

in the House of Representatives, who in and of himself is a great United States Congressman and who continues the Kennedy tradition of fighting for those causes that other people do not want to fight for and to bring the attention to those who are most in need of help in our country and in our world.

It is my great honor to recognize the great Congressman from the State of Rhode Island, PATRICK KENNEDY.

Mr. KENNEDY. I want to thank my good friend and colleague ED MARKEY for organizing this Special Order and all of my colleagues for the wonderful tribute that they've given my dad tonight. I will just say that he loved people in public life because they were willing to go out and face the elements and weather the scorn of public opinion in order to stand up for what they believed in. That's why he really admired political figures, and especially in a time where political figures aren't very revered. They're pretty much down at the bottom of the public opinion polls in terms of most professions.

But he knew what a difference it meant to have people of good faith and conviction be involved in the political process because he knew what a difference it made in terms of getting good policy done for the American people. He knew how easy it would be for most people to sit back and make criticisms from the sidelines, but it took a really special person to put themselves out and really sacrifice a big part of their lives because it takes enormous sacrifice of their private lives to be in the public life, especially today.

So he always really got so much energy out of the people that he served with. They were the ones that sustained him so much because he felt like he was part of a team effort. There is nothing that he loved more than being part of a team, whether it was playing sports or whether it was just being part of a family team, being part of a family. That was his politics. His politics was simple. It was being part of a group and making sure that nobody in the group was left behind. I think it's a great kind of a spirit that he brought to his politics. It was a family spirit that I saw over and over again in every issue that he faced. He wanted to treat everybody else the way he expected to be treated if he were a member of a family, and I was included.

He was brought up to believe that everybody had dignity and everybody had a place. You know, when I was growing up in my family, we all had a place. A lot has been said about his belief in everybody having an opportunity in society. Well, in an anecdotal way, I can tell you, in my life, he always made sure that I had an opportunity to participate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MINNICK). The time of the gentleman has expired.

#### REMEMBERING SENATOR KENNEDY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. DELAHUNT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DELAHUNT. I yield the time to my friend and colleague.

Mr. KENNEDY. Thank you. I just will conclude now because I know my friends and colleagues have their time to speak.

I would like to say to each and every one of the folks who spoke tonight, thank you for being here tonight to pay tribute to my father. To the folks on both sides of the aisle that have been so generous to me, it's a great thing, being part of this House, to have colleagues treat you as one of their own, as a part of a collegial family of sorts, in a professional way but also in a personal way.

The thing he loved so much about serving over in the Senate was the great friendships he developed there. I can tell you, having been through what I have been through in the last couple of weeks, I can appreciate personally what a difference it's made to have the friends that I've had in this Chamber be so supportive of me through this time. I want to thank all of my colleagues for their outpouring of support and affection from both sides of the aisle. It is in times like these where you really get to appreciate the fact that you work in a place where everybody appreciates and respects one another.

I think that is the thing my father would want most for our country right now, for people from very divergent points of view to respect one another and respect this country, which was founded on an appreciation for difference of opinion. The reason why he had worked so well across the aisle on so many occasions on important issues was because he understood that this country can't move forward unless people work together in good faith.

I think the thing that he found most distressing at any point in American history was when the country would stray from its foundation of believing that we could resolve our difficult problems through dialogue, because I think he knew personally, better than any other person in American history, what happens when people don't resolve their problems peacefully and, instead, resort to violence. I think that my dad is one of those people who believed in the democratic process. And at the end of the day, people saw what a difference his work made in their lives because of the work that he did within the democratic process, to make our country a better place for everybody to live in.

Even though he was from a different station in life from many people that he worked to help, he didn't look at it from the point of view of socioeconomic background. He looked at it from the point of view that we're all human beings, that we all have a spark

of divinity in us, and we all ought to treat each other with the same respect that we would want to be treated with ourselves. The golden rule, so to speak.

That's why it didn't matter what the issue was. He believed in fairness for everybody because he would want his family to be treated the same way he would want every other family to be treated. But there for the grace of God, he was lucky enough to come from a family that didn't have to worry about paying for health care, education, housing or a pension to retire. He just knew that if he had come from a different family, he would hope that he wouldn't have to worry about the basic necessities of life that too many Americans have to worry about.

And I respect that about him because through the power of example he showed me that you could be a person of conscience and really try to work to make the lives of those who didn't have it as well off as you better through the work that you did in public life. Through that, I think he showed himself as a patriot in more than one way. He not only wore the uniform of this country in the Army, but he wore the uniform in the sense that he fought in the Senate to advance the lives of people in this country through the policy work that he did as a United States Senator.

So, again, let me thank all my colleagues for their great tributes. I look forward to paying him the biggest tribute that we could pay, and that is to make sure that the promise of health care for all is a promise that we ultimately achieve in this session.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Thank you for sharing that with us, PATRICK. Thank you for your service, and know that we love you.

Speaking of reaching across the aisle, I'm going to expose him as someone who had great love and affection for Ted Kennedy, your dad, and a wonderful guy for whom Senator Kennedy had the highest respect, even though they agreed on very little. That's the senior Republican on the House Judiciary Committee, LAMAR SMITH.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. I thank my friend from Massachusetts, Congressman DELAHUNT, for yielding. I also want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their forbearance tonight in not strictly enforcing the time limits.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

#### REMEMBERING SENATOR KENNEDY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. This gives me a second opportunity to thank my colleagues for their forbearance tonight.

Senator Kennedy was a friend, as are members of his family, including his son PATRICK who is here tonight. It was

a privilege to have known him in lots of different ways. In my being a conservative Republican from Texas, and the Senator being a liberal Democrat from Massachusetts, many people wonder about this friendship. And therein lie many stories, but let me tell a couple tonight.

The first one goes back to when I was a fairly junior Member of Congress. I don't remember what the meeting was about, but there was a meeting in the Capitol in a small room. I was late getting to the meeting, and apparently so was Senator Kennedy. When I walked in, there were no remaining seats around the table, but there were a couple of seats over by a window. In fact, there was only one seat empty, and it was next to Senator Kennedy who at that point I had not met. I felt like I had nowhere else to go, so I sat by Senator Kennedy.

After we had been there about a half hour and were bored by the discussion that was going on at the table, we started talking. I mentioned to Senator Kennedy that, in fact, my grandmother had been from Boston, that I had enjoyed that part of the country many times on vacations, and we discovered that we had a mutual interest in sailing, although I have not gotten to do nearly as much of it as he has.

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In any case, we spent the next hour just having a wonderful, friendly discussion. And that was the beginning of this friendship that I have referred to.

Not long after that, I was at another meeting. Actually this was a conference meeting in the Capitol, where there were four or five Members of the House and four or five members of the Senate in attendance trying to work out the differences on a particular piece of legislation. What so happened at that particular meeting, I was at the table and so was Senator Kennedy. In fact, he was directly across the table from me. And we had had a relatively mild discussion of the issues at hand, and it was time for Senator Kennedy to speak.

He stood up at the table, proceeded to lay into us Republicans as if we knew nothing about the issues at hand, made a very persuasive argument on his own behalf and on behalf of the issues that he cared about. The voice was so loud that, quite frankly, the walls of this small room were rattling. All the staff who were seated around the room were shaking. And I was wondering what I had gotten myself into. And here was the Senator with whom I had struck a friendship, and he was practically accusing all of us of not knowing what we were talking about on this particular legislation.

Well, the Senator talked for 5 or 10 minutes, completely dominated the room, and there really wasn't much else to say, or at least no one felt like saying anything in response to the Senator. Well, when he sat down, he picked up a piece of paper in front of

them, grabbed a pencil, which I was absolutely sure he was going to break in half. But instead of breaking the pencil in half, he scribbled a note on this piece of paper. And everybody in the room is watching him. And he throws the piece of paper across the table to me. And I'm thinking, what is going on?

