

floor today will still be honored 20 years hence. We need to ensure that, not just with an annual parade and flag waving, but with the care, the support, the assistance to the VA and the Department of Defense as well as in their communities, not just these individuals but their families.

I hope years from now, and I will pray, that others will stand up and say they paid the price and we have kept our promise to them.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor and I note the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of Colorado). In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Colorado, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Colorado, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:49 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 4:22 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. BINGAMAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

#### TRIBUTE TO ANDREW B. WILLISON

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary work of Andrew B. "Drew" Willison who has served with great distinction since 2007 as U.S. Senate Deputy Sergeant at Arms. Mr. Willison, who is leaving his position to pursue new adventures in the private sector, has led a distinguished career in the U.S. Senate that elevated him to the highest levels of decisionmaking. His work greatly enhanced the safety and security of the U.S. Senate, staff, and visitors.

Mr. Willison was born in Mount Vernon, OH, and was raised in Ohio, Missouri, Alabama, Connecticut, and Virginia. He earned a B.A. with Honors in government from the College of William and Mary in 1988. He also holds a masters' degree in public administration from the Ohio State University, 1990, and a law degree from the George Washington University, 2001.

Mr. Willison started his government career as a presidential management intern at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA, and later worked for the Environmental Protection Agency's acid rain division.

In 1997 he joined my staff to work on the Environment and Public Works Committee, including the \$200 billion 1998 highway bill. In 1999, I selected Mr. Willison to become his Appropriations

Committee staff director for the Energy and Water Subcommittee. In this capacity, Drew represented the minority leader and the other Senate Democratic member interests on the \$35 billion per year bill that funds the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and other smaller agencies.

In 2007, Mr. Willison was appointed Deputy Senate Sergeant at Arms where he served as the chief operating officer of the Senate's largest organization, with over 850 employees and an annual budget exceeding \$200 million. Mr. Willison directly supervised senior managers responsible for all operations, including the chief information officer, the chief financial officer, security and emergency preparedness, police operations, general counsel, human resources, the media and public galleries, the Employee Assistance Program, the Protocol Office, the Doorkeepers, the Page Program, printing, the photo studio, the Senate Post Office, parking, and education and training.

Around the Office of the Senate Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Willison was best known not just for his accomplished and distinguished work in the Senate but for his love of animals, music, the latest technology and his extensive Amazon on-line gift list.

Congratulations! We wish Mr. Willison all the best in his future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. MEREDITH EVANS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the work of my friend, Dr. Meredith Evans. A native of Little Clear Creek in Bell County, Ky., Meredith knew what career path he wanted to follow at a very young age. Influenced by his family members who were in the medical field, he decided by age six that he wanted to be a doctor.

Through diligence and perseverance he graduated high school early and went on to earn degrees from the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville Medical School. After 6 years in surgical residency, he became a certified general surgeon, and throughout his career he has heavily valued the doctor-patient relationship.

Not only was my good friend a great doctor, but he also gave back to his community and our Commonwealth through his involvement in the Chamber of Commerce and in ROHO, a charitable organization aimed to further the success of young people, which he founded. His compassion worked toward building new schools, immunizing citizens against polio, and raising money to give Christmas presents to underprivileged children. His community and our Commonwealth have benefited greatly because of his work. The Middlesboro Daily News recently pub-

lished a story about Dr. Evans and his involvement in the community. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

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

#### LOCAL FOLKS: DR. MEREDITH EVANS

MIDDLESBORO.—"I decided I was going to be a doctor when I was six years old," recalled longtime Middlesboro doctor Meredith Evans.

One of his brothers, 18 years his senior, went to medical school, inspiring Meredith to do the same. His first cousin also owned Evans Hospital in Middlesboro and his uncle was a physician in Pineville and Straight Creek.

Evans was born and raised in the Bell County community of Little Clear Creek with his parents, Rose-Ota Fuson Evans and father Marion F. Evans, a hillside farmer, and his three sisters and two brothers.

The family lived off of the land, growing and hunting all their own food. Evans remembers hunting and eating game like squirrels and rabbits.

All six children went to college; the three girls became school teachers and the boys went into the medical field.

Walking was the primary means of transportation in Little Clear Creek at the time, and was supplemented by horses and mules.

"My dad never owned a car," he said.

Meredith walked to elementary school, where he was taught mostly by his school-teaching sister, and later, by his brother who was putting himself through dental school.

He walked four and a half miles to a bus stop to go to Bell County High School, from which he graduated at the age of 16.

"I doubled-up on a couple of subjects when I was under my sister," he explained.

Meredith went to the University of Kentucky to get his Bachelor's degree and the University of Louisville Medical School. Going from Little Clear Creek to the city required some adjustment.

"It was quite a change. But I adapted rather quickly," Evans said. "I was spending most of my time going to school, going to classes."

Evans was in college during World War II, and was set to head overseas when the war ended.

"I had already had my physical examination, and was ready to go in the war. And they dropped the atomic bomb and that ended the war," Meredith remembered.

Evans was told by his college roommate, Wendell Demarcus, that the war was nearly over. Demarcus, it turned out, had some inside information. The physics major had been working on the development of the atomic bomb.

"He kept telling me, he said 'Something will happen that's going to end the war,' but he never would tell me what and I didn't push him for it. But when they dropped the bomb, he said 'That's what I've been telling you about.'"

When the Korean War broke out in 1950, Evans joined the service, to avoid being drafted. He spent eight months in Fort Campbell learning about reconstructive plastic surgery.

"We did a lot of reconstructive surgeries on soldiers that were returning home. I learned a lot about plastic surgery there," Evans said.

After training at Fort Campbell, Evans and his three friends shipped out. Evans ended up in Europe, thanks to the luck of the draw.

"They put our names in a hat and they said the first one drawn out of the hat would go to Europe and the other two to Korea. So