

Don, Julie & Herb . . . and at the center of it all, Ray and Louise. I can still hear the music and laughter echoing into the summer's night.

I always got a kick out of the fact that Paul Landerman's Orchestra would play at the dance and Paul Maynard, a Republican Councilman, and good friend of many Democrats, was playing in the band as the Democrats tore up the pavement to "In the Mood." It was the coming out party of the year.

Shelley, Kevin, Sue Maynard, Paul's daughter, and I were all classmates in high school when our parents served on the town council. It's an awkward thing when your parents are in office in some respects. It was a different time, perhaps because we Democrats had a 4-1 registration advantage, but it seemed like Republicans and Democrats just got along better. I know for Shelley, Susan and myself, we might have given the eye roll at the mention of their elected office, but we respected their service and were proud of them.

My Dad and Ray drove back and forth to work at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft in North Haven for several years. They had a lot in common; both were Navy Veterans serving on the aircraft carriers, for my Dad, the Franklin and for Ray, the Midway. Both were firefighters in the Navy, both worked at tool and dye shops after the war. Both married well, and their families were the center of the universe.

They were, however, different. Ray and Raymond, the R&R Express. Try to imagine riding in that car with Dad and Ray. It would be like listening to a conversation between Archie Bunker and Fred McMurray. Ray Donovan, more urbane, sophisticated and measured; Dad, a little rough around the edges. Dad preferred baseball caps, flannel shirts and playing the organ at the Elks to Ray's shirt, tie and occasional sweater, and service to the Lions. Ray loved the dialogue, the give and take of politics, while Dad was skeptical of the whole process. One thing my father wasn't skeptical of, though, was the honesty and decency of Ray Donovan. My father loved Ray Donovan, their companionship, and their camaraderie during those trips back and forth to North Haven fortified the unique bond they shared. What I would give for a tape recording of those journeys. It would be prime material for a Normal Lear comedy.

I have a feeling, though, Dad was one of the first to greet Ray as they embark on another journey. It's a safe bet they picked up the conversation where they left off, catching up on their families.

Much has been written of their generation. Ray epitomized what has rightfully been called the Greatest Generation, and represents all that is rich about the lives our parents led. A child of the Depression, a veteran of the World War, a builder of a community, who selflessly served the Democratic Party, as Forth District Chairman, member of the Board of Education, the Town Council, and the Lion's Club, and the V.F.W. Proud of his Irish heritage and proud to be called a Democrat! Ray was a devoted husband, loving father and enduring friend. I was never around him when he didn't talk about his family or ask about mine.

Ray Donovan was more than an advisor or mentor. Those well-meaning words don't do him justice. He led by his example. He was the listening ear, the sympathetic heart, the person of firm resolve and conviction, patient and willing to forgive, the calm, assured inward strength that formed a constant you know that was there for you.

What he did for me and all who sought his council was lead by example. No task was beneath him, no person nor cause not worthy

of his effort. He met everyone with a welcoming smile, an outstretched hand, and always a word of encouragement that was his trademark.

He never spoke of material possession. What others saw as life's benchmarks of success, new cars or homes, never interested him. I never heard him speak ill of anyone, he was a source of positive energy whose approval you sought and wanted.

It is said that we stand on the shoulders of other who have come before us. Ray Donovan's shoulders were broad enough for all of us to stand upon. Emerson wrote what most men led lives of quiet desperation and go to the grave with a song still in them. Ray Donovan led a life that was resolute and content, his song and life was one of quiet inspiration. An inspiration that was contagious because it came by way of his own example. I heard him say often of many people but never with such pride as when he would say of Louise with a broad smile and quiet satisfaction, "Isn't that Louise something." We pause today to say, "Wasn't that Ray something." We miss you. We love you. Say hi to Dad for me.

REMEMBERING THE INNOCENT
LOST DURING SREBRENICA
GENOCIDE

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, this Friday, July 11, 2008 marks the 13th anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide in Bosnia.

I rise today to express my deepest sympathy for, and in remembrance of the victims this horrible genocide in Bosnia, which lasted from 1992-1995.

The most infamous episode in this genocide was the massacre of Bosnians led personally by General Ratko Mladic at the United Nations-declared "safe haven" of Srebrenica in eastern Bosnia in July, 1995.

We should remember all of the innocent people who were brutally killed by honoring their lives and remembering their struggle for freedom during the three-year conflict in Srebrenica, a city in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I would also like to honor the memory of victims in places less well-known: in Kozarac, Prijedor and Banjaluka in northwestern Bosnia.

This conflict was the largest massacre and genocide of civilians in Europe since World War II.

In my district, I am proud to say that I have one of the largest Bosnian American populations in the United States. Of the tens of thousands of my Bosnian American constituents, upwards of 5,000 are survivors of the Srebrenica genocide.

As a Representative of many Bosnian-American friends in St. Louis, I understand that this tragedy continues to affect many of my constituents. We must commemorate those who died, hold those who are responsible accountable, and honor the brave survivors.

It is important for us to remember this dark chapter in history to learn from it for the benefit of our future generations.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL TIMOTHY RAY, USAF COMMANDER, 7TH BOMB WING, DYESS AIR FORCE BASE

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great leader in the 19th District of Texas. America's military has a solid foundation of tradition and heritage handed down from generation to generation. The United States Air Force in particular holds three core values: Integrity, Service Before Self and Excellence in Everything We Do.

While every airman who wears the Air Force uniform is expected to practice those core values, there are a select few that lead by example and rise above all others. For that they are rewarded with one of the military's highest honors—Command.

As Commander of the 7th Bomb Wing, COL Timothy Ray led more than 5,000 men and women in direct response to the Global War on Terrorism. As home to the B-1B Lancer, under Colonel Ray's leadership, Dyess airmen repeatedly sent our enemies running, providing constant vigilance and rapid response backed by overwhelming fire power. In addition, Dyess' C-130 aircrews have done incredible work saving lives by taking soldiers and marines out of the line of fire and into the safety of the air.

As a leader, Colonel Ray has been a stalwart champion of the men and women of Dyess AFB as well as their families. He has also been a great friend to the city of Abilene. His tireless efforts have made Dyess Air Force Base a model installation, especially during a time of war. Colonel Ray worked very hard to set tough energy efficiency conservation standards with the families and airmen first in his mind. His efforts on behalf of the Air Force and the American taxpayer leave Dyess Air Force Base a better place.

I wish Colonel Ray many years of continued success and thank him for his service to this great nation. I join with the city of Abilene and the 19th District of Texas in saying how proud and thankful we are for his leadership. The United States Air Force is blessed to have such a capable leader in COL Timothy Ray.

2008 UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the University of Florida's 2008 Women's softball team for their historic 70-5 winning season. This marks the first time in NCAA history that a team has won 70 games in a single season. The UF Women's softball team has also set many outstanding records this season in hitting, pitching, and fielding, and for the first time in school history, the softball team made it to the semifinals of the Women's College World Series.

In addition to their historic season, the Gators produced five All-American honors