

House, and his party's candidate for Governor in 1974.

With Peanut Kennedy's passing, we close the book on a period in Vermont when character, common sense, and honesty were alone sufficient to insure personal triumph and political success.

Peanut sold used cars—and they weren't all good cars. He would tell his customers—especially enthusiastic young farm boys who were making their first major purchase with hard earned money—to look beyond the flashy chrome and white wall tires. If necessary, he would further curb their enthusiasm by suggesting the vehicle had an estimated lifespan of the distance to the grocery store a half mile down the road.

Those were cars he kept on the lot only to have the pleasure of selling them to folks like you and me who could afford a lesson in the perils of used car negotiations.

"You don't want this car," he would finally tell a local customer and move him toward another part of the lot.

Peanut, rising to the chairmanship of the House Highway Committee, then Speaker and finally rewarded as his party's gubernatorial candidate, was rarely addressed as Walter. He retained his earthy sense of humor and Yankee mannerisms, offensive to the few—loved by the many. He was an antecedent of political correctness—fixed in his ways, colorful in his language, and prone to startle constituents, legislators, Governors and lobbyists with the frankness of his responses.

He hated ad hoc committees which he said were merely ways for political leaders to transfer decision making responsibility to another body.

"Ad hoc," he once challenged a leader of his own party on the House floor, "Sounds like someone clearing his throat."

He once publicly described a Governor, who was concerned over a prolonged and politically debilitating debate over enacting his proposal for a sales tax as "nervous as a whore in church," over the prospects of passing his legislation. Kennedy never doubted the tax would be enacted, once the talking was over and the nervous legislators regained their courage to an unpopular, but necessary broad based tax to finance State government programs.

He was never a man to go off the record, he was never a man to go against his word.

When he ran for Governor in 1974 he traveled through southern Vermont extensively for the first time in years and became aware of the change taking place as a result of a revolution in transportation systems—many of which he had helped put in motion himself from Montpelier.

I think it was the first time he realized that Vermont was changing so dramatically from the community or farms and small, self-governing communities that settled problems at town meetings and pot luck suppers.

"It's not Vermont anymore," he told friends. The visit seemed to inhibit his

candidacy and he failed to give Vermont a spirited campaign against a popular incumbent.

I traveled with Peanut Kennedy when he ran for Governor in 1974, and is probably an indication of the bipartisan nature of the man. Even though he was running for Governor on the Republican ticket, I for the Senate on the Democratic ticket, we would have occasions just because we wanted to be in each other's company that we would ride together from one function to another.

He had his big old black Imperial. I would hop in the car with him. Somebody would drive my car along behind. And I would be laughing so hard by the time I would get to the next place, I could barely remember my own lines as he would tell one story after another.

At home, with his wife Sylvia, he was a very private man and devoted husband. Vermonters shared his grief over the tragic death of his son in a fire. After the election in 1973, Kennedy returned to his business and quietly retired from the political arena which had taken him so far. But the State had changed and Peanut's beliefs and principles were too deeply ingrained.

Out State has lost a great public servant, and to those of us fortunate enough to have known him a great friend as well.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENTS—S. 672

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I wish to modify the previous statement I have made. And I now ask unanimous consent that the vote on the cloture motion take place at 10 a.m., tomorrow.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no objection, without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, the Senate will be convening at 9:30—the majority leader will handle that part of it—but I ask unanimous consent that the time between the convening at 9:30 and 10 o'clock be divided equally between the Senator from West Virginia and myself.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that second-degree amendments must be filed before the hour of 10 a.m., before the hour of the cloture vote, that is, the second-degree amendments to the amendments that have been filed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. STEVENS. So we are clear, now we will stay in a period of routine morning business, Madam President, under the previous unanimous-consent agreement until the leader decides to go through the closing procedure.

But just to make certain, that is the order of the Senate now, that we are in morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. STEVENS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Madam President, would you indicate what the pending business is.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is in morning business.

SUICIDE IN AMERICA

Mr. REID. Madam President, in the wrap-up, in the final business that will take place here today, Senate Resolution 84 will pass. This is a resolution that deals with suicide prevention. Currently, there are 31,000 suicides every year in the United States; 83 people a day kill themselves.

