stamped Montana legal history, beginning in Shelby, typing his own oil field title reports with five sheets of carbon paper, until he moved the practice out of Great Falls and becoming one of the most creative and innovative and persuasive trial lawyers in Montana’s history.

John was so proud of the many talented lawyers he practiced with. It was recently stated by legal pundits that while it was not required to have practiced with John Hoyt to sit on the Montana Supreme Court, it did not hurt.

John’s current firm, Hoyt and Blewett, is one of the most prominent in Montana. He and his partner, Zander Blewett, have represented Montanans with pride and dignity, and his clashes with the Burlington Northern led to a memorandum of contention. John Hoyt’s practice was Burlington Northern logo and inscribed, for John, with the words, “Any Time is Train Time”.

John had a lifelong passion for agriculture, and established one of the most noted Black Angus ranches in America, the Jolly Roger. He named it after his former comrades in World War II. In the 1990’s two bulls that he developed and raised, Juice and Uncle Jim, became important leaders in carcass quality traits throughout the beef industry. Ironically, John’s last yearling bull sale was just last Wednesday, March 21. His bull sold to all areas of Montana, several states, and into Canada.

John Hoyt was a gentleman. He had acquaintances that ranged from the most humble to the most powerful of his fellow citizens. All were equally valued by John as friends. He was an outdoorsman who trained hunting dogs and loved bird hunting. His fishing trips that he led friends on in Alaska were, at the very least, memorable. His wit and enthusiasm and his energy made him the center of any gathering he was ever part of.

John belonged to the Cascade County Bar Association, the Montana Bar Association, the Montana and the American Trial Lawyers Association. John was also an active member of the Montana and American Angus Associations. He was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Citation by the Montana Trial Lawyers, in recognition of his fifty years of distinguished trial practice in Montana.

John is survived by his wife, Vickie, of the Jolly Roger Ranch in Belt; his son, John Richard (Rosemary) of Washington state; his daughter, Mary Lou (Dennis) Sandretto, and his grandchildren, Rachel, Ariel and David Sandretto, all of Georgia; and his sister, Lois Matsler, of Bloomington, Illinois. He is also survived by countless friends and colleagues and acquaintances throughout his beloved Montana. Montana may never know the likes of John Hoyt again. He left Montana for a better place. His generous financial gifts to the University of Montana, both the Athletic Department and the Law School will sustain his legacy for generations that come afterwards. As John would say: Up with Montana—Go Griz!

TRIBUTE TO DON C. NICKERSON

- Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I’d like to take a few minutes to honor Don C. Nickerson for his outstanding work as United States Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa.

Don Nickerson has been a leader in the state of Iowa for thirty years, starting back when he served as Student Body Vice President and President of the Senior Men’s Honor’s at Iowa State, and as President of the Black Law Students Association at Drake Law School. After graduating from law school, he distinguished himself in community service, private practice, and as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District before being appointed as U.S. Attorney for the district in 1993.

During his years in the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Don became known as a passionate and innovative leader. He established the Quad Cities Branch Office of the U.S. Attorney’s Office—the first ever interagency branch office established in the United States. He also served as Chair of the Health Care Fraud Subcommittee of the Attorney General’s Advisory Committee and worked closely with Attorney General Reno to combat health care fraud.

And Don was a personal mentor to Iowa’s youth because he knew that reaching out to children early in life goes a long way in preventing them from straying in the future. In fact, Don was instrumental in establishing Camp DEFY—a camp and mentorship program to keep kids away from drugs, alcohol and tobacco in Iowa.

But Don has never been content to confine his service to the official duties of the U.S. Attorney. He’s brought his passion for service to the classroom, serving as an Instructor with Drake University Legal Clinic and Des Moines Area Community College. He’s brought it to civic organizations like Partnership for a Drug Free Iowa, the United Way of Central Iowa and the Iowa Commission on the Aging. And he’s brought it to professional organizations like the Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Demand Reduction Subcommittee of which he was chair and the Iowa State and National Bar Associations.

When I think of the work that Don Nickerson has done for our state and our country, I’m reminded of a phrase from the Old Testament: “The Law is a lamp beside the light.” Don Nickerson has worked tirelessly to keep that light shining bright in Iowa and to make our state a safer, more just place to raise our children and live our lives.

Don has served our state with honor and loyalty, and it is my pleasure to offer my deepest gratitude for his contributions.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ARNOLD SPIELBERG

- Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, today I share with you and my colleagues an extraordinary story about an extraordinary American patriot. The gentleman’s name is Arnold Spielberg. Yes, he is the father; but his own fame was earned long before his son’s, as a combat airman of the “Greatest Generation.”

Like many of us during World War II, Mr. Spielberg heard the call of our great Nation and enlisted in the U.S Army Signal Corps, and served Pearl Harbor, in January 1942. After several weeks of training at Fort Thomas and in Louisville, KY, he was transferred to the 422nd Signal Company at the New Orleans Army Air Corps Base near Lake Pontchartrain. Private Spielberg then started the next six months doing close order drill and teaching Morse code to unwilling recruits. He recalled that in an effort to get the attention of these unwilling recruits, he would send them “colorful” jokes and stories to keep their attention. It worked.

In May 1942, he boarded a troop ship in Charleston, SC and 2 months later, disembarked in Karachi, India. Once in India, he was stationed at the Leslie Wilson Muslim Hostel working at the Karachi Classification Depot. His job was to essentially open up shipments of war materiel, aircraft parts mostly, check them against the technical manuals to figure out which aircraft they went to and label them. While this was important work, Mr. Spielberg wanted to be closer to the action and asked his Commanding Officer for a transfer to the 490th Bombardment Squadron. Medium. He got it and was on his way.

Corporal Spielberg tackled his new assignment with enthusiasm and vigor. He set up the communications system that serviced the control tower for planes practicing strafing and bombing missions on an island in the Indian Ocean. He also started to train as a radio gunner and learned all about the B-25’s, the famous Mitchell bomber, communication equipment, inside and out.

Because of his hard work and diligence, Corporal Spielberg quickly earned the rank of Master Sergeant and the reputation as an expert signalsman. He designed a high gain, bi-directional rhombic antenna, using giant bamboo poles for support. Their signal was as clear as “Ma Bell.” He also tackled the somewhat menacing problem of electric power. The base power was supplied by a large British diesel generator that produced 250 volts at 50 cycles. The radio equipment ran on 115
Forces. His untiring efforts and initiative cian. M/Sgt Spielberg originated numerous to 16 October 1944 as communications techni- ter Sergeant Arnold M. Spielberg, 15088831: Washington, DC, 22 September 1943, the citation that read:

"...brought the wounded."

"...to resupply the troops..."

"...and airmen used their common sense..."

"...to make do..." when faced with chal- lenging situations of all kinds. We didn’t always do it "by the book," but we succeeded.

Master Sergeant Spielberg also rede- signed some electrical circuitry because of a critical safety flaw that he discovered. He immediately rewired the unit and distributed to the entire transmitter-user community.

Master Sergeant Spielberg also had the opportunity to fly combat mis- sions. As the Japanese began their in- vasion of India with a focus on Imphal, to resupply the troops and..."