

[The Corolla, 1923.]

At his interment ceremonies Dr. Irons received full military honors. A 21 gun salute was fired and taps bugled in honor of his valiant service in World War II, rising to the rank of Colonel, with 33 years active and reserve duty.

It's no surprise his life had such brilliant radiance. No surprise his devoted valiant service was so broad in scope. Devoted service to:

Family. His wife, Velma Wright Irons, a distinguished educator in her own right—sons, Dr. George Vernon Irons, Jr., Charlotte, North Carolina, a practicing cardiologist and William Lee Irons, a prominent Birmingham attorney. Both have left notable marks on their professions of medicine and law. Parenthetically, Dr. George V. Irons, Sr., and his son, William L. Irons, are the only father-son listing selected to the 1998 Who's Who in America from the entire State of Alabama—yet another record for this remarkable man.

Alma Mater. The University of Alabama—where he established his name in crimson flame as “one of the true greats in Alabama’s famed athletic history.” A Phi Beta Kappa honors student, Irons was the University of Alabama’s—the State of Alabama—nominee for the Rhodes Scholarship to England in 1924. Since the University’s founding in 1831, only seven athletes have been selected to become a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

College. Dr. Irons was a key player in seeing Howard College grow from a financially distressed school, to the largest privately endowed Baptist university in the world—an internationally acclaimed university.

Dr. Irons was elected by the Samford University Faculty to serve as Grand Marshall of all academic, graduation and commencement exercises. Leading the academic processions for fifteen years, carrying the silver scepter, symbol of Samford University’s authority—Dr. Irons wore brilliant blue academic gowns and silks with dignity and distinction. In 1976, the Samford University Faculty wrote in the University’s records by Resolution:

“In the long history of Samford University, Dr. Irons must be ranked at the very top in terms of his widespread beneficent influence, the love that former students evidence from him, and his impeccable character and qualities of modesty, humility, kindness and selfless service to the University.

[Samford University Resolution (1976)]

Country. Dr. Irons distinguished himself in World War II, rising to the rank of Colonel, defending his Nation for a third of the 20th Century in war and peace.

God. Dr. Irons gave tireless service to his Church as deacon, Sunday School teacher and Chairman of the Board of Deacons, and was elected as lifetime Deacon, Southside Baptist Church. His life reflects his depth of devotion in

word, thought and deed—an icon of virtue—a legendary role model for generations of Samford students spanning over half a century.

Mr. President, America salutes Dr. George Vernon Irons, Sr., as record breaking champion athlete for his alma mater, the University of Alabama, as Colonel, World War II, who defended his Nation for a third of the 20th century in war and peace, as Distinguished Professor, 43 years, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, 22 years, as Grand Marshall, Samford University, elected by the Faculty to preside over all commencement and academic exercises, as one of its most admired leaders in its proud history. America salutes Dr. Irons for his character, devotion to cause, exemplary standards of honor, duty and integrity. America proudly salutes Dr. George Vernon Irons, Sr., one of Alabama’s greatest native sons, whose life of devoted service is an inspiration to all Americans.●

TRIBUTE TO CLARA SHIN

● Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a true champion of public service: Clara Shin of Orange, CA. Ms. Shin is a former AmeriCorps program officer and is currently a distinguished White House Fellow.

One of the greatest gifts that Clara Shin has been endowed with is an appreciation and a passion for public service. Her background is filled with notable accomplishments that have provided her with a sense of community and an unflinching commitment to helping others.

Ms. Shin received her bachelor’s degrees in physiobiopolitics and government from Smith College and a Juris Doctor from Stanford Law School. As a law student, she worked at the U.S. Agency for International Development, serving as a legal intern to the Regional Legal Advisor for Southern Africa. She later joined AmeriCorps as its youngest program officer and was responsible for developing the first national grant applications for local programs seeking funding. She then managed a \$25 million grant portfolio for the program and coordinated a service network spanning the Southwest. Ms. Shin also co-designed the \$100 million community service component of a Housing and Urban Development initiative to revitalize severely distressed public housing developments. She founded KOSOMOSE Women’s Journal, a magazine for Asian American women, and helped start the Tahoe-Baikal Institute, a bi-national environmental institute in California and Siberia that trains environmentalists in land and water issues.

As one of 17 White House Fellows, Ms. Shin has achieved the nation’s most prestigious fellowship for leadership development and public service. Her assignment to the White House Office of the Chief of Staff allows her to work hand-in-hand with leaders in gov-

ernment on immigration, race, and science and technology issues, where she coordinates working group meetings, tracks and manages issues, and meets with advocacy groups. For more than thirty years, White House Fellows have carried out the program’s mission to encourage active citizenship and service to the nation. Ms. Shin is an individual who exemplifies this notion. Her efforts to serve those around her are an inspiration to us all.

Mr. President, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Clara Shin for her accomplishment and dedication to public service. Her enthusiasm for social and environmental causes is both uplifting and encouraging. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Clara Shin many more years of success.●

A TIME TO RESPOND: AMERICAN LAMB INDUSTRY THREATENED BY IMPORT SURGES

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to speak to the surging wave of cheap, imported lamb meat that threatens to drown the United States lamb industry, an industry that has been part of our nation’s economy since independence.

This surge of imports, primarily from the nations of Australia and New Zealand, can be seen in the numbers collected by our federal inspectors.

In 1993, just 56 million pounds of lamb meat entered this country and its markets.

By 1997, that figure had risen to 84.4 million pounds—a shocking increase of nearly 50 percent.

Those figures have been converted to carcass-weight equivalents, and are higher than those collected by the U.S. Commerce Department. But that department’s information shows no indication that the surge is slowing. In 1998, a record 70.2 million pounds—by volume—of lamb meat entered the domestic market.

Not only has the level of imports increased, but the lamb meat flooding the domestic market is directly competitive with products produced by this nation’s lamb industry.

In place of lamb carcasses, shipments of fresh, chilled meat—cut and processed and ready for the grocery store shelves—are displacing domestically produced meat across the country.

At this point, importers control one-third of the United States lamb consumption, a market share that makes it difficult, if not impossible, for our producers to control their own destinies.

The importers do not participate in voluntary price reporting. In fact, they have actively fought a joint lamb promotion program through the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Despite ample notice of the effect their skyrocketing levels of imports have had on the domestic industry, and despite ample notice that the industry intended to file a case against them, the importers refused to pull back voluntarily, or even discuss the situation.