

Higdon grew up one of four kids in a house off Klondike Lane near Hikes Point. His father was a photoengraver at the old Standard Gravure printing plant.

The Rev. David Zettel, a counselor at Trinity High School, remembers Higdon as bright, gregarious and outgoing. "He smiled a lot," Zettle said.

Higdon was "more social than most smart guys," and he had the ability to befriend any group, said friend Tom Scanlon, now president of ScanSteel Service Center Inc. in Louisville.

Scanlon remembers exchanging words with students from a rival school in the parking lot one night after a football game. Then Higdon walked over to them.

"What looked like it was going to turn into a fight, 30 minutes later we were sitting on the hood of their car drinking beer with them," Scanlon said. "He has a look in his eye and you trust him."

Higdon started out in accounting at the University of Kentucky but found marketing more to his taste. "It was exciting. It was fun. It was creative," he said. "You got these marketing problems and there were 30, 40, 50 different ways to come up with a solution."

He had never been on a plane before, but on a whim Higdon left a summer job before his senior year to fly with a co-worker to Europe. He visited 13 countries on about \$4 a day, he said, and discovered a personal maturity and a love of travel that have marked his career since.

His first job out of college was as a part-time baggage handler for Piedmont Airlines in Louisville—not for the \$6 an hour, Higdon said, but for the free flights, employees got if the planes weren't full.

"I flew 100,000 miles that year. We'd fly out to L.A. for ladies night at the Red Onion, fly to Miami for the Super Bowl, all we did was travel—it was so much fun," he said. "I've worked for an airline most of my life since. Travel is the spice of life."

Even the full-time jobs at Yellow Freight and Emery Worldwide that followed had a touch of the exotic for Higdon. "Every piece of freight had a destination or an origin in cities all over the world," he said.

He was a sales manager for the local office of Emery parent CF Airfreight when UPS won landing rights in Japan and hired him to run the Louisville office of its new UniStar cargo company. His charge was finding enough freight customers to fill the overnight package-delivery jets flying to and from Japan.

"I was one of the first people hired to a significant management position from outside UPS," Higdon said. "In less than two years this was the most profitable of their 40 offices in the U.S."

UPS later named Higdon the first marketing manager of its own air-cargo division and had him create its first air-passenger charter service.

"In a real sense I've been like a corporate entrepreneur," Higdon said. "Every job I've had (with UPS) was a new job. I never went into a position where I was replacing somebody."

Doug Kuelpman, a former boss at UPS, said Higdon "understands the business world and what has to be done. He has a knack."

"I never had to tell Steve more than once about doing something, even in areas where he may not have felt well-equipped going into it. He's the kind of guy who likes to put his head down and charge."

In 1995, UPS "loaned" Higdon to the development partnership to help recruit transportation-intensive businesses. Louisville Mayor Dave Armstrong was county judge-executive at the time and worked with Higdon in an unsuccessful attempt to lure a new Harley-Davidson manufacturing plant to the area.

"We were out of the picture altogether" when he and Higdon went to work on the project, but in the end, "we were barely edged out" by Kansas City, Armstrong said. "He did a great job with that."

Higdon concentrated on a strategy for attracting high-tech industries and recruited seven computer-repair firms with 700 jobs by the end of 1996.

But while he loved his work, Higdon said, "there was never a time I felt this is where I want to be." The following year he went to Cobb for advice on starting his own company.

Instead, Cobb hired Higdon to head the business-attraction efforts of what had become Greater Louisville Inc.

His first day on the job, Oct. 8, 1997, Higdon told Cobb that UPS was planning to expand its operations and was seriously considering Columbus, Ohio, as the site.

That conversation resulted in five months of intensive negotiations that ended with the announcement that the \$1 billion expansion and its 6,000 jobs were ticketed for Louisville.

As a former UPS insider, Higdon had "a good sense of what was going on" inside the company, Cobb said, and he played "a huge role" in the negotiations' success.

Higdon is credited with helping develop the innovative Metropolitan College concept that lets UPS package handlers work their night shifts while attending college.

When Cobb said last fall that he wanted to step down as president and CEO, the board of directors decided to look internally for a successor, said Ed Glasscock, chairman of the board's search committee. The aim was to maintain momentum and avoid a long adjustment period under a new executive.

They chose Higdon. "It's not fair to characterize it as Doug naming his successor. We asked Doug for his recommendations," Glasscock said. "You had a number of independent business people on the search committee who reviewed the job description and Steve's background. We felt he matched up, not because Doug said he was the perfect candidate. We came to that conclusion independently."

