out to hold hands as we wheeled our chairs to the well of the Senate.

Like Ted, I loved Robert C. Byrd. Yet I regret that I never had the opportunity to enjoy the close friendship that my colleague Ted Stevens did.

Yes, they had their spats, but Senator Stevens and Senator Byrd regarded each other as family. Senator Stevens’ daughter Lily referred to Senator Byrd as an uncle. Senator Byrd publicly joined each other on the Senate Appropriations Committee. Both served as President pro tempore of the Senate, a position reserved for the most senior Member of the Senate in the majority party. It was Senator Byrd who, after the passing of Senator Stevens, brought great sympathy for Senator Stevens’ crusade to end the third-world conditions that plague Alaska’s Native people in the more than more than 230 traditional villages of rural Alaska. Like the West Virginia of Robert Byrd’s childhood, rural Alaska lacked the sorts of infrastructure that the rest of America takes for granted—lack of road infrastructure, a lack of basic sanitation facilities, unreliable electricity, and unemployment. This may explain why Senator Byrd was greatly sympathetic to Senator Stevens’ crusade to bring indoor plumbing to rural Alaska, to eliminate the honeybucket. Alaska’s Denali Commission was one of the closest things to the Appalachian Regional Commission, which Senator Byrd championed for decades.

Ted Stevens and Robert Byrd worked together to make things better for the people of their states. Our Native people deeply appreciate the Alaska legacy of Robert C. Byrd.

On the occasion of Senator Stevens’ farewell from the Senate in 2008, a tearful Robert C. Byrd came to the Senate floor and said this “Politics is a rough business, with lots of highs and lots of lows. After a long time in politics, I come to understand that the point of it all is helping people. Thank God we live in a world where we can help people, a world in which the good we do in this world will be remembered by the good we do in this world.”

On Monday, our dear friend, Senator Byrd, joined his beloved wife Erma in Heaven, where he will be judged by all of the good he has done for his Lord, his family, the people of West Virginia, and the Nation. I will miss him greatly.

On behalf of Alaska’s people, I extend my condolences to Senator Byrd’s daughters Mona and Marjorie, his five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, to the people of West Virginia, and to all who knew and loved this great American.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, and the other Members of the Senate, we must remember that our great American service today.

On Monday, our dear friend, Senator Byrd, joined his beloved wife Erma in Heaven, where he will be judged by all of the good he has done for his Lord, his family, the people of West Virginia, and the Nation. I will miss him greatly.

On behalf of Alaska’s people, I extend my condolences to Senator Byrd’s daughters Mona and Marjorie, his five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, to the people of West Virginia, and to all who knew and loved this great American.
D. Voas, of Lakeville, MN; SGT Kurt E. Kruize, of Hancock, MN; LCpl Curtis M. Swenson, of Rochester, MN; SSG Scott W. Brunholt, of Fayetteville, NC; Sgt Frank J. Wood, of Evansville, IN.

Lcpl Tyler O. Griffin, of Voluntown, CT; LT Miroslav Zibert, of Columbus, OH; PFC Raymond N. Pace, of Honolulu, HI; SFC Zachary K. Faus, of Yakima, WA; CPT Randy M. Heck, of Steuben, OH; LCpl Jacob A. Ross, of Gillette, WY; LCpl Rick J. Centeno, of Tomball, TX; SGT Robert J. Smith, of Frederick, MD; PFC Stets, of El Cajon, CA; Sgt Steven B. Richardson, of Christiansburg, VA; SFC John W. Whetten, of Mesa, AZ; PFC Erin L. McIvane, of Federal Way, WA; Cpl Jonathan D. Forte, of Largo, FL; Lcpl Garrett W. Gamble, of Sugarland, TX.

PFC Jason M. Kropat, of White Lake, NY; SGT Jonathan J. Richardson, of Bald Knob, AR; Pvt. Nathaniel R. Scott, of Washington, DC; MT; SPC Lakeshia M. Bailey, of Columbus, GA; SGT Aaron M. Arthur, of Lake City, SC; SGT Patti Long, of Niagara Falls, NY; SGT Anthony A. Paci, of Rockville, MD; Lcpl Nigel K. Olsen, of Orem, UT; Sgt Vincent L. Wells, of Fort Smith, AR; Lcpl Archman, of Traverse City, MI; Lcpl Chad W. Brown, of Hot Springs, AR; Sgt Joel D. Clark, of Fairbanks, AK; GySgt Robert L. Gilbert II, of Richfield, OH; SSG Richard J. Glasgow, of Honolulu, HI; PFC Steven H. Bissonette, of Great Falls, MT; SPC Carla L. Owens, of Fort Smith, AR; Lcpl Jonathan A. Taylor, of Jacksonville, FL; Pvt. Derrick D. Gwaltney, of Cape Coral, FL; Sgt Brandon T. Lailp, of Richmond, VA; PFC David M. Mudge, of Sutherlin, OR; PFC Michael A. Rogers, of White Sulphur Springs, WV; SSG Michael A. Rogers, of Crystal Lake, IL; SSG Matthew A. Pucino, of Cokesbury, MD; SSG Marcus A. Tynes, of Moreno Valley, CA; SGT James M. Nolen, of Alvin, TX; Sgt Briand T. Williams, of Sparks, GA; Lcpl Nicholas J. Hand, of Kansas City, MO; Sgt Daniel A. Frazier, of Saint Joseph, MO; Sgt John J. Cleaver, of Marysville, WA; Pvt Brian M. Patton, of Freeport, IL; SPC Joseph M. Lewis, of Saint Johnsbury, VT; SGT John A. DeClerck, of Schenectady, NY; PFC Yen-Hsuan Chen, of NYC.

