

ways. Some say he was too conservative. Some say he was not progressive enough. But he made his mark wherever he went.

I will remember the Pope for the strength he showed throughout his life. It all started in reading the book about this great man. In the face of communism, he stood with the people of Eastern Europe and empowered them in their pursuit of freedom. In the face of hunger and despair, he challenged powerful nations, including our own to do more to reach out and lift up our struggling neighbors. In the rush to war, he sought peace always. At the end of his days when sickness had taken his physical strength, he still showed grace and courage in tending to his flock.

The last pictures we see of the Pope in some of our minds' eye, having gone through surgery, he was still standing in front of the throng that came to see him, and still doing his very best to speak. He couldn't speak. How frustrating that must have been.

There are many lessons we can draw from the life of Pope John Paul II. He traveled the globe more than any Pope in history. He was a skier in addition to being the Pope. He skied while he was the Pope.

He did not have to travel the world, but he did, realizing that he brought the spotlight of media and attention to the cause of many who otherwise would have been ignored.

He was shot by a would-be assassin. As soon as he was physically able, he went to the prison cell of the man who shot him and forgave him in the prison cell in a one-on-one meeting with his would-be assassin.

We now know as a result of that assassin's attempt they developed a new vehicle for him. In this age of terror, the Popemobile is something we all understand. He waved to people from this little bulletproof vehicle which he rode around in like a golf cart. It was not a limousine. It was the Popemobile.

He also reached out to leaders. He did not always agree with these leaders he reached out to, recognizing that problems are better solved by working together. In our own country, he reached out to former Presidents Carter, Reagan, Bush, and Clinton, and worked closely with our current President. He did not alienate or reject leaders who disagreed with him. He sought common ground in championing the causes of his fellow man.

But ultimately, I believe the life of Pope John Paul II is a reminder that one man or one woman can make a difference. It does not matter where we are born. It does not matter what we aspire to early in life. It can change for the better. It does not matter what paths we have wandered. We all have the ability to rise up and help our fellow man in immeasurable ways. There is no better example of that than Pope John Paul II.

As the world mourns the loss of the Pope, may we keep that lesson in mind,

and find inspiration in his life and the work he has accomplished.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

MASTER SERGEANT MICHAEL HIESTER

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart and deep sense of gratitude to honor the life of a brave young man from Bluffton. Master Sergeant Michael Hiester, 33 years old, was one of four Indiana National Guardsmen who died on March 26 when a land mine exploded under their military vehicle south of Kabul. With his life before him, Michael risked everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

A devoted father of two young children, Michael served as a part-time firefighter in his hometown of Bluffton, in addition to being a member of the Indiana National Guard. Like most things Michael set his mind to, he was successful in his military career. A full-time Guardsman since 1990, Michael was promoted to master sergeant 3 months ago. He had previously served his country in Bosnia-Herzegovina as part of the Indiana Guard's peacekeeping assignment. According to friends and family, Michael was also a real estate appraiser and an avid athlete who loved diving and cycling. Mayor Ted Ellis shared memories of Michael with the Associated Press, saying, that he "was just the kind of guy that every parent wants their child to be like—outgoing and hardworking and always thinking about something that they could do out there for the community." I stand here today to express gratitude for Michael's sacrifices and for those made by the entire Hiester family on behalf of our country.

Michael was killed while serving his country in Operation Enduring Freedom. He was a member of the Indiana National Guard's 76th Infantry Brigade. This brave young soldier leaves behind his wife Dawn, a 6-year-old daughter, Emily, and a 4-year-old son, Adam.

Today, I join Michael's family, his friends and the entire Bluffton community in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over this loss, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is his courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Michael, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

Michael was known for his dedication to family and his love of country.