I made some remarks earlier today that will be in the RECORD of the Senate on this subject. I just want to express my appreciation to those that are sponsoring this resolution. It is a bipartisan resolution. Senator COVERDELL has been the lead Republican on this issue. Madam President, he is the lead sponsor on this because in his State there is a very courageous man, a man named Jerry Weyrauch. Jerry is leading a national effort in this country to draw attention to this issue. He is doing it after having gone through the trauma of losing his daughter by suicide.

Suicide is something that affects many people. As indicated, 31,000 people a year kill themselves in this country. In my Senate office here in Washington, about 2 months ago, during a period of 4 weeks, three of my employees had relatives that killed themselves. One was an 11-year-old boy that hanged himself.

Suicide is something we have learned can be avoided. I became vocal about suicide after having participated in a hearing before the Senate Aging Committee last year. Mike Wallace, a person those of us in Government hate to get a call from, appeared before our Aging Committee. The hearing was on senior depression. Mike Wallace, in my opinion, Madam President, showed a lot of courage when he came before our

committee and acknowledged—this very articulate TV personality appeared before our committee with a lot of humility—there were times in his life when he felt like he wanted to die, he was so depressed. The message he gave our committee was that there was no reason for him to feel this way. With a little bit of counseling and some medication, his life was changed.

It was at that hearing that I said to myself, and I indicated publicly, that it was time I acknowledged the fact that my father killed himself. It was something our family was embarrassed about, maybe even a little ashamed about. But with Mike Wallace talking the way he did, I thought it was something I should be more vocal about, and try to prevent others from going through the trauma that my family went through.

So, at that hearing, I said to the now Secretary of Defense, then Chairman Cohen, that I thought it would be a good idea if we held a hearing on senior suicide. We did. It was a remarkable hearing. We learned it is a problem. We learned, of course, with that hearing centering on senior suicide, what a tremendous problem it is across this country, especially in Nevada. Nevada leads the Nation in suicide and is twice—two times—the average for senior suicide. Nevada has a real problem.

We came to learn in that hearing that suicide cuts across all ages, it cuts across all economic lines, all social and economic boundaries. More people die from suicide in the United States than from homicide. That says a lot because there are tens of thousands of people, about 24,000 people a year in this country, who are murdered.

On an average day in this country, almost 2,000 adults attempt suicide. For young people, ages 15 to 24, suicide is the third leading cause of death, only behind unintentional injury and homicide. In 1992, more teenagers and young adults died from suicide than died from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia, influenza, and chronic lung disease combined. We can take all of the people age 15 to 24 who died from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia, influenza, and lung disease, and they do not equal the number of young people that killed themselves. Suicide is the eighth leading cause of death in the United States.

One of the things we have learned in these hearings, Madam President, is we do not know the cause of suicide. Why are the 10 leading States in the Nation all Western States? We do not know why. We need to know why. Why do males commit suicide, at rates and numbers for suicides, four times more than females?

Elderly adults have rates of suicide more than 50 percent higher than the Nation as a whole. We also know that seniors are much more adept at killing themselves. We know a youngster is not very good. About every 1 in 200 who attempts suicide is able to be success-

ful; yet, 1 in 4 seniors are successful. Suicide is preventable.

As I indicated, we learned from the Mike Wallace hearing that a little bit of counseling and a little bit of medication is all that is needed. Most suicidal persons desperately want to live; they are just unable to see alternatives to their problems. Understanding and identifying the risk factors for this phenomenon and evaluating potential suicide prevention interventions must become a public health priority. So we must do something about this preventable public health tragedy. It is irresponsible and insensitive to allow victims and families to suffer in silence or to nationally hide our heads in the sand.

Those of us who have had experience with suicide wonder, is there more we could have done? Why did he do it? Why did she do it? But I think the important thing is to recognize the progress that has been made. It wasn't long ago, Madam President, that someone that committed suicide could not be buried in a public cemetery. They simply would not allow it. There were many religious boundaries that the family of someone that committed suicide could not go beyond. Things are changing for the better. They will become better, and this resolution is really an outstanding step in that direction.