Choosing a successor internally is not unusual in corporations, Higdon said, and, under Cobb, Greater Louisville Inc. adopted the corporate model in its structure and thinking.

"That's why we're successful," he said. "The mentality is we're all running a business here."

Running a business—his own—is still on Higdon's mind, though it's been pushed into the indefinite future. He said he is committed to his new job for at least three years and that has its rewards.

"I love dealing with people more than anything," he said. "Since I was a kid I loved to be out among people."●

#### IN MEMORY OF GEORGE A. ATHANSON

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, on January 11, 2000, with the passing of George A. Athanson, the state of Connecticut lost a faithful and companionate public servant and one of its most colorful political figures in recent memory. Often called the "people's mayor," George was one of the longest serving and most beloved mayors in the history of Hartford, Connecticut. I would like to take a few moments to reflect on his many contributions to the city of Hartford.

George Athanson was a product of the city he came to love and serve so

well. A Hartford-born son of Greek heritage, he attended Hartford Public High School, where his intelligence and personal charm won him the admiration of his peers and teachers alike. He went on to Amherst College where he graduated cum laude with a degree in political science. Following a short stint in the Marines, George returned to academia, this time to the University of Chicago law school where he received a law degree in 1955. George would also earn a masters in international relations from the University of Connecticut in 1958.

George's love for his home town and affinity for learning lead him to teaching at the University of Hartford. As a professor of history and political science, George was known for a dramatic flair that enlivened his classes—a flair that George would bring to the mayor's office with his election in 1971. His magnetic personality, energy, creativity and verve for the dramatic contributed to his tremendous popularity and resulted in one of the longest mayoral tenures in Hartford's history, from 1971 to 1981.

He considered himself a liberal Democrat and was confident that government could play a role in solving social and economic problems. George was a colorful politician with a flamboyant style. While he was hard working, his efforts were often overshadowed by the creative and novel actions he undertook to promote the city. On one occasion, George rowed across the Connecticut River holding a state flag and dressed as George Washington to protest a General Assembly vote. On another occasion, he stepped into a boxing ring with a Republican opponent to raise money for charity. And in perhaps his best known act of political theater, George showed up to promote development at Brainard Airport in Hartford dressed as the Red Baron and climbed into the cockpit of a bi-plane for photographers.

It wasn't these dramatics that made George Athanson so popular, however, but his underlying dedication to the city of Hartford. He humanized the mayor's office. George was a man of great personal strength and he used his talent and energy to bring the city together. He built and maintained lines of communication among the city's diverse racial and ethnic communities and in the process became the people's mayor.

It was fitting that in his final days in office, George continued what had become a tradition during his tenure, the delivery of the annual New Year's poem. The poems were symbolic of the man who composed them—witty, humorous and full of political insight. With tears in his eyes, George delivered his last New Year's poem in 1981 entitled Ode to the People of Hartford, which read in part:

Those stunts for charity, I did my part  
"Buffoon," critics said, but where's THEIR heart?  
Resolutions by the thousands, I've made my mark

Now it's time for a stroll through the park.

Indeed, George did leave his mark. He will long be remembered as a political leader of great insight, compassion, wit, and enduring affection for the people he felt so privileged to serve. My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife of 37 years, Zoe, and their son Arthur. ●

#### CONGRATULATING THE COMMUNITY OF FILLMORE

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I rise to offer my congratulations to the community of Fillmore, New York on the occasion of its sesquicentennial, and to wish them great success with their May 27 to 29 celebration of this milestone.

What is now Fillmore was originally a small settlement nestled into the corner where Cold Creek joins the Genesee River. The land was once part of the Caneadea Indian Reservation. By 1826, the Seneca Indians, who owned the land, had sold off all of the reservation. In 1850, during the Presidency of Millard Fillmore, the second New York State native to hold that distinguished office, a post office was established. Local lore has it that the citizens decided to name the settlement Fillmore in order to convince the government to establish the post office.

The first settlers were attracted to the area by timber, but the building of the Genesee Valley Canal Line connecting the Erie Canal to the Allegheny River brought an economic boom to all the areas along the line, including Fillmore. With its fertile soil, the Community eventually also became a farming area.

The citizens of Fillmore are proud of their backgrounds, their community, their State and their country. It is a community with a strong work ethic. It places a high priority on education and for years has supported a superior school system that is the envy of many larger communities. It is proud of the success of its young people, both those who leave and those who stay and believes that the values instilled by the citizens of the community is one of the reasons their young people are successful in their careers, be they farmers or educators in Fillmore, government workers in Washington, business leaders in Fillmore or across the country, or professors in America's great colleges and universities.

