

was true of the Balkans in the 1990s, a region of the world plagued for centuries by ethnic and religious hatreds so deep that many considered them impossible to solve. Richard Holbrooke found a way. Thanks to the tireless work of his diplomatic team on the Dayton Accords, thousands lived who might otherwise have died, and millions were lifted out of the horror of war.

Much has been said and written about Ambassador Holbrooke's larger-than-life personality. His presence was formidable, his ambition as towering as his talent. But that ambition, that forceful intellect and arresting presence, were harnessed to a larger goal—the promotion of his Nation's interest, and the larger interest of the global community.

I had the privilege of working closely with Ambassador Holbrooke when he took on the role of Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan. Here was another place where his talents were needed, another region of the world plagued by centuries-old conflicts and modern-day animosities. I valued his analysis and advice, and admired the way in which he eagerly sought out information and advice from his own staff and from outside sources. He was decisive and determined, but he came to his positions after seeking out and carefully analyzing diverse viewpoints.

I am saddened at the loss of Richard Holbrooke. I am saddened I will no longer be able to discuss with him the pressing issues of our time. And I am saddened that our nation will never again be able to call upon him to calm the troubled waters of our world. But his legacy is secure. It can be found in the countless younger men and women who learned at his side and will carry on his work. It can be found in the safer, more secure nation that he served. And it can be found in all the war-torn corners of the world where fear and hatred and violence are held at bay thanks to his tireless efforts.

THANKING STAFF

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, as I leave the Senate I want to take a moment to express my profound thanks to those who have served on my Federal staff over the last 18 years. I feel so fortunate to have had the honor of serving in this body, and the honor of working with these dedicated staff members. I am deeply proud of the work my staff has done, and the outstanding commitment they have shown to serving the people of Wisconsin. I ask that their names be printed in the RECORD.

George R. Aldrich, Ed An, Aneka Anderson, Carol Anthony, Rebecca F. Austin, Jessica G. Bacalzo, Dean T. Baldukas, Mike Bare, Cyndi Bartel, Stephanie Batko, Amanda Beaumont, Jihan Bekiri, Brittany Benowitz, LaMarr Q. Billups, Laura A. Bishop, Yolanda T. Black, Dave Bolles, Patrick Bomhack, Lois M. Boos, Jon Bortin.

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Jenny G. Hassemer, Kenneth C. Haugh, Ben Hawkinson, Robb Hecht, Trisha Helchinger, Alyson Herdeman, Elizabeth Hill, Russell A. Hinz, Rea Holmes, Heidi A. Holzhauser, Euphia Hsu-Smith, John B. Hwang, Michael Inners, Mary Irvine, Michael Jacob, Brad Jaffe, Gail C. Junemann, Christopher Kattenburg, David Kaufman, Jeanine M. Kenney.

Maya Khan, Farhana Khera, Timothy P. Killian, Lance Kinne, Leesa Klepper, Katie Klimowicz, Casey Klofstat, Matthew Knopf, Ted Koehler, Joe Komisar, Rebecca Kratz, John Kraus, Chris M. Kujack, Andrew H. Kutler, Ruth E. LaRocque, Laura M. Langer, Peter S.Y. Lau, Savannah Lengsfelder, Robyn Lieberman.

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Michael P. O'Leary, Erik Opsal, Erika Pagel, Suzanne Brault Pagel, Mary Palmer, Peter P. Pedraza, Janet L. Piraino, Emily Plagman, Sarah Preis, Elizabeth Prestley, Shelly M. Principe, Emily Pritzkow, Lawanda A. Proctor, Peter Quaranto, Deborah G. Ragland, Caren Ramsey, Kristin L. Rech, Kelly Miller Reed, Jodi L. Reinke, Mary Frances Repko.

Theresa Reuss, Thomas Reynolds, Mary Ann Richmond, Jay Robaidek, Francisco Rodriguez, Susan Rohol, Linda S. Rotblatt, Nick Rotchadl, Maurice A. Rouse, Katie Rowley, Rebecca Rubel, James M. Rudolf, Jacqueline Sadker, David J. Sandretti, Bob Schiff, Mike Schmidt, Darin C. Schroeder, Nicole Schultz, Bob Schweder, Will Sebern.

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Meritene Steward, Kimberly Stietz, Kristin L. Stommel, Karen R. Surret, James S. Swiderski, Anthony J. Taylor, Laura E.

Teelin, Jenny Thalheimer, Sara D. Thom, Kitty Thomas, Stacey R. Thompson, Jeremy Tollefson, Rene Torrado, Manuel Vasquez, Ken D. Velasco, James Verbick, Caroline Wadhams, Ala'a Wafa, Peter Waldman.

Tom Walls, Adam Waskowski, Paul Weinberger, Stephanie A. Weix, Travis West, Heather White, Kirsten White, Margaret Whiting, Joel Wiginton, Michael Wilder, Jennifer J. Williams, Nathan Winn, Mike B. Wittenwyler, Cynthia Woolfolk, Bashaun D. Wray, Tom Wyler, Lisbeth Zeggane, Natale Zimmer, Graham Zorn.

REMEMBERING ROBERT WILLIAM ANDREW FELLER

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on November 3, 1918, an American hero—Robert William Andrew Feller—was born in Dallas County, IA, near the town of Van Meter. Sadly, this same hero died on December 15, 2010.

Van Meter is nestled between the steady and rolling Raccoon River on the north side of town, and the lush and sweeping prairie hills on the south side of town.

In most ways, it is your typical rural Iowa town. There is a post office, a few churches, a bank, a car wash and gas station, and a bar and grill.

There are just under a thousand residents living in Van Meter. And so the Van Meter Bulldogs—from kindergarten through the twelfth grade—still all go to school together in the same building.

But unlike every other small town in Iowa, or America for that matter, there rests in Van Meter on Mill Street a museum paying tribute to the town's hero and favorite son—Bob Feller.

Bob Feller was born and grew up on a farm just outside of Van Meter. Early on his father, who was a farmer, and his mother, who was a nurse and teacher, realized that their young Robert had a talent.

That talent was playing baseball. Specifically, hurling curve balls and sliders and fastballs at whoever dared to step up to the plate against young Bob Feller.

Bob Feller was so focused on baseball and so in love with the sport that his father built a regulation baseball diamond on their Dallas County farm naming it "Oak View Park." Bob and his family recruited other players and formed a team appropriately called "The Oakviews."

Bob Feller said his farm work and chores were what helped to develop his throwing speed and arm strength. His throwing speed and arm strength are what earned him the nicknames of "Rapid Robert" and "Bullet Bob" and "The Heater from Van Meter."

Leveraged with a high left-leg kick and whip-like arm, Bob Feller delivered some of the fastest stuff ever to come down from a pitcher's mound. Batters trembled facing him at home plate. Umpires needed to pay close attention. The crowds were always in awe. And Feller's pitches were blurs.

It wasn't too long before word spread about this baseball wonder. Soon—and