

High School's commencement ceremony later that night, but wouldn't receive his diploma because of his participation in a senior prank involving mayonnaise and condoms.

"I had to laugh to myself, but then my daddy genes kicked in right away," Meiners said. "I said, 'Well, you know we're going to have to talk about this later.'"

Simon has since received his diploma after making amends with the school, but he's also had a bit of punishment meted out by his father: He'll be without wheels for his first semester at UK.

"I'm going to introduce him to a part of his body he's never known before: his thumb," Meiners said.

The apple doesn't fall far from the tree, though, which is why Meiners said he's firm but fair when it comes to holding his sons accountable.

Meiners earned a bit of notoriety himself back in 1976 when he broke a water pipe in Boyd Hall at UK after swinging on a ceiling sprinkler.

"It was during finals week at Christmas-time, and they couldn't shut the water off. The floor caved in, water flooded the dorm and everybody had to sleep on mats at Alumni Gym across the street," Meiners said. "I was not a hero."

The university booted Meiners out of the dorms "and that effectively ended my college career," he said. "I was already working in radio and went in to work on Monday and said, 'Well, I guess that didn't work out.'"

Meiners has made it a habit of embracing a *laissez-faire*—"let do, let go, let pass"—attitude. "I never get tired of getting up in the morning and starting over. I tell my boys all the time, 'I can't wait to see what happens next.'"

But Dad can get real serious too.

"You try coming home at 4 in the morning," Simon said.

"And he's really serious about preparing for very odd situations," Max added, which prompted a barrage of jokes about how Meiners hides flashlights and other "just in case" necessities in obscure places throughout the Anchorage home.

Still, said Max, "I admire his total passion for everything he does in life. Whatever he does, he does wholeheartedly."

That includes grieving for his mother, Norma Jean Meiners, who died on Dec. 12.

Just days after her death, Meiners was back on-air candidly sharing his loss. Fans flooded his personal Web site with well-wishes.

But his sons were concerned.

"He lost weight from stress—we were worried about him," Max said. "I know he has 13 brothers and sisters, but sometimes it's like he doesn't have anyone to talk to."

Yet, Meiners did what he somehow always seems to do: Let it ride and roll with it.

"The only thing you can do is will yourself into a positive feeling. I try to teach my kids . . . to bring a positive attitude to everything they do," Meiners said.

"I am abundantly grateful for everything we have," he said.

Meiners is also thankful for what blossomed in his life after his mother's death.

"It's given me an avenue to speak to my father (Mel) like I've never before," Meiners said. "My family and I, we've surrounded my father."

Even as they prepare to leave, Meiners' sons have surrounded their father too.

"I love my dad, and I'm thankful for everything he's done for me," Max said. "We've been through so much in the past six months, this Father's Day will be special."

Meiners agreed.

"My perfect Father's Day is not possible. I'd like to go back in time and remedy my

missteps. But we're here now, and I stand before (my sons) flawed but willing to learn," Meiners said.

"The bottom line is that more than anything, I want to make sure my sons are men of integrity. That's all that matters. And I'm happy to report they are."

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if you search the State of Nevada, you will find many elder statesmen. But you won't find any finer than Judge Lloyd D. George.

Judge George is my friend, and Nevada through and through.

Judge George moved to Las Vegas in 1933, when he was just 3 years old. His family's business was moving sand and gravel. He recalls his house as being built on two railroad lots and remembers Las Vegas at the time as a "slow city."

Las Vegas has grown a lot since 1933, and so has Lloyd George.

A graduate of Brigham Young University and University of California Berkeley Law School, he has been an institution in our State's legal community, as both a lawyer and a judge.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan nominated Judge George to the U.S. district court, and he quickly won Senate confirmation. In 1992, he became chief judge of the Nevada District, a position he held until 1997.

Today, Judge George is a retired senior U.S. district judge, but he still comes in to work every day. His continued service is a testament to Judge George's commitment to the law and the people of Nevada. All of us here recognized that commitment when we named the Las Vegas' Federal courthouse the "Lloyd D. George Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse" in the year 2000.

Mr. President, I began by calling Judge George a statesman, which is exactly what he is.

When statesmen speak, the community has an obligation to listen. Which is why I rise to submit Judge George's moving 2006 Memorial Day remarks into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. His words paint a vivid picture of the sacrifice America's heroes made at Iwo Jima, and they remind us of our obligation to carry their memories with us today.

I ask unanimous consent that Lloyd George's remarks be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### MEMORIAL DAY ADDRESS—IWO JIMA

(By Lloyd D. George, May 26, 2006)

Before World War II, the Island of Iwo Jima was considered tiny and insignificant. After the February 19, 1945, invasion of the island, where one hundred thousand men fought for over a month for control of an area only about a third the size of Manhattan, Iwo Jima became gargantuan in the history of warfare and heroism.

Both sides understood the strategic importance of the small island. It had two airfields, and had been used by Japanese fighters to attack American bombers on their way to targets. Americans also wanted con-

trol of the island as a base for their own aircraft.