Today and always, Michael will be remembered by family members, friends and fellow Hoosiers as a true American hero and we honor the sacrifice he made while dutifully serving his country.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Michael's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg: "We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." This statement is just as true today as it was nearly 150 years ago, as I am certain that the impact of Michael's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Michael Hiester in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the U.S. Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy and peace. When I think about this just cause in which we are engaged, and the unfortunate pain that comes with the loss of our heroes, I hope that families like Michael's can find comfort in the words of the prophet Isaiah who said, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Michael.

ARMY SPECIALIST BRETT M. HERSHEY

Mr. President, I also wish to honor the life of a brave young man who grew up in Indianapolis. Army SPC Brett M. Hershey, 23 years old, was one of four Indiana National Guardsmen who died on March 26th when a land mine exploded under their military vehicle south of Kabul. With his entire life before him, Brett risked everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

A 2000 graduate of North Central High School in Indianapolis, Brett was just seven credits shy of graduating from Indiana University in Bloomington, when he left for Afghanistan. Friends and teachers recount that at North Central, Brett was a model student with an ever-present smile, who was involved in religious groups, varsity lacrosse and student government. Brett's older brother, Nate, recalled his brother's vibrant spirit when speaking to the Indianapolis Star saying, Brett "loved people very well, and he loved them because his first love was Jesus. He was funny, witty and passionate about just sucking the marrow out of life. He always wanted people to know they were loved."

Brett was killed while serving his country in Operation Enduring Freedom. He was a member of the Indiana National Guard's 76th Infantry Brigade. This brave young soldier leaves

behind his mother Roxanne; his father Roger; his sister Abby; his brother Nathan; and his sister Nicole.

Today, I join Brett's family and friends in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over this loss, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is his courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Brett, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

Brett was known for his deep faith, his dedication to his family, and his love of country. Today and always, Brett will be remembered by family members, friends, and fellow Hoosiers as a true American hero, and we honor the sacrifice he made while dutifully serving his country.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Brett's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg: "We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." This statement is just as true today as it was nearly 150 years ago, as I am certain that the impact of Brett's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Brett M. Hershey in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy, and peace. When I think about this just cause in which we are engaged, and the unfortunate pain that comes with the loss of our heroes, I hope that families like Brett's can find comfort in the words of the prophet Isaiah who said, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Brett.

CAPTAIN MICHAEL T. FISCUS

Mr. President, I honor the life of a brave young man from Milford. Captain Michael "Todd" Fiscus, 36 years old, was one of four Indiana National Guardsmen who died on March 26 when a land mine exploded under their military vehicle south of Kabul. With his entire life before him, Todd risked everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

A devoted father of two daughters and a successful soldier, Todd joined the Indiana Air National Guard about 16 years ago before switching to the Army National Guard. In joining the Guard, Todd followed a family tradition of service, as his father, Captain Mike Fiscus, also serves in the Army Guard. Outside of his missions to Af-

ghanistan and Bosnia-Herzegovina, Todd flew charter planes. His wife Paula shared memories of Todd with the Indianapolis Star, recounting that "he wanted to be out there making a difference." A neighbor told a local television station, "As a neighbor and friend—he was a wonderful, wonderful man—great father and a great husband." I stand here today to express gratitude for Todd's sacrifices and for those made by the entire Fiscus family on behalf of our country.

Todd was killed while serving his country in Operation Enduring Freedom. He was a member of the Indiana National Guard's 76th Infantry Brigade. This brave soldier leaves behind his wife Paula and his two young daughters: Alexandra, 5, and Gabrielle, 4.

Today, I join Todd's family, his friends and the entire Milford community in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over this loss, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is his courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Todd, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

Todd was known for his dedication to family and his love of country. Today and always, Todd will be remembered by family members, friends and fellow Hoosiers as a true American hero and we honor the sacrifice he made while dutifully serving his country.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Todd's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg: "We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." This statement is just as true today as it was nearly 150 years ago, as I am certain that the impact of Todd's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Michael "Todd" Fiscus in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the U.S. Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy and peace. When I think about this just cause in which we are engaged, and the unfortunate pain that comes with the loss of our heroes, I hope that families like Todd's can find comfort in the words of the prophet Isaiah who said, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Todd.

