

TRIBUTE TO DON SHELBY

• Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to one of our Nation's finest local newsmen and a Minnesota legend, Don Shelby, who is retiring after 32 years of service as a pioneering anchor, broadcaster, and reporter for WCCO in the Twin Cities.

A native of Royerton, IN, Don first arrived in Minnesota in 1978. But for those of us who tuned into him every night for our news, it is as if he has always been one of us.

When he first assumed lead anchor duties for the 10 p.m. newscast, Don had the tall task of replacing another Minnesota institution, Dave Moore, who had anchored the WCCO news desk for nearly 50 years. But Don's passion for bringing Minnesotans the stories that traditionally went unreported quickly made him a fixture on our television sets and in our hearts.

Don never forgot his roots as an investigative journalist. And he has never been one to just sit at the anchor desk and read the news.

Don is an intrepid reporter who will go to the ends of the Earth to bring his story home. Whether it was trekking to the Arctic with Will Steger, walking the beaches of Prince William Sound to expose the lasting damages caused by the Exxon Valdez oilspill, or traveling to Iraq to document the unprecedented service of our Minnesota National Guard troops, Don has brought the world home to living rooms across Minnesota.

Don's professional compass has guided him to what is important and away from the temptations of tabloid journalism and the "if it bleeds, it leads" sensationalism that too often dominate our news cycles today.

Minnesotans have benefited from Don Shelby's spirit of public service and commitment to journalistic values. For Don, it is never just about reading the headlines—it is about helping inform his viewers about the world around them.

Just one example of this was his trailblazing "Project Energy" series—with accessible, informative news reports on our energy future, including renewable energy, climate change, conservation, transportation alternatives, and much more. In short, Don represents public service journalism at its best.

Of course, it isn't just reporting that drives Don. There is also his ever-expanding list of hobbies, from mountain climbing, to bass fishing, to organic gardening, to playing guitar, and on and on. Don's intellectual curiosity knows no bounds.

For more than three decades, Minnesotans have turned to Don Shelby because they have trusted his experience and honesty.

While he has never been elected to public office, it is fair to say that he has become one of Minnesota's senior statesmen. And he became one by simply asking the important questions and telling the truth—with compassion, decency, and dignity.

So when Don signs off from his final broadcast this month, we will miss him dearly, but we can take comfort in knowing that our State is a better place because of his work.●

MARCUS CORPORATION

• Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, today I recognize the 75th anniversary of the Marcus Corporation. Not only does this month mark a monumental anniversary, it also gives us a time to look back at the accomplishments of the Marcus family.

Founded by Ben Marcus, the company opened a theater with just one screen in Ripon, WI. This small business became the basis of the Marcus Corporation, a leading name in hotels and movie theaters in the Midwest. Your hotels, like the Pfister in particular, serve as beautifully preserved landmarks, well-known meeting places, and home away from home for guests and employees alike. The Marcus family has consistently recognized and credited the work of their employees for the company's success, providing a rewarding environment for staff. The company has shown its integrity not only through its business operations but also in its contribution to the communities that house its theaters and hotels.

The Marcus Corporation has shared its success with the communities surrounding its businesses through both financial contributions and extensive volunteer programs. Employees of the businesses are encouraged to give back to their patrons through volunteer hours at a local program or cause of their choice. In fact, to mark this special anniversary, the Marcus Corporation will collectively volunteer 75,000 hours of community service. Milwaukee organizations such as the United Way of Greater Milwaukee and the United Performing Arts Fund have benefited from the company's generosity. I am proud that the heart of such a great company calls Wisconsin home.

I thank the Marcus family and Corporation for all they have done for Wisconsin. I am pleased to recognize the outstanding efforts and accomplishments of this company, and I send all the best for health, happiness, and continued achievement. On a personal note, to my dear friend Steve Marcus, together with sons Greg and David, congratulations on achieving much success in everything from your tremendous business growth and civic leadership down to your terrific tuna salad and for sharing it so generously.●

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL P. CLINE

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today, I recognize of retired MSG Michael P. Cline for his years of distinguished service with the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States, EANGUS. His efforts as one of the longest serving executive directors

in the military association community are to be commended, and I thank him for his 38-plus years of military service to this country.

Mike has held the position of EANGUS executive director since 1990 and was selected as an honorary chief master Sergeant for the Air National Guard in 1999. For the previous 11 years, he has also served on the Secretary of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Education. Over the years, he has also remained very active in the Military Coalition, TMC, a consortium of nationally prominent uniformed services and veterans associations representing over 5.5 million members. In addition to being a founder of the TMC Guard and Reserve Committee, he served as president of TMC for 5 years and codirector for 8 years.

Throughout his career of advocacy, Mike has worked tirelessly on behalf of the U.S. military, as well as our servicemembers, veterans, and their families. In particular, he has frequently led the fight to ensure that the men and women of our National Guard and Reserves receive enhanced care and benefits that are more commensurate with their increased service to our Nation.

In recent years, Mike and EANGUS have been at the forefront of efforts to provide larger military pay increases, health care that is more affordable for servicemembers and military retirees, enhanced educational benefits for servicemembers and veterans, and expanded access to retirement benefits for the men and women of the National Guard. He also played an active role in securing legislation providing burial and retirement flags for reservists, drill pay for funeral honors duty, increased health care benefits for reservists and retirees, and special compensation for severely disabled retirees.

Over the years, it has been a pleasure for me and my staff to work closely with Mike on a number of issues of great importance to our National Guard. In particular, we have worked to improve the readiness of our National Guard by providing greater access to medical, dental, and mental care for Selected Reservists. We have also called for an increase in the Montgomery GI Bill rate for members of the Reserve components and in the travel reimbursement for those traveling to drill duty. Additionally, we have championed legislation that would justly grant full veteran status to members of the Reserve components who have 20 years or more of service and do not otherwise qualify under law. The list goes on and on.

Due in large part to the dedication, counsel, and passion of advocates such as Mike Cline, the courageous men and women of our Armed Forces and their families have seen a number of significant improvements to their way of life in recent years. These efforts have also strengthened our ability to recruit and retain more quality men and women to serve in uniform and have increased