So I pick up the piece of paper. This must have been around July of that particular summer. I look at the piece of paper, and Senator Kennedy has written on the piece of paper, "LAMAR, what are you doing for vacation this summer?"

You had to sort of be there to appreciate what had gone on in the previous 10 minutes and the friendship that this particular note to me showed.

I very quickly folded the note up and put it in my pocket so no one else would see it. And, of course, everybody in the entire room was now wondering what was it that Senator Kennedy had written to the Republican across the table, SMITH from Texas.

I never have revealed that note until right now. But that does show not only friendship, but both stories and many others that I could tell I think reveal a larger point. And that is the public is probably not nearly as aware as they might be of the genuine friendships that occur in Congress between individuals who might not agree on many of the political issues but who can agree to be friends and appreciate each other's company.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. May I ask unanimous consent for 1 more minute?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, does not permit the extension of a Special Order speech by unanimous consent.

#### REMEMBERING SENATOR KENNEDY

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

In this case, the idea that individuals can be friends from different sides of the aisle, and even if they disagree on some things political, it occurs more often than a lot of people might expect. In fact, that's probably one of the unwritten stories of Congress. And I'm glad it exists.

Certainly on the surface there is an extreme partisanship. Sometimes that is regrettable. But underneath the surface, there are friendships that can occur, for which I think both sides and both friends can be grateful, and I am certainly in that category.

Mr. MARKEY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SMITH of Texas. I will be happy to yield to the gentleman.

Mr. MARKEY. I thank the gentleman for his great words. And we thank all

of the other Members for their participation in this Special Order.

The RECORD is going to remain open so any Member that wishes to make a comment about our great Senator Ted Kennedy may do so.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Senator Edward M. Kennedy—a mentor, a friend and the greatest Senator our country has ever known.

While it is still difficult to imagine these hallowed halls without Teddy, today we honor the man who was an inspiration to all of us who have answered the call to public service. And while one hour is not nearly enough to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Sen. Kennedy, today we pause to celebrate the life of this extraordinary man.

Never afraid to 'sail against the wind' in the name of justice, equality and opportunity, Teddy was a treasured friend, a tireless advocate for the people of Massachusetts and a legislator without peer. Throughout his distinguished career, he helped bring health care to millions of children, enabled many young people to afford a college education and ensured that so many of our citizens could realize the American dream.

I am honored to serve with his son PATRICK and to know his other children Teddy Jr. and Kara, his beloved wife Vicki and all the members of the Kennedy family. And there is no doubt that his trusted friend and former staffer, PAUL KIRK, will serve with distinction in his interim appointment.

Teddy was 'an idealist without illusions,' as his brother, the late President John F. Kennedy used to say. He came to the Senate to get things done. He was unafraid to reach across the aisle to make a deal and he counted some of his staunchest ideological foes among his closest friends. But he never compromised his core beliefs in justice, equality and access to the American dream.

From his first speech on the Senate floor in support of the Civil Rights Act until his valiant final fight for health care reform, when Ted Kennedy spoke, you knew you were hearing the "true compass" of a committed, principled progressive.

He transcended petty politics to become "the lion of the Senate," a legislator like no other. Teddy's was an unmatched legislative career, which included 47 years in office, more than 2,500 bills authored and scores of laws bearing his name.

On issues of war and peace there was no better moral compass than Teddy. He picked up the banner of nuclear arms control from his fallen brother John and fought tirelessly to reduce the threat of nuclear weapons and make the world a safer place. Beginning in the 1980s, Teddy worked closely with me to highlight the dangers of a nuclear arms race between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, and the need to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

In 1982, when I introduced the first nuclear freeze resolution in Congress to stop the buildup of nuclear weapons, no one thought we could do it. But it was Teddy who led the fight for a freeze in the Senate, paving the way for a dramatic showdown with President Reagan that made it necessary for the Reagan Administration to embrace nuclear arms control—a course it initially had rejected.

Our country is a better place because of Ted Kennedy. For the worker who struggled to