

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers. She gave countless hours to charitable organizations domestically and abroad, including the Manna Food Bank in North Carolina and as a charter member of the Ecuadorian Rivers Institute in Ecuador. She received various awards for her volunteer work and was bestowed the North Carolina Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service in 1994.

Just as she did with the Peace Corps, Laurel's work over 7 years at CDC left a legacy of healthier people around the world. She inspired her coworkers to make a difference in global health, and all who knew her were struck by her compassion and the lasting contributions she made to children living in poverty around the world.●

TRIBUTE TO HAROLD "SHORTY" DORN

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, Albert Einstein once said, "It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge." I wish today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of an Oregonian who devoted his career to that supreme art and, in doing so, made a priceless contribution to the field of journalism.

Harold "Shorty" Dorn passed away in Reston, VA, last week at 83 years of age. Like countless others of his "greatest generation," Shorty proudly wore the uniform of our country during World War II. He entered the U.S. Marine Corps in 1943 and served in the Pacific until the end of the war.

Upon returning home, Shorty earned his college degree and began nearly four decades of service as a college professor. Generations of Oregonians are fortunate because the vast majority of Shorty's career was spent at two of my State's outstanding institutions of higher learning—10 years at Eastern Oregon University in LaGrande and 23 years in the Department of Journalism at Oregon State University in Corvallis.

Professor Dorn was admired and respected by his students for his intelligence, his integrity, his warm humor, his trademark quips, and for the fact that he genuinely cared about them and their future. Shorty's commitment to his students did not end upon their graduation, and many continued to call on him for advice and counsel as they moved on in their careers.

Just as Shorty was devoted to his students, he was also devoted to his family—to his wife Ethel and to his two daughters, Jenna and Lorah. Upon retirement from Oregon State University, Shorty and Ethel moved to Reston, VA, so he could be closer to his daughters, who were both building distinguished careers of service. He also discovered that one of the best parts of retirement was the time he had to be a wonderful grandfather to his two grandsons, Jon and Ben.

Mr. President, it was once said that, "In a completely rational society, the best of us would be teachers and the rest of us would have to settle for something less." Shorty Dorn was certainly one of the best of us, and I extend my condolences to his family and friends.●

IN HONOR OF THE HEARTLAND HONOR FLIGHT

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, today I honor veterans from my home State who are taking part in the first Nebraska Heartland Honor Flight to visit the National World War II Memorial.

The National World War II Memorial is a fitting tribute to those remarkable Americans who served in the deadliest conflict in human history. From the beaches of Normandy to the shores of Iwo Jima, these veterans served with courage, honor, and selflessness. In addition to their service, these same veterans returned home to reinvigorate the United States, producing what is still the largest and most vibrant economy in the world.

Soon after President Clinton authorized the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish a World War II memorial, a comprehensive national fundraising campaign began under the leadership of former Senator Bob Dole, the national chairman and a World War II veteran from Kansas. During this time, as Governor of the State of Nebraska, I realized it was imperative to secure funding as soon as possible so that a memorial could be built in time for our veterans to view it. Therefore, on June 1, 1998, I presented a check to Senator Bob Dole in the amount of \$52,900 for every Nebraskan who served in World War II. Subsequently, every State that donated money followed our guideline.

There are now close to 14,000 World War II veterans living in the State of Nebraska. Unfortunately, nearly 2,100 of these brave servicemembers pass away each year. Many of these veterans have not been able to visit the memorial, which was dedicated by President George W. Bush on May 29, 2004, as they confront increasing difficulties with traveling due to their age. However, the Honor Flight Program has proven to be a reliable and capable partner in helping alleviate any obstacles veterans may face in traveling to Washington, DC. The Honor Flight Program, started in 2005 by retired Air Force captain and physician's assistant Earl Morse, now has 69 "hubs" in 30 States and has established a goal of transporting 12,000 World War II veterans to view the memorial in 2008.

Today, I am proud to say that the Heartland Honor Flight, Nebraska's own program, will conduct its inaugural flight, transporting more than

100 Nebraska World War II veterans to our Nation's Capital to visit the National World War II Memorial. I am greatly appreciative to the businesses and individuals who have contributed to this cause and am especially grateful to Dan and Cara Whitney, who provided nearly all the funding required for the cost of this initial flight.

This will be an emotional and reflective occasion for these veterans who look upon their service with deserved pride and remember those who died making the ultimate sacrifice for our country in the name of freedom. This memorial was long overdue for those who served our Nation in World War II, and I am confident it will become an enduring symbol in remembering the determination and sacrifice of our country's "greatest generation."●

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL NEIL SMART

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I wish today to pay tribute to BG Neil Smart, former battalion commander in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II and Director of the Veterans Administration Regional Office in Montgomery, AL. General Smart's service to this nation was long and distinguished.

Smart was commissioned a second lieutenant in the ROTC department of the University of Alabama in 1938. He left Active Duty as a lieutenant colonel and continued to serve in the National Guard. After General Smart completed his military service, he continued to serve the Nation's veterans in his work with the Veterans' Administration. He led the VA in Alabama in an exemplary manner from 1958 to 1974.

General Smart also loved to share stories of World War II. He felt this was a legacy his generation should leave younger generations. He really liked to tell the story about an unscheduled inspection he and his battalion had to undergo during World War II. The inspectors were GEN Dwight Eisenhower, GEN Omar Bradley, and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

This 94-year-old was also a key fundraiser in the efforts to build a memorial honoring the American effort in World War II. He was scheduled to visit the World War II Memorial with an Honor Flight group from the Prattville and Montgomery area of Alabama this past Saturday. My wife and I were there at the memorial to meet this group of heroes. When the group arrived, we were told the sad news that General Smart had died just hours before their departure.

So, Mr. President it is my honor to pay tribute to this great Alabamian and American. He served his State and Nation well.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:36 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by