

Mr. BURNS. I ask unanimous consent that I be able to make some remarks about our departing colleagues at this time.

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

TRIBUTE TO FIVE SENATORS LEAVING THE SENATE: SENATORS DIRK KEMPTHORNE, JOHN GLENN, DAN COATS, WENDELL FORD, AND DALE BUMPERS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, five Senators will move on at the closing of this session of the 105th Congress. And they are Senators that have, with the exception of one, been here ever since I joined this body back in 1989.

DIRK KEMPTHORNE from Idaho was elected after I was. And now after one term he has elected to go back to his home State of Idaho.

It seems like it becomes more and more difficult, as time goes by, to attract men and women to public service, and especially to public service when there are elections.

He brought a certain quality to this Senate. On his work on the Environment and Public Works Committee, he was sensitive to the environment and all the public infrastructure that we enjoy across this country. It just seemed to fit, because he had come here after being the mayor of Boise, ID. And his very first objective was to tackle this business of unfunded mandates. He took that issue on and provided the leadership, and finally we passed a law that unfunded mandates must be adhered to whenever we tell local government, State government that it is going to take some of your money to comply with the laws as passed by the Federal Government.

He, like me, had come out of local government. He knew the stresses and the pains of city councilmen and mayors and county commissioners every time they struggle with their budget in order to provide the services for their people, when it comes to schools and roads and public safety—all the demands that we enjoy down to our neighborhoods.

We shall miss him in this body.

To my friend, JOHN GLENN of Ohio, who has already made his mark in history that shall live forever, he has left his tracks in this body. And not many know—and maybe not even him—but I was a lowly corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps when he was flying in the Marine Corps. So my memory of JOHN GLENN goes back more than 40 years to El Toro Marine Corps Air Station in Santa Anna, CA.

As he goes into space again at the end of this month, we wish him Godspeed. He gave this country pride as he lifted off and became the first American to orbit the Earth. And he carried with him all of the wishes of the American people.

To DAN COATS of Indiana, a classmate, we came to this body together in

1989. Our routes were a little different, but yet almost the same—he coming from the House of Representatives and me coming from local government.

He is a living example of a person dedicated to public service. But it never affected his solid core values. He has not changed one iota since I first met him back in 1989.

The other principal is on the floor today. It is WENDELL FORD of Kentucky. I was fortunate to serve on two of the most fascinating and hard-working committees in the U.S. Senate with Senator FORD: The Commerce Committee and the Energy Committee. Those committees, folks, touch every life in America every day.

We flip on our lights at home or in our businesses. We pick up the telephone, listen to our radio, watch our televisions, move ourselves from point A to point B, no matter what the mode—whether it is auto, train or plane. Yes, all of the great scientific advances this country has made, and research and the improvement of everyday life and, yes, even our venture into space comes under the auspices of the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee and the Energy Committee. Those two committees play such a major role in the everyday workings of America.

WENDELL FORD was one great champion and one of the true principals in formulating policies that we enjoy today. He played a major role in each and every one of them.

Again, it was my good fortune to work with Senator BUMPERS on two committees: The Small Business Committee and the Energy Committee. There is no one in this body that has been more true to his deeply held beliefs than Senator BUMPERS. Our views did not always mesh—and that is true with Senator FORD. It was their wisdom and the way they dealt with their fellow Senators that we worked our way through difficult issues and hard times with a sense of humor. I always say if you come from Arkansas you have to have a pretty good sense of humor. My roots go back to Missouri; I know we had to develop humor very early. Nonetheless, it was the integrity and the honesty that allowed us to settle our differences, even though we were 180 degrees off plumb.

I think I have taken from them much more than I have given back to them. This body has gained more than it can repay. This Nation is a better Nation for all of them serving in the U.S. Senate.

In our country we don't say goodbye, we just say so long. But we say so long to these Senators from our everyday activities on the floor of the U.S. Senate. I am sure our trails will cross many times in the future. Should they not, I will be the most disappointed of all.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, let me thank my distinguished friend from

Montana for his kind remarks. I understand Montana a little bit. My mother's brother married a lady from Montana and she persuaded him to move there. So I have been to Montana on many occasions and have enjoyed the friendship, the rugged mountains, the pristine areas and the big blue sky. I have enjoyed it very much—and the trout are not bad when you catch them and have a shore dinner. I understand Montana and I can understand why you love it. I can understand why anything we might copy from you would make our State a little bit better.

I say to my friend from Montana, I thank him for his kind remarks. I thank him for his friendship. I thank him for his ability to sit down and talk things through where we might move forward and help the country and talk about those things we couldn't agree upon at a later date. I thank him for his friendship.

SENATE BUSINESS

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, a few moments ago the distinguished assistant Republican leader was on the floor chastising the President, chastising Democrats, chastising people that were trying to be helpful or influential, and I heard him say more than once, "Get on with our business."

Mr. President, this is October 10th and the budget for next year should have been completed April 15 of this year. April, May, June, July, August, September, October—we still don't have a budget. We are running on last year's budget. Somehow or another, this train hasn't been running as efficiently and as effectively as some think it should.

If you haven't had a budget, it makes it difficult to set the levels for next year's spending. We are already into the next fiscal year by 10 days and we only had one appropriations bill on the President's desk.

The distinguished Senator from Oklahoma says let's get on with our business; then he says that the President should not be involved in negotiations. Mr. President, I have been around here 24 years. I have never gone through any negotiations involved with the White House that they didn't call me. I have gone to the White House to talk with President Reagan; I have gone to the White House to talk with President Bush in order to try to find a way to be helpful, and they were trying to find a way to persuade me to be helpful. I don't see anything wrong with that. And I don't believe the President wants to veto bills. That is one reason that everybody agreed to the group—if that is a good term, or the Members of the group—so they might be able to work out bills that can be signed. I don't see anything wrong with the administration playing a part in what they believe is the proper course.

We talk about a budget. Going back to 1993, there wasn't a Republican that