

died. And we as a country, as a community, as friends and neighbors and family, hold them in our hearts.

I spoke with a member of almost every family in Massachusetts who lost a loved one on the planes, or at Ground Zero in New York, or at the Pentagon. To those left behind, I say on this sad day: I know something of what you feel. To lose someone you love, and to lose them so suddenly, so unexpectedly, so terribly, to see them torn out of the fabric of life, is almost more than one can bear.

And then, although we know the passage of a year cannot heal that memory, we move on, because we have to, because they would want us to, and because there is still light left in the world, including the love they left us.

In a different time of grief, my brother Robert Kennedy quoted the ancient poet Aeschylus: "In our sleep, pain, which cannot forget, falls drop by drop upon the heart until, in our own despair, against our will, comes wisdom through the awful grace of God."

May God, this year and every year and every day, grant that grace to you the families.

And for all of us, there is something else that comes from last September 11. From the pain that day have come both wisdom and will.

We have learned anew the wisdom that as Americans, we are many, but we are also one.

On Flight 93, there was a unity of purpose and a fierce pride. Passengers who had never met before became a band of brothers and sisters, sacrificing their lives so that others might live. Many other individual acts of courage saved more lives than we can know or count at Ground Zero and the Pentagon.

People all across the country and of all ages asked what they could do, from giving their blood, to clearing rubble at the World Trade Center, to giving their dollars, to lending a shoulder to their neighbor to cry on. In countless ways, we came together, and founded a new American spirit of service to others.

The terrorists taught us a lesson different from the one they expected. They acted with hate, but we reached out to comfort and support one another with love. No one asked whether the rescuer leading them down the packed stairwell of the World Trade Center was rich or poor, Anglo or African-American or Hispanic, gay or straight. We gained a new determination as Americans to reject discrimination in all its hateful forms.

Out of the pain that day, Americans understood more powerfully than perhaps ever before the pledge of "liberty and justice for all."

To help those in need;

To give hope;

To share what we have;

To see suffering and try to heal it—

That is our lesson from this tragedy, and it is wisdom that must guide us over time. The new American spirit of service can and must become a new era

of commitment to the ideals of compassion, equality, opportunity, and concern for one another. We as a society seek to save a life when a terrorist strikes, and we as a society must do as much when the terror or a dread disease strikes, or the terror of poverty steals opportunity.

May that legacy of 9/11, that legacy of love and compassion and caring, become our enduring tribute to all those who were lost.

Out of that day also came a new sense of national resolve and will. We are at war today, with a terrorism that has plagued too many places for too many years, and that has finally struck at the heart of America.

This is a conflict we did not seek, but must win, not alone for ourselves, but for the cause of freedom, tolerance and human rights around the world.

The ideas and ideals created long ago in this great hall have shaped the dreams of countless millions yearning to be free.

Now, as the greatest power on earth, we have a responsibility. Our gifts of strength and wealth and values can decide that the future will belong to the forces of hope and onto of hate.

This brighter future depends on victory against terrorism. It demands that we then continue in a long, tireless endeavor to make the world not only safer for us, but better for all. In our determination to defeat those who have attacked our people and our principles, we truly are "one nation under God, indivisible."

How true that was, how deeply we felt it, a year ago today. Together that day, we hurt and feared and hoped and prayed. And together now, we will prevail.

God bless all who were lost and all who lost them. God give us strength, and the wisdom to use it well. God bless America.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR FRED THOMPSON

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Tennessee Senator FRED THOMPSON, a stalwart conservative with a long and colorful career in both the private and public sectors. Senator THOMPSON has always been a vocal and active proponent of reducing the role of the federal government, lowering the tax burden on Americans and allowing individuals the freedom to make their own choices. His remarkable rise to a position of influence among his fellow lawmakers is a testament to the passion of his beliefs. Senator THOMPSON has been a valuable member of the Senate, and his presence will be missed when he retires at the end of the 107th Congress. I would like to take this opportunity to commend my fellow Southern colleague for his dedicated work on behalf of the people of Tennessee and wish him the best of luck as he leaves the Senate.

Born in my home state of Alabama, Senator THOMPSON grew up in

Lawrenceburg, TN. He worked his way through undergraduate school at Memphis State University and then law school at Vanderbilt. Two years later, he was named an Assistant United States Attorney in Nashville, where his outstanding record brought him to the attention of then Senator Howard Baker, who tapped him to be the minority counsel to the Senate Watergate Committee. Following two years on the Committee, Senator THOMPSON continued his high profile law career when he was appointed by incoming Governor Lamar Alexander to investigate outgoing Governor Ray Blanton. Senator THOMPSON added to his growing reputation by uncovering a cash for clemency scheme that ultimately sent Governor Blanton to jail. Over the next several years, Senator THOMPSON continued to practice law in Nashville and in Washington. He also continued his work with Congress, working as Special Counsel to the Senate Committee on Intelligence and the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

With an open election looming to fill the last two years of former Sen. Al Gore's term in 1994, Senator THOMPSON decided to enter the race. He championed his Tennessee roots, conservative values and desire to reform the Federal Government. His message resonated with the voters, who overwhelmingly supported him in the general election in 1994. In 1996, Senator THOMPSON was elected to a full term in the Senate, receiving more votes than any previous candidate for any office in Tennessee history.

Since joining the Senate, Senator THOMPSON has tirelessly worked to promote his conservative values. A fierce critic of federal bureaucracy, he has introduced legislation and held hearings aimed at producing a smaller, more efficient, and more accountable government. Through his work on the Finance Committee, he has focused his energy on reducing taxes, reforming the tax code and restoring Social Security and Medicare programs to long-term solvency. Admirably, he has always remained thoroughly independent and committed to his beliefs.

I have truly enjoyed working with Senator THOMPSON here in the Senate. He is a tremendous asset to the people of Tennessee and valuable member of the Republican party. I thank him for his many years of service and wish him the best in all future endeavors.

SOMALIA

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I wish to express my strong support for the efforts underway to establish clear systems for effective regulation and monitoring of Somali remittance companies. Right now, the United Nations Development Program is working to build the capacity of the Somali financial sector and to bring Somalis together with key stakeholders in the international banking community so that clear expectations, shared high