The name Iwo Jima means Sulfur Island in Japanese. The five mile long, two mile wide island had soil of volcanic ash, soft enough to create extensive tunnels and underground fortifications for its 22,000 Japanese defenders, but too soft on the surface for the invasion forces to dig even an adequate foxhole for protection. And the 546 high Mount Suribachi at the southern end of the island provided the defenders a vantage-point from which they could lay down a withering fire onto the beach.

One of the Iwo Jima veterans we pay tribute to, Chester Foulke, recounts running back after carrying ammunition to Marine machine gunners, and falling as if he had been hit in order to stop the hail of bullets which were spraying all around him.

Another honoree, Larry Odell, credits flamethrowers, carried by Marines or in small tanks, for ultimately defeating the entrenched Japanese. The Japanese had years to construct a sixteen mile complex of reinforced tunnels connecting fifteen hundred man-made caverns. Attacks came upon the Marines from virtually anywhere, day or night, through warrens, spider holes, caves and crevices.

The ferocious nature of the battle was unrivaled. Sulfur, the namesake of the island, turns red when it melts under heat. So, too, the soil and rocks of the island were often turned red from blood as the battle raged on. Of the 70,000 Americans engaged in a battle, there were 26,000 casualties, almost 7,000 of whom were killed. Out of the 22,000 Japanese soldiers on the island, only 212 were taken prisoner. When told of the casualties during the battle, President Roosevelt visibly wrote: "It was the first time [throughout the entire war] that anyone had seen the President gasp in horror." Indeed, the Battle of Iwo Jima, which displayed the fanatic fervor of the Japanese, and the heavy casualties suffered by forces combating them, influenced the American decision to use atomic bombs to end the war.

Amid the overwhelming death and destruction at Iwo Jima, uncommon valor was common. The image of six Marines raising the American flag after taking Mount Suribachi on the fifth day of fighting stands as a symbol not only of the island and the battle, but of the entire war. Another local honoree, Parke Potter, was in one of three companies to take the mountain. He also helped improvise a makeshift flagpole by wiring together scraps of iron pipe.

Every single American who fought at Iwo Jima was valiant in preserving freedom and democracy. More medals for valor were awarded for action on Iwo Jima than in any battle in the history of the United States. The Marines were awarded eighty-four Medals of Honor in World War II. In just the month of fighting on Iwo Jima, they were awarded twenty-seven Medals of Honor. We will never forget those who descended into the depth of hell that month 61 years ago, so that we and future generations, might exist above it. And we honor those who sacrificed their futures that we might have ours.

#### TRIBUTE TO JUDGE R.W. DYCHE III

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a great leader in public service, Judge R.W. Dyche III of London, KY. Judge Dyche is retiring from the Kentucky Court of Appeals, Third Appellate District, First Division, after 20 years of honorable service. He began his legal career as a clerk for the law firm of Allen & Bledsoe, and after the firm dissolved,

he opened his own office. He accepted an appointment as a judge of the 27th Judicial District in 1978 and 8 years later was appointed to the Kentucky Court of Appeals.

Judge Dyche plans to take some time off to begin his retirement. From there he said he has a couple of possibilities lined up. I am sure his wife Jane and his sons Robert and John are looking forward to seeing more of him.

On June 12 of this year, *The Sentinel Echo* published an article highlighting Judge Dyche's accomplishments while in office as well as the excellence with which he carried out his job. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[FROM THE SENTINEL ECHO]

JUDGE DYCHE RETIRING AFTER 20 YEARS

(By Carl Keith Greene)

Twenty years after his appointment and subsequent election to the Kentucky Court of Appeals Judge R.W. Dyche III will retire on June 20.

Dyche, 55, who began his career as a law clerk for Baxter Bledsoe and Larry Allen, served also as Laurel District Judge for eight years.

"I look forward to a new chapter, learning new things, learning different things, I've become even more convinced lately that when you quit learning you begin dying. I'm learning a few new things," he said in an interview Thursday.

Dyche entered the legal profession because, "It's all that ever interested me. I had a phase of electronics and electrical engineering. But starting about my freshman year in high school it's all that ever interested me."

He said the best thing about being a judge for him is "getting to see the good side of humanity. Unfortunately, along with that you also see the bad side."

He said the good side is made up of generosity, love, attorneys who go out of their way to represent their client well—sometimes at no cost—people who just want to do the right thing.

On the bad side, he has seen families who fight, or people who abuse or neglect children. He said these are the two worst scenarios.

Though it is hard to pinpoint a typical case Dyche has heard, he said in the criminal side, anymore, is a drug case, and generally, the most common grounds for claimed error is illegal search and seizure.

"Very often the drugs are found on the person or in close proximity and the only out they have is to say the search is illegal."

In civil court, "unfortunately domestic things are growing and growing and growing. It's such a good thing that we're going to get a family court here soon," he said.

Dyche estimated there are approximately 75 percent of affirmations of lower court cases and 25 percent reversals.

He said the case that stands out in his memory is from about 1988 or 1989 "where a child was taken from the mother at the hospital before she ever got the chance to show whether she could be a good mother, based on past history and predictability. I wrote an opinion reversing that saying, it could be under very close supervision but she should be given the chance."

