

Harter. Administrative law is nowhere as simple as many would make it out to be. In the debate on S. 343, there were many unfortunate misstatements and misrepresentations regarding the most basic tenets of administrative law. Few persons were more willing to volunteer their time as a truth squad on such topics than Phil Harter. He gave days and perhaps weeks of pro bono time to educate my staff on the intricacies of the topics covered by the bill. He helped many other Senate staff as well. Many of the improvements that I was able to suggest to S. 343 came about as a result of discussions with Mr. Harter and other input from members of the ABA Administrative Law Committee. The ABA continued to help Senators during the floor debate with a series of letters that provided staff and members with neutral, professional peer review of the relevant legal issues. When complex issues were under discussion, we could generally count on Phil Harter and the ABA's able Washington representative, Gary Sellers, to appear in the lobby for consultations with whomever was willing to avail themselves of their expertise. S. 343 was a better bill for their tireless efforts. We owe Phil Harter and the ABA a great debt of thanks. My only regret is that their efforts did not result in a permanent improvement in our Nation's administrative law.●

#### REMEMBERING GEORGE VUKELICH

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, George Andrew Vukelich was born in South Milwaukee.

A radio personality, a journalist, a writer, an environmentalist, a political activist, George was an institution in Wisconsin. He would bristle at this thought, but it is undeniably true.

I knew George long before he knew me, having listened to him on the radio for years.

As Papa Hambone and Bill Patrick, George was a well known radio personality in Madison. After studying broadcasting in Toronto under Lorne Greene, he began his radio career in the early 1950's. Over the years, his radio shows ranged from storytelling to jazz to political commentary, and were as much a part of life in Madison as the lakes.

George was a dedicated environmentalist who loved the outdoors, and for anyone who listened to his radio shows or read his articles or books, that love was contagious.

A gifted writer, George was honored by the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Council of Wisconsin Writers, the Milwaukee Press Club, and Trout Unlimited, among others.

A journalist of fierce commitment and passionate belief, George's columns would skewer the powerful and champion the powerless with wit and ardor. And, along with his wife Helen, George

lived his beliefs, a character trait notably present in their children.

George loved baseball and fishing. He loved politics and the written word. Most of all, he loved Helen and his family.

George Vukelich died this past July 4. That his death fell on our Nation's birthday, the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, is fitting, for I can think of no one who better reflected the joyous spirit and burning ideals that day represents.

Thousands have lost a good friend, and the north country has lost a talented and fervent advocate. As one friend wrote of George's passing: For one night at least, we will know why the loons cry.

Papa Hambone used to end his program with: "For good food, for good wine, and most of all, for good friends, thank God.

His thousands of friends will add: And for George Vukelich, thank God.●

#### TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE ALBERT J. STIFTEL

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, on June 22, the superior court of my home State held a special session—special not only in the technical sense, but in spirit, in its purpose and its meaning. The court met, with all of its current judges and many of its distinguished alumni present, in appreciation of the services of Albert J. Stiftel.

I am proud today, Mr. President, on behalf of many other of his fellow citizens, to offer another expression of appreciation for Albert Stiftel, who served on the Superior Court of the State of Delaware from 1958 to 1990, including 24 years as presiding judge. The quality and character of Judge Stiftel's service merit not only our attention and appreciation, but also, if we are up to the challenge, our best attempt at emulation.

My colleagues have indulged me before—indeed, some have joined me, in praising the tradition of excellence that has made Delaware's judiciary a standard for the Nation. It is a tradition of excellence not only in the administration and dispensation of justice, but in principled as well as practical bipartisanship, in fun as well as functional collegiality, and in that often neglected cornerstone of democratic society, civility.

Mr. President, Albert Stiftel embodies that tradition.

Albert, as he is by choice most widely known, is pure Delaware: born and raised in Wilmington—raised, in fact, in the house where he still lives—a graduate of Wilmington High School and of the University of Delaware.

He entered law school at the University of Virginia in 1939, an undertaking interrupted when he was called to duty as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. As his lifelong friend and long-time colleague on the Delaware bench, retired State Supreme Court Justice William Duffy, remarked, "Albert was

born in Wilmington but, like many of his generation, he grew up in the South Pacific, including a place called Guadalcanal." After his military service, Major Stiftel returned to the University of Virginia Law School, graduating in 1947.

Young Albert Stiftel's years of private practice were driven by a public spirit. Before becoming a judge, he was an attorney for the Legal Aid Society, attorney for the Delaware State House of Representatives, and a Deputy Attorney General. And he was also a teacher, a role he wears naturally and with grace.

In 1958, my distinguished predecessor in this body, then-Gov. J. Caleb Boggs, a Republican, appointed Albert to the superior court. In 1966, he was appointed as the court's presiding judge by Democratic Gov. Charles Terry, and he was subsequently reappointed by a Republican Governor, our former colleague in the other Chamber, Pete du Pont.

During his long tenure, Judge Stiftel confronted the challenge of times, both for the community and for the court, that he himself has described as "change and more change." Through it all, his leadership won ever-deepening respect.

In acknowledging his debt to his predecessor, the current presiding judge of superior court, Henry du Pont Ridgely, thanked Judge Stiftel for an example that taught "the importance of comradeship and demonstrated the work ethic you expect from others, of being even-handed and setting high standards, under-promising, over-delivering, and sharing the credit." Lessons we would all do well to learn.

But despite the universal relevance of his example, Judge Stiftel's impact on the court, and on all who have known him, has been distinctly personal. Another longtime Delaware judicial colleague, now-Vice Chancellor Bernard Balick, put it this way: "All of us are unique, but Albert is more unique than most."

Albert Stiftel's defining qualities, as a judge and as a person, are humility, kindness, and compassion. In and beyond superior court, he has been truly the best of teachers and the best of friends—welcoming, helpful, encouraging to all. I am told that the superior court's "Judge Stiftel Award" is reserved for that employee who does the most to brighten the lives of his or her colleagues. It is aptly named.

As Justice Duffy put it, "Other judges may have served longer, but I doubt it, or have more entries in Lexis, perhaps, and a few may have been better administrators—but none has been held in higher personal esteem than Albert Stiftel."

Mr. President, I left one quality off the list of Judge Stiftel's defining characteristics, and it will be a glaring omission to anyone who knows him. And in fact, the reason I left it out is that I wanted to call individual attention to it. "It" is His Honor's sense of