Lcpl Anthony A. Paci, of Rockville, MD; Lcpl Nigel K. Olsen, of Orem, UT; Sgt Vincent L. Wells, of Fort Smith, AR; Lcpl Archman, of Traverse City, MI; Lcpl Chad W. Brown, of Hot Springs, AR; Sgt Joel D. Clark, of Fairbanks, AK; GySgt Robert L. Gilbert II, of Richfield, OH; SSG Richard J. Glasgow, of Honolulu, HI; PFC Steven H. Bissonette, of Great Falls, MT; SPC Carla L. Owens, of Fort Smith, AR; Lcpl Jonathan A. Taylor, of Jacksonville, FL; Pvt. Derrick D. Gwaltney, of Cape Coral, FL; Sgt Brandon T. Lailp, of Richmond, VA; PFC David M. Mudge, of Sutherlin, OR; PFC Michael A. Rogers, of White Sulphur Springs, WV; SSG Michael A. Rogers, of Crystal Lake, IL; SSG Matthew A. Pucino, of Cokesbury, MD; SSG Marcus A. Tynes, of Moreno Valley, CA; SGT James M. Nolen, of Alvin, TX; Sgt Briand T. Williams, of Sparks, GA; Lcpl Nicholas J. Hand, of Kansas City, MO; Sgt Daniel A. Frazier, of Saint Joseph, MO; Sgt John J. Cleaver, of Marysville, WA; Pvt Brian M. Patton, of Freeport, IL; SPC Joseph M. Lewis, of Saint Johnsbury, VT; SGT John A. DeClerck, of Schenectady, NY; PFC Yen-Hsuan Chen, of NYC.

We cannot forget these men and women and their great sacrifice. These brave individuals left behind parents, spouses, children, siblings, and friends. We want them to know this country—when he stepped on a terrorist in Afghanistan, he was not only his leadership, but also his leadership here at home. On March 26, 2010, Corporal Nicely and his fellow marines were on a foot patrol in Helmand province—one of the most dangerous regions in Afghanistan—when he stepped on an improvised explosive device and suffered a devastating explosion. When Corporal Nicely woke up, he realized that all four of his limbs were lost in the blast. Instead of death, however, Corporal Nicely faced injuries with the same warrior spirit he showed on the battlefield. This brave marine has astounded many with his swift progress—evidence of his unwavering spirit and courage.
among overwhelming odds. Corporal Nicely remains one of the few surviving quadruple amputees from the war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

At Bethesda Naval Hospital and Walter Reed Medical Center, Corporal Nicely has endured—and surpassed—these odds with the love and support of his lovely wife Crystal, who also served her country as a marine. His story, courage and unwavering service make him proud to be an American. Our prayers and thoughts are with Corporal Nicely and his family, and I ask unanimous consent that this material be ordered to be printed in the RECORD.

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

MORE, THAN A MAN

But, we can survive... but without a heart, we will so surely die!
And if I could, but have a Son... as bright as you, this one!
Then, what a gift to this our world... I would leave!
For in the night as you sleep, our Lord's tears from Heaven fall upon you to so keep!
To so keep you safe and strong, for your life is like a song!
To lift us all up where we belong! I ask, could you have such the strength like you, and your family for how long?
And one fine day, as when up in Heaven you all so meet... our Lord will repeat...
"Urrah Marine, you've been promoted to an Angel so very sweet... Nicely Done!"
For in Heaven you need not arms and legs, we need Marines like you... to evil to defeat!

Men like you, Who are More Than A Man!

SPECIALIST CLAYTON D. McGARRAH

Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. President, today I honor SPC Clayton D. McGarrah, 20, of Harrison, Arkansas, who died July 4, 2010, in Arghandab, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. According to initial reports, Specialist McGarrah died of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol, followed by small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire.

As Arkansans and Americans gathered together to celebrate our freedom, SPC Clayton D. McGarrah made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our Nation. My heart goes out to his family for their loss. Along with all Arkansans, I am grateful for Specialist McGarrah’s service and for the service and sacrifice of all of our military servicemembers and their families. I am committed to ensuring they have the full support they need and deserve. Our grateful Nation will not forget them when their military service is complete.

Specialist McGarrah was assigned to C Company, 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC. His wife and parents reside in Harrison.

More than 11,000 Arkansans on Active Duty and more than 10,000 Arkansas Reservists have served in Iraq or Afghanistan since September 11, 2001. These men and women have shown tremendous courage and perseverance through the most difficult of times. As neighbors, as Arkansans, and as Americans, it is important upon us to do it; it is everything we can to honor their service and to provide for them and their families, not only when they are in harm’s way but also when they return home. It is the least we can do for those whom we owe so much.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. President, I regret that on July 12, 2010, I was unable to vote on the confirmation of Sharon Johnson Coleman, of Illinois, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District because my flight from Kansas City was delayed. I wish to address this vote, so that the people of the great State of Kansas, who elected me to serve them as U.S. Senator, may know my position. I would have voted in favor of this confirmation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

ANNUAL VIBORG DANISH VIKING DAYS

Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the 125th anniversary of Big Stone City. This picturesque town has made it 125 years, and I am proud to represent them.

Big Stone City is bordered by Big Stone Lake in South Dakota and the State of Minnesota. Originally the site of an Indian village called Inkpa, the first settlers arrived in 1871. In 1875, this new town, then called Inkpa City, was chosen for a post office. Another small town, Geneva, was also formed during that time, located to the northeast of Inkpa City. In 1885, the two...