down to St. Augustine and meet me there, and we will fly to Atlanta for a fundraiser that night? Bring your family. Let's have some fun and get you elected Governor of Georgia.

We had a ball. That was not hard. Winning the governorship was a little bit more difficult, but it was a lot easier to try when the Vice President of the United States came out and put his name on the line for me. I really didn't understand how he could risk his career doing that until I realized nobody cared who I was anyway, but he cared who I was because I was a potential candidate for Governor, I was a Republican, I was somebody he liked and admired, and I was somebody he wanted to help and work with.

So my family and I piled onto Air Force One, flew into Atlanta, Dobbins Air Force Base, and went to the Waverly Hotel. We raised three-quarters of a million dollars at that fundraiser. It was over in the flash of an eye, but I can still smell the room, indelibly remember the lights that were on, the banners we had, and the speeches made that night because he was an overpoweringly impressive guy. When he stood there and made a speech and Lee Greenwood followed him with how great it was to be an American, you knew you were among royalty—a special person.

He wanted me to work for him in his Presidential campaign. I said: Mr. Vice President, I would be more than happy to do that. And I did. I didn't run it. I was not the top dog by any stretch. Paul Coverdell, former U.S. Senator, was his campaign manager. Fred Cooper, his financier, was the one who raised the money. They did a lot to help him get elected, but we did help him in Georgia get elected when he won that race.

In 1989, when he was sworn in, he started out on a journey as President

of the United States, after he had already been CIA Director, after he had already been Vice President of the United States, after he had already every other thing you could be—from Congressman, to head of the U.N. delegation, to everything in between. Now he was taking on the prize job of them all—the Presidency of the United States of America.

I polled well as I was running for Governor. In fact, halfway through his first term, halfway through it, when they did a poll, I was doing pretty good. I wasn't winning, but I was doing pretty good, and everybody attributed it not to me but to the fact that the President came down and helped me. And he was doing really well too. In fact, if you will remember, George Herbert Walker Bush in 1991 had an 89-percent favorable rating. When he lost 2 years later, he was down in the high thirties. What happened? How could this guy who is so great and so gracious, so wonderful, who did everything, fall so fast? I have answered that question many times because I wanted to rationalize it myself.

I watched that fall. I watched George H.W. Bush do what he thought was right even though what he did might be wrong for him. I want to explain that.

The speech he made in New Orleans to get the nomination in 1988—he used a simple little line. He talked about shining cities on the hill. He talked about a foundation. He talked about the Points of Light foundation he started. He talked about helping others who didn't have as much as they should and he wanted them to have. He talked about giving a little back to your country. He gave the speech equivalency to JOHN KENNEDY's Peace Corps speech or great speeches made by other American Presidents. He was a caring man.

He also gave a speech in which he said: "Read my lips: No new taxes." I have never seen or heard anybody who took credit for giving him that statement, because that statement probably led to his most difficult time in his reelection campaign. But at the time he made it—he made it because George Bush knew he might have to do that. He wasn't going to continue to run for President without saying: Look, I don't want to raise your taxes, but it is something we think might happen. And it did happen, and it cost him the election. He did what was right for the country, although it might not have been right for George H.W. Bush. He was that kind of guy. He put the test on what is best for the people, what is best for the country.

If you listen to or read many of the stories of the Iraq war when we first sent troops in, George Bush was the first one to do that. I remember riding home in my car from my office in Atlanta when the news broke. The President was about to do a press conference. When I turned the radio on, he was making the announcement about sending troops into Iraq from Kuwait and going after Saddam Hussein to give up his weapons of mass destruction.

We still have troops in Iraq and Afghanistan today. We are fighting the ultimate war between good and evil, of terrorism versus the American way of peace and prosperity. That is a war that was engaged by George Bush not because he liked war but because he loved peace; not because he wanted to fight but because he wanted to demonstrate through strength that we can negotiate a settlement through diplomacy far easier and with less damage.

George Herbert Walker Bush did everything he thought was the right thing to do for the right reasons. Even if his final decision was not good for him politically, he still did it if it was right for the American people. You can ask no more of a politician. You can ask anything you want to, but you can't ask anything more of them than to do what is right regardless of the consequences. I love Mark Twain's quote: When you are confronted with a difficult decision, do what is right—you will surprise a few, but you will amaze the rest.

George Herbert Walker Bush was an amazing man, someone whose life will indelibly be in my heart and my memory, for all the things he did for me, my children, and my grandchildren, and all of the things he has done for you and all of us as Americans.

To his son, 43—he is a great chip off the old block. He is probably as good as his dad, but nobody will ever be nicer than his dad.

George Herbert Walker Bush, George W. Bush, the entire Bush family, Barbara Bush—I send my sympathy and my support for you in this time of trial. I thank you for the sacrifice you have made for our country and for your family.

I pledge to you that I will try to always be as close as I can—I will never make it, but I will do as much as I can to be as good or try to be as good as George H.W. Bush was.

I hope that when I die and the papers report on that—if there is any—they will be as kind to me as they have been to George Bush. What they have done with George Bush is told the truth—not talk about any failures, where there might have been a few; they talked about his victories, his passions, and they talked about his love. Most of all, they talked about a great country, the United States of America. It is great today and will always be because of men like George Herbert Walker Bush.

May God bless his soul. I thank him for the service he brought to our great country.

I yield back.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RUBIO). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO TIMUEL BLACK

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, one of our most preeminent oral historians of our time turns 100 on December 7. Timuel Black was born near the end of World War I and has been the keeper of the soul of the south side of Chicago to this very day. World War I was supposed to be the war to end all wars, but we know some of America's greatest wars were yet to come. Tim Black was on the frontlines of many of those fights. As a historian, as an activist, and a humanist, he fought and continues to fight for the dignity of people and a better future.

Professor Black was born in 1918, in Birmingham, AL, the son of sharecroppers and grandson of slaves. At 8 months, his family moved to Chicago, joining the first wave of migration of African Americans from the Deep South to the North. His family settled in an area of Chicago then-called the Black Belt. It is now known as Bronzeville.

Tim would go on to celebrate and shape the history of Chicago's Black Belt. To Tim, this is sacred ground. But first, he went to Burke Elementary School and DuSable High School. His classmates included Nat King Cole; future publisher and founder of Jet and Ebony Magazine, John H. Johnson, the first African American on Forbes' 400 most wealthy; and future Mayor Harold Washington. Don Cornelius and musician Sonny Cohn also were among the many famous students of DuSable High School.

It was on his birthday in 1941 that Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. The U.S. Army drafted Tim into a segregated army 2 years later. In the last 2 years of World War II, Tim experienced the worst of the war. He participated in the Normandy invasion, the Battle of the Bulge, and the liberation of Paris. He earned four battle stars. But it was what he saw while liberating the Buchenwald, the Nazi concentration camp, that altered the way Tim saw the world. The horrors of the human capacity for cruelty at Buchenwald filled Tim with despair.

He returned to Chicago, resolved to fight for human rights and human dignity. He earned an undergraduate degree from Roosevelt University and a master's degree from the University of Chicago. Tim started his professional career as a social worker, but he quickly discovered that his real love was, in his words, "teaching young men and women about the world they live in and how to be responsible citizens of that world."

For 40 years, Tim did just that through his teaching positions at DuSable and other Chicago public schools, as well as Roosevelt University, Columbia College Chicago, and schools in the City Colleges of Chicago system.

Tim also has spent his life on the frontlines of the struggle for human rights and dignity. At age 13, he walked his first picket line to protest

the refusal of White-owned businesses in Bronzeville to hire Black clerks. As an organizer in labor and social justice movements of the 1940s and 1950s, he worked with Paul Robeson and W.E.B. Dubois.

Tim helped establish the Congress of Racial Equality and the United Packinghouse Workers of America labor union. I might not be where I am today were it not for Tim's work because it was the Packinghouse union that helped me work through college.

In December of 1955, Tim was watching television when he first saw an inspiring man in Montgomery, AL. He hopped on a plane to meet him. A year later, Tim convinced him to come to Chicago. This was the first time Dr. Martin Luther King would speak in the city. Tim then helped organize the Freedom Trains that carried thousands of Chicagoans to hear Dr. King roar "I Have a Dream" in Washington, DC, in 1963. In 1966, Tim was right there with Dr. King when an angry mob attacked him in Chicago's Marquette Park. Whenever there was a good fight against Jim Crow housing, segregated public beaches, job discrimination, or the shortchanging of Black students in public schools, you would always find Tim Black.

There is one student of Professor Black we all remember. A couple of decades ago, a young community organizer who had just returned to Chicago with a Harvard law degree asked Professor Black to teach him about organizing people so they could create a better life for themselves and their children. The young organizer and Professor Black became friends over the years. It was my privilege to invite Professor Black and his wonderful wife Zenobia Johnson-Black to be my guests as that community organizer swore an oath to become the President of the United States. I could not have had a better guest to see the history that he had helped make possible as Barack Obama became our first Black President.

Tim may have retired from teaching years ago, but we are all still students in his never-ending classroom. His three-volume history of Chicago's Black Belt, entitled "Bridges of Memory," is the story of the great Black migration to Chicago from the Deep South, told by those who made that journey and by their descendants. His home in Hyde Park is an incomparable museum of stories about every place he has lived in Chicago. The theaters he first heard Duke Ellington, Count Basie, and Billie Holiday are still alive and well in memories to be shared.

Happy birthday, Tim Black. Generations have grown up with a better appreciation of their homes and the history they inhabit because of you.