ALBANY, NEW YORK

June 1, 1998

3:01 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

SENATOR CHARLES FUSCHILLO, Acting President

STEVEN M. BOGGESS, Secretary

P R O C E E D I N G S

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The Senate will come to order. I ask everyone present to please rise and repeat the Pledge of Allegiance.

(The assemblage repeated the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.)

In the absence of clergy, may we bow our heads in a moment of silence.

(A moment of silence was observed.)

Reading of the Journal.

THE SECRETARY: In Senate, Sunday, May 31st. The Senate met pursuant to adjournment. The Journal of Saturday, May 30th, was read and approved. On motion, Senate adjourned.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Without objection, the Journal stands approved as read.

Presentation of petitions.

Messages from the Assembly.

Messages from the Governor.

Reports of standing committees.

Reports of select committees.

Communications and reports from state officers.

Motions and resolutions.

Senator Meier:

SENATOR MEIER: Mr. President, on page number 30, I offer the following amendments to Calendar Number 864, Print Number 6646-A, and ask that the said bill retain its place on the Third Reading Calendar.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: So ordered.

SENATOR MEIER: On behalf of Senator Libous, please remove the sponsor's star from Calendar Number 1 and Calendar Number 332.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: So ordered.

SENATOR MEIER: On behalf of Senator Wright, please place a sponsor's star on Calendar Number 46.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill will be starred.

SENATOR MEIER: Mr. President, I wish to call up Senator Libous' bill, Print

Number 1920, recalled from the Assembly which is now at the desk.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: By Senator Libous, Senate Print 1920, an act to amend the Vehicle and Traffic Law.

SENATOR MEIER: Mr. President, I now move to reconsider the vote by which this bill was passed.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll on reconsideration.

(The Secretary called the roll on reconsideration.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 37.

SENATOR MEIER: Mr. President, I now offer the following amendments.

SENATOR FUSCHILLO: Amendments are received.

SENATOR MEIER: Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Farley.

SENATOR FARLEY: Thank you, Mr. President.

I have a number of amendments to be offered to the following Third Reading Calendar bills:

Senator Hannon, on page 10, Calendar 342, Senate Print 6057;

Senator Velella, page 18, Calendar 612, Senate Print 577-B;

Senator Rath, on page 19, Calendar 629, Senate Print 4850;

Senator Stafford, on page 19, Calendar 631, Senate Print 6109-A;

Senator Maltese, on page 36, Calendar 936, Senate Print 7021;

Senator Libous, on page 38, Calendar 958, Senate Print 6145-A;

Senator Alesi, on page 38, Calendar 959, Senate Print 6191-A;

Senator Cook, page 38, Calendar 960, Senate Print 6514;

Senator Balboni, page 43, Calendar 1031, Senate Print 7198;

Senator Kuhl, on page 50, Calendar 1118, Senate Print 6756;

Also for Senator Kuhl, on page 50, Calendar 1121, Senate Print 6828-A; and

Senator LaValle, on page 54, Calendar 1169, Senate Print 7135, and I ask that all of these bills retain their place on the Third Reading Calendar.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Amendments are received and the bills will retain their place on the Third Reading Calendar.

Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Are there any substitutions to be made?

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: No.

SENATOR SKELOS: If we could move on to resolutions, Mr. President, I believe there are two privileged resolutions at the desk sponsored by Senator Libous. I'd ask that the titles be read and move for their immediate adoption.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: By Senator Libous, Legislative Resolution commending the Special Olympians upon the occasion of completing the Capital District Leg of the New

York State Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run at the Opening Ceremonies marking the 18th Annual Legislative Disability Awareness Day, Wednesday, June 3rd, 1998, at the State Capitol.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Question is on the resolution. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response. )

The resolutions are adopted.

Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Mr. President -- please read the second resolution.

THE SECRETARY: By Senator Libous, Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor George E. Pataki to proclaim Wednesday, June 3rd, 1998 as Legislative Disability Awareness Day at the State Capitol in Albany, New York.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Question is on the resolution. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response. )

The ayes have it.

Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Mr. President, there are two privileged resolutions at the desk sponsored by Senator Maltese. I ask that they be read in their entirety and move for their immediate adoption.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: By Senator Maltese, Legislative Resolution congratulating Christ the King Regional High School's Women's Varsity Basketball Team and Coach Vincent Cannizzaro on their outstanding season and upon winning their ninth straight New York State High School Championship.

WHEREAS, excellence and success in competitive sports can be achieved only through strenuous practice, team play and team spirit, nurtured by dedicated coaching and strategic planning;

Athletic competition enhances the moral and physical development of the

young people of this state, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, imparting a desire for success and developing a sense of fair play and competition;

The Royals are the New York State High School Champions, and

The athletic talent displayed by this team is due in great part to the efforts of Coach Vincent Cannizzaro, a skilled and inspirational tutor, respected for his ability to develop potential into excellence;

The teams's overall record is outstanding, and the teams members were loyally and enthusiastically supported by family, fans, friends and the community at large;

The hallmarks of Christ the King Regional High School Women's Varsity BVasketball Team, from the opening game of the season to participation in the championship, were a sisterhood of athletic ability, of good sportsmanship, of honor and of scholarship, demonstrating that these team players are

second to none;

Athletically and academically, the team members have proven themselves to be an unbeatable combination of talents, reflecting favorably on their school;

Coach Vincent Cannizzaro has done a superb job in guiding, molding, and inspiring the team members toward their goals;

Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment, and Coach Vincent Cannizzaro and his outstanding athletes have clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of their school;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the Christ the King Regional High School Women's Varsity Basketball Team, its members, Mary Bullock, Sue Bird, Jessica Burch, Mary Cacic, Patricia Tubridy, Gillian McGovern, Clare Droesh, Crystal Gadsden, Antoinette Siatta, Amy Mulligan, Amy Dawson, Toni-Renee Roker, Nancy Fucci, Maria Edwards, Kathryn Fowler and Josephine Alohan and Coach Vincent Cannizzaro

on their outstanding season and upon winning their ninth straight New York State High School Championship; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Elizabeth Lawlor, Christ the King principal; Athletic Director Sister Mary Anne Kollmer; Coach Vincent Cannizzaro, team assistants Bob Mackey and Jill Cook and Christ the King Regional High School Women's Basketball Team.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Maltese.

SENATOR MALTESE: The resolution just read and a resolution that will be read shortly exemplifies a spirit of togetherness, good sportsmanship and fair play that is certainly representative and exemplified by this fine young women's basketball team.

We have achieved for the ninth straight year a state championship. We have achieved in the past national championships. One of the players on a prior team, Chamique Holdsclaw, has been rated one of the best

players and the best player, girls' basket ball players in the country.

To be commended in the resolution that will be read is a young woman, Sue Bird, who has been also ranked as the top girls' basketball player in the country, and she is present here today with her teammates.

Also present is Coach Vinnie Cannizzaro, who has molded together an already fine team and put it together and provided the leadership and dedication to bring it to the state championships, so that they have just finished an undefeated season 27-0. That has been repeated over and over again in past teams against some of the best teams in the country, not just in Queens or New York City or locally.

Assisted by Bob Mackey and Jill Cook, assisted by a good team spirit on behalf of all the teammates and assisted by Sister Mary Anne Kollmer, our team supporter and recreation director, and certainly by also accompanying the team Delores St. Louis who exemplifies the parents and the friends and the supporters of this fine team.

I, certainly as a Senator representing all these young people, I commend them not only for their excellence at play, not only for their championships, repeated championships, but for their reputation of fair play, good sportsmanship and teamwork. They represent the finest in young women in America today, and I'm proud to support both these resolutions and commend the young women who are present here as well as the coaches and Sue Bird who is present here today.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Thank you, Senator Maltese.

Question is on the resolution. All -- Senator Onorato.

SENATOR ONORATO: Mr. President, I rise to join my colleague, Senator Maltese, in commending Christ the King on their outstanding achievement. As the Senator representing Sue Bird, for her outstanding achievement, I am exceedingly proud having gone to Long Island City High School, the public high school, who almost became the Long Island City/Queens championship. We never quite made it.

I'm extremely proud that a Queens team and one of my constituents is a member of the team who not only won the city championship but the entire state championship and for all of her teammates who join with her in this outstanding achievement, her coaches and all who attach to this, I extend my heartfelt gratitude that you made us very, very proud, especially those of us from Queens County.

God bless you all.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Question is on the resolution. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response. )

The resolution is adopted. The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: By Senator Maltese, Legislative Resolution honoring Sue Bird in recognition of her outstanding achievements in women's basketball.

WHEREAS, excellence and success in competitive sports can be achieved only

through strenuous practice, team play and team spirit, nurtured by dedicated coaching and strategic planning;

Athletic competition enhances the moral and physical development of the young people of this state, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the value of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, imparting a desire for success and developing a sense of fair play and competition;

Sue Bird, Player of the Year for Christ the King Lady Royals, is considered one of the best women's basketball players in the country;

At five feet nine inches, Sue Bird has been named to the Tri-State All-Stars for the third time and she is this year's Most Valuable Player. She was also named to the Parade Magazine's All-America first team;

Together with her talented teammates, Sue Bird was the cornerstone of a team that won the school's ninth straight Catholic state federation title, while accomplishing a perfect season of 27 and zero;

For her multi-talented contributions to winning the state Catholic school title, in which she scored a game high 29 points, Sue Bird was named the Times News weekly Crown Trophy Athlete of the Week;

During her career at Christ the King, Sue Bird averaged 18.6 points per game, 5.4 assists and 7.7 steals per game for the Lady Royals;

Recruited by the University of Connecticut for her exceptional athletic skills, Sue Bird is expected to start and make an impact in her Freshman year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to honor Sue Bird in recognition of her outstanding achievements in women's basketball, noting the significance of her efforts and achievements and expressing heartfelt confidence in the response to the challenges of a promising future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sue Bird, Elizabeth Lawlor, principal of Christ the King Regional High

School, Sister Mary Anne Kollmer, Athletic Director, Coach Vincent Cannizzaro and Team Assistants Bob Mackey and Jill Cook.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Maltese.

SENATOR MALTESE: Mr. President, I've already spoken on behalf of Christ the King.

I would ask the President's indulgence in asking the members of the team, Coach Cannizzaro, Coach Mackey and Sue Bird to stand in support of this resolution.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: O.K. Will everybody please rise. Let me offer on behalf of the colleagues and members of the Senate, my congratulations on your accomplishment.

(Applause)

Question is on the resolution. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response. )

The resolution is adopted.

SENATOR SKELOS: Mr.

President.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Could we please have a reading of the non-controversial calendar.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 396, by Senator Goodman, Senate Print 6041, an act to amend the Real Property Tax Law, in relation to tax exemption.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll. )

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 48, nays 1, Senator Leichter recorded in the negative.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

The bill is now passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 403, by Senator Lack, Senate Print 5162-B, an act to amend the Estates, Powers and Trusts Law and the General Obligations Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect September 1st.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 49.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 411, by Senator Skelos.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Lay aside for the day.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 602, by Senator Leibell, Senate Print 3674-A, an act to amend the Public Authorities Law, in relation to powers of the state of New York Mortgage Agency.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 6.

