

from Wellesley College just over two decades later with the prophetic title of "Class Orator."

These two characteristics—a love of nature and a powerful determination to make her voice heard—would soon come together to the benefit of the Florida Everglades. In 1915, Marjory arrived in Miami and joined the staff of the *Miami Herald*. With the exception of a brief stint as a Red Cross worker during World War I, she spent the next eighty-three years working to save the Everglades from destruction.

When Marjory Stoneman Douglas arrived in South Florida, many people thought of the Everglades as nothing more than another Florida swamp. Indeed, Governor Napoleon Bonaparte Broward, who served from 1905 to 1909, had proposed draining the Everglades to reclaim the land there.

Marjory did not brook ignorance about the Everglades. Instead, she poured time, energy, blood, sweat, and tears into re-educating the people of Florida about the crowning jewel in Florida's collection of environmental treasures. Long before scientists became alarmed about the effects on the natural ecosystems of south Florida, she was taking public officials to task for destroying wetlands, eliminating the sheet flow of water across the Everglades, and upsetting the natural cycles upon which the entire South Florida ecosystem depends.

Marjory's oratory and hustle produced tangible accomplishments. Her crusade to win federal protection for the wetlands scored a major victory when President Harry Truman dedicated Everglades National Park in 1947.

That same year, she published the work that would jump-start the modern era of Everglades restoration: *The Everglades: River of Grass*. To this day, that tome stands as the definitive descriptive of the national treasure she fought so hard to protect.

Visitors travel thousands of miles to see the Everglades. Scientists and naturalists spend entire lifetimes studying the Everglades' diverse habitats and unique collection of plants and animal life. Today, public officials from every ideological persuasion and geographic location line up to support efforts to protect the Everglades. None of this would have been possible without Marjory Stoneman Douglas' Herculean efforts.

She supplemented her hard work and determination with a disarming candor. Some people will remember that Marjory co-authored a 1920's anti-gangster play entitled *Storm Warnings*. That title was well-suited to the personality of its author. She would frequently blow in like a Florida summer thunderstorm and give you her thoughts in no uncertain terms, leaving you dazed and drained but unmistakably sure of her intentions.

When I was a state legislator in the late 1960's, Marjory came to Tallahassee to speak to the Dade County delegation. She conveyed one simple, blunt

message: we would safeguard the health of the Everglades and if we didn't, we would all spend an uncomfortable afterlife in hell.

I took those words to heart. When I was Governor from 1979 to 1987, Marjory and I teamed up to launch a campaign to safeguard the Florida Everglades. It is an effort that has attracted broad, bipartisan support over the years—a testament to Marjory's persuasive powers.

In 1997, I joined Senator CONNIE MACK and U.S. Representative PETER DEUTSCH in introducing legislation to name over 1.3 million acres of the Everglades after its modern saviour. President Clinton signed that legislation in mid-November, and I helped to dedicate the "Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness" on December 4, 1997—Everglades National Park's 50th Birthday. Marjory's ashes will be scattered over that wilderness area.

Marjory Stoneman Douglas was a friend and mentor to me for many years. I will miss her greatly. I want to conclude today by reading from John Rothchild's introduction to her autobiography. Recalling her appearance at a 1973 public meeting in Everglades City, Mr. Rothchild offered this apt description:

Mrs. Douglas was half the size of her fellow speakers and she wore huge dark glasses, which along with the huge floppy hat made her look like Scarlet O'Hara as played by Igor Stravinsky. When she spoke, everybody stopped slapping [mosquitoes] and more or less came to order. She reminded us all of our responsibility to nature. Her voice had the sobering effect of a one-room schoolmarm's. The tone itself seemed to tame the rowdiest of the local stone crabbers, developers, and the lawyers on both sides. I wonder if it didn't also intimidate the mosquitoes.

Marjory Stoneman Douglas always got your attention—she was the most eloquent spokesperson that the Everglades will ever have. The embattled wetland lost its "Mother" last week, but we must keep her memory and legacy alive by continuing our efforts to preserve the Everglades for future generations of Floridians and Americans.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. ALVIN C. POWELEIT: A FIXTURE IN NORTHERN KENTUCKY FOR OVER 50 YEARS

● Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to remember the life of Dr. Alvin C. Poweleit. For nearly 50 years, the people of Covington were blessed to have Dr. Poweleit as a member of their community, and few families were not touched by the kind gentleman known as "Pepa."

Pepa Poweleit grew up in Northern Kentucky in the town of Newport. After earning his medical degree, Dr. Poweleit returned to Newport in the late 1930s as general practitioner. Like most young men of his generation, he left his hometown behind when he signed up to serve in World War II. He soon found himself in the Philippines,

where he was the first U.S. medical officer to be decorated in the war, when he saved personnel in a submerged Brenn Gun Carrier.

Dr. Poweleit spent over three years in Japanese POW camps in the Philippines, and was a survivor of the Bataan Death March. After the war, Dr. Poweleit returned to Northern Kentucky, where he opened up his own practice in Covington as an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist.

For the last 50 years, the Poweleit family has maintained the office at the corner of Eighth and Scott in Covington. It was a rare day that Dr. Poweleit didn't work 14 hours. If there were sick patients to be seen, Pepa Poweleit would see every single one. At a time when most people lived within walking distance of their family doctor, it wasn't rare to see Dr. Poweleit still in the office after midnight.

Pepa Poweleit retired from practice in 1981, leaving the family practice to his son Alvin D, an eye specialist known in the community as Dr. Alvin. Carrying on the tradition of family practice, Dr. Alvin remains a fixture today in the Covington community.

Mr. President, last June, Pepa Poweleit was tragically killed when the car in which he was a passenger was run into by a truck. He was 89. Pepa Poweleit was a beloved figure in the communities of Northern Kentucky. Though nearly two decades have gone by since he retired, and almost a year has passed since his death, Pepa Poweleit is still sorely missed.●

NATIONAL EMS WEEK

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Lisa Mauger, Mary McGuire, Stephanie Schmoyer and Christine Webster on being honored with the Stars of Life award by the American Ambulance Association (AAA).

For the past four years, AAA has honored paramedics and emergency medical service (EMS) personnel who exemplify what is best about their field. Past Stars of Life award recipients have included paramedics who were part of the rescue efforts during disasters like the Centennial Olympic Park and Oklahoma City bombings and the severe flooding in the South and Midwest.

Through a spirit of selflessness, Lisa, Mary, Stephanie and Christine have dedicated themselves to serving others. Their spirit of community is a great source of pride, not only for Pennsylvania, but for the United States.

Mr. President, I hope my colleagues will join with me in honoring these women for their faithful service and extending best wishes for continued success in the years to come.●

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 1998

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it