a CASA volunteer and a CASA supervisor in Portland, has served variously as a counselor, advisor, and friend to many of my State. Mike once served as a caseworker in the child welfare system, but later came to CASA because he believed it would be the place where he could make the biggest difference.

Today, Mike suffers from a terminal illness. The CASA organization and all of Oregon has been extraordinary fortunate to have him in their ranks. Mike's co-workers describe him as compassionate, funny, possessing a quiet wisdom, able to interject just the right solution when it appears to elude everyone else, and an inherently decent guy. One CASA represented the feelings of a great many in the organization, saying, ''I for one feel blessed to have him in my life. He is the best.''

I want to take this opportunity to honor Mike's contributions to my State, to the Nation, and to humanity, and to wish Mike, his wife Natalie, and his two children, Ryan and Andrea, peace and joy in the days ahead. I have witnessed first-hand the ripples that emanate from simply human acts, good and bad. These ripples can reach across families, across borders, and across generations. Mike's ripples have made this world a far better place. I honor his dedicated service and his life, as well as the service rendered by CASA workers and volunteers all across our Nation.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:58 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1829. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to require Federal Prison Industries to compete for its contracts minimizing its unfair competition with private sector firms and their non-inmate workers and empowering Federal agencies to get the best value for taxpayers' dollars, to provide a five-year period during which Federal Prison Industries adjusts to obtaining inmate work opportunities through other than its mandatory source status, to enhance inmate access to remedial and vocational opportunities and other rehabilitative opportunities to better prepare inmates for a successful return to society, to authorize alternative inmate work opportunities in support of non-profit organizations, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The following enrolled bills, previously signed by the Speaker, were signed on today, November 7, 2003, by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

H.R. 1442. An act to authorize the design and construction of a visitor center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

H.R. 3365. An act to amend title 10, United States Code, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the death gratuity payable with respect to deceased members of the Armed Forces and to exclude such gratuity from gross income, to provide additional tax relief for members of the Armed Forces and their families, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 11:40 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 76. A joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes.

The joint resolution was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 12:45 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1588) ''to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2004 for military activities of the Department of Defense for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1829. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to require Federal Prison Industries to compete for its contracts minimizing its unfair competition with private sector firms and their non-inmate workers and empowering Federal agencies to get the best value for taxpayers' dollars, to provide a five-year period during which Federal Prison Industries adjusts to obtaining inmate work opportunities through other than its mandatory source status, to enhance inmate access to remedial and vocational opportunities and other rehabilitative opportunities to better prepare inmates for a successful return to society, to authorize inmate work opportunities in support of non-profit organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1832. A bill to entitle the Senator Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act of 2003.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–5183. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5184. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5185. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's Alternate Fuel Vehicle Program; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–5186. A communication from the, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Assessment of Access Authorization Fees'' (RIN3150–AH30) received on November 4, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5187. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Clean Air Act Final Approval of Operating Program Revision; Michigan'' (FRL#7585–3) received on November 4, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5188. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Non-attainment New Source Review (NSR): Reconsideration'' (FRL#7583–7) received on November 4, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5189. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Trade Secrecy Claims for Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Information; and Trade Secret Disclosures to Health Professionals; Amendment'' (FRL#7584–8) received on November 4, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5190. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Water Quality Standards; Withdrawal of Federal Aquatic Life Water Quality Criteria for Copper and Nickel Applicable to South San Francisco Bay, California'' (FRL#7583–9) received on November 4, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5191. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Water Quality Standards; Withdrawal of Federal Nutrient Standards for the State of Arizona'' (FRL#7584–1) received on November 4, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5192. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the