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the Bronze Star, the Korean Service Medal, and the United Nations Medal with two battle stars in the Korean war.

After being honorably discharged in June 1953, with the rank of captain, he returned to his native Georgia and began to build a life for himself and his family.

In 1996, Joe was elected to the Georgia Legislature, serving District 4 in southeast Georgia.

He went on to represent that district for a total of 24 years, 24 years in a position where he set the standard for being responsive to his constituents.

Although fiercely proud of being a Democrat, and proud of his conservative credentials, Joe was not a partisan.

His loyalty was to a better Georgia for all citizens.

This came before party or politics.

He loved nothing more than finding a way to achieve his goals while obscuring the source of the credit.

But we must give credit where credit is due, and the state of Georgia is marked in many ways by his legacy of accomplishments.

The highway running through Claxton to Interstate 16, a section of which now bears his name, was expanded to four lanes as a result of his efforts.

Joe was behind the construction of the Claxton Regional Youth Development Center, an activity employing 30 people.

The determined perseverance of Joe Kennedy was also behind the Southeast Detention/Probation Center, the Ogeechee Technical Institute, and the Claxton Seniors Citizens Park—institutions which provide a service to Georgians and which employ hundreds of our citizens.

And Georgia Southern University obtained its university status in great part as a result of Joe's persistent efforts to improve the higher education opportunities that would be available to southeastern Georgia students.

The list of his accomplishments is long, and they are, indeed, the visible reminders of his legacy.

But to the people who knew him, and who loved him, those are not the things that will bring a wistful smile to our faces when we recall his memory.

As a young man, Joe soon earned a reputation for being a man of his word.

As he rose in power and influence, that never changed.

To Joe, honesty was simply the way to do business, and he would never sacrifice the trust he had earned for some short-term advantage.

Joe did not win every election he entered, but he did win the hearts of the people who knew him best, and his performance during his race for lieutenant governor validated the high opinion we had of him.

Slick out-of-state consultants with briefcases full of dirty tricks never worked for Joe Kennedy.

He was straightforward to supporters and opponents.

After the polls closed, Joe accepted the decision of the voters with the same quiet dignity that has been characteristic of his rich, extraordinary life.

He still had his integrity and he still had a passion to serve his fellow Georgians.

Joe went on to occupy other high positions in the Georgia State government, and to his last days he did what he loved most: talking to people about public policy issues and finding out how best to solve the political problems that confront us all.

He brought that enthusiasm to his last position in government as a member of the Georgia Board of Regents.

How fitting it was to learn that on the day that God had decided was his time, Joe was speaking to the downtown Rotary Club of Statesboro.

He was doing what he loved right to the end.

He will be dearly, dearly missed.

God bless you, Joe Kennedy. To his beautiful wife Lalah, children Debra, Cliff, and Adam, to all of his in-laws, grandchildren, and relatives, thank you for sharing him with us.

TRIBUTE TO WESLEY E. BISGAARD

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 1998

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, on August 6th of this year the State of California and specifically the communities of Imperial County within my district suffered a great loss with the death of Mr. Wesley E. Bisgaard. Throughout his life, Wes was dedicated to his family, church and community. I rise today to recognize his remarkable dedication and contributions to all of us.

I met Wes in 1979 during my first campaign for Congress when he was serving as the Republican Party chair for Imperial County. I still remember the look in his eye when he first shook my hand, it was as if to say "this is what I have to work with?" From that day forward, he was always ready to lend me a hand and offer advice that he gleaned from years of working through the various systems of government, whether it was the State of California or the U.S. Congress. One thing about Wes, he never left you wondering what his opinion was.

Wes led a remarkable life that reads like a John Steinbeck novel. After the dust bowl the Bisgaard family moved from their farm in North Dakota to California where they eventually began a new life in Holtville, California, where they remain today. During World War II, while Wes worked for Douglas Aircraft, he met and married Mildred "Millie" Eppleman. In 1952, Wes and Millie, along with their two children, Karen and Christopher, moved to Imperial Valley to join his brother and once again take up his first love: farming. The Bisgaard Brothers farmed 1,000 acres of alfalfa, lettuce, cotton, sugar beets, barley, cabbage, and later wheat for seed.

Agriculture is the mainstay of not only Imperial Valley, but California as well and Wes played a very active role through his memberships on many local and state farming advisory boards and commissions. In fact, when he finally retired at the age of 79 he was the Manager of the Imperial County Farm Bureau, completing a 45 year career in the industry.

Wes and his wife Millie lived their lives with a strong work ethic, unimpeachable ethical standards, a central place for God in their lives, an abiding sense of charity towards others and a compelling degree of commitment to the wider community. Those of us lucky enough to know Wes will forever be grateful for that opportunity. Imperial County and the farmers there are better off today because of his dedication and commitment to his community: for that, all of us are grateful.

S. 505 VIOLATES U.S. INTERNATIONAL TREATY OBLIGATIONS

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 1998

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, recently, the House passed S. 505, the Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act. Provisions were included in this legislation relating to fairness in music licensing. Some have expressed concerns over these provisions.

The Congress has been advised by the Secretary of Commerce that the fairness in music licensing reform legislation violates U.S. international treaty obligations. The United States Trade Representative, the Register of Copyrights, and the Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks have all joined with the Secretary of Commerce in voicing concerns over these provisions. They believe that the exemptions included in Section 202 of Title II would "violate our obligations under the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works." As a consequence, it could result in the WTO finding that United States has violated its multilateral treaty obligations. Adequate attention was not given to these concerns.

WORLD POPULATION AWARENESS WEEK 1998

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 1998

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call World Population Awareness Week 1998 to the attention of my colleagues. October 24–31 marks the annual celebration of World Population Awareness Week. More than 300 family planning, environmental, educational, community and service organizations in 61 countries are co-sponsoring the week in an effort to raise awareness of the need for universal voluntary family planning.

I call the Governor of Maryland's, the Honorable Paris Glendening, proclamation to the attention of my colleagues.

WORLD POPULATION AWARENESS WEEK PROCLAMATION—1998

Whereas world population stands today at more than 5.9 billion and increase by more than 80 million per year, with virtually all of this growth in the least developed countries;

Whereas the consequences of rapid population growth are not limited to the developing world but extend to all nations and to all people, including every citizen of the State of Maryland concerned for human dignity, freedom and democracy, as well as for the impact on the global economy;

Whereas 1.3 billion people—more than the combined population of Europe and North Africa—live in absolute poverty on the equivalent of one U.S. dollar or less a day;

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