He said he prides himself, and his staff, on being able to write opinions that litigants can understand, not written in what is called

"legalese" but written in plain English and short concise form so they can understand why they won or lost.

Dyche is a 1968 graduate of London High School. He earned his bachelor's degree from Danville's Centre College and his law degree at the University of Kentucky College of Law in 1975.

He and his wife of 27 years, Jane, also a lawyer, have two sons, Robert, 24, who is in law school and John, 13, an eight-grader at North Laurel Middle School.

In his years in the Laurel judicial system he has seen the court system grow from one circuit judge, Bob Helton; one district judge, Lewis Hopper; one trial commissioner, Dyche; and one pre-trial services officer, Fred Yaden.

Now there are two circuit judges, two district judges, at least two trial commissioners, and three or four pre-trial officers, he said. The case load has, with the county, grown so much.

"I can remember in the late 70s when Les Yaden was sheriff there was Les, Oscar Brown, Earl Bailey as deputies and Evelene Greene and Les' daughter Janie making up the entire Sheriff's office staff."

Now there are many, many who are needed.

Looking ahead, Dyche said he is going to take some time off to start out with, and is exploring, a couple of possibilities.

"I'm certainly not going to be idle," he said.

He said he has learned a few things about doing his job since he began the journey.

"I came into this at age 27 single, and early on I was having and I was lecturing a father, 'Oh you need to do this, you need to do that. Here's what you do with your son.' I was giving him down the road. The guy looked at me and said, 'Buddy, you got any children?' I said 'no.' He said 'huh.'"

He concluded, "I'm much more understanding when things don't go exactly as you planned in raising children."

"I appreciated how good everybody's been to me, the cooperation of the people, my staff, Sandy Slusher and Julie Ledford, and particularly my friend Fred Yaden. I'll be around. I won't go far."

#### A TRIBUTE TO DYCHE

(By Sandy Slusher, Appeals Court Judicial Secretary)

Working at the Court of Appeals has been the highlight of a career and life that I thought would never happen. I took a job years ago with the law firm of Allen & Bledsoe. Robbie Dyche was in law school and clerked at the firm. I found him a most interesting person when he was in the office.

When the firm dissolved, Robbie decided to open his own office. He asked if I would like to work for him, and I eagerly accepted. That was 30 years ago. His practice grew but he realized public service was truly his calling. In 1978 he accepted an appointment as district judge under the new judicial reform system, Eldon Keller, (the Circuit court Clerk at the time), hired me as a deputy clerk. I still was able to work with Judge Dyche, as well as Judge Lewis Hopper.

In 1986, Judge Dyche was appointed to the Kentucky Court of Appeals and asked if I would like to work as his secretary. The judge, Julie Ledford, our staff attorney, and I went to Frankfort together to be sworn in.

In Judge Dyche's office, we have formed a small family unit supporting each other through divorce, marriage, births, deaths graduations, illnesses both in the office and in extended family members. We have celebrated with each other at the happy times, and embraced and consoled each other through the heartbreaking moments. It had been so good.

Throughout Judge Dyche's tenure our office policy has been to write opinions that are concise, strictly based on law, easily understood by the average citizen as well as the judiciary, and rendered as soon as possible. Matters involving child custody always took precedent over other matters and Judge Dyche consistently would volunteer to take additional cases involving child custody in order to fast track these matters through the Court.

I have formed friendships that will endure for the remainder of my time on earth. If the opportunity presented itself, I would do it all over without a moment of hesitation!

#### COMMENDATION OF TIMOTHY E. LESHAN

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to commend the exemplary work of Tim Leshan, who is leaving the National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health to become the director of government relations and community affairs at Brown University.

For the past 5 years, Mr. Leshan has served the National Human Genome Research Institute with great distinction. As branch chief of policy and program analysis at the Institute, he provided focus and leadership in numerous areas of public policy on genetics.

He served as the congressional liaison during the completion of the Human Genome Project and the International HapMap project, and was the Institute's planning and evaluation officer.

As liaison to the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the White House, he has facilitated contacts between the director of the Institute and numerous Federal, State, and international policy makers.

Mr. Leshan has guided policy development for the Institute on issues relating to genomic medicine, intellectual property, and regulation of genetic tests. He has also facilitated the resolution of complex policy issues for all of NIH with respect to the National Library of Medicine's PubChem database, and provided technical assistance to the House and Senate appropriations committees and authorizing committees. He also had a particularly important leadership role in the development of legislation against genetic discrimination and on privacy protections for genetic information.

He has provided impressive technical advice to many of us in the Senate in drafting legislation on genetic non-discrimination and health disparities. One of Tim's major regrets as he leaves the Institute is not having seen the passage and signing of genetic non-discrimination legislation. Hopefully, action on that legislation will be completed before the end of the current session of Congress, and I am sure Tim will be there at the signing as a principal adviser for all of us on the bill.

Before joining the Institute, Mr. Leshan was the director of public policy for the American Society for Cell Biology, where he cofounded the Coalition for the Advancement of Medical