SPECIALIST NORMAN "KYLE" SNYDER

Mr. President, I also honor the life of a brave young man from Carlisle. Army

SPC Norman "Kyle" Snyder, 21 years old, was one of four Indiana National Guardsmen who died on March 26 when a land mine exploded under their military vehicle south of Kabul. With his entire life before him, Kyle risked everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

After graduating from Sullivan High School, Kyle joined the National Guard, a dream he had long held. A country music fan with many friends, Kyle had hoped to attend college in the coming fall. By joining the National Guard, Kyle became a part of a long-standing family tradition of service, as most of his male relatives also served in the military. His mother, Donna Shots, recalled her son's service to his country, saying "I am honored to know that my son served in the military, died honorably and I can hold my head up knowing he was proud and so am I to be an American." Today and always, Kyle will be remembered by family members, friends and fellow Hoosiers as a true American hero and we honor the sacrifice he made while dutifully serving his country.

Kyle was killed while serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was a member of the Indiana National Guard's 76th Infantry Brigade. This brave young soldier leaves behind his mother Donna Shots; his father Jerry Snyder; his sister Shelli Snyder; his two half brothers, Derek Eugene Snyder and Craig Allen Snyder; and his grandparents, Azalia Barfield, Jane and Ron Moreland, Juanita Walters, and Norman and Susan Snyder.

Today, I join Kyle's family, his friends and the entire Carlisle community in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over this loss, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is his courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Kyle, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Kyle's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg: "We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." This statement is just as true today as it was nearly 150 years ago, as I am certain that the impact of Kyle's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Norman "Kyle" Snyder in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy and peace.

When I think about this just cause in which we are engaged, and the unfortunate pain that comes with the loss of our heroes, I hope that families like Kyle's can find comfort in the words of the prophet Isaiah who said, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Kyle.

FIRST LIEUTENANT EDWARD D. IWAN

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today to honor First Lieutenant Edward D. Iwan of Albion, NE.

First Lieutenant Iwan was a man who led by example and his leadership deserves the utmost honor. He was raised on a farm near Albion, NE and was a 1994 graduate of Albion High School where he was active in Future Farmers of America and Student Council. First Lieutenant Iwan valued his church, family, and country; and following high school he served 3 years in the United States Army. He then returned to Nebraska and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. During college he remained active in the Armed Forces including the ROTC, National Guard and Army Reserve. In December of 2001, First Lieutenant Iwan returned full-time to the Army.

During his last tour of duty to our country this soldier was promoted from Second to First Lieutenant, served in several locations, and was deployed to Iraq in January of 2004 with the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division. First Lieutenant Edward D. Iwan was killed in action on Friday, November 12, 2004 during sustained combat in Fallujah, Iraq. This brave soldier led by example to the very end, when even as his unit was under attack, he continued to guide his troops. He was killed when a rocket propelled grenade struck his Bradley Fighting Vehicle. His final heroic moments resulted in the posthumous awards of a Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

I offer my sincere thoughts and prayers to the family and friends of First Lieutenant Iwan. His service to our Nation will forever be appreciated. He was an outstanding American, Nebraskan, and soldier who embodied the bravery, spirit, grace and values of our grateful Nation.

MARINE LANCE CORPORAL SHANE E. KIELION

Mr. President, I rise today to also honor Marine LCpl Shane E. Kielion of La Vista, NE.

Lance Corporal Kielion, a young man with a bright future, heroically served our Nation. As a 1999 graduate of South High School he attended Peru State College and was employed before deciding to enter the United States Marine Corps in 2002. He wed his high school sweetheart, April, while being stationed in San Diego. Lance Corporal Kielion was assigned 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, 1 Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp in Pendleton, CA.

Lance Corporal Kielion died November 15, 2004, from injuries sustained from small arms fire as a result of enemy action. On that same day, Lance Corporal Kielion's son was born. Shane Jr. is a living remembrance of his father who was a brave and dedicated son, brother, friend, husband, and Marine.

