

kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

On February 7, 2006 in San Diego, CA, James Hardy strangled Raymund Catolico, a gay man, to death in the victim's apartment. Allegedly, the two men met at a bus station and went to Catolico's apartment to have drinks and play video games. At some point Hardy attacked Catolico strangling him to death. Following the murder, Hardy went out for food and brought it back to the apartment to finish playing his computer game. According to Deputy District Attorney Dan Link, Catolico's sexuality was, "a substantial motivation" for the killing. Hardy is charged with a hate crime and is being held without bail.

I believe that the Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Matthew Shepard Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SPECIALIST JOSIAH HOLLOPETER

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise to express my sympathy over the loss of U.S. Army SPC Josiah Hollopeter of Valentine, NE. Specialist Hollopeter was killed on June 14 in Al Muqadiyah, Iraq. He was 27 years old.

Specialist Hollopeter graduated from Valentine High School in 1998. He played high school football as a defensive end, starting as a senior opposite his brother Tyler, a sophomore at the time. Tyler would also go on to serve in Iraq as an Army helicopter pilot.

Before joining the Army, Specialist Hollopeter worked construction jobs in Omaha and San Diego. He also worked for a canoe outfitter along the Niobrara River for several summers.

Like so many young men and women of his generation, the terrorist attacks of September 11 had a profound impact on Specialist Hollopeter and inspired him to serve his country. He enlisted with the Army in January 2006. He served with the 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, based at Ford Hood, Texas. We are proud of Specialist Hollopeter's service to our country, as well as the thousands of other brave Americans serving in Iraq.

In addition to his brother, Specialist Hollopeter is survived by his parents Ken and Kelly Hollopeter; wife Heather; and sister Anna Hollopeter.

I ask my colleagues to join me and all Americans in honoring SPC Josiah Hollopeter.

RETIREMENT OF FRANK J. MONAHAN

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to pay tribute

to the distinguished career of Frank Monahan, who will retire in a few days after 36 years of service to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Since 1971, Frank Monahan has worked on many of the great social justice issues of our day, always taking the side of the vulnerable, the voiceless, and the victims, always standing firm in his belief that here on earth, God's work must be our own. In the finest Jesuit tradition of his alma mater, Loyola University of Chicago, Frank Monahan is a man who has dedicated himself to serving others.

Early in his career, he was a Peace Corps volunteer in Nigeria. He was responding to President Kennedy's call to a new generation of Americans to engage themselves in public service and to help spread hope and the message of peace and cooperation throughout the world. He went on to work in Chicago public schools, helping to implement antipoverty programs and improve school lunch programs so that poor and hungry children would be free to learn, without fear of want.

His good nature, strong commitment, and eternal optimism that we can leave the world better than we found it will be missed by all of us in Congress, but they will not soon be forgotten.

It has been my great privilege through the years—under seven different Presidential administrations—to work with Frank on issues of fundamental fairness and justice. When I think of him, I am reminded of my brother Robert F. Kennedy's words:

Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.

I commend Frank Monahan for the countless ripples of hope he has sent out in his career.

We will be sad to see him leave, but heart in the fact that this great friend and ally will continue, in new and different fields, to live out the words of the Gospel of Mathew:

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.

He has certainly earned his retirement. As Frank and his family look forward to meeting the new challenges and opportunities that lay ahead, I am sure God is looking down on him now and saying, "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

THE FACE OF COURAGE

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I appreciate this opportunity to honor the distinguished service of my fellow Hoosier, SFC Jeffrey E. Mittman.

Throughout his remarkable career in the U.S. Army, Sergeant Mittman has exemplified the professionalism and

dedication that is a hallmark of our Nation's Armed Forces, including during deployments in support of Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom. On July 7, 2005, while assisting an Iraqi Public Order Brigade in Central Baghdad as a member of the Special Police Transition Team, SFC Jeffrey E. Mittman was wounded by an improvised explosive device. Since that day Sergeant Mittman has worked to recover from the injuries he sustained.

I also appreciate this opportunity to share my best wishes with Sergeant Mittman's wife Christy and children Jamie and Payton. As Sergeant Mittman works to recover from the grievous injuries he suffered while serving his nation in Iraq, I know that his children will benefit from the example of service and dedication that he and Christy have set.

I ask unanimous consent that a poem by Albert Caswell honoring SFC Jeffrey Mittman be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

THE FACE OF COURAGE

A Beautiful Man,

Who with The Heart of A Hero now here so stands!

Who within this his short lifetime, has so made a difference . . . so very grand!

Who with but half a face,

Who now so in history holds such a place . . .

One of such honor, one of such sacrifice . . .
one of such most magnificent splendid grace!

As this warrior battles both night and day,

To rebuild his life, from which from him has so been taken away!

In this his valiant quest, courage's best, a hero no less . . . as to our world he'll bless, in so many ways!

Beauty,

Beauty, is but skin deep!

For all of those whom have so made a difference, up in Heaven in his arms our Lord shall keep!

For we will all grow old some day,

As so surely all of our beauty shall so slip away!

So what then do our lives portray? So how can we so find heaven's way? As in a mirror we gaze!

For all that is good, of which God creates . . .

For all that is beautiful, so surely comes from within hearts as made!

As from where all true beauty so radiates, as from where so very deep down inside so emanates!

The Heart,

Is from where we so gait, from where all of our new steps are made . . . to play our part!

To rebuild from where none is left, through such pain, heartache and death . . . as God's work of art!

As before me I so see the face of God this day!

In this fine hero, with but half a face . . . who's beauty within so surely shows me the way!

All hearts melt this day, upon gazing at courage's face . . . no more beautiful man our world has so graced!

And we so watch you take each new step . . .