This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 743, by Senator Marcellino, Senate Print 6305, an act in relation to authorizing the city of Glen Cove, county of Nassau.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2.

This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 746, by -

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Home rule message at the desk. O.K.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 746, by the Assembly Committee on Rules, Assembly Print 10,677, an act authorizing the city of Ithaca.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Home rule message at the desk. Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 764, by Senator LaValle, Senate Print 4233, an act to amend the General Municipal Law, in relation to granting additional points.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2.

This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 803, by Senator Holland, Senate Print 233-A, an act to amend the Domestic Relations Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2.

This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 812, by Senator Holland, Senate Print 6325, an act to amend Chapter 942 of the Laws of 1983.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 4. There act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 835, by Senator Volker, Senate Print 4478, an act to amend the Criminal Procedure Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 873, by member of the Assembly Connelly, Assembly Print 9208, an act to amend the Education Law, in relation to the eligibility of Vietnam and Persian Gulf veterans.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 874, by member of the Assembly Mazzarelli, Assembly Print 10370, an act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to adding the Commissioner of Mental Health.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2.

This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 882, by Senator Trunzo, Senate Print 4435-A, an act to amend the Retirement and Social Security Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2.

This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 893, by Senator Trunzo, Senate Print 6977, an act to amend the Education Law, in relation to the establishment of a qualified governmental access.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 894, by Senator Trunzo, Senate Print 6978, an act to amend the Education Law, in relation to the election of a retired teacher member.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 895, by Senator Trunzo, Senate Print 6979, an act to amend the Retirement and Social Security Law, in relation to applications.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 952, by Senator Maziarz.

SENATOR SKELOS: Lay aside for the day.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Lay aside.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 962, by Senator LaValle, Senate Print 6947-A, an act authorizing apportionment of New York State transportation aid to the Miller Place Union Free School District.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: There is a local fiscal impact note at the desk. Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 964, by the Assembly Committee on Rules, Assembly Print 10727-A, an act authorizing the Phelps-Clifton Springs Central School District.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2.

This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 965, by Senator Saland, Senate Print 7215-A, an act changing the name of the Copake-Taconic Hills Central School District.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2.

This act shall take effect on the 30th day.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO:

The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 966, by Senator Stafford, Senate Print 7422, an act legalizing, validating, ratifying and confirming acts.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: There is a local fiscal impact note at the desk. Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 51.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 981, by Senator Lack, Senate Print 6704-A, an act to amend Chapter 689 of the Laws of 1993.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 51.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 998, by Senator Saland, Senate Print 3442, an act to amend the Domestic Relations Law, in relation to orders of protection.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of November.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 51.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1006, by Senator DeFrancisco, Senate Print 7067, an act to amend Chapter 889 of the Laws of 1986.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 51.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1020, by Senator Skelos, Senate Print 6445, an act authorizing the assessor of the county of Nassau.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 49, nays 2, Senators Cook and Dollinger recorded in the

negative.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1027, by Senator Farley, Senate Print 6784-A, an act in relation to legalizing and validating action of the town of Halfmoon.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: There is a home rule message at the desk. Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 51.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1029, by Senator Balboni, Senate Print 7151, an act authorizing the assessor of the county of Nassau to accept an application.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 49, nays two, Senators Cook and Dollinger recorded in the negative.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1041, by Senator Seward, Senate Print 3585-A, an act to amend the Energy Law, in relation to transfer of certain functions.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 17. This act shall take effect October 1st of 1998.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 51.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1097, by Senator Goodman, Senate Print 756-A, an act to amend the Transportation Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 51.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1098, by Senator Goodman, Senate Print 757, an act to amend the Transportation Law, in relation to increasing penalties.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of November.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 51.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1114, by Senator Kuhl, Senate Print 4176, an act to amend the Agriculture and Markets Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 50, nays 1, Senator Cook recorded in the negative.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIEER: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1177, by Senator Fuschillo, Senate Print 7494, an act to amend the Highway Law, in relation

to designating a portion of the state highway system as the Norman J. Levy Memorial Highway.

SENATOR SKELOS: Lay aside temporarily.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Lay the bill aside temporarily.

Senator Skelos, that completes the reading of the non-controversial calendar.

SENATOR SKELOS: Mr. President, if we could go to the controversial calendar commencing with Calendar 1177.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Clerk will read the controversial calendar commencing with number 1177.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1177, by Senator Fuschillo, Senate Print 7494, an act to amend the Highway Law, in relation to designating a portion of the state highway system as the Norman J. Levy Memorial Highway.

SENATOR PATERSON: Explanation.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Senator Fuschillo.

SENATOR FUSCHILLO: Thank you, Mr. President.

It's truly an honor for me to rise on the first occasion with my first bill coming to the floor. Mrs. Levy, Joy Levy is over to my right, and it's really an honor for me to put a bill in that will carry on probably one of the greatest legislators ever in the history of the state of New York, my friend, my mentor, my neighbor, the late Senator Norman J. Levy.

This bill will, in a ceremony of dedication rename in his memory Meadow brook Parkway which goes right through the neighborhood of Norman Levy, forever, and Norman Levy's name will forever be on the Meadowbrook Parkway.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the

roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 52.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: The bill is passed.

Senator Bruno, that completes the reading of the controversial calendar.

SENATOR BRUNO: Mr. President, can we at this time return to motions and resolutions.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Yes.

SENATOR BRUNO: And I believe there is a privileged resolution at the desk.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Yes, there is.

SENATOR BRUNO: I would ask that it be read in its entirety and move for its immediate adoption.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Secretary will read the resolution in its entirety.

SENATOR BRUNO: By Senator Bruno, and all members of the Senate, Legislative Resolution honoring the life and paying tribute to the memory of Senator Norman J. Levy.

WHEREAS, it is the sense of this Legislative Body that the quality and character of life in the great state of New York is indelibly enriched by the faithful and caring efforts of those who devote their life to public service; and

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that this Legislative Body mourns the death of Senator Norman J. Levy of Merrick, New York who represented the 8th Senatorial District, Nassau County, until his death at age 67 on Saturday, February 7, 1998;

This Legislative Body is moved today to extend a grateful tribute in remembrance of a special friend who unselfishly committed his life to public service and the needs of others;

Born in Rockville Centre, New York on January 24, 1931, Norman Levy attended elementary school in Lynbrook and Malverne and graduated from the Milford School, Milford, Connecticut. In 1952 he graduated from Bucknell University;

From 1954 through 1956, Senator Levy served in the United States Army where he

was assigned to the First Army Headquarters as a Chief Legal Clerk, Army Staff Judge Advocate;

Prior to entering the Army, he attended the University of Pennsylvania Law School and graduated from Brooklyn Law School in 1958. Later that year he was admitted to the New York State bar;

On August 1st, 1958, Senator Levy became the first law intern of the Nassau County district attorney's office and was appointed assistant district attorney of Nassau County on January 12, 1959. In September 1962, he was appointed chief of the Nassau County Rackets Bureau, investigating and prosecuting organized crime, serving in that capacity until December 31, 1970 when he resigned to take office as a New York State Senator;

In January 1971, Senator Levy was appointed chairman of the Senate Committee on Villages. In January 1973, he served as chairman of the Senate Committee on Labor where he compiled a distinguished record as an advocate for working men and women, sponsoring

laws increasing health and safety standards, increasing unemployment insurance, workers' compensation benefits and disability benefits;

In 1982, Senator Levy was appointed chairman of the Senate Committee on Transportation, responsible for legislation dealing with every facet of transportation including but not limited to mass transit, highway, bridge and traffic safety, and financing. The same year he was appointed chairman of the Joint Legislative Commission on Critical Transportation Choices, charged with the research and development of policy issues on long-term transportation problems and solutions;

Senator Levy, a nationally recognized legislative leader in the field of transportation, sponsored the first in the nation mandatory seat belt law and many of the state's anti-DWI, school bus and highway safety laws. He was the chief architect and prime mover of New York State's highway and bridge rebuilding programs which continue to repair rebuild and expand the highway and bridge infrastructure;

Senator Levy, who recognized the importance of a safe and reliable mass transit system, was appointed chief legislative advocate for the Capital Improvement Programs of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which rebuilds the metropolitan region's rail, bus and subway system;

In November 1996, Senator Levy was overwhelmingly elected to his 14th consecutive term as a New York State Senator, returning him to the office in which he so ably served his constituents and all people of the state of New York with great dignity, unerring dedication and incisive wisdom;

Norman J. Levy is survived by his beloved wife Joy Saslow Levy;

Rare indeed is the impressive conviction, dedication and commitment shown by an individual for the benefit of his community and fellow man such as that which New York State Senator Norman J. Levy demonstrated throughout his life and distinguished career; and

WHEREAS, this Legislative Body

wishes to give official recognition and approbation to an individual who served his community and state for so many years in so many ways; Senator Norman Levy, quick of wit and determined in his beliefs, will be deeply missed for his considerable energy and sage leadership. His memory will continue to shine forth as a beacon for all who aspire to a life of purposeful fulfillment in service to the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations in grateful tribute to the memory of Senator Norman Levy, to celebrate his life and honor his accomplishments and in doing so to dedicate ourselves anew to the cause of the people he served; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to his wife, Joy Saslow Levy.

ACTING PRESIDENT MEIER: Senator Bruno.

SENATOR BRUNO: Mr. President, colleagues, you've just heard a resolution reviewing the life of a very extraordinary

individual -- extraordinary in every way - legislatively, as a colleague, as a friend, as a devoted husband, as a family person. He partnered with his wife Joy through every minute that he lived, and Joy has joined us here in the chamber with her mother, Lil Saslow and her brother, Jerry, his wife Linda, his nephew, Craig and niece Julie, and good friend Lisa Young. We welcome you here.

When you reflect on what we heard in a few moments, you can't help but think about the effect one individual in public service can have on the people of New York State, truly throughout the Northeast and the United States, because we all know that as an individual legislator, he was so committed to taking care of people that his reflection shines throughout the state, throughout the Northeast and throughout the United States.

We heard a lot of firsts before he became chair of transportation. We heard of the things that he did on behalf of the constituency here in this state. As chair of transportation for 16 years, he really was the model of all of the things that were important

in people's lives, and there is nowhere that we can go in our lives that we don't feel his effects and his legacy in what he did for the people of this state.

I think one of the indications of how he lived his life was soon after he was operated on in what turned out to be an illness that was to take his life. I talked with him on the phone.

"How is it going, Norm?"

"I'm doing my best. I'm doing my best, and I'm going to be fine."

And you had the impression that he was trying to make you feel good in talking to him. He asked what was going on, and I told him. We had something important happening here in the chamber. He said, "I'm going to try and get in," and I said, "Norm, don't do that unless you're comfortable doing that," and that was the end if it.

We were in conference, and our colleagues can remember, when the doors opened and in walked Norm, just breezed in, and I don't know if you -- I'm sure you recall, it was one of the most emotional things I've ever

seen because, spontaneously, when we saw Norm come in, everything stopped, everyone got to their feet and applauded him until he got to his chair as chair of the conference.