I have acknowledged Senator COVERDELL and I appreciate his support, along with the two Senators from Louisiana, BREUX and LANDRIEU, Senator MURRAY, and Senator WELLSTONE, those who have cosponsored this legislation. The lead person in the House of Representatives is JOHN LEWIS from Georgia. I am grateful to him for taking the lead in this.

But the most important thing we can do is not be insensitive. Again, it is irresponsible and insensitive to allow families and victims to suffer in silence or to nationally hide our heads in the sand and pretend it doesn't exist. We have to acknowledge the problem and we need to take the critical first step in doing something about it.

Today the Suicide Prevention Advocacy Network—the organization Jerry Weyrauch formulated, sponsored and pushed—delivered over 20,000 signed petitions from 47 States calling for the action that was accomplished here today. It is time to lift the veil of secrecy and begin the effort to heal the wounds and take the steps to prevent unnecessary loss of life. It is time to continue the effort for mental health parity and to ensure that all those who need assistance get the assistance they need, without stigma.

The resolution I offered today, I hope, will be the first step in focusing awareness on the need for suicide prevention and addressing the need for a national strategy. No life should be lost when there is an opportunity to prevent its loss.

Not one of the nearly 31,000 lives lost to suicide annually is insignificant.

These are the children, parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, friends, coworkers, and neighbors of each and every one of us. There are some things, I repeat, that we don't know. We have multiple suicides in families—families that appear to be the normal families. We have fathers committing suicide and sons committing suicide. We need to know more about this. Few of us can say we don't know someone who has been touched personally by this tragedy.

In addition to this legislation, I am going to continue to offer legislation which will be vital in taking necessary steps by calling for the establishment of injury control research centers, which will deal exclusively with the subject of suicide. We need a focal point where we can develop expertise on suicide, both of seniors and of children, and share this expertise with others interested in getting involved.

I also intend to ask the National Institutes of Health to conduct research into the treatment of clinical depression and suicide generally.

Again, I express my appreciation to Members on both sides of the aisle for supporting this resolution. It will be, I believe, the first step in acknowledging suicide as a national problem.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that a statement from the American Association of Suicidology and the American Psychological Association be printed in the RECORD.

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

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
Washington, DC, May 5, 1997.

Hon. HARRY REID,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR REID: On behalf of over 150,000 members and affiliates of the American Psychological Association (APA), I am writing to express support and appreciation to you and Senators Murray, Wellstone and Coverdell for the introduction of a Senate resolution recognizing suicide as a national problem.

The APA shares your concern that suicide rates among the elderly, adolescents, and young adults have increased dramatically in recent years. Since the 1950s, suicide rates among youth have nearly tripled. Between 1980 and 1990, the suicide rate increased by 30% in the 10 to 19 year-old age group. For older Americans over 65, the suicide rate increased nine percent between 1980 and 1992. Elderly Americans make up about 13 percent of the country's population, but account for about 20 percent of all suicides.

Although the reasons for this sharp increase are unclear, depression, living longer with chronic illness, and increasing social isolation of the elderly may play a role in the growing numbers of elderly Americans who take their own lives. In addition, alcohol abuse and substance abuse can dramatically raise the suicide risk, especially among youth. Alcohol and drugs, separately or in combination, are potent disinhibiting agents that foster impulsive and dangerous acts.

As the suicide rate can clearly be reduced and as mental and behavioral disorders which lead to suicide are increasingly treatable, the APA strongly supports the resolution and recommends funding for additional

research, demonstration, evaluation, and intervention projects to reduce the rate of youth and elderly suicide.

Thank you again for your leadership on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND D. FOWLER, *Ph.D.*,
Executive Vice President and
Chief Executive Officer.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SUICIDOLOGY,
Washington, DC, 5 May, 1997.

Senator HARRY REID,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR REID: I am writing on behalf of the American Association of Suicidology in support of your thoughtful, timely, and compassionate resolution recognizing suicide as a national problem and suicide prevention a national priority.

For too long we in America have suffered from the imported burden of stigmatizing both those who are suicidal and those affected by suicidal deaths. Suicides are often wrongly considered to be volitional deaths; this in spite of the fact that they are motivated by mental disorders and irrational thinking. Until we better educate our population to what we know about suicide and make a more concerted effort to prevent these tragic, premature, and often preventable deaths, we will continue to needlessly devastate thousands of newly bereaved family members, friends, and colleagues annually. Moreover, we can seriously impact the associated cost and burden of suicide to the American economy which is estimated to run into the tens of billions of dollars each year.

