

gripped in sadness and grief when we heard of the death of John Chafee.

John Chafee was a giant for many reasons. He was a kind man. He was a truly gentle and a magnificently decent Senator.

Time and time again, as towering Senators of the past, John Chafee, a pragmatist, a moderate, a man of sound judgment and good sense, worked to cool the partisan passions in this body and led his colleagues of both parties toward common ground.

He was one of those Members to whom Senators looked for advice and for leadership on the host of issues in which he was an expert—health issues, environmental issues, transportation, and many issues where he was one of the most knowledgeable and effective leaders of this body.

He brought to this body an experience which was invaluable, as a marine, a war hero in two wars, and in the legislative battles of the Senate. One frequently sensed in John Chafee the kind of quiet self-confidence and

steady determination of somebody who had survived real combat.

John Chafee was direct. He was without guile. He did not posture as he ambled about this body. He just talked straight and let his friends and his colleagues know what was on his mind and asked how he might be helpful.

There were no hidden agendas with John Chafee—just a straightforward, good-natured, decent and kind human being who cared deeply about the people of Rhode Island and of this Nation and who shared everything he had with us and with this Nation.

I visited often with John Chafee in his office, going there for advice to try to gather from him some of the wisdom which he had gathered over the years.

I shall miss, as will every Member of this body, his shy smile, his special integrity. He left an indelible mark on our hearts. I don't know whether his name is carved yet in that desk which has the flowers upon it. But he left a very deep mark on all of our hearts, on all of our souls, and on all of our spirits.

We can only hope his family takes comfort in the certain knowledge that John Chafee will be missed by a legion of friends, by all of his colleagues, and we will be sustained by his memory, by his integrity, by his character, and by his good nature.

As long as we serve in the Senate, every one of us who had the honor and privilege of serving with John Chafee will remember him in a very special way.

Again, I thank the Chair.
I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in adjournment until the hour of 9:30 a.m. on Friday, October 29, 1999.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:55 p.m., adjourned until Friday, October 29, 1999, at 9:30 a.m.