

National Defense Service Medal; and six Good Conduct Awards.

Thurston Womble's final days were spent with the family and friends he loved so much—and doing what he enjoyed most, golfing and fishing. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Olive, their children, Noreen and Eric, Eric's wife Wendy and grandchildren, Melissa and Matthew. I extend my sincere condolences to the entire Womble family on their loss. I also want to thank Thurston for his dedicated service to our country and for setting an example that the rest of us can only hope to emulate; our great Nation owes him a debt of gratitude.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MICHAEL
J. DELANEY

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Delaney of our Army's Office of Legislative Liaison. Lieutenant Colonel Delaney has distinguished himself as an outstanding American soldier from the great State of Virginia and will soon complete over 23 years of selfless service to the Nation in the United States Army. His dedication to Soldiers, commitment to excellence, and performance of duty has been extraordinary throughout his career and, especially over the past 4 years, has cemented the positive relationship between Congress and the U.S. Army. He will retire on August 1, 2004.

Over his 23 years of selfless service, Lieutenant Colonel Delaney served in a succession of command and staff positions worldwide. As a junior officer, he stood at the forefront of freedom during the Cold War in Germany. From the Cold War frontline, Lieutenant Colonel Delaney earned his wings as an aviator and qualified on a variety of rotary wing and fixed wing aircraft. During Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Lieutenant Colonel Delaney commanded an aviation unit based at Fort Belvoir. Despite the wide dispersion of his unit throughout the combat theater, they were able to successfully accomplish their mission due, in no small part, to his exceptional and inspirational leadership. Lieutenant Colonel Delaney has since served in a variety of positions of increasing responsibility.

For the past 4 years, Lieutenant Colonel Delaney has served as a congressional liaison for the U.S. Army. Perhaps this assignment was pre-ordained, as Lieutenant Colonel Delaney's wife, the former Susan Fanning, served as staff to Senator Paul Laxalt of Nevada. His mother-in-law, Shirley Fanning, also has a history with the Senate as she served on the staffs of Senators Everett Dirksen and Strom Thurmond for 25 years. Lieutenant Colonel Delaney's work as a legislative liaison and as the Chief of the Programs Division enabled the Army to provide this Congress the information we need to accomplish our constitutional duties. His efforts have been exceptional and noteworthy in

working with Congress during a critical time as the Army undertook transformation, in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, and during our current efforts with the Global War on Terrorism. Throughout this critical time Lieutenant Colonel Delaney has fostered a personal relationship between Congress and the U.S. Army.

Lieutenant Colonel Delaney holds degrees from George Mason University, B.A., 1981, and the Naval War College, M.S., 1996. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Master Aviator Badge.

Lieutenant Colonel Delaney represents the epitome of what the Army seeks in a congressional liaison and the country expects from our officers. His service to the Nation has been exceptional, and Lieutenant Colonel Delaney is more than deserving of this recognition.

ROBERT A. RIESMAN

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of Robert A. Riesman, who, sadly, passed away on June 2 in Providence, RI.

Robert Riesman was a Renaissance man and a prominent Rhode Islander, who succeeded in and devoted himself passionately to all aspects of his life. He was a decorated soldier, a successful businessman, and a leader in Rhode Island politics. He was a philanthropist, a dedicated man of faith, and a devoted father and husband.

But my own words cannot fully convey the value of Bob Riesman's character and achievements. This can best be expressed by Mr. Riesman's close friend and my esteemed colleague, Senator JACK REED, whose eloquent eulogy of June 6 describes Mr. Riesman in the most human terms.

Therefore, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator REED's eulogy be printed in the RECORD.

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT A. RIESMAN

Last Thursday, Richard Licht and I spoke. We quickly concluded that, outside our own families, Bob Riesman was the finest man that we had ever met. Then, we also quickly concluded that we tend to give our families a little extra credit.

Bob Riesman was my hero. He lived his life heroically. He lived with honor and with a commitment to high ideals. He pursued wisdom. He cherished family and friends. He set an example of decency and integrity and modesty. He time and time again entered the arena to be part of the great issues that shaped his generation and shaped our lives. But, he never forgot that life is little things, too: acts of kindness, moments of humor, sharing life's joys and disappointments with family and friends.

He was an American hero. He joined the Field Artillery at Camp Ethan Allen in Vermont many months before Pearl Harbor. He had just graduated from Harvard. Bob was always very proud of his Harvard diploma, but declared that he was educated at the Boston Latin School.

He served with the First Infantry, his beloved "Big Red One". He fought through North Africa and Sicily. His soldiers admired his fearlessness and his authenticity. For his

courage under fire, he was awarded the Silver Star. For his wounds, he was awarded the Purple Heart. Because of these wounds, he had to leave the First Division and he became an intelligence officer with the First Army. The last days of the war found him as a staff officer in Paris.

We always spoke together about the Army. Every conversation in some way or another touched on our youthful and lifetime devotion to the Army. Bob seldom, if ever, talked about the difficult moments. He recalled the camaraderie. He spoke of his admiration and respect for Sergeant Vic Lister and the other American soldiers that he led. He spoke about the leaders that he admired and those he found lacking. We both reveled in those memories of soldiers and soldiering, he knowing far better than I the terrible cost of war.

Bob Riesman saw the horror of war but refused to surrender his spirit to its brutality. And having seen that horror and bearing the memory forever of those young soldiers who never returned, Bob's return was not simply an occasion for celebration. It was an opportunity and an obligation to engage in another struggle; the struggle of a committed citizen to build a just and decent society in America and to be a force for peace and justice around the world.

And, Bob never wavered from that commitment.

Bob Riesman was a man of great faith and great tolerance.

His parents taught him to cherish his Jewish faith and act on this faith to serve his neighbors and his community and his country. Bob's faith was more than just a theological exercise. It was for him a summons, not just to reflection, but also to action.

Bob Riesman was my friend. To sit by him and to feel the comfort of a kindred spirit, to listen and learn, to trace and retrace the days of our lives, to share good wine and good conversation, to know the feeling of unqualified support and affection was a precious and enduring gift to me.

On one memorable evening, we rode together, just the two of us, back from West Point. We had been up for the day to visit the newly dedicated Jewish Chapel at West Point. Bob and I attended services with the Cadets and then had supper with them. It had been a splendid day for the both of us, but a special day for Bob, uniting both his faith and his Army. In the nighttime drive, we spoke of many things. At one point, we began to discuss William Butler Yeats. Bob, as he often did to my amazement, began to recite from memory passages not only from Yeats, but W. H. Auden's famous lines:

Earth receive a honored guest
William Yeats is laid to rest

Today, earth receives another honored guest.

Bob taught me so much and, along with my Father and Mother, set an example of what, on my best day, I might hope to be.

His approval meant the world to me. I recall those times when we spoke and he was particularly pleased by something he had read or heard about me. He would say "my boy, you are a credit to the Regiment."

In a life of extraordinary achievement, Bob's greatest achievement was his marriage to Marcia and their wonderful children and grandchildren. Marcia and Bob were best friends as well as husband and wife. To watch them was all you needed to know about respect and commitment and deep and abiding love.

Bobby and Jeanie are their parents' pride. Whenever I asked about either of them, Bob's eyes would light up and his voice would resonate with uncontained joy and pride. This reaction was only exceeded when we spoke about Abe and Clare.