

God every day that I live in America and how fortunate I was. He was right. This is the greatest country on Earth. And it is because of the brave actions of so many of our fellow countrymen.

The Wyoming Congressional delegation had the privilege of greeting a group of Wyoming's World War II veterans on the National Mall this spring. They made the Wyoming Honor Flight trip to Washington from Wyoming to visit the World War II Memorial. Wyoming's World War II veterans are heroes in every sense of the word. They quite literally saved the world. Let Wyoming's new memorial be a monument of our endless thanks for all they have secured for us. All of Wyoming, and indeed America, says thank you.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COMMENDING SALLY HUNTER

• Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the distinguished service of an outstanding Texan, Sally Hunter. Ms. Hunter is the recipient of the 2009 Preserve America Elementary History Teacher of the Year for Texas. This award recognizes outstanding American history teachers from elementary school through high school, as well as the crucial importance of American history education. One teacher from each State is chosen from thousands of exceptional teachers to receive this prestigious award.

For almost 30 years, Sally Hunter has served the students of Texas as an instructor, mentor, and friend. Through recognizing and cultivating untapped potential within students, she has inspired countless youth to be men and women of character, vision and dedication.

Ms. Hunter began serving students as an elementary teacher in Austin ISD in 1980, and has taught fourth grade since 1995. Since that time, she has positively impacted the lives of thousands of students by making history personal for them. In keeping with her great love of Texas history, Ms. Hunter has traced her very own family back to the 1850s when they were neighbors of Sam Houston. Ms. Hunter continues to encourage and foster the same love of research and history in her own students so that they may learn more about their own family history.

Just 2 days after the fire that destroyed the Governor's Mansion in Austin, Ms. Hunter began to write the curriculum This House is Your House in order to ensure that students would learn about the richness of the mansion's history. Ms. Hunter's program is being used in classrooms across Texas, and continues to illustrate the mansion's tangible connections to people of the past, while challenging students to contribute to restoration and preservation.

Ms. Hunter has a gift for recognizing the unique needs of students and has never failed to commit her time, en-

ergy, and resources to meeting their needs. Ms. Hunter's love for teaching has made a lasting impact on her students, and she exemplifies an outstanding teacher and historian.

Sally Hunter's years of selfless service and unwavering devotion to the improvement of her students' lives have earned the respect of countless Texans. I thank Sally for her commitment to excellence in teaching the future leaders of Texas and send my best wishes for the years ahead.●

100TH BIRTHDAY OF ETHEL SCHWENDEL

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, today is the 100th birthday of a very special Iowan and a wonderful friend, Ethel Schwengel. One century ago today, Ethel was born on her parents' family farm near Purdin, MO. This is a bit premature, but I should also note that we are on the cusp of yet another remarkable milestone. On August 15, Ethel and her family will celebrate the 78th anniversary of her marriage to the late Frederic Schwengel, who represented Iowa in the United States House of Representatives from 1955 to 1965 and from 1967 to 1973.

The Schwengels married in Unionville, MO, in 1931, and moved to Davenport, IA, in 1937. There, Ethel worked as an educator, and was active in many civic organizations, including Girl Scouts and the YWCA.

When her husband served in the Iowa House of Representatives from 1944 to 1954, and later during his long service in the U.S. House, Ethel became a respected and beloved presence in her own right.

Ethel was always actively engaged in her husband's campaigns. Meanwhile, on the home front, she was a strong stabilizing influence in the Schwengel household during his inevitably frequent absences. She was a tireless and gracious hostess, often responding to last-minute calls from her husband to set additional places at the table for colleagues and visitors.

During their years in the Nation's Capital, the Schwengels hosted "Washington Week" for an Iowa State University professor and two of his students, one of whom was a very young and green TOM HARKIN. I will never forget their kindness and hospitality during that very eventful week.

Ethel joined in her husband's passion for collecting antiques as well as Abraham Lincoln memorabilia, which she displayed beautifully in the Schwengel house. Another highlight of their home was the Ethel's garden, which featured her prized tomatoes and Fred's beloved rhubarb—and little bit of Iowa right in suburban Washington. Ethel was especially proud of her dazzling display of azaleas each spring.

Across more than six decades of marriage, Ethel and Fred Schwengel were blessed with a large extended family. They raised two children, Frank and Dorothy. Moreover, immediately after

marrying, their household became home to Fred's brother Forrest and sister Helene. Later, Fred's widowed mother joined the household, as did Ethel's mother.

Following the Second World War, the Schwengels opened their home in Davenport to 11 displaced persons from Poland, helping them to learn English, find jobs, and become U.S. citizens.

In 1966, their grandson, Robert Schwengel, joined the household. When he left for college in 1979, it was the first time in 48 years of marriage that Ethel and Fred Schwengel were without extended family members in their home.

After Congressman Schwengel retired in 1973, he and Ethel continued to make their home in Arlington, VA. Mr. Schwengel helped to found the U.S. Capitol Historical Society in 1962, and headed that organization as its president until his death in 1993. Ethel remains a strong champion of the Historical Society and a member of its Honorary Board of Trustees. Their grandson, Dr. Robert Schwengel of Providence, RI, is a member of the society's active Board of Trustees, and their son-in-law, Neale Cosby, is its treasurer as well as a trustee.

Since that summer many years ago, when the Schwengels took me into their home for a very memorable "Washington Week," Ethel has been a very dear friend.

I am pleased to note that, for the big celebration today, she will be joined by family members and friends at her current residence in Arlington. In addition, there will be a reunion picnic on Saturday at her daughter and son-in-law's home at Mason Neck, VA. Ethel will be joined at these celebrations by her sister, Florence, age 98; her children and their spouses; five grandsons and spouses; nine great grandchildren; one niece; two nephews; and four great nephews. Clearly, this is a woman of great wealth—the kind of wealth that really matters.

I congratulate Ethel Schwengel on this great milestone. She has brought light into the lives of so many of us in Iowa and here in the Washington area. One hundred years since its birth, that light continues to shine with a very special radiance.

Happy birthday, Ethel!●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF TROUT UNLIMITED

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, it is with great pride that I pay tribute to Trout Unlimited, a national conservation organization established in my home State of Michigan. This exceptional organization was founded in 1959 on the banks of the Au Sable River, near Grayling, MI, by 16 concerned Michigan anglers. These anglers, who met in the home of George Griffith, sought to ensure the continued and long term health of trout, their habitat, and the sport of angling. Today, Trout Unlimited boasts more than 150,000 members

in approximately 400 chapters throughout the United States, including 23 chapters in Michigan.

The founders of Trout Unlimited, or TU, were united by their love of trout fishing and by their growing discontent with the State of Michigan's practice of stocking its waters with hatchery-raised fish. Driven by the belief that Michigan's trout streams could produce fish far superior in both size and fight to these "cookie cutter trout," in 1962-63, TU prepared its first policy statement on wild trout, which persuaded the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to curtail "put-and-take" trout stocking and to start managing for wild trout and healthy habitat. Buoyed by this success, anglers subsequently founded TU chapters in Illinois, Wisconsin, New York, and Pennsylvania with the mission of conserving, protecting and restoring North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

Indispensable to the success and strength of Trout Unlimited are the thousands of dedicated members and volunteers. TU members have spent countless hours restoring trout and salmon habitat, and some of the most visible effects have been on hundreds of watersheds nationwide. In addition, these members have provided the knowledge and leadership necessary to improve environmental policy on the local, state and national level and to carry out TU's ambitious conservation agenda.

Many have contributed significantly to the success of Trout Unlimited over the past fifty years. Trout Unlimited has been an important, vigilant and effective advocate for coldwater resources in Michigan and across the country. I know my colleagues join me in offering gratitude and appreciation to Trout Unlimited for a job well done. Protecting our natural resources and waterways for future generations is a noble endeavor, and I look forward to another 50 years of responsible environmental stewardship.●

REMEMBERING REBECCA JANE DALTON WEINBERGER

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a great fellow Mainer and a wonderful friend who passed away recently—Rebecca Jane Dalton Weinberger. Today, I would like to take a few moments to offer a few reflections of my own on Jane's life, as well as include some of the thoughts that her exceptional son, Caspar Weinberger, Jr., has shared regarding his beloved mother—and I will ask that Mr. Weinberger's statements upon Jane's passing be printed in the RECORD in their entirety.

Born in Milford, ME, Jane was a notable figure in our State. A writer and publisher of outstanding children's stories, a tireless community volunteer, a woman who in 1942 met—on a troop ship bound for Australia—a man then referred to as U.S. Army CAPT Caspar

W. Weinberger, who would become her husband for 63 years not to mention Secretary of Defense under President Ronald Reagan!—and above all, an extraordinary mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother Jane Weinberger was truly beloved by many and will be profoundly missed by all of us who were fortunate to know her.

Inseparable throughout their 63 years of marriage, Jane and Caspar are indisputably now reunited—together once again—their rightful state of being given all that they meant to each other not only in love but in life, and all of its trials and triumphs. Jane and Cap were passionately devoted to one another—each drawing strength and inspiration from the other's indomitable spirit. In fact, her son tells of how, and I quote, "it was my mother who . . . almost literally pushed him into his first political campaign as the Republican candidate for the State Assembly from San Francisco's 21st Assembly District . . . she did all the campaign things: running the campaign office, calling on potential voters, handing out bumper stickers and posters. Jane was a great organizer, and innovator." And, I would add that they both served as each other's closest confidante and friend—as well as being husband and wife.

And it was Jane who did Caspar the tremendous favor of introducing him to the great State of Maine. Of course, since Jane was a native Mainer through-and-through, as I mentioned at the memorial service for Cap Weinberger in 2006, many back home still referred to him as "Jane's husband!" After all, as anyone familiar with Maine understands, you can never get "top billing" unless you were actually born there—even if you were pivotal in the downfall of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War!

And Jane was a force of nature in her own right. In the words of Caspar Weinberger, Jr., "My mother . . . helped her family hold together and prosper often under the most trying conditions that can only be truly understood by those who achieve fame and the scrutiny which go with holding high office in America. She was down to earth and sensible, and she was also a woman of great dignity, beauty and courage . . . She was instrumental in helping her husband win elective office . . . and later (was) a well-known and admired Washington, DC hostess, while Cap was serving in cabinet positions to three different U.S. presidents throughout the 1970's and 80's."

Jane was not only unflinchingly dedicated to her family—raising her sons, Caspar and Arlin—but also to her community and the world around her. Again, to quote Mr. Weinberger, she was "certainly civically minded—she was a volunteer in many an organization for the poor and needy." She "volunteered for many civic duties and charities and writing children's stories," and was a former chairwoman of the Folger Shakespeare Library in

Washington, DC; served on the board of Amherst College in Massachusetts; and for many years served on the Board at Jackson Laboratories in Bar Harbor. As Cap Weinberger, Jr. wrote, she believed "that it was most important to contribute to their good efforts in attempting to defeat cancer in every form once and for all."

Once the Weinbergers had arrived back in Maine after their years in Washington, Jane also started a publishing business she had long envisioned, which was chiefly focused on children's books and which she ran for more than 20 years with more than 120 titles. And her company came to be acknowledged, as her son put it, as "not the biggest but among the very best."

On a more personal note, certainly, my husband Jock McKernan—Maine's former Governor—and I have deeply treasured our friendship with Jane and Cap. Every time we drive by the home they cherished on Somes Sound, called "Windswept House" in Mount Desert, ME, I am reminded of the 80th birthday party that Jane threw for Cap. And what a wonderful night that was—under the stars of a spectacular Maine summer sky—with Secretary Colin Powell and so many others joining in the festivities and the laughter. In Caspar Weinberger, Jr.'s words.

She arranged for a startling and magnificent round of fireworks in his honor. Strangely, twelve years later on the night before her passing, my wife and I witnessed another stunning display of fireworks put on just across the inlet to Somes Sound by a neighbor celebrating a wedding or other special event. While these lights were not really designed in her honor, to us it was highly symbolic, as if her time of respect had come and was recognized. In my view, as well it should have been, for she was most definitely the power that guided my father to the heights of American government.

Mr. President, Jane Weinberger achieved her own formidable heights throughout her remarkable lifetime, and we have truly lost a leading light in Maine. My profound sympathies go out to Caspar and Arlin as well as Jane's sister, Virginia, and her three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren at this most difficult of times. Jane will always be in the hearts of those whose lives she touched so deeply.

Mr. President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD Mr. Weinberger's statements to which I referred.

The information follows:

MRS. CASPAR W. (JANE) WEINBERGER DIES

Jane Dalton Weinberger, 91, wife of former President Ronald Reagan's Secretary of Defense, the late Caspar W. Weinberger, died last night, July 12, 2009 in Bar Harbor, Maine. For the last six months, she had been in declining health and was living in a nursing home near her home known as "Windswept House" in Somesville, Maine on Mount Desert Island.

Born Rebecca Jane Dalton in Milford, Maine, on March 29, 1918, Mrs. Weinberger became an Army nurse at the outbreak of World War II. While aboard a troop ship headed to Australia in 1942, she met her husband-to-be, U.S. Army Captain Caspar W.