Fillmore has contributed many of its finest young men and women to serve this country in war and peace. All of them have served their country and their community with distinction and honor. During the Memorial Day weekend sesquicentennial celebration, Fillmore will remember with pride all of those service men and women who have served and are serving. It will pay special homage to those whose service required the ultimate sacrifice.

The community is planning for its future. It is hopeful of attracting new and modern businesses to the community. It is developing community

projects to improve key services and improve the environment. It intends to continue to improve its already outstanding public school by adding any needed facilities and continuing to attract outstanding teachers.

It is anticipating with excitement its next 150 years. ●

#### THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1996 TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT

● Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, 4 years ago, Congress passed a landmark measure, the Telecommunications Act of 1996. This bill was passed in an attempt to break down some of the regulatory barriers among various communications sectors. It is one of the sparks that ignited our booming new economy in this information technology age.

In New York especially, the 1996 law has created competition in local telephone networks, areas previously dominated by monopolies. After an 18 month marathon of hard work by the New York State Public Service Commission and a thorough review by the Federal Communications Commission, Bell Atlantic became the first Bell operating company in the country to offer long distance service. Already, nearly one million New Yorkers have exercised their right to choose a new local telephone company. Creative new packages of local/long distance and "all distance" telecom services are being offered by many different carriers. To date, there are more than 350 competitive local exchange carriers, CLECs, in the country that are able to provide local telephone service, furthering consumer choice options.

Competition and innovation is working as we intended with the Telecom Act, and our experience in New York is proof positive.

I commend Bell Atlantic, the newer carriers on the scene, and our own New York State Public Service Commission Chairman Maureen Helmer and her team for their hard work in bringing the benefits of competition to all New Yorkers. It has been well worth the effort, and provides a valuable road map to competition for other States. ●

#### TRIBUTE TO LLOYD REDMAN

● Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Lloyd Redman on the occasion of a special recognition of his commitment to Kentucky's youth.

Lloyd Redman has led a life that is certainly worthy of recognition. First and foremost, Lloyd is a dedicated family man. He and his wife of 55 years, Loretta, are the proud parents of two children, who have blessed them with three grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Lloyd also is a tried and true Kentuckian. He grew up in Kentucky and played basketball and football at Okalona High School. After high school

Lloyd played football for Western Kentucky University and the University of Louisville, where he received a bachelor of science degree in 1949, and a masters degree in 1955. Lloyd's football talent also earned him a place on the 1944 U.S. Navy team. Lloyd was skilled at baseball too, and served as captain of the U of L baseball team in 1949. He gave a great deal of his time and energy playing and coaching sports in Kentucky. Lloyd has coached at Okalona High School, Southern High School, and Durrett High School and was named "Jefferson County Football Coach of the Year" in 1959. He also coached football, basketball and softball at The Cabbage Patch for eleven years. Lloyd currently works with the Cabbage Patch Settlement House in Louisville to help provide athletic, arts and educational programs for children.

While Lloyd obviously loves youth athletics, he is equally as concerned for the educational well-being of Kentucky's children. He received administration certification from Eastern Kentucky University in 1962, and served in numerous administrative positions within the Jefferson County school system including director of adult education and administrative problems, assistant and associate superintendent, and he currently serves as a consultant at the Kentucky State Department of Education.

Lloyd Redman has had a positive influence on Kentucky's youth throughout his many years as administrator, coach, and mentor—and I am certain his concern for and service to the community and its children will not end here. Lloyd, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, thank you for your service and congratulations on your worthy efforts. ●

#### IN RECOGNITION OF SENATOR ALAN CRANSTON

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, it is my pleasure today to inform my colleagues of the recent achievement of a friend and former member of this body, Senator Alan Cranston. On Tuesday March 14, 2000, in San Francisco, Senator Cranston will receive the prestigious W. Averell Harriman Award from the Lawyers Alliance for World Security for his tireless efforts to achieve a safer, more peaceful world.

Alan Cranston served the people of California in the United States Senate, in the seat I now occupy, for 24 years. During this time he distinguished himself as one of this institution's most passionate and effective voices for the rights of ordinary people. From protecting a woman's right to choose, to fighting for adequate and affordable housing, to making certain our veterans are treated with the respect they deserve, Senator Cranston devoted his career to making this nation a stronger, more decent place.

One of the most important ways he set about making his vision for a better America a reality was by not limiting his efforts to these shores alone.