Norm was humble. He didn't want that. That's why he didn't indicate he was coming in. He was embarrassed by the show of affection and emotion, but knowing Norm, you couldn't help but be affectionate, you couldn't help but get emotional because he was so real, so human, so down to earth, so caring for everyone, starting with his beautiful wife Joy, the Senate as an institution, his friends, his colleagues. He just cared, and when you think about our lives in public service, if we can emulate a person like Senator Norm Levy, in wherever anyone goes in this state, they will have a recollection -- a reflection of what Senator Norm Levy has done, what's here, and what we will enjoy through our lives.

I was at the Albany Airport, the Albany International Airport, today for their official ribbon cutting and dedication and, as I looked around at that splendid

facility, I thought of all the conversations I had had with Norm over the years about that facility. I just left the Stillwater and Mechanicville site where the tornado struck last night, and the devastation there is unbelievable, with 30 to 50 houses totally leveled, businesses out of business, 70 or 80 homes where people are moved out of. And you know what? All I could think of were the bridges going in there and out of there, the roads going in there and out of there. And you know what? They were all open with trees and lines. Why? Because they were accessible. The community was accessible. That's the legacy of Senator Norm Levy to all of us. In every community in this state, there are places like Stillwater, Mechanicville, the Albany International Airport, all the roads, all the bridges, the mass transportation, the subway system, that was his heart, that was his soul. Why? Because he knew how important all of these things are to our public safety, to our health, to our general well-being.

I know there are a number of people who have things to say, but you feel

that you could go on and on and on talking about Senator Norm Levy and the partnership he had with Joy and with his family and with us.

But this is truly a celebration of his legacy and of his memory and we want to remember that. We are here together celebrating his contribution, 28 years with this institution here, 16 years chairing one of the most important committees in this Senate, and doing it in a way that makes everyone that was exposed to him and his work proud.

So when we think about this state and we think about his devotion, and we think about his commitment, you can't help but feel good that Norm Levy was serving with us in the Senate and this institution and there isn't any greater legacy that any of us can aspire to than to have that kind of commitment that has gone before and has stayed with us when we are no longer here.

Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Bruno.

Senator Fuschillo.

SENATOR FUSCHILLO: Senator Bruno, fellow legislators, it is indeed an honor for me to rise and talk about a great man.

I had the honor and privilege a few months ago of running for his seat. The first door I went to and knocked on, a woman came to the door and she asked me my shoe size. Innocently I looked down and said ten and a half. She said, "That's not what I mean. You have huge shoes to fill," and I proceeded to tell her that nobody could fill Norman Levy's shoes.

He was a no-nonsense legislator pulling out all of the stops when he had a vision to improve our quality of life. He knew when his idea of the seat belt law was first introduced it would be a tough battle. He persevered and won, and we have the nation's first seat belt law here in New York State, a law that is now known across the nation. Traveling on the roads, you see the sign, Buckle Up; It Saves Lives. To those signs, we should add another blip, Thank You, Norman Levy, for the countless number of lives

you have saved.

Norman Levy spoke out for the children by enacting school bus safety legislation and the helmet law. Ten days ago when I came home on a Saturday morning, I found my son had just gotten into an accident with his bicycle. Rushed him to the hospital and he was bleeding. The first question the doctor asked me when we brought him into the emergency room, Was he wearing his helmet and was it cracked, and I said yes and no, and the doctor said to me, "You know Norman Levy?" I said, Sure. He said, Well, I worked with him to draft that law, and it saved thousands and thousands of kids from head injuries.

Norman Levy followed in the footsteps of the late Robert Moses as the chief architect and prime mover of New York State's highways and bridges rebuilding programs which continue to make our transportation system safer and more efficient.

When I recently had the honor to run, I presented a grant in honor of Norman Levy at a dinner that I went to recently with

my colleague, Senator Balboni, and Joy Levy, and I think Senator Balboni said it best when he got up there and presented the grant, that for the past eight years Norman Levy had been up there by himself. Now it takes two legislators to do what he did so well for 28 years.

At Norman Levy's service at the Merrick Jewish Center a few months ago, it was so appropriately stated by someone who said that in his 27-plus years as an elected official, he never heard an unkind word said about Norman Levy, and we know in this business it's extremely tough and difficult to go through life like that.

The Merrick Light, which is a local newspaper in my district, recently ran an editorial that truly demonstrated how large of an icon Norman Levy ever was, and they said, quote, "Never since John F. Kennedy died has there been such a desire to name a park, school and even parkways for a statesman who died in his prime," and I say to Joy Levy, my friend, thank you for allowing us to be in Norman's life, for he has certainly enriched

my life forever.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.

Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Thank you, Madam President.

This has been a very difficult year for those of us from Nassau County, I know, Long Island and the entire Senate because we've lost two wonderful colleagues, two friends, Mike Tully and Norm Levy, and Joe, I'm going to start off by thanking you for giving us the opportunity today to speak about our good friends, Norman and Joy, because they truly were a team and also for the courtesies that you extended to the Levy family during the period of his illness.

Over the week end, I had the opportunity to talk to some of my constituents as we all do from time to time, and they said, "What's coming up this week?" I said, "Well, the regular calendar; we're trying to finish by June 18th, and we are going to pass a resolution and discuss Norm Levy." The person said, "Well, gees, didn't Normie pass away

several months ago? I know we -- it was in the papers, we read the obituaries, tributes to Norman." I said, Yes, but today is the day that the Senate as an institution has the opportunity to say thank you to Norman, to say goodbye to Norman, to thank Joy for the sacrifices that she's made, but also to celebrate Norman's contribution to this great institution called the state Senate, an institution that all of us sitting in this room, whether it's Republicans or Democrats or whether we debate with each other vigorously, an institution that we all love.

Joy, today you saw the calendar went very quickly, non-controversial. It was as if it was all Norman's bills because nobody ever wanted to debate Norman. Norman would come out on the floor with a stack of papers, his pencil always writing -- Sarah, Jimmy Moriarty, staff with him, and when you looked at Norman with that preparation, you would rarely ask a question.

I remember one time when I was first elected to the Senate, we were in conference. Norman chaired the Transportation

Committee. I asked a question. He gave me a thorough answer, and afterwards he got me aside and says, "Deano" -- he always referred to me as "Deano" -- he said, "You're chairman of the Aging Committee, aren't you?" I said, "Yes." He says, "Do I ever question you about anything in the aging area?" I said, "No." He says, Norman, don't you think I - "Dean, don't you think I would protect Long Island and the rest of the state when it came to transportation needs?" I never asked him another question concerning transportation.

Norman also had a wonderful, wonderful staff. They were always prepared, but I think it speaks for the caliber of Norm Levy, by the fact that his staff members were with him not only from during his days in the Senate, but some from the D.A.'s office in Nassau County, and many of them for Norman's entire career, and I think that speaks well of Norman. We all know at times we can be difficult, but Norman's staff were consummate in their work and also loved Norman.

As we traveled through the district and talked to people, Norman was

devoted to his district. Sometimes our local daily paper would talk about Norman being overly devoted, parochial, when it came to issues of transportation or school aid, but isn't it our job -- isn't it our job as elected officials to represent our districts with all the vigor that we can, and not only was Norman devoted to his district, the people of that Senatorial District were devoted to Norman. They loved Norman. They miss Norman and certainly I know that all of us in the Senate today, and certainly myself who first learned how to campaign was from Norm Levy.

1980, when I ran for the Assembly, Norm Levy was the Senator for that district. He walked with me day after day after day and certainly Norman didn't have to. He had his 70 percent locked up, but he took me door to door. When that first door slammed on your face like we've all had when we first run for office and we have no idea what to do because we think everybody loves us and we're crashed, you turn around and you walk away like this and Norman would give you a smack on the back and say, "Keep going. If

they're really bad, just mumble something under your breath and it will go away," but he taught you how to campaign. He taught me how to campaign, and he taught me how to be a legislator.

So Joy, today is our opportunity as an institution to say to you, thank you for allowing us to share Norman with you for the past 28 years. We love you. We love Norman, and certainly he'll always be remembered.

Thank you, Joy.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Libous.

SENATOR LIBOUS: Thank you, Madam President.

I too want to rise and make some brief comments about a friend and a colleague who I sat next to for nine years and, you know, you learn a lot from someone when you spend a little bit of time just in a business setting and seeing how they react to things, and I think both Senator Bruno, Senator Skelos and Senator Fuschillo mentioned, you know, a lot of little things

that Norman did really told a lot about the character of the man.

Senator Skelos mentioned the pencil. Norman would come here, sit at this desk and he would have a pile of papers in front of him, and they would be letters that the staff had put together and he'd be going through it and putting little pencil marks, little arrows, little gizmos here and there. I'd look at him, and say, "Norman, what are you doing?" He'd say, "Well, you know, the staff does such an outstanding job, and," he says, "they're really great, but there's just some little things that they don't understand because I'm there. I know this constituent personally, I know this person, I want to just put a little note here," and he just had that kinds of dedication that dealt with the little things.

I can remember another day where I was sitting here, and I had my leg crossed and my shoe was up, and he looked at my shoe, and he said, "Who is your shoe maker?" And I said, "Why do you ask?" He says, "Well," he said, "your shoes always look good

on the bottom, and," he said, "I notice you always have nice heels and I know you must have a shoemaker that takes care of you," and I said, "Yes," and I didn't have the heart to tell him I couldn't afford new shoes and I had to always go to the shoemaker, and he said, "I got a little problem maybe you can help me with," and he says, "Joy has a bit of a problem with one of her shoes, and what happens is, it wears down a little quicker, and we can't seem to find anybody back home who can take care of it and, you know, we've got quite a few pair of shoes and I just wondered if maybe your shoemaker would take a look at it."

Well, Joy, as you know, for several week ends we would take several boxes of shoes to Binghamton, Norman would bring them in, bring them to the office. The shoes would go to the shoemaker in Binghamton, and my shoemaker would look at me and say, "Senator, what are you doing? You running another business from the Senate," and I would say, "No, we're only helping a friend."

The other thing that I will say

before I sit down and let my other colleagues speak, is that I remember one day I came in here, it was right after petition time and I remember, thought I was a big shot, kind of beating my chest a little bit. Norman was here, and I said, "Gee, Norman, I filed 6500 names on my petition." I thought that was pretty good, you know, 6500 people signed my petition. Norman looked over at me and he said "Gee, Tom," he said, "that's fantastic." He didn't say anything, and I said, Norman, how many did you file? He said, "17,000." I said, "Norman, 17,000. Nobody files 17,000," and he said, "Well, we did," and I then checked around with some of his colleagues, checked with Senator Skelos and several others and they said, Oh, yeah, not only did he file 17,000, he probably got 10,000 of them himself.

That's the kind of dedication, hard work, that's the kind of person that Norman Levy was, the things that he stood for and, quite frankly, as someone else said, when he believed in something, you had to get out of his way because he was going to make it

happen because it was the right thing to do.

Norman, we're going to miss you and the only thing that I can say is that you were one of the good guys.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Balboni.

SENATOR BALBONI: Thank you, Mr. President.

I was not going to speak except I happened to take a look over in the gallery, and I see Senator Levy's staff, generations of them, people who have been serving with Norman for decades, and I think of all the things you're going to speak about the wonderful legacies that Norman left, in terms of great projects, the legislation he passed, and then I think about the other legacy, the legacy that perhaps we don't talk about a lot in this institution but nonetheless is so important, the legacy of people, that all of us have the opportunity to leave.

I had a chance to work almost as a staffer on Norman's staff for a brief period of time, and some of the people up there will remember. I was the legislative

representative for Nassau County working on a big bill and I went and I sat in Norman Levy's office and, by gum, for three and a half weeks he treated me just like his staff, and I got a chance to see what Norman was like when he was angry; I got a chance to see what he was like when he wanted something; I got a chance to see what he was like come 6:00, 7:00 o'clock and he's still going back doing more work.

You know, we are in a very cynical time. People don't believe any more or don't have faith in government, but yet our future is contingent upon the people who will follow in our footsteps and the people up there have all gone on, most of them to very important influential posts, as many of our staffs and your staffs have done or are going to do, and I can't think of a better role model than someone like Norman Levy - intelligent, honest, hard working, dedicated, persistent and decent.

These are times we're going to remember a lot of great stories about Norman and all the accomplishments, but I hope that all of us together can take this moment and I

guess as the last most recent staffer to join the Senate, I can tell you all you leave your legacy on all of us. We adopt how you think, how you feel, where your families come from, and you mold us.

I hope we take this opportunity when someone like Norman passes from our world to want to do a little bit better and keep on influencing those people who are going to take our shoes one day and follow in our footsteps for the future of the state and this nation.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Marcellino.

SENATOR MARCELLINO: Thank you, Mr. President.

Like many others who have known Norman, served with Norman for years, we all loved him because he was genuine and a real person.

Some years ago, I was running for an office in Nassau County and, as we do to a railroad stop and one of the stops, one of the station stops was in Norman's district and I said to him, I called him up and I said,

"Norman, can you send me some people to help me out at the railroad station because I'm going to be there early in the morning." He said, "Carlo" -- always called me Carlo. Called Dean "Deano" called me Carlo -- he says, "I'll be there." I said, "Norman, don't worry about it, just send me some people to show up about 5:00 o'clock in the morning, shake a few hands."

It was October, and it was cold. Got there in the morning, there's Norman. "Norman, where are your people?" "I'm here." No one else, just Norman, he and I and my person who had come with me to help me get out my flyers stood there for about three and a half hours under that railroad station in the cold morning, freezing, while Norman shook every hand of every person coming off that platform, called each and every one of them by their first name, and I mean this with no exaggeration, he knew each and every commuter getting on and coming off that train, called them by their first names. I think he knew half their spouses and their children's first names. They all knew him. I might as

well have stayed home that day, for the good -- it was a great campaign stop for Norman. It didn't do a hell of a lot for me. I lost the election, but that wasn't Norman's fault. That was mine. I'll take full credit for that loss. Norman was just phenomenal.

It taught me a lesson what campaigning was all about. It taught me something about what someone who represents a district was all about and what constituent services was all about, because that's what - everybody had a story. Everybody knew Norman in relation to something he had done for them or someone they knew or something that he had done within the community that they were proud of and that they were happy with, and every once in a while a couple of them would come up with something they had a problem with but that wasn't a big deal, Norman handled it. Norman talked to them, and every one of them knew he was talking to them. He wasn't just saying words that would go away in five minutes. He was saying the real thing because he meant it. That was a lesson to be learned.

When I got to the Senate, one of the first people to say congratulations was Norm Levy. He said, "Now, aren't you glad you lost that election?" He said, "If that happened you'd be some place else. You wouldn't be here." When I was here and there was a problem with station closings, we were trying to close some railroad stations in the Long Island Rail Road and some of the smaller stations, it was Norman who called me in, and he said, "Look, let me show you something, this is what's going to happen in your district." He said, "These are a few stations that you might want to pay attention to because this is going to impact you and your constituents."

I wouldn't have known what to say and where to go with that sort of thing. I followed Norman's lead, Norman taught me what to do and how to do it and led me down the right path. It was good. It was the right thing. He showed me which ones to let go and which ones to keep open. It made sense; we did it. The ones that he recommended to stay open were the right ones for the constituents,

were the right ones for the district. They're open today, thanks to no small efforts on Norman's part.

He was a complete professional. He was a good friend, and Joy should be as -- his pride and joy was Joy, and I'm sure still is Joy, and God bless you, Joy, and God bless Norman. He was a good friend and a blessed man.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Thank you, Senator Marcellino.

Senator Farley.

SENATOR FARLEY: Thank you, Mr. President.

I also rise to pay tribute to Norman Levy. He was truly a New York State original. As a Senator, I knew him when he was chairman of labor and for many years in transportation. Believe me, when he was chairman of labor he was busy. He worked so hard on everything that he did.

I think so many of us were at the temple at his funeral service. We learned that he was truly adored in his district, as Dean said. This man was something else. I

still recall when we were at a meeting in Long Island, Senate Majority. It was about a year and a half before the next election. Norman was out there going door to door. He never stopped meeting his constituents.

Let me say this: Also for a member, if there was any member that needed something or was in trouble or had a transportation problem, Norman was the first one to step up and try to help him.

You know, he -- he was such a kind person, but I think one of the most impressive things about Norman was his wife Joy. That has to be one of the greatest love affairs that ever existed. He absolutely adored his wife, his bride, and I'll tell you and, of course, Joy, they mentioned thank you for letting us share him, but I'll tell you, his major focus was you, whether it was your shoes or whatever it was, Joy was the major focus of his life.

But what a Senator he was. I'll tell you, we -- you see a lot of people come and go here, but Norman was truly one of a kind and somebody that we'll miss very, very

much.

God bless him, and God bless you, Joy.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Hannon.

SENATOR HANNON: Mr. President, the people of this state as well as everybody in this chamber has been much better off because of the service of Senator Norman Levy. He's been an advocate for education, labor, transportation, safety, safety big and small, whether it's double-decker trains or little bicycles.

The way he got to that and the way he got to all the accomplishments that my distinguished colleagues have spoken about was that he was such a diligent and careful legislaor, and a diligent and careful person. He was truly a craftsman when it came to taking a look at legislation and thinking how would it impact the state, the locality, how it would impact other related areas.

Michael Balboni said that he served as a member of his staff for about six weeks. Well, I got adopted when I also was

representing the county, but I think I got adopted for about two years. At that point Norman Levy decided that since I was from the county government that I must know a little bit about everything municipal and, therefore, he would call me out of the blue and I would have to go and research everything municipal.

I learned more about things I didn't want to know about. I learned more about how one applied that to the matter at hand. I learned more about balancing, and it wasn't balancing by just saying we're going to strike something in the middle. It was balancing in relation to the difficulty of the issue and what was needed to resolve that issue, and what had gone before and trying to relate as many different needs as possible. It was truly learning what happens when you drop a pebble in the water and all those ripples spread out. That's the piece of legislation. That's what I learned about, and he would do it not only for the state, not only as a member of the capital board for all of the capital projects, he would do it for his own district.

What I learned about talking from school superintendents in his district or talking from community activists in his district is how much he listened to people and how much he cared for people, but he would also do it for anybody else in the chamber who had a particular problem that needed to be addressed and sometimes he'd know about it before you'd know about it, a closing of a Motor Vehicle office, a problem with the way a freight train was going to be running through the district, and once again he brought wise and judicious decision-making to that, a very, very difficult thing but something he did in such a way that held up such a high standard for all of us, and his legacy is not the many hundreds or maybe thousands of pieces of legislation that he has enacted into law, but a process of how we go about our decision making, how we go about our legislating, something that I am forever grateful that I had a chance to be part of, for his concern.

People have mentioned how he did his election. Well, he did that in such a way that it advanced the governmental causes

that were before him, that were before the Senate. It was a way of process, of touching people and finding out their concerns. It wasn't electioneering. It really wasn't partisanship.

I must close by saying he did all this in partnership with Joy, not partnership in the way we talk about our spouses in general, but partnership of her going with him to the various activities in the district or up here, her making keen and insightful observations, her being a true friend to all of us when we needed a little pat on the back. That's a real partnership. That's something we admire also and a great lesson to all of us, for which we are grateful.

I'm better off, and I think everybody else in the state is better off for having had a chance to serve with Senator Norman Levy.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Thank you, Senator Hannon.

Senator LaValle.

SENATOR LAVALLE: Thank you, Mr. President.

Norman Levy was a colleague that I think all the of us really want to emulate. He was, of course, a person that was loyal to his friends, loyal to this institution. He loved the Senate. It provided him with a vehicle to accomplish the many things he wanted to do in life. He was a person in perpetual motion.

Senator Balboni talked about staff. I had the pleasure of knowing Norman Levy as a staff member, and I can tell you that if you are a staff member of the Senate you were automatically a member of Norman Levy's staff. I remember, as director of the Education Committee spending a lot of time with Norman talking about state aid, talking about individual bills and, when Norman was focused on something, it -- I mean he was just tenacious, and he just moved, as has been said, in a very methodical way until the job was done.

We talked about his expertise in the things he's done for transportation but

I -- I can say that he has left an enormous mark in education, not only for Long Island but throughout the state. We just can't mention enough times about safety issues, whether it be school bus safety or other issues. Norman interacted with the P-TA for many years and would take their top concerns in terms of education and safety, bring them back, have them drafted properly and move them through the legislative process.

No one was mentioned yet Norman's record in the environment. Norman had one of the best voting records year after year on the environment, and so he was just a very, very complete individual and, of course, we've said over and over again a caring and loving person.

My daughter Lisa ended up working in the -- in Norm Levy's law firm and Norm said, "Gee, Ken, you didn't tell me that Lisa was working in the law firm," and from that point on when he knew, he and Joy adopted Lisa. They tried on many occasions to play cupid, to move her in the right direction, but it was, like everything that they've done,

with people it's done in a caring way and a very, very loving way.

Norman was a star when he was here. Sometimes we don't want to recognize as contemporaries that some may be stars here as legislators. Norman is, as we look to the heavens, one of those shining stars and he will be there perpetually smiling down and looking at the accomplishments that have been done and, thankfully, Joy and other people are ensuring that proper recognition will be given to the many, many projects that Norman shepherded through and accomplished in his time here, albeit too brief. We will miss him very, very dearly.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Volker.

SENATOR VOLKER: Mr. President, there's a lot has been said about Norman and it is really very, very difficult. One of the things, when Senator Balboni spoke of his staff, I have always contended that staff tend to reflect their boss and, in fact, I must honestly tell you that one of the ways in which Senator -- Norman and I became very

close friends was in his manner of attacking issues and attacking various problems.

I was former chairman of energy, as some of you may know as I say in a former life, and Norman, when energy was a really heavy issue and, of course, obviously on Long Island it was a difficult one for a lot of us because I was from upstate, Norman was from Long Island, and Norman would call me on many occasions to say, you know, shouldn't we be doing this, shouldn't we be doing that. He would always say, "but I understand, Dale, that you have to look at your end of the state also and you have to do the things that are the right things for you."

The typical example of that, by the way, is another example, one -- I think it was late November, out of the clear blue when I got a call from Norman. "Dale, this is Norman. I just wanted to tell you something. You got a problem."

"What do you mean, I have a problem?"

