

by saying that they seemed almost intertwined in an ineffably charming enchantment. This statement is all too true. Not only did the world of baseball lose a brilliant and capable administrator, but the state of New Mexico also lost one its finest citizens and humanitarians. The citizens of Albuquerque and our state mourn the loss of Patrick McKernan.●

TRIBUTE TO LT. COL. JOHN D. WOODWARD USAF-RET

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Lt. Col. John D. Woodward USAF-Ret, of Manchester, NH, who passed away on July 8, 2001.

John was born in Pembroke, NH, and served with honor and distinction in the United States military. He began his military career with the United States Army in Panama and later served with the Coast Artillery, Infantry and Field Artillery. In 1942, John transferred to the Army Air Corps where he was commissioned a second lieutenant serving with the Army Air Force units throughout the South Pacific.

John was one of the founding members of Detachment B, 201st Air Service Group which was accorded Federal recognition at Grenier Field in Manchester, NH, as the original New Hampshire Air National Guard. He also served in the Korean Conflict with United States Air Force units in Greenland and Newfoundland.

Promoted to the rank of Lt. Col. in 1957, John became Deputy Commander for Materiel for the 157th Military Airlift Group, MAC, in 1966, and served in that capacity when the unit became the 157th Tactical Airlift Group. He was later appointed commander of the 157th Combat Support Squadron in 1975 when the Group became a unit of the Strategic Air Command.

John earned many medals and awards for his dedicated military service including: the Bronze Star, the American Defense Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the American Theater Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Theater Medal with two battle stars, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the World War II Victory Medal and the New Hampshire Air National Guard Medal. As a Vietnam veteran and senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, I commend John for his contributions to the people of New Hampshire and the country.

John was an active supporter of his local community who contributed as a member of organizations including: Sons of the American Revolution, the American Legion, Sons of the Union Veterans and as a Master Mason with Washington Lodge #61 of New Hampshire. He was a lifelong die-hard supporter of the Boston Red Sox and an enthusiastic golfer.

John is survived by his wife of 59 years, Betty; his daughters: Linda

Woodward and Debra Woodward and his son, John D. Woodward II. He is also survived by a granddaughter, Megan Woods and two sisters: Esther Perron and Lillian Lesmerises.

John served his country and State with pride and dignity. I applaud him for his exemplary contributions to the United States military and New Hampshire. He will be sadly missed by all those whose lives he touched. It is truly an honor and a privilege to have represented him in the U.S. Senate.●

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHERRY VERSUS MATHEWS

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, July 19th was the 25th anniversary of the U.S. District Court decision known as *Cherry v. Mathews*, a historic ruling that helped open the door to full and equal citizenship for disabled citizens.

Twenty five years ago, many disabled Americans could not use public transportation, go to schools and colleges, or even have access to parks, buildings, or voting booths. The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 was enacted to prohibit discrimination against an "otherwise qualified handicapped individual" in federally funded programs government-wide "solely by reason of his handicap." The statute included within its protections State and local governments, schools, universities, social service agencies, legal services offices, public housing, parks, and much more.

While the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) argued that Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 was merely a "policy statement" that required no regulatory action, Dr. James L. Cherry of Georgia sought to assure legal rights and equality for disabled individuals. The lawsuit targeted Health and Human Services' Secretary David Mathews. His case was decided on July 19, 1976 when U.S. District Court Judge John Lewis Smith ordered HHS to develop the Section 504 regulation to prohibit discrimination against "handicapped persons" in any federally funded program.

Dr. Cherry's case led to a regulation under section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act that assures disabled citizens reasonable access to public programs and facilities. The case helped paved the way for the Americans with Disabilities Act, which expanded the protection from discrimination to all persons with disabilities.

Section 504 was the first "civil rights act" for persons with disabilities. It was modeled after Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibited discrimination against persons in federally funded programs on the basis of race, religion, national origin, and creed. However, "handicapped persons" were not protected from discrimination by the 1964 law.

*Cherry v. Mathews* was a landmark case that renewed our Nation's promise of equal opportunity for all Americans. As we observe the 25th anniversary of equal opportunity for disabled Ameri-

cans, I urge us all to rededicate ourselves to this foundation of our Nation's greatness.●

HAPPY 60TH ANNIVERSARY TO MR. AND MRS. S. RICHARD JENNINGS JR.

● Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I rise today to salute two very special Tennesseans, and indeed two outstanding Americans, who I am proud to call my friends, Virginia and Richard Jennings of Johnson City, TN. On Wednesday, August 29, 2001, Virginia and Richard will be surrounded by family and friends to celebrate the wonderful milestone of their 60 years of marriage.

In a time where so much in our society seems temporary and fleeting, Virginia and Richard have demonstrated each and every day the best of American values—devotion to their country, their community, their family, and to each other.

Married on Friday, August 29, 1941 at the First Baptist Church in Erwin, Tennessee, the Jennings embarked on their journey as newlyweds living in New York City until Richard was called to the service in World War II. Richard served in both of the war's theaters, and was in Europe on VE Day and Japan on VJ Day. While he was overseas, Virginia gave back to her community as an educator, teaching and coaching basketball.

On returning home, Richard began a distinguished career at Tennessee Eastman in Kingsport which spanned almost forty years. Virginia made a mark for herself in community service in Johnson City, generously donating her time as President of the Junior League, helping to found a mental health clinic, and serving on the city's planning commission. Both also made their spiritual lives a priority with their active membership in the Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church. Although raised as a Baptist, Virginia followed her mother's sound advice to be the best Methodist she could!

With all of their accomplishments, probably their proudest moments came with the arrival of two daughters, Eve Boyd Jennings in 1947 and Anne Bradshaw Jennings in 1954. The Jennings' family today boasts six grandchildren and five great-children, all of whom are the apple of their grandparents' eyes.

Through the years, Virginia, a devoted Republican, loved the thrill of politics. Former U.S. Senator Howard Baker tapped her into service as his Tri-Cities field representative where she served throughout his three terms in the Senate. Virginia became a living legend in that role. When I first ran for the Senate, I turned to her time and time again for advice and counsel, and she not only gave me the great honor of becoming a valuable mentor, but she has also bestowed upon my wife, Karyn, and me an even greater gift—her friendship and love.

Virginia and Richard Jennings epitomize the very best of what it means to