

Joe Limprecht brought a strong Nebraska common sense and perspective to the daunting challenges facing our Ambassador in Albania. Joe was a fifth-generation Nebraskan. His wife, Nancy is also a native-born Nebraskan.

In 1964, Joe graduated from Omaha Westside High School. His wife also attended Westside, where she graduated in 1966. Joe then went on to get his undergraduate degree at the University of Chicago. He received a doctorate in history from Berkeley. During his Foreign Service Career, he also earned a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School at Harvard.

Joe entered the Foreign Service in 1975, but his ties to Nebraska remained strong. He remained a member of the Nebraska Historical Society. I knew his father well. Hollis Limprecht was an institution in Omaha. He worked at the Omaha World Herald for 40 years. For 23 of those years he edited the paper's "Midlands Magazine."

Joe took an unusual path up through the ranks of the Foreign Service. From 1985 to 1988, he essentially served as West Berlin's Chief of Police under the Four Powers Agreement. His formal title was the Public Safety Advisor to the U.S. Mission in Berlin. In this role, Joe was involved in law enforcement, intelligence, and national security issues at a level rarely available to members of the Foreign Service.

He followed this posting with another unusual assignment. From 1988 to 1991, Joe was the Counselor for Narcotics Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Pakistan. This job also required strong problem-solving capabilities and a certain toughness. In recent months, Americans have gained a much greater understanding for the challenges this post had to have presented.

After 1991, Joe's career followed a more traditional route that emphasized his diplomatic and management skills. From 1993 to 1995 he served as Chief of Career Development and Training at the State Department. Prior to becoming Ambassador to Albania, he served as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Uzbekistan.

Joe Limprecht was the complete foreign service officer. He represented our nation on the front lines, in very difficult international territory. America owes him, and his family, a debt of gratitude for their selfless service.

Joe leaves behind his wife Nancy, and two daughters, Alma Klein and Eleanor Limprecht. But he also leaves behind a record of service that stands as a model to young Americans.

I am proud to say Joe Limprecht was a fellow Nebraskan, a friend, and an outstanding American.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF WILLIAM S. HARTSOCK

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask that the Senate join me today in commending William S. Hartsock for his 28 years of service on the Farmington

City Council. Originally elected to the city council in 1973, Bill has long been known for his diplomacy and commitment to community and his retirement will be celebrated on May 30.

When Bill first ran for City Council in 1971, he had to petition for permission to run because he was under 21, the voting age at the time. Though he lost his first election, he was not deterred and won 2 years later. Since that time, he has devoted countless hours to his community as an elected official, including four terms as Mayor of Farmington.

During his tenure on the City Council, Farmington has faced many of the same challenges which confront small towns and cities across the country. One of the most trying challenges is the emigration of business out of the downtown area to large malls on the fringes of Farmington. Despite this trend, he remains optimistic and has long worked to attract small business to the downtown area and enhance its appearance.

Bill has also invested a tremendous amount of time serving on local and national boards. He has been a board member of the Founders Day Festival, the Botsford Hospital Development Fund, and the Farmington YMCA. He also founded and was past president of the Farmington Area Division for the American Heart Association, and past president of the Farmington Exchange Club, and the Huron River Hunting and Fishing Club.

In these days of power politics, Bill's was concerned solely with what was best for his community. He believed that local government had the greatest impact on peoples everyday lives, and commented "All local politics are very personal." I believe that many of my Senate colleagues would concur with Bill's belief that the most enjoyable part of his job was talking to young people. He loved to travel to local schools and talk to students about government.

Bill has helped guide Farmington for nearly three decades. All of those whom he so faithfully served will miss his integrity and good humor. I know my Senate colleagues will join me in thanking William S. Hartsock for his distinguished career wish him well in the years ahead.●

HONORING THE STUDENTS OF DOBSON HIGH SCHOOL FROM MESA, AZ

● Mr. KYL. Mr. President, earlier this month, more than 1,200 students from across the United States were in Washington, D.C. to compete in the national finals of the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program. This program was designed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and this year's event was, yet again, testament to its success.

The 3-day national competition is modeled after hearings in the United

States Congress. The hearings consist of oral presentations by high school students before a panel of adult judges on constitutional topics. The students' testimony is followed by a period of questioning by the judges who probe their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.

I am proud to announce that the class from Dobson High School from Mesa, AZ was selected as the national winner of this year's competition. These young scholars worked diligently to reach the national finals and I commend them on their fine accomplishment. Through their experience, they have gained a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy, and hopefully, they have also helped to encourage other young students around the country to follow in their footsteps.

I would like to take a moment to mention the names of those students who competed for Dobson High: Dean Anderson, Nikki Best, Diana Capozzi, Adam Cronenberg, Adam Ekboom, Ashley Emmons, Tammy Ho, Candice Howden, Chi-Chi Hsieh, Katherine Jennings, Amanda Keim, Brianne Kiley, Jimmy Martinez, Jr., Jordan Pendergrass, Ashley Rogers, Jake Seybert, Hiral Shah, Ashley Wearly, and Jeff Yost. I would also like to acknowledge their teacher, Abby Dupke, the district coordinator, Kathleen Williams, and the state coordinator, Debbie Shayo. Congratulations.

It is inspiring to see these young people advocate the fundamental principles of our government. These are ideas that identify us as a people and bind us together as a nation. It is important for our next generation to understand these values which we hold as standards, especially in our endeavor to preserve the promise of our constitutional democracy.

All of the students who participated in this program worked extremely hard, and they are all to be commended for their research and preparation. I wish all these budding constitutional experts the best of luck in their futures. They represent tomorrow's leaders of our Nation.●

CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS OF WEST WARWICK SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise in recognition of the students of West Warwick Senior High School for representing the State of Rhode Island in the national competition for the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. This year's national competition took place on May 4 to 6, 2002.

The We the People program and the competition is administered by the Center for Civic Education. The competition is modeled after hearings in the U.S. Congress and consists of oral presentations by high school students