"You have a transportation problem." I said, "I do?" He said, "Well,

there's a bill that's being put in that affects the whole state, and," he said, "it's very good for Long Island and it's pretty good for New York City, but," he said, "you guys could have a problem up there. I'm workin' on it, but I wanted you to know before you ever come down here," because we were coming down some time later in December as we were wont to do sometimes, "I want you to be aware before you ever hear about it because there could be a problem." He explained it to me, went through the whole thing. Bottom line of that story is, I mean he never had to do that obviously. I wouldn't have probably known about it.

The interesting thing is the time we reached -- by the time we reached Albany several weeks later, that problem was resolved, and Norman was the one who resolved it, which is typical, it seems to me, of the way he operated, that he was an institution alist. As has been said here, there's no question he was an institutionalist. He loved being here. He loved his constituents which I think is the heart of what we're all about

here in a way, and I was telling some of the young staff people here who asked me about resolutions, I said, "Well, you know, as somebody whose father was in the Assembly and who was memorialized here also, I think you have to realize that the process that we go through here, you call it part of the grieving process if you would, but it's also part of a process that is very important to us as an institution," but it is also very important to the family to truly understand.

Sometimes I think families don't truly understand how important an individual is to us up here because the family back, obviously, on Long Island, to Joy and the immediate family, no one has to tell anybody about that. We know that and Norman was and will always be, as has been said here, a real part of this institution, and I will predict to you that, when most of us are gone, in years to come, people will still talk in transportation, as Senator Bruno said, they will talk in transportation terms about things that Norman did and things he was involved with, and they will talk in awe, but they will

also talk in awe of a gentleman and a person who not only loved his family, not only loved his constituents but I think loved this country and loved this state and was prepared in the end, when you really think about it, to give everything he had right up until his last breath.

I will remember him with favor probably as much as anyone in this chamber, but I say this to you. He will not be forgotten and, Joy, we will not forget you and we will not forget those people who served with Norman as his staff who are really now totally part of this institution.

So God bless Norman, and God bless you, Joy.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Stafford.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Thank you, Mr. President.

Joy, we don't mention Norman without mentioning Joy, as has been mentioned here, a union, the best, you can say about the union.

I can add a little more after

you stand up and you hear what people have said things so well. I'll make a couple - two or three points here though.

I would always say it's not pencil, it's pencils, a very large handful of pencils. I always remember that as far as his staff goes, I shared offices with Norman up on the fifth floor, and again it's been mentioned but they worked and if they didn't feel like working, they worked, and if they felt maybe they weren't going to work, they worked, and if they had any questions, they worked. My point is that it wasn't eight to five. It was much longer, with dedication, I might add, that you see very, very seldom.

I would just mention a few words here, a couple have been mentioned al ready, but words that Norman invented, and I say this very constructively, but "tenacious", he invented that word. "Persistent", believe you me, he invented that word, and I think that if there was a word that started with Norman it was "relentless" when you were with him and he was a protagonist for any issue, and no one -- and I say this constructively

and as a compliment -- no one could wear the opposition down like Norman. If you had to talk with him and had to discuss an issue with you -- with him, you were done before you started because he would discuss it with you, but the point I will make which is an example to all of us, he was always civil -- civility and a gentleman.

There were times when he would say "Ronzo" -- that's what he called me, and when he said that, you knew that he was being fairly serious about what he was talking about, but two other points and this has been said over and over again, and it will be said, so committed and, finally, who could enjoy a laugh more than Norman Levy? He laughed from his toes.

He set an example for all of us, Joy. Let's hope we can at least follow some of what Norman had started.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Connor.

SENATOR CONNOR: Thank you, Mr. President.

You know, my earliest

association with Norman when I was a relatively new member here, I used to like to debate a lot, talk a lot on the floor, you know. Tend to be much more reticent now, cautious, you know. In those days on the other side of the aisle one of the members would always come to the fore in the debates we used to have was Norman Levy and he was then the chair of the Labor Committee, and I always managed to have a lot to say about anything having to do with the Labor Committee or any of the bills that came out of there, and probably after I was here about three years, maybe in 1980, there was a process. There was an appointee of the then governor who was, for whatever reasons, became the object of great partisan differences about confirmation, and I remember a process then which Norman as chair of the committee led which I, frankly, have not seen since in this Senate in terms of its thoroughness, the length of time it was taking to examine a particular nominee. Numbers, great numbers of witnesses were called both before the committee and before its chair and, as you

know, I think it's the Civil Rights Law, in order to swear the witnesses in and to take their testimony, another Senator in addition to the chair had to be present and in the then particularly observed courtesies of the house, a Democrat would always have to be present with Norman, and I kept getting the call and so I ended up spending a lot of time with Norman.

It was an interesting process. It was somewhat -- you know, a young member and you know, as a young member I could pretend I really didn't know all that much about what was going on. Norman took me in his office one day, and he said -- he called me "Kiddo" then -- "Kiddo, you know I got my orders," and I said, "I understand, I got mine," and we gave all those witnesses a fair opportunity to be heard. The nominee, although he was foredoomed, I suppose, in his aspirations, did get a fair hearing and I got to know Norman pretty well, and ever after I enjoyed him, enjoyed debating with him when the novelty of debating virtually every other bill that came up wore off for me, for him as

well as me, we were always friendly and cordial.

I also respected the fact that he cared very, very much, very, very much about his causes, his projects, that he was an unflagging champion for his ideas. Later, when he -- later when he became chair of transportation, something I've never told this body, but my late aunt in New Jersey was a key staff member in the Transportation Committee there in New Jersey. She was a Republican, but those staffs were non-partisan, and so she always had an insight about Senator Levy and his staff that I used to get, I suppose you'd call it through the back door from Trenton, but she certainly sang the praises of Senator Levy when he was but a new chair of transportation.

We're going to miss Norm Levy. I think we're all better off for having known him. Joy, thank you for sharing him with us, and the fact that he was so dedicated to the Senate never, never for a moment did any of us doubt what his absolute first love -- who his first love was and what his priority was, and

we shall miss him, but as time goes on, we shall -- those of us who served with him will reflect back and realize how wonderful it was to have served with him.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Stachowski.

SENATOR STACHOWSKI: Mr. President, I too rise to say a few things about Norman Levy.

I met Norman when I first got here. He was still ranker of labor, so I didn't realize how old he was until you said how long Norman was chairman of transportation. So right away he made a new member feel comfortable when -- and I always will remember that. I also noticed with great interest how, when it was his project, how hard he fought and how, no matter how impossible the obstacle would look, he would find a way to get around it or through it, and my favorite was -- incidentally, I was kind of surprised that you only named a smaller road after him. I thought you'd name the Long Island Expressway after him, because if you

recall, for those of us who were here, is when one of the slowest things in a road project is you have to do an EIS study first, and then when that's finished you do the engineering and then you build the road. Well, that was a little too slow for Norman, at least in the expansion of the Long Island Expressway, so he passed a bill which I'll always remember that you did the EIS and the engineering study at the same time, and that was never heard of before, and it passed and we did it and people always remarked about that; but that's what I always remember about Norman that if there was a really major obstacle he found a way to get around it for his roads in Long Island.

And I just think he was such an intense man. He was a pleasure to work with that if you wanted to see him smile, all you had to do was mention his wife, Joy, as others have mentioned earlier, and to see them together was a joy, and I got to see that at a few dinners at different conferences, and it was a pleasure to spend time with them, and we thank you very much for letting us share a part of Norman's life.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Thank you, Senator.

Senator Saland.

SENATOR SALAND: Thank you, Mr. President.

My colleagues, Joy, I rise out of a sense of respect and admiration for a man who was my colleague, a friend, a man who is perhaps one of the finest, most decent gentleman/human beings that I have ever had the good fortunate to know.

In a time and place when we find that those of us in public life seem to far too often have our life styles subjected to questions and perhaps dubious allegations, some of them dubious, Norman, in his life style, his personal life style, his unending devotion, love and affection for his wife Joy, set a standard that would truly be admired by anybody from any walk of life. It transcends this chamber. It transcends any endeavor. My wife Linda, who along with myself, had more than one occasion to share time with Norman and Joy, came away each and every time making

me feel that I was less than an adequate spouse simply because of being in Norman and Joy's presence. So sometimes it was painful.

Norman was a marvelous man. There are many of us in one way or another who either may have the opportunity or perhaps have had the opportunity to affect the quality of life of those whom we serve. Norman was a bit more than that. There are very few people who dominate an area like Norman Levy dominated the area of transportation.

I can recall when I first came to this chamber after having served some ten years in the Assembly, one of the first constituent problems I ran into dealt with the so-called Berkshire Spur, that northern extension of the Thruway, and out of sheer desperation when I was getting nowhere, I contacted Norman and said, "Norman, I need some help. Could you please help me with this?" I explained to him what the problem was. Norman said, "Sure."

We had a meeting. Norman held court right outside here in the chamber and dutifully all of the Thruway people showed

up. We formed a little enclave around Norman. Norman spoke for a little while, gave them their marching orders which they dutifully accepted and the problems which I could not resolve as a Senator who represented the affected district, miraculously in the space of that very brief conference suddenly were all remedied. I soon learned, thanks to Norman giving me license, that whether it was the Thruway Authority or DOT, if I merely mentioned that I was going to bring in Norman, that somehow or other my problems went to the head of the list and were very, very quickly resolved.

Norman was just truly an extraordinary talent. He didn't attain all the admiration that you see here today by way of being bombastic. He didn't do it in some self-absorbed egocentric way. He did it in a fashion which we would all do well to emulate. He was at all times a gentleman. He at all times respected every member of this house. He at all times really respected this institution, and I would say above all, what he respected and admired most was the love of

his life, his wife Joy.

Joy, may you be for blessing always and may your husband Norman always enjoy the blessings of the Lord.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Maltese.

SENATOR MALTESE: Mr. President, I rise with my colleagues and acknowledge the words of Senator Skelos when he said we appreciate this opportunity in an organizational way, in an institutional way, the opportunity to say good-bye to a colleague, to a very close friend.

I personally have known Norman for more than 25 years and now a member of the Senate, I find it difficult to picture the Senate without Norman Levy. I echo the words of my colleagues over and over again who have indicated that they never heard an ill word spoken by Norman of others or of Norman by others. He was unique in that regard, I believe. Many of us at times lose tempers but to my recollection not Norman.

Norman was always helpful and I felt dutybound to rise and join my colleagues

in their accolades for Norman, saying the words that would become as he has a part of the state, a part of the state archives so that perhaps in generations and years and years from now people would look back and say that he was a man truly admired. He was a man truly loved.

I also want to echo my colleagues in saying that not very many of us can point with truth to the fact that we were able -- or instrumental in saving the lives of thousands and tens of thousands of fellow citizens not only here in New York State but across the nation and Norman in all due humility could very easily truthfully do that and take full credit for the saving of those lives and like all of you, I want to join in what a pleasure it was to see Norman and Joy together. What a pleasure to be alongside them or be with them or in their company and admire their closeness and it radiated so that it affected those around them.

So I thank Norman for being here and thank Norman for being a part of the Senate, enhancing the Senate because of his

presence. I thank Joy for giving us the pleasure and privilege of knowing Norman, and may God bless you both.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Marchi.

SENATOR MARCHI: Mr. President and Joy, a very splendid mosaic certainly is being created by the different people who have spoken on Norm Levy, and they all add up to a picture that is magnificent. Would it describe him completely? I guess that's beyond our human capacity, but it does measure the enormous affection and respect which he enjoyed in this chamber on both sides of the aisle, the fact that nobody had a -- there was no one who had something wrong to say about Norman but it was also -- the reverse was also true. I never heard him denigrate or depreciate anyone and if he expressed alarm sometimes, he would say, well, I -- I said, gee, that was great. I said it was a monumental achievement and he would sometimes say very wistfully, and I knew he meant it that time, I wish we could have done more and I know he meant it.

I go back a ways when the system in transportation, the very subject was very much balkanized. You had your highways committee. You had railroads and there were any number of committees that treated the different aspects, both state and local, of the movement of people on secure, safe and congenial and acceptable style, the movement of people and he was one of the early pioneers that developed transportation as a cosmos, as a force that had to address all of the disparate elements but also had to form a logical hole, to have a logical basis upon which we had selected or discarded or emphasized or de-emphasized the way we were developing our education -- our transportation.

There weren't very many. He had a few predecessors and they were excellent but there was -- he was certainly at this early stage in life one of the great institutional figures in this country in developing a rational and complete vision of what should be the objective of sound planning in terms of transportational needs.

I know Senator Skelos said very wistfully that this is a celebrity occasion to be here and the testimony that you've heard here today is so heartfelt by everyone here that it must reach you in terrific ways. You who have contributed so much to ennoble and enrich this mosaic and this is a celebratory circumstance in this -- in our mortal sense and I think it also transcends a mortality in terms, I believe -- well, it was Senator Volker that mentioned it -- these are not empty rituals. These are rituals which should give us pride and inspiration and never the sense of despair if occasionally we run into disparagement because he certainly was very composed. He was certainly at peace which is not the absence of war but the tranquility of order, that tranquility of order which comes from ordering one's life in a great way without pain, without suffering, when it's merged into the purpose that they are talking about.

I am a firm believer in the hereafter and I'm sure that he's looking down on us with great pride and satisfaction and if

all of us individually and otherwise reflect even one half the compassion, the intelligence, the goodness, the humanity that he manifested in his lifetime, we all will be up there celebrating, engaged in a celebration that will have no end.

So I wish more of us could reach the public because they would -- it would add dimension, and we do it through the instrumentality of one man who certainly exemplified the best in all of us, but it does say a great deal about the institution that we're serving in and we walk out of here prouder that we belong to it.

So God bless Joy, and our prayers are with you and some day we'll have an eternal celebration for which there is no good-bye.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Thank you, Senator Marchi.

Senator Gold.

SENATOR GOLD: Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, I would like to just start by making reference to the last

comment by my distinguished colleague from Staten Island.

At cocktail parties it's always the "in" thing to make your politician jokes, your lawyer jokes, your doctor jokes and the press doesn't always help but, as we all know, when you get into the districts, you find out that on an individual basis the joking stops and every one of us was impressed on the day of Norman's funeral at the outpouring from his community and believe me when you're in that community, if they make political jokes, it certainly was one category which had nothing to do with their Senator, Norman Levy, and I agree with you, Senator Marchi, he did set a wonderful example for all of us and we all owe him that.

When people come into this chamber, the impression you could get from one side of the aisle is that the Republicans own everything, but I'll tell you, Joy, they didn't own Norman Levy because we all had him. It was wonderful the way he smiled at everyone and gave everyone a warm sense about themselves just by knowing him.

He was bright. He was a great legislator, and I guess from the point of view of the general public that's important but from my very selfish point of view, I'm glad I knew more than just the Senator who had a great legislative record.

I knew a man who had a great soul and a great sense of humor and a great heart and when I think of Norman, I smile and I don't know how anybody today in a time of a little bit of tragedy because we lost him, everybody is smiling because you cannot think of Norman Levy without smiling.

I heard almost everybody stand up and say, well, Norman called me this and called me that. Of course, I have been called a lot of things, most of which can't go in this record but, you know, when somebody says Emanuel, I know they don't know me. If they call me Manny, it's usually a friend. Norman from the first time I saw him called me Mendel and I said, How does he know my Yiddish name, but he had a way of finding something to call you that made it a little warmer and a little more personal than just using your name in the

way others would do it.

I indicated that we all had a relationship with Norman and in this place we all have our egos and we all have our ways of doing things. Norman Levy would come to this floor with a legislative idea and if you laid his bill aside instead of grabbing for all of the files and figuring how he was going to fight you and how he was going to debate you, Norman would reach out for you and say, "What is it? Do you want me to lay it aside? You got an amendment? You got a suggestion", and I think that that is one of the major keys to his success as a legislator. He didn't have a huge ego that got in the way of working through an idea.

Senator Stachowski mentioned how there was a problem that everybody's had all over the state and Norman was able to work through it. I saw with my own eyes and I felt with my own heart that's the way Norman was successful. He was goal-oriented. If there was something you had to do, he was going to find a way to do it and if somebody had an objection, he didn't need a Conference

Committee with the other side. He would talk and one thing that he knew when he spoke is that he had only one mouth but two ears. So he would listen also in terms of his talking.

One of the little things which showed the man in my mind, this man as he's been described by his colleagues is a giant, yet there was a time when, Joy, you became ill and I and others would say to Norman, How's Joy, and he would say, Oh, fine. Thanks for asking, and the way he said thanks for asking was like, Why would you bother with me and my problems and my family? I'm only Norman Levy, and it was the most incredible response. The gratitude was real and the fact that Norman didn't put himself on a pedestal, he let us put him on a pedestal, was so absolutely incredible.

I, like so many here, not only liked him but loved him, respected very much the relationship that he had with you, Joy, and I will miss the Senator more -- I'll miss the man, and I would be remiss if I didn't say that in the small way that I know you, you were all that Norman thought you were and

that's wonderful.

And I want to close by saying that while we're saying things about Norman today and getting this all out of ourselves, you owe Norman also something, Joy. You owe him your continued courage to continue and to be as well as you can be and it is my prayer that that is his -- a major part of his legacy, that you just keep your courage up and let your health gain and so that we have you as well as Norman's wonderful memory.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Dollinger.

SENATOR DOLLINGER: Thank you, Mr. President.

Unlike many of my colleagues from Nassau County, I did not know Norman Levy for a long period of time, but I just want to share a couple of impressions of him.

First of all, when I met him, I knew I would like him immediately because I went to a Transportation Committee hearing and coming from Rochester in Monroe County, the words "MTA" carry a tremendous significance. You think of these tigers from New York City

that are going to come in and they're going to tell everybody what to do and there were three gentlemen from the MTA seated across from Norman Levy, and I never watched three guys absolutely together, they reached to their collar and pulled their collar out a little bit. They tussled their hair back and all three of them started to sweat at exactly the same time and the reason was because they knew Norman Levy was about to put them through their paces and he proceeded to use that prosecutorial zeal honed in the Nassau district attorney's office to force them to justify every single statement they made, and I was enormously impressed because Norman Levy brought a combination of being a lawyer and a legislator to a pinnacle in this chamber. He used all the skills that he had as a lawyer to promote getting the truth that was needed to form legislation and make choices.

What that means to me is that he was as much a lawyer who relied on the evidence as he was a politician who relied on ideology when making decisions. Certainly the seat belt legislation was an example of that

where he had to balance growing evidence that seat belts would save lives with an ideology that said, well, gee, in your own car you ought to be able to do whatever you want to do, but he looked at the evidence and realized that it was overwhelming that the use of seat belts would save lives.

He did the same thing with school bus safety, something that he stood on the floor of this chamber and championed a number of times because he was concerned about children riding in buses. It also struck me that I was surprised when I saw the letter from Joy Levy after Norman's death in which she continued his advocacy in this chamber for detection of early hearing problems among youngsters.

It was a demonstration that Norm Levy was not only concerned as a lawyer about making sure that the truth -- but he was concerned as a lawyer for those who do not have a voice normally in our society, whether it's children riding school buses or children who need the detection of early hearing problems.

It seems to me that the ideal of a lawyer and a legislator is something that we're losing now. There was a time in this chamber that 50 to 60 percent of the people in the chamber were lawyers. That's no longer the case. It's probably a good thing that there's a great diversity of people sitting in this chamber and that it's no longer just those who work with our laws in our courts that are now making our laws in the sanctum of this chamber.

As I said, that's probably a good thing, but if there is an epitome of a lawyer/ legislator, it was Norman Levy. He used the skills as a lawyer to promote the truth and he used his sense of a lawyer as someone who has to protect those who don't have a voice to protect themselves. He embodied those rich traditions.

And for me at least, I'm not sure that Norman has gone. I think he's somewhere on the Long Island Expressway. It's a clear day. The road is clear ahead. The bridges are safe. The roads are secure. I'll just wish you, Norm, enjoy the drive.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. President.

It was more than a quarter of a century ago when I was first designated to run for the position of Senator in the 4th District. At that time a great part of my district was in Nassau County and when I was designated and when many activities took place in the Nassau County organization, I was there when I met Norman Levy and I met Joy, his beautiful wife, and my wife Christel was with me, and I think we became instant friends and even more so when Norman told me that his cousins lived in Babylon and I went to school with his cousins and I worked for his aunt in her store for a few years when I was going to high school.

So we were friends from the beginning, and I tell you, Norman was always a thoughtful, considerate, helpful person. His staff was great and they helped my staff out many times with questions and problems not only in transportation, but I think Sara was

our unofficial school aid representative and she told us what was going on when we went to meetings with Norman, we were all very well prepared. We enjoyed his company very much and always did and always enjoyed serving with him.

In recent years Norman has run in parts of the town of Babylon because two censuses and two redistrictings later, Norman and Nassau County people ended up in Suffolk County as opposed to when I first ran it was just the opposite equation and Norman ran in a good part of the town of Babylon. He made a lot of friends there and a group of his friends from Babylon sent a letter to me asking me to read it today. For the edification of all of his colleagues, I would like to do so at this time.

This is from the Fire Chiefs Association of the town of Babylon. "Dear Senator Johnson: On behalf of the members of the Fire Chiefs Association of the town of Babylon, a vote was taken at the Association's February meeting bestowing posthumously on state Senator Norman Levy the title of

honorary member of the Association. This honor was bestowed upon Senator Norman Levy for his dedicated and tireless efforts on behalf of the members of this organization of all firefighters on Long Island.

"It is requested that this letter be read on the floor of the Senate so that all of Senator Levy's associates may be made aware of our feelings.

"If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Very truly yours, Anthony Miles, President."

I think that's a very nice testimonial from a group of people in his district who really appreciated him and what he did and what he stood for.

So I think we all know and love Norman and we all miss him very much, but it's nice to know that he did make his mark not only in Nassau in his immediate district but in Suffolk County where he was adopted and soon became one of our own.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Leichter.

SENATOR LEICHTER: Thank you, Mr. President.

Norman Levy was not only a very fine legislator but more important and harder to achieve he was an exceptionally fine person.

The word that comes to mind when I think of Norman is he was a true gentleman in the best sense of the word. He was a person who was extremely courteous, helpful, friendly. My associations with him were mainly here on the floor in the work of the Senate. I didn't really have an opportunity to know him that well personally, although like everyone who was part of this Senate family, I knew of Norman's very special relationship with Joy, but Norman early on realized when he took over the Transportation Committee that I was interested in the MTA and had some concerns and problems with the MTA and he did the very really unique and exceptional step of inviting me to meetings of the Transportation Committee, of which I was not a member. Whenever there was a confirmation of a member of the MTA, he said,

"Franz, I know you're interested. I want you to come. I want you to participate. Feel free to ask questions. I want to hear your opinion about this nominee." Really a very striking, a very amazing act, and I think it shows what Norman was really like as a legislator and as a person, which was that he was non-confrontational, non-partisan. He was somebody who tried to be helpful. Manny Gold said he was goal-oriented. Yes. He was goal-oriented but never in the sense my goal and I'm going to roll over anything or anybody who gets in the way. He was persistent as was said by Senator Stafford, but he did it in a way that was genial, that was always civil.

I remember another instance, I was asked by the German consulate to help a German firm that was interested in doing something in regard to the Long Island Rail Road and I right away said to them, Listen, don't do anything on Long Island and particularly in transportation without checking with Norman Levy. So I called Norman. He said, "Franz, if it's important to you, I'll meet with these people. I'll do

anything I can to be helpful to them," and, indeed, he did and then to my embarrassment after having asked him to set up this meeting, I couldn't make the meeting. He made excuses for me. He said to these German industrialists, "I'm only doing this because Franz Leichter asked me to do it," but that was Norman. It came easy to him. He wasn't looking for any rewards or any quid pro quo. It really came from his nature and his character.

He was a caring person and he was effective in a way and all of us are different in how we approach this job. Norman was very quiet. He really didn't participate that much in debates, and so on. He certainly could defend his bills if he had to, but Norman achieved his legislative work and his goals really by quietness but firmness and he generated so much respect.

He was a wonderful colleague, somebody as I think back of my years in the Senate as I think of leaving, somebody that I will certainly remember and I know that he enriched the Senate and he enriched me. He'll

be terribly missed but he leaves a wonderful legacy for all the people of the state of New York.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Seward.

SENATOR SEWARD: Thank you, Mr. President.

My colleagues and Joy, because of your close partnership with Norman for so long, you are also very much a part of this institution and I consider you a colleague as well.

Mr. President, I stand here today with very mixed emotions, obviously very sad because Norman is no longer with us and we miss him very much but also I'm very honored and pleased to stand and speak about such a wonderful man, a colleague, a friend and, yes, a mentor.

I had the honor of sitting next to Norman for the last ten years and had the opportunity to observe Norman up close in terms of how he operated here on the floor.

The resolution that was presented today, of course, outlines many of

Norman's accomplishments and you can certainly say about Norman Levy, he did not run away from the tough issues. He tackled them head on. He sponsored often controversial pieces of legislation.

It was interesting to watch Norman at work on the floor as I sat next to him. He would lay his bill aside for a day. He would star the bill. He would unstar the bill. He would amend the bill. He would star the bill again, unstar the bill and, boom, before you knew it, it was passed. That's how Norman Levy built up his outstanding legislative record. He knew how to operate on this floor.

Of course, Norman also very genuinely respected the dignity of all people that he came in contact with. He treated everyone with the utmost respect regardless of their station in life.

I recall early in my Senate career Norman said, James, my man -- that's what he always called me, James, my man -- I want to come down to your district and have a hearing on transportation issues and so we

made the necessary arrangements. He came down to Oneonta and Norman had a hearing and he had at this hearing some of the town supervisors from some of the smallest, smallest towns in my district, some of the smallest towns in this state but the way that Norman conducted that hearing and dealt with these people, for that moment that they were speaking to Norman, they were having a tremendous impact on transportation policy in the state of New York. That's the way Norman treated people and that's certainly something that we all can learn from.

There's no question, it's been said many times over here today, Norman Levy was intelligent, hard-working, thorough, a caring, compassionate man, a people person. He paid attention to all the details. He epitomized the very best of what it means to be a public servant but more than that, he epitomized what -- the best of what it means to be a caring, sensitive human being.

And so, Joy, we join you in mourning Norman's loss. We just pray that you will take comfort in the fact that everyone

here, his colleagues love Norman very much. We miss him and we also hope that you will take some comfort in the fact that we all are better for having known Norman and served with him and the people of this state are better because of his long and distinguished career as a Senator.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Wright.

SENATOR WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. President.

My colleagues and Joy, I want to share three rather, I think, unique experiences that I had dealing with my colleague and friend Norman.

The first was when I was a freshman and new to the Senate, I came to my first Republican Conference and I had established a reputation for one who was punctual and on time when I was in local government, so I made a point of doing that when I arrived here in Albany, thinking that's how I had gotten here, I wanted to make sure I continued that tradition and I walked into the Senate Republican Conference Room and found it

to be empty but for Norm Levy and I'm thinking to myself, what's going on here? Norman immediately comes over, introduces himself, welcomes me to the Senate and then introduces me to a concept known as Senate time. Now, this, of course, was pre-Joe Bruno and proceeded to inform me that conference would begin anywhere between the next hour, hour and a half or two hours, depending upon whatever else was going to occur, but as the newest member of the Senate, here is a senior colleague taking the time to not only explain to me some of the intricacies of the internal workings of the Senate but then he also proceeded to sit down and spent another 15 or 20 minutes with me just explaining some of the details of what went on in the Senate taking the time to share with me as a person as only Norm could do and then a little bit later in that first year as chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation, of course, we had nominations.

Now, I don't think there's a point in New York State further from Long Island than Ogdensburg and you can still

remain in this state, but I represent Ogdensburg up on the St. Lawrence River and they have a transportation authority that we confirm members to.

Norm would personally greet each of those individuals when they came here. It was a long trip to come to the Capitol. They made it. He made them feel welcome and he, in fact, promised that he would return to Ogdensburg to visit their authority and he did, a long ways from Long Island to travel to Ogdensburg but he made the commitment and he honored that commitment.

And the third example I would share is again unique to my North Country and that was the, most of you will remember in this room, evening we passed the beaver bill, a rather controversial bill dealing with wildlife and, of course, again, the views of upstate North Country were significantly different than those of downstate Long Island and as we're counting votes and running around at the end, Norm came over and he said to me, "Do you need the vote?" And I said, "I'm not sure," and he looked me right in the eye and

he said, "If you need it, you have mine." I appreciated that. That was the first controversial matter that I had ever brought before this house and we were successful but that kind of commitment that if a colleague needed the help, Norman would be there to provide it.

I share those examples because I was just a young man coming to this Senate, inexperienced and Norman took the time to make me feel comfortable, make me feel part of this process, and I truly believe if there were ever an author of a handbook on how to be a proper and appropriate Senator and how to behave appropriately and assume the responsibilities of a Senator, Norm Levy was the author of that book.

I'm glad I had the occasion to share, albeit a brief five-plus years with Norman, they were certainly good experiences here in the Senate and, Joy, I'm glad you shared him with us and I'm glad I had the occasion and we're going to miss him.

We thank you and, Norman, we thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President.

My colleagues, first let me start by saying to Joy, thank you for giving Norman the kind of life that made him happy and secure enough to reach out across the aisle to many of us.

I remember when there was a problem with the Roosevelt School system. Norman reached out to Senator Montgomery and I to meet with state Ed' and to try to come up with a resolution.

Oftentimes in Transportation Committee I marveled at how he would ask questions, questions that would normally come from our side of the aisle and he was tenacious to get the right answers and those answers that would benefit all of us, not just the area that he represented and whenever he saw that we may have a problem, he never failed to reach out and to let us know, but there was one little area, Joy, that I didn't make out so well in. I hear that there was

"Deano" and "Carlo" and "Ronzo" and "Kiddo", but somehow I managed to be "Ades" and I don't think that anybody wants to be "Ades", but I still loved him. He was wonderful and he will be truly missed.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Rath.

SENATOR RATH: Mr. President, my colleagues, Joy, this is a very public time and it's also a very private and personal time.

Someone said recently, "Show me your garden and I will show you the person", and I think that at the memorial service we heard some about Norm's garden. I know you and I have talked about gardens and I think anyone who is interested in gardens knows something about the other persons that they're talking with. Those were wonderful conversations that we had, and I did have them with Norman briefly.

Today Senator Marchi spoke about the mosaic. It has been a mosaic. It's something about the private yet public activity that we're going through today and

sharing with each other our recollections.

There's been a lot of allusion not only today but at that wonderful memorial service of the life hereafter and I tell you, Joy, I am once again convinced that we will see Norman again and let me tell you why.

We just heard from Senator Smith. We've heard from "Deano", "Carlos", "Steverino", "Jim, my man". Let me tell you what Norman called me. He called me Mary. The only other person in the world who's ever called me Mary is my mother. He was working on a name. I know he was, and I can hardly wait to hear what it's going to be. I think that's going to be something that we're all going to have some laughs about, those of us who weren't quite finished in learning from Norman because his staff has told us the wonderful names and the wonderful camaraderie and the warm, personal and special feelings that they all had with Norman. So I'm looking forward to what he's going to have for a name for me because it's going to have to be wonderful. I know it will be wonderful like he will -- like he was.

A final thought. So much has been said about the seat belt -- about the seat belt legislation. Yesterday my husband and I drove up from Cleveland late in the afternoon. You can imagine what that was like, the thunder, the lightning, the horrendous rain beating up against the windshield. I was so grateful for that seat belt that held me very tightly in the car and every time now after today I click my grandchildren into their seat belts or I reach behind me and pull that seat belt across and click it, I'm going to say thanks, Senator Levy, thanks.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Goodman.

SENATOR GOODMAN: Joy and my colleagues, it's hard for me to believe it but I think that with the exception of Senator Marchi, I probably served longer in this chamber with Norman Levy than perhaps any other sitting Senator, and I must say in that respect I count myself exceptionally lucky because Norman Levy was a man's man and a rare individual of enormous acuity and ability and

I must say that his passing leaves a tremendous vacuum which can never truly be filled.

I would like to comment briefly upon one or two of the very special personal memories that I have of Norman. He arrived in the Senate one term after I did. I guess you could say I was a sophomore in college and he was a freshman. We both served in the bull pen upstairs on the fifth floor of this building which was a unique experience in and of itself and we survived that without checking into the state sanatorium and that was a great accomplishment because the working and living conditions in that bull pen were unique. It was more like a college dormitory than a state Senatorial office. Each of us occupied a closet and by the time we finished we had all either loved one another or felt that it was imperative that we move out. In the case of Norman and myself and a few of the rest of us, we're very, very happy that we have that collegial experience but then as the sands trickle through the hourglass, Norman gained greatly in stature, and I watched with

great fascination as he became one of the leading members of this great house and in doing so, he did so with a rare sense of concern for his fellow Senators.

I remember particularly when Norman became Chairman of the Transportation Committee, he had in the palm of his hand vast powers involving literally billions of dollars which could be distributed in different ways around the state and had he wished to exercise that responsibility with arrogance or self centeredness, he could have easily done so but there was never a day in his life as a Senator I think in which he allowed his ego to run away with him, nor was there ever a day when he did not consider the needs of his colleagues in this body, and so when I used to go to Norman and say, Norman, there's a matter of the distribution of the funds from the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority and I don't think the City is getting a fair shake, he would examine the situation objectively and he would come back and he would either say, I think that you may not have a point and spell out the precise reasons why or he would say, I

think you do have a point and he would find a way to redistribute the funds in a fair and equitable fashion.

Those of us who watched Norman over the years know that he never walked from point A to point B without having a heavy load under his arms of working papers. Without exception I've never known a Senator work harder in a more continuously and more intensively on the responsibilities with which he was charged than Norm Levy but my recollections go far deeper and far beyond that because in him there is a rare sense of good fellowship which is one of the most precious assets that one can possibly leave this chamber with.

As we all know, we work under great pressure and at times it becomes very difficult for us to maintain collegiality across the aisle and there's been more than adequate testimony today as to the way in which Norman bridged that gap and did it with a great fellowship and consideration, but I also happen to know of his enormous dedication to his wonderful and unique wife Joy and I'm

so happy that she's here today to share with us some of these thoughts because she is a very, very special person.

Joy Levy is, in my opinion, one of the great women of our generation. She has suffered much difficulty in various physical problems that she's had to surmount. I've never, ever seen her when she did not have an exquisite smile on her face and when those sensitive brown eyes of hers did not exude sympathy for others and to always think about others rather than being -- dwelling and thinking about herself.

So there you have it, a unique couple deeply dedicated to one another and yet able to think far beyond their immediate needs and to consider the problems of other people, to share in them and have empathy with them and that to my mind is one of the rarest gifts that they could have given to any of us. They're a great team, a great, great team and I can remember Norman speaking with me from time to time about various personal problems that he had in which I tried to advise and help him and he was always so appreciative and

I always, frankly, got a great benefit from his suggestions about various things we talked about, our families and about various personal matters which ran deep and which tied us together in very, very close concert.

So, Mr. President, so much has been said, and I think it would ill-behoove me to go on at any great length but let me just say when those days roll by and we find ourselves far away from this body and think about the people who were really close to our hearts, Norman Levy will be right in the very center and the very core of our beings because of who he was, what he was and how he handled his wonderful sense of good fellowship and empathy with all of us and his wife shared so deeply in that image and, Joy, from the bottom of our hearts we thank you for all that you did for us through your graciousness, your kindness and your dedication to your beloved husband. We'll miss him more than you'll ever know.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Thank you, Senator Goodman.

Senator Nanula.

SENATOR NANULA: Thank you, Mr. President.

It's been approximately four and a half years since I have been elected to this great body and upon being elected, Norman Levy was one of the first people that I had the honor of meeting and I don't come from a political background. My family was not political and, although I had some great mentors that have taken me under their wing over the past several years that I have been in elected office, from literally the day that I came here, Norman was to me somebody that I could look up to, somebody who was ingratiating to me, somebody who treated me as an equal even though I was a newcomer and even though I was on the opposite side, so to speak -- excuse me -- of the aisle, and so many folks have talked about that today, how Norman really reached out regardless of affiliation, regardless of background, regardless of geographical location in the state. I'm from Buffalo in the western portion of the state and there probably aren't too many -- too much, I should say, further distances between

two Senate districts than Norman's and mine and so many others have mentioned how beyond being a good legislator, he was a statesman and he was truly a caring man when it came to the people that he served.

In Long Island I've had the pleasure of spending some time in Norman's district and I actually have met Democrats in that district who vote for Norman Levy and who voted for Norman Levy because they said Norman cares for us regardless of our affiliation.

Senator Goodman mentioned dollars, the highway funds allocated. I met with a Democrat within Norman's district who told me even though this community is predominantly Democratic, when it came to CHPS funding, the money was there. There wasn't any politically-driven formula. There wasn't something that was political in nature that determined how these dollars were dispensed. It was based upon need not political affiliation and when it came to issues, I always looked towards Norman as a leader.

I can remember with the 65-mile-an-hour speed limit issue, I withheld

my direction on that issue until hearing from Norman because I had such faith and confidence in his knowledge and knowing that he would put the research necessary into this issue to ensure that it was the best thing for the people of the state, and I know it's been said by many other people, I want to say it as well, and I don't have the kind of experience with Norman that others do nor do I have the kind of experience with this chamber that others do, but I know this, Senator Levy will be greatly missed as a legislator and as a human being, not only by the people of the Senate but by the people of the state.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Oppenheimer.

SENATOR OPPENHEIMER: Hi, Joy. Well, I guess a lot of the things have been said, his unique kindness and assessing of each person for what that person was and he certainly was very interested in most of us, probably all of us on this side of the aisle and that's a very nice thing because we sometimes get too partisanly involved and we

don't necessarily reach out to the other side, though I think sometimes we would like to but maybe because of tradition we don't.

I thought in the beginning that maybe Norman was being so kind to me because he's friendly with Gloria, my sister, and they've worked together so much in Nassau, but then I realized it was just him and that's just the way he treats people. He just likes people and wanted to be as helpful to people as he could be.

Of course, you know, I had the good fortune to be his ranking on Transporta tion Committee for ten years and, my Lord, what that man knew about transportation. It was just awesome, and I remember one day he was trying to go through all the various parts of ISTEA with me, the federal program. I felt like a real dunce, though with most other people I felt I was fairly knowledgeable, but Norman was Mr. Transportation in New York State and he handled it in such an egalitarian, such a systematic and, you know, professional manner and, as has been mentioned, he didn't have to do it that way.

He had a lot of clout but he believed in doing things the right way and the honest way and, of course, as far as personal memories, I will never forget when he sent me that little note with a beautiful orchid plant. I couldn't believe the plant and the note said "To the best ranker that a chairman could ever want" and I treasured that orchid, even though I must confess I killed it within about two years, but I felt very lovingly towards him and towards you, and I think I have never seen a marriage that was more close and more caring than yours.

So in many ways you were very, very blessed, Joy. It's just too bad we didn't have him longer.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Onorato.

SENATOR ONORATO: Thank you, Mr. President.

I rise to join my colleagues in singing the praises of Norman Levy. As you can hear from all of us, every adjective and superlative has been mentioned about the character of Norman. He was a doer, a giver,

respectful.

You know, there's a television program "Touched by an Angel". I think Joy was probably the angel that was blessed enough to touch Norman in guiding him and giving him the strength to do the things that he has done, and I hope and pray that you can touch some of us that are still left in this chamber to carry on the work that he has sought to fulfill and perhaps the great road builder that he is, he will provide the highway to heaven for the rest of us to follow him.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Leibell.

SENATOR LEIBELL: Thank you, Mr. President.

Joy, I was and I am "Vincenzo". I made the trip a few years ago, only four years ago, that short trip from many years in the Assembly chamber to this chamber and actually that trip from the Assembly Minority to the Senate Majority probably one of the larger cultural chasms we have in the world and it was a long trip and it was one

that Norman Levy made much easier for me and certainly coming into this chamber and coming into our conference on the first day to be greeted in his warm way as "Vincenzo" and then over the course of time to be able to talk to him and to speak with him about so many things that were knew to me and to receive his kind counsel and to be the beneficiary of his thoughtfulness, is something that I will forever remember.

There's very little I can add. You've heard from all of his colleagues today, but I think it has been expressed and I have to echo this, that if I were to think of a Senator, not a Majority or Minority Senator, but a Senator who is a role model for this chamber for now and for many years into the future, it would have to be Norman.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Mendez.

SENATOR MENDEZ: Mr. President, my dear colleagues, Joy, practically everything has been said about Senator Levy.

Yes, he was an excellent

legislator. Yes, he was generous with his time and his knowledge to others. Yes, I believe he was -- he had great joy at problem solving and for him problems did not have partisanship. He just was there to resolve problems that affected all of the people in the state of New York and in his district and he would do it lovingly, patiently and seeking the cooperation of everybody that could help resolve that problem.

As a woman who is also a widow, Joy, who lost -- I lost my husband many years ago and I thank God I did have a wonderful love experience with him -- you have been a very fortunate woman. There you were married to a great man who loved you very, very deeply and you loved him very, very, very much and the two together were able to contribute in easing the lives of so many people in New York State and in your district.

So you will have great, great memories from him as your partner working together in the issues in the district and throughout -- and in the area of transportation where he was so knowledgeable

about and also as a woman you own moments with him.

So he is resting in peace and he has left a tremendous legacy and he had a tremendously self-fulfilled life of which you participated. We shall miss him and we admire you.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Markowitz.

SENATOR MARKOWITZ: Thank you very much.

Some of the things, I think that we all agree on as we get older, mature, we never think that those that are closest to us will ever leave us. Frankly, I know, I can imagine what Joy and her family have gone through of losing someone so close to you and you can accept at times, of course, other people passing but somehow you never really can ever accept that person or persons closest to you, and so I guess we have to look at it another way and that is that it's inevitable that conclusion. The question is how have we spent the years that we have been blessed to

have?

On that barometer, Norman reached the heights, the heights of the mountains because the years that he had, he has certainly made the most of it. I don't think there are few of us in this chamber that did not envy in many respects Norman, his good looks, his brilliance, his diversity of interests, a lot of us -- I'm not saying all of us -- a lot of us are very focused on our major business here as public servants, but Norman had a tremendous diversity of interests, that's for sure, that went far beyond this chamber. His genuine concern and care always demonstrated itself, that's for sure, and so all I could say is so many of us also, no matter what our relationships are with our families, also envy that kind of special -- that special thing you guys had, let me tell you.

These days in the 1990s you don't see that very often. Believe me. You know that and I know it and you guys had it together and all I can say is that I hope that the days ahead will -- in reflecting on your

life and on Norman that the smile will be ever present because, frankly, you're more blessed than most of us.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Thank you, Senator Markowitz.

Senator Skelos, would it be your pleasure to add all Senators to this resolution?

SENATOR SKELOS: Yes. If we could open sponsorship to all the Senate Minority. Just put every member on the resolution.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The Secretary will add the name to all Senators to the resolution.

On the resolution, all those in favor signify big saying aye.

(Response of "Aye".)

All those opposed say nay.

(There was no response.)

The resolution is adopted.

Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Joy, I think you see how Norman's colleagues felt about him.

There will be a reception held in the Majority Conference Room. Senator Bruno invites all the members and guests to join us right after session closes.

Is there any housekeeping at the desk?

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Yes.

Senator Marcellino.

SENATOR MARCELLINO: Thank you, Mr. President.

On behalf of Senator Trunzo, on page number 41, I offer the following amendments to Calendar Number 1011, Senate Print Number 5473-A, and ask that said bill retain its place on the Third Reading Calendar.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: The amendments are received. Said bill will retain its place on the Third Reading Calendar.

SENATOR MARCELLINO: Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Mr. President,

in name and in the memory of Senator Norman J. Levy, there being no further business, I move we adjourn until Tuesday, June 2nd, at 3:00 p.m.

ACTING PRESIDENT FUSCHILLO: On motion, the Senate stands adjourned in the name and memory of Senator Norman J. Levy until Tuesday, June 2nd, at 3:00 p.m.

(Whereupon, at 5:34 p.m., the Senate adjourned.)