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## *Senate*

# Commemorating the life of former Senator William V. Roth, Jr.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I am pleased to join my colleague, Senator Biden, in offering this resolution commemorating Senator Roth. I thank Senator Specter for his willingness to let me slip in ahead of him.

I recall any number of times visiting the Senate when I was Governor. I have had the privilege of testifying before the Senate Finance Committee that Senator Roth chaired. I remember revisiting him in his office in the Hart Building from time to time.

It is not uncommon when you walk into the office of Senators that you see their pictures on the wall. There were, I am sure, a few pictures of Senator Roth and his family and others on the wall of his office. It is less common to walk into a Senate office today as a person who succeeded in a case where you ran against an incumbent, as I did against Senator Roth, and find the photograph of the Senator who was defeated, in this case in my race against Bill Roth.

We have a tradition in Delaware called "Return Day." Every Thursday a few days after the election of even numbered years, winners and losers gather in our county seat in southern Delaware, Georgetown, DE, and have a great breakfast at the Delaware Technical Community College. Then the winners and losers ride together in a horse-drawn carriage throughout the streets of Georgetown. Thousands of people come from all over the State to cheer those who won. The town crier comes out on the balcony of the White House in Georgetown in the circle and calls out the results from the election 2 days earlier.

On that Thursday after the election in November of 2000, I rode in a horse-drawn carriage with Senator Roth and members of his family, and some members of my own family. It was an open-air carriage. It was a beautiful day. I asked if he would like to stand. We stood. The driver and the horses were ahead of us as we started down the parade route sitting there with our hands on the seat behind the driver.

I said to him: Why don't we do something else? Let me hold your hand. I held his hand up in the air as one does at the end of a prizefight holding up the hand of a winner. We went through the entire parade that day holding up the hand of the winner who won so many elections during 34 years as if there really wasn't a loser but only a winner in this situation—a real winner. That picture of us holding hands is still in my office today. It is a great picture.It tells a lot about the spirit of politics in Delaware and about the respect for Senator Roth as well.

Senator Biden talked about some of the legislative accomplishments and the work that Senator Roth did with respect to NATO and the reorganization of the Federal Government.

While those issues are important and what he did legislatively with respect to NATO and others is important, in Delaware, a State with about 800,000 people, you also have an extraordinary opportunity to help people with problems in their lives. For folks who are trying to grapple with the IRS on issues that need to be resolved or on Social Security issues and veterans issues, you can quite literally every year change the course of about 1,000 or 2,000 families who come to your office for help.

That day as we went through Georgetown, DE, on "Return Day" in the parade, I am sure Senator Roth got bigger cheers than I did. They were from Democrats and Republicans and Independents. In part, those cheers were the result of the kind of staff he put around him. He hired excellent people. They set the gold standard for constituent service in our State. If you were a Democrat or Republican or Independent and you called his office for help, you got it. They did a terrific job.

Bill Roth understood that we are servants of the people. They pay our salaries. We have an obligation to give our very best effort. He made sure that was what his staff provided—and he provided it during the 34 years he served in the Congress.

I said to him after the election: You set the gold standard. The challenge for me and my staff is to try very hard to match that standard. Maybe eventually, through new technology and training and services experience, we can even exceed it.

I have won statewide in Delaware 11 times. I have been fortunate 11 times. I have run against very good people but none more decent than Bill Roth.

At his memorial service at the University of Delaware a week after his death, we were joined by Senator Specter and others. Hundreds of thousands of people came from all over our State. One of the speakers said Bill Roth was a gentleman and a gentle man—a gentleman and a gentle man. He treated his staff, the folks who work in the cafeteria here, and the folks who run the elevators here with the same kind of respect as with his colleagues and his peers. I doubt that you can every day find that in a person who rises to the kind of power he enjoyed in this city and in this country. It says a whole lot about the man he was.

One of the persons who spoke at Senator Roth's memorial service was his former chief of staff, John Duncan, who is now Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs at the Department of the Treasury. I ask unanimous consent that excerpts of the very eloquent comments of John Duncan be printed in the RECORD. He said it certainly better than I could. It is the kind of tribute that belongs in the Congressional Record.