

Also, I spent several evenings with JOHN at dinner, when he would say, hey, let's go down to the Metropolitan Club, or elsewhere, and have dinner together. Those were also memorable moments in my life, as we had many things to discuss; but it was as much about ourselves and our families as it was about the great problems of the Nation.

JOHN CHAFEE represented the State of Rhode Island with distinction and represented what was best about this institution. My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Ginny, and their 5 children and 12 grandchildren, and also to his wonderful staff, who I have gotten to know over the years, who have most capably served him.

JOHN's memory also goes to the time he came and campaigned for me in my State, and all the other times we had a chance to work together. Most, I remember that if I ever had a question on how to vote or I came in at the last minute and did not know what the issue was—I hate to admit to that—I would first look to see how JOHN voted. I knew, if nothing else, if I voted as he did, I probably would not get in trouble. I suppose we all have moments similar to that that we don't talk about politically, but when you have that kind of an individual whom you can count on to give you the right direction, it is very important here, especially on some of the tough issues we have where those of us who are called moderates have to cast votes at times where we don't get friends on either side of the aisle.

I also want to speak out to JOHN's staff. I know how sad and tremendously burdened they now feel at his passing. But if it was not for his staff and their tremendous capacity, I know JOHN could not have accomplished the things he did as a Senator. They will miss him deeply, but so will I and so will the other Members who got to know him and his staff well over the course of time.

I know all of us are sad today. I am getting to the point where I better quit.

Mr. President, I yield the floor
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, in his capacity as a Senator from the State of Ohio, suggests the absence of a quorum.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Acting in my capacity as a Senator from Ohio, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from Ohio, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:08 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair.

The Senate reassembled at 2:08 p.m., when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. VOINOVICH).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

IN HONOR OF SENATOR JOHN CHAFEE

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today for a few words about Senator JOHN CHAFEE, our wonderful friend who left us early this morning.

I happened to be privileged to know both he and his wife Virginia very well. My heart goes out to her today. I have not been able to contact her because it is pretty difficult. The phone lines are busy, and she is busy. But my wife Nancy and I extend our sympathies and hope we will see her very soon.

As I think about JOHN CHAFEE, I see this mild-mannered person; but then I read about him, and there is a great paradox. If you look at what he did as a patriot, he was a great war hero. He served with the U.S. Marines in Iwo Jima, a very gruesome life experience. Clearly, he had to do some things that aren't so consistent with what we see in a very mild-mannered person.

Believe it or not, after law school at Harvard, he volunteered and went a second time. He went to Korea. Then you would think such a talented man would probably want to be in the front office with generals and admirals. But he was head of a rifle team on the ground. That was JOHN CHAFEE. Yet you could hear him regularly, when he made decisions on foreign affairs issues, talk about our country in a way that you absolutely were sure you knew where his heart, conscience, and mind were. It went way beyond that.

So if anybody were striving to match him, they would have to take a look at the next one, which is his fantastic public service. We all knew him in his last public service career. But many people knew him in the earlier stages, when he was a representative and head of the minority party in the House of Representatives in his State and Governor twice.

I remember vividly when I was elected to the Senate 26 years ago, there were four Senators on the Republican ticket across America who were expected to win. I remember getting a visit in my State then from Richard Nixon, and he had gone to Rhode Island, which was where JOHN CHAFEE was running, who had been Secretary of the Navy and was supposed to be elected; Senator Bartlett of Oklahoma; Senator McClure of Idaho; and myself. He lost.

So he was 2 years younger than I am. It took 2 years for them to realize it, but then they finally elected him. He was here ever since. I can quickly state

the legacy I see after all these years, as can others who have been here 10, 15, 20 years. He had such a variety of things he did that I am not sure the two things for which I know him best will be his true legacy; maybe both will be.

Senator CHAFEE followed in the footsteps of great environmental Senators such as Ed Muskie when he became chair, on our side, of the Environment and Public Works Committee. I do believe, even though most of the legislation for clean air, water, and the like had already been accomplished before he went on, at least the policies were in place, as the occupant of the Chair readily knows in his distinguished career. He quickly became known as a real environmentalist who understood and was practical yet stern in his beliefs. When it came to clean air and clean water, pollution in general, and certainly conservation of open space, there was no peer during his years as chairman and even before that.

Everybody will get up and speak, I am sure, about his distinguished efforts on the health care side. He happened to be on the Finance Committee. When you say the Committee on Finance in the Senate, many people don't think of health care, but they have a lot of health care jurisdiction, including Medicare, Medicaid, and all the tax laws as they relate to health care. There was no stronger advocate for getting more people covered in health care than JOHN CHAFEE and no stronger advocate for the health of our children and the need to make sure we were taking every precaution in getting health care to our children and passing laws that would get it there. He was truly a staunch advocate for healthy Americans and Americans having a better chance to be healthy, to get cured when they are sick, and taken care of when they are sick.

I am sure there are other things he has done of which I am not aware. But if we got a chance to look at his record, it would be mentioned. There will be plenty of opportunity. I thought if I found the Senate open, I would drop by and say thank you, Senator CHAFEE, and thank you to his family for all they did for our country and for the Senate; thanks to his wonderful wife for all the sacrifices she and their wonderful family have made.

I hope, again, we will get to see that family during the next 2 or 3 days. I hope the Senate will honor him appropriately. I hope we take time off and go to his funeral. I am not in charge, but I hope we do that. I think we ought to do that, wherever it is. Whatever we are doing, we ought to take time off. That is just what we ought to do for a real Senator and a real friend.

I yield the floor.

RECESS

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate