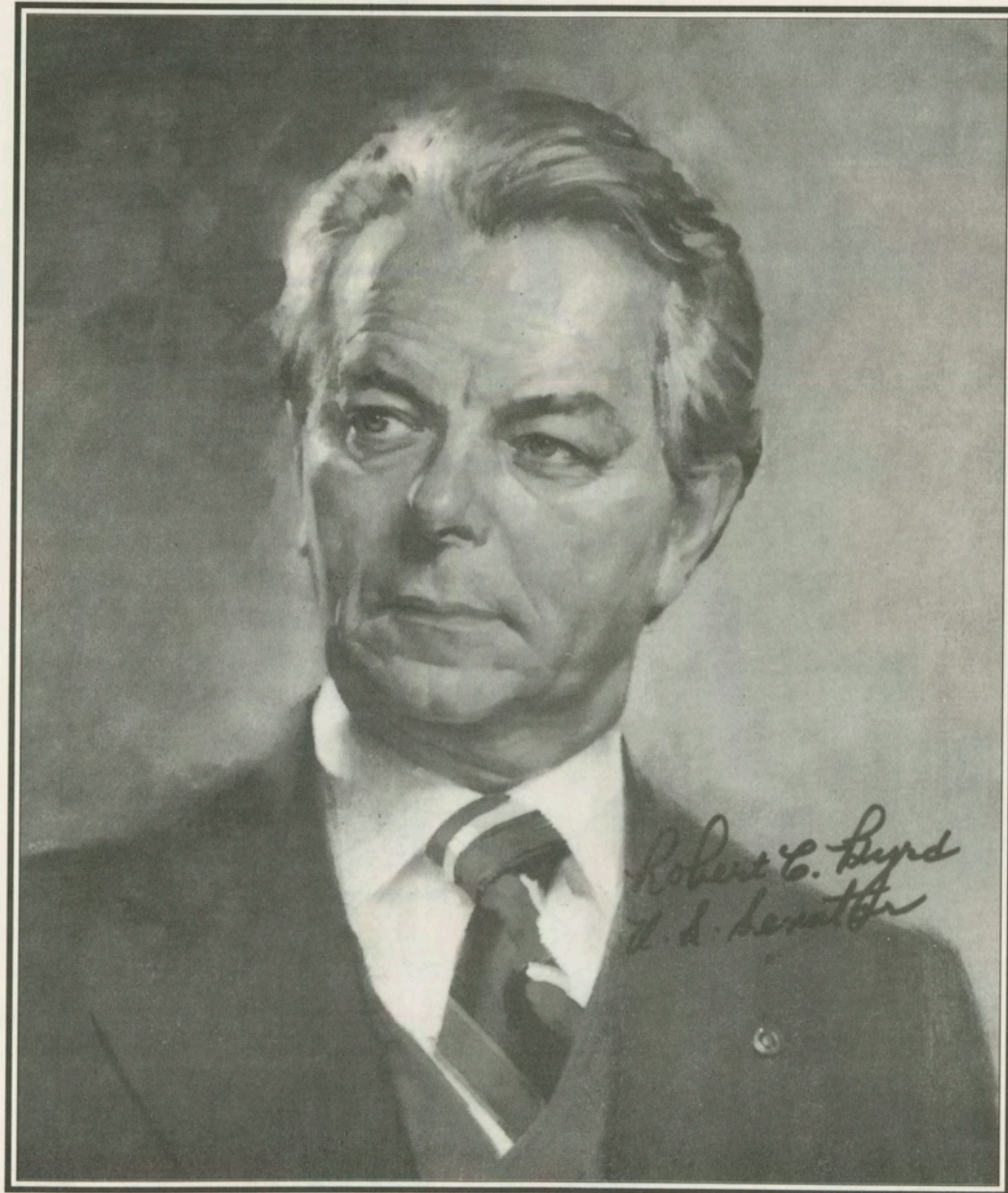


United States Senator
ROBERT C. BYRD



IN HONOR OF
THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE

A Luncheon

for

THE HONORABLE ROBERT C. BYRD

President Pro Tempore

Chairman, Committee on Appropriations

Senior Senator for West Virginia

United States Senate

MENU IN HONOR OF ROBERT C. BYRD

Alaska King Crab Cocktail

Parslied New Potatoes

Julienne of Fresh Garden Vegetables

Rosemary Chicken Breast
with

Grilled Hawaiian Pineapple

Rolls

French Vanilla Ice Cream
with
Butterscotch and Chocolate Sauces

Assorted Cookies

Macadamia Nuts

Kona Coffee

Iced Tea

PROGRAM

WELCOME

Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii

Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska

GRACE BEFORE MEAL

Senator John D. Rockefeller IV of West Virginia

LUNCHEON

SPECIAL TRIBUTE

Senator Robert Dole of Kansas, Republican Leader

Senator George Mitchell of Maine, Majority Leader

INTRODUCTION OF SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

Senator Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon

REMARKS

Senator Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia

THE STORY OF SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

Robert C. Byrd's story is a classic American saga of success and achievement.

Born in 1917 in North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, Robert Byrd was left a virtual orphan by the death of his mother when he was only one year old. Brought to West Virginia by his aunt and uncle to be reared as their own, the future Senator grew up in various communities in the bituminous coal fields, mastering life's early lessons and learning its duties as a miner's son, and graduating as valedictorian of his high school class in the depth of the Great Depression in the 1930's.

Unable at the time to afford college tuition, Robert Byrd sought employment wherever he found an opportunity — pumping gas at a filling station, working as a produce salesman, and then becoming a meat cutter — picking up new skills as he advanced.

One of these skills, welding, was in essential demand after World War II overtook the United States, and he worked during the war years building Liberty and Victory ships in the construction yards of Baltimore, Maryland, and Tampa, Florida.

At war's end, he returned to West Virginia with a new vision of what his home state and his country could be. In 1946, he made his first run for political office, and was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates.

After two terms in the West Virginia House of Delegates, Robert Byrd was elected to the West Virginia Senate, then to the United States House of Representatives for three terms, and finally, in 1958, to the United States Senate, where he has represented West Virginia continuously ever since, winning reelection again and again by record margins in statewide elections. He has served longer in the United States Senate than has anyone else in West Virginia's history, an indication of the confidence, faith, and trust that the people of his home state have regarding him.

In addition to fulfilling his Senate responsibilities, in 1963, after ten years of study at night classes in law school, he earned his law degree (LL.B.), cum laude,

from American University in Washington, D.C., the first time in history that a sitting member of either House of the Congress had accomplished the feat of beginning and completing the courses of study leading to a law degree while serving in either House of the Congress.

Continuing his upward trajectory, in 1967, Senator Byrd became a member of the Senate Leadership when he was selected by his party colleagues as Secretary of the Democratic Conference. In 1971, he was chosen Senate Democratic Whip. In 1977, he was elected Democratic Leader by his Democratic colleagues, a position he held for six consecutive terms. For the 12 years he held the position of Democratic Leader — from January 1977 through 1988 — Senator Byrd served as Senate Majority Leader for six years (1977-80, 1987-88) and as Senate Minority Leader for six years (1981-86).

In 1989, for the first time, Senator Byrd had the opportunity to serve as Chairman of the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee, and he relinquished his position as Majority Leader to take over the leadership of the committee. Also in 1989, Senator Byrd was unanimously elected President pro tempore of the Senate, placing him third in line of succession to the Presidency and giving him the distinction of having held more leadership positions in the U.S. Senate than has any other Senator of any party in Senate history.

Senator Byrd also holds the all-time record of having cast more votes than anyone else who has ever served in the U.S. Senate.

★ ★ ★

Robert C. Byrd is the epitome of great leadership — strong, knowledgeable, dedicated, courageous — the number one defender of the nation's faith in itself.

Robert C. Byrd, senior Senator for West Virginia for more than a third of a century, this is your thirty-fifth anniversary as a leader of your people and a leader of the free world. We are proud to serve with you in the United States Senate.

SENATOR BOB DOLE

REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO BOB BYRD

**IT'S A PLEASURE TO JOIN IN
THIS SALUTE TO SENATOR
BYRD, AND TO HIS ROLE IN THE
HISTORIC DECISION TO ADMIT
ALASKA AND HAWAII AS OUR
49TH AND 50TH STATES.**

LIKE ALL OF US, I'M SURE
THAT SENATOR BYRD LOOKS
BACK AT SOME VOTES WITH
HINDSIGHT. AND, SENATOR
BYRD, AS I LOOK AT THE TWO
OUTSTANDING REPUBLICAN
SENATORS FROM ALASKA, I
WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT
YOU MADE THE RIGHT DECISION
ON THE ALASKA STATEHOOD

**VOTE. HOWEVER, I'M STILL
TAKING A "WAIT AND SEE"
ATTITUDE ON THE HAWAII
VOTE...**

**ROBERT BYRD HAS SERVED
IN THE SENATE FOR OVER 35
YEARS--17% OF THE ENTIRE 205
YEAR HISTORY OF THE SENATE.**

**1,815 AMERICANS HAVE
SERVED IN THE SENATE IN THAT**

HISTORY, AND I DON'T THINK
THERE'S MUCH DOUBT THAT
NONE OF THOSE SENATORS
KNEW MORE ABOUT THIS
INSTITUTION THAN ROBERT
BYRD--OR LOVED THIS
INSTITUTION MORE THAN
ROBERT BYRD.

THERE IS, HOWEVER, ONE
THING THAT SENATOR BYRD

LOVES MORE THAN THE SENATE.

AND THAT'S HIS FAMILY.

**SEVERAL OF US HERE WERE
PRIVILEGED TO ATTEND A
LUNCH HONORING PRESIDENT
NIXON BACK IN JANUARY.**

**THERE WERE MANY MEMORABLE
MOMENTS AT THAT LUNCH. BUT
EVERYONE THERE AGREED THAT
THE MOST MEMORABLE**

**MOMENT CAME WHEN SENATOR
BYRD SPOKE ABOUT THE LATE
PAT NIXON.**

**THERE WERE OVER 100
POLITICIANS IN THE ROOM--100
PEOPLE USED TO TALKING ALL
THE TIME--AND YOU COULD
HAVE HEARD A PIN DROP WHEN
SENATOR BYRD SPOKE
MOVINGLY OF HOW MRS. NIXON**

**HAD STOOD BY PRESIDENT
NIXON THROUGHOUT HIS HALF-
CENTURY IN THE ARENA.**

**AND NO DOUBT ABOUT IT,
SENATOR BYRD'S REMARKS
CAME FROM THE HEART--AND
FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE.**

**THROUGHOUT HIS
REMARKABLE CAREER--AND
BOTH PRESIDENT NIXON AND**

**SENATOR BYRD WERE ELECTED
TO THEIR FIRST OFFICE IN 1946--
HE HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH
THE LOVE AND SUPPORT OF HIS
WIFE, ERMA, AND THEIR FAMILY.**

**SO, ERMA, BY PAYING
TRIBUTE TO YOUR HUSBAND, WE
ARE ALSO PAYING TRIBUTE TO
YOU, AND ALL BOTH OF YOU**

HAVE GIVEN TO WEST VIRGINIA
AND TO AMERICA.