The operative word here is needless. We need not suffer these losses. We can make a difference.

Your resolution has long been needed and represents the type of initiative Congress can make for the public health of our nation. We applaud your efforts.

Sincerely,

ALAN L. BERMAN, *Ph.D.*,
Executive Director.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWNBACK). Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, May 5, 1997, the Federal debt stood at \$5,332,472,495,590.76. (Five trillion, three hundred thirty-two billion, four hundred seventy-two million, four hundred ninety-five thousand, five hundred ninety dollars and seventy-six cents)

Five years ago, May 5, 1992, the Federal debt stood at \$3,880,040,000,000. (Three trillion, eight hundred eighty billion, forty million)

Ten years ago, May 5, 1987, the Federal debt stood at \$2,277,361,000,000. (Two trillion, two hundred seventy-seven billion, three hundred sixty-one million)

Fifteen years ago, May 5, 1982, the Federal debt stood at \$1,055,630,000,000.

(One trillion, fifty-five billion, six hundred thirty million)

Twenty-five years ago, May 5, 1972, the Federal debt stood at \$426,078,000,000 (Four hundred twenty-six billion, seventy-eight million) which reflects a debt increase of nearly \$5 trillion—\$4,906,394,495,590.76 (Four trillion, nine hundred six billion, three hundred ninety-four million, four hundred ninety-five thousand, five hundred ninety dollars and seventy-six cents) during the past 25 years.

TRIBUTE TO JACK BARRY

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a valued member of the Vermont community, and a true friend, John W. "Jack" Barry, who passed away last Sunday at the age of 70. I had the pleasure of working with Jack for over 20 years as he hosted numerous radio and television shows in Vermont. He was a consummate professional with an amazing knack for the interview. When I was on the other side of Jack's mike, I felt as though we were just chatting—kind of catching up on what I'd been up to in Washington. I wouldn't want to give any of my colleagues the impression that Jack didn't ask the tough questions because he did. He asked many of them but he passed no judgment on the answers.

Although some would say that Jack began his illustrious career in 1948 as a radio show host at WJOY in Burlington, it actually started at the age of 4 when "Little Jackie Barry" performed recitations for his hometown radio station, WDEV of Waterbury. Over the years Jack worked for numerous radio stations in Vermont and around the Nation, and served for 2 years as Press Secretary for U.S. Senator PATRICK LEAHY. In the early 1970's he joined the State's public television station to moderate a wide array of programs to include, "Vermont this Week", "Vermont Report" and "Call the Governor". During the last 3 years, Jack served in public office as a State senator from Chittenden County.

Among his many honors, Jack was named Vermont's Sportscaster of the Year in 1972, elected to the Vermont Association of Broadcasters' Hall of Fame, selected as the Rutland Herald's Vermonter of the Year in 1991 and 1995, as well as being chosen to receive the Vermont Association of Broadcasting Award in 1981.

True to his nature, Jack took the time to give back to the community by serving as a board member and trustee of several organizations to include the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont, the Vermont Special Olympics, the United Way and the national board of the American Heart Association among many others.

I extend my most sincere condolences to his wife Bunny, his three daughters; Kathy Yagley, Maureen Ravely, and Bridget Barry Caswell as well as the entire Barry family. Jack had the deep-

est feelings for Vermont and its people. He was always respectful of others and their differing beliefs. It didn't matter whether they were the frequent callers on his radio show or constituents from Chittenden County, he called them by name, heard them out and genuinely thanked them for expressing their views.

Jack Barry exemplified what we should all strive to achieve.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY CAUSED BY THE LAPSE OF THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT OF 1979—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 33

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 204 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1703(c)) and section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1641(c)), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency declared by Executive Order 12924 of August 19, 1994, to deal with the threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 6, 1997.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:06 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 968. An act to amend title XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to permit a waiver of the prohibition of offering nurse aide training and competency evaluation programs in certain nursing facilities.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with