I would like to extend my sympathy to all those who were blessed to know Lance Corporal Kielion and remind them that he will always be remembered as a brave and dedicated U.S. marine. Loyal and honorable are two appropriate descriptions of LCpl Shane Kielion who will forever remain in the hearts and minds of those he left behind including his wife and son.

SERGEANT NICHOLAS S. NOLTE

Mr. President, I rise today to honor Marine SGT Nicholas S. Nolte of Falls City, NE.

As a 1998 graduate of Falls City Sacred Heart, Nicholas S. Nolte demonstrated honor, dignity, and bravery in his decision to join the Marines after graduation. Sergeant Nolte was so dedicated to his service that he reenlisted after his original 4-year commitment and was assigned to the 2nd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Station, in Cherry Point, NC. He was also a member of the Presidential Helicopter Squadron HMX-1 where he honorably guarded and served President Clinton and President Bush.

On November 9, 2004 while serving in Iraq, Sergeant Nolte was injured as a result of enemy action when a roadside bomb hit his vehicle in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. He later died from his wounds on November 24th at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD.

Sergeant Nolte left behind his wife Melina and daughter Alanna. He is survived by many family, friends, and countrymen who honor his bravery for serving our Nation and fighting for our freedom. I would like to express my heartfelt thoughts and prayers for Sergeant Nolte's family. Sergeant Nolte will be remembered as a Marine who fought and died for liberty and freedom for all Americans and Nebraskans.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT DONALD D. GRIFFITH, JR.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to remember a fallen soldier, SSG Donald D. Griffith, Jr., a member of B Troop, 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, WA. Staff Sergeant Griffith died on March 11, 2005, in Tal Afar, Iraq, when his dismounted patrol was attacked by enemy forces using small arms fire. My heart goes out to his parents and family, who reside in Mechanicsville, IA, and his wife in Lakewood, WA.

Today, this Nation remembers and honors a man who sacrificed his life to defend his fellow soldiers and his coun-

try. With the death of Donald Griffith, this Nation lost a hero.

We know that there is no greater gift than the laying down of one's life for another. Staff Sergeant Griffith has given us that gift and we are forever grateful for his sacrifice. I ask that my colleagues join me reflecting on the memory of Donald D. Griffith, Jr. as we extend our thoughts and prayers to his family and friends.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR HOWELL HEFLIN

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, it is with deep sadness that I learned this past week of the passing of a dear friend and former colleague, Senator Howell Heflin.

My thoughts and prayers today and those of my wife, Barbara, are with his loving wife, Elizabeth Ann "Mike", and his family.

Everyone thought of Howell as "Judge" Heflin, even as he served in the Senate, because he forever looked and acted the part of the "country judge". He came to the Senate, as I did, in the class of 1978. Howell was then already a distinguished jurist, having served 6 years as chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court. He went on to build a solid reputation and to play an important role in the life of the Senate over the next 18 years.

Howell Heflin, a man of not only intellect, but warmth and good-humor, tackled some of the more thankless tasks in the Senate, including the arcane issues involving bankruptcy and administrative practice, and serving as the chairman of the Senate Ethics Committee in particularly turbulent times. He could always be counted on to approach difficult issues with careful thoughtful analysis, and to apply his balanced judgement objectively. For this reason, and others, Howell Heflin was respected on both sides of the aisle. In fact, he frequently served as a bridge between Democrats and Republicans in a way sorely needed in today's Senate. He was a true moderate, moderate in politics and by temperament. His demeanor, his objectivity, as well as his expertise, diligence and attention to the facts, have been missed and are among the very elements most needed now in this Chamber if we are to hope to remain the world's most deliberative body.

Senator Heflin served the people of Alabama, proudly. He served our nation with genuine dignity. And, today, as I look back on the life and career of Howell Heflin, I reflect on how proud I am of having had the opportunity to serve with this very special man, and to call him my friend.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate