

Legislature. In 1986, of course, he became a sergeant at arms, not just to view the Legislature but help make it work and he didn't live for the past, he learned from it. He learned that history though was the present, the reason he was here. This Chamber for Bill was history being made and that's the reason he had a great love for it. And a lot of times we say that people, they're a people person, and that's a cliché but for Bill it was a way of life. He wanted to be where the action was at and that was here, that was in Memorial Stadium where there was always people around, whether it was that crowded Rotunda or in here. He was a keen observer of people and their contributions, whether they were good or bad contributions, he knew they were contributions. He cared greatly for this institution of the Legislature. He was our big fan, and beneath that stoic, those eyes, he had great humor and compassion. He always had a joke. He always could put somebody at ease when he knew things were tense and he'd do it in his own special way. But if there was ever somebody that had a twinkle in their eye that could make you think or they could roll their eyes, he could say everything with those eyes and you knew exactly what he thought, it was Bill. Without ever being the center of attention he'd let you know his opinions, but he was so dedicated to make this system work. He'd never get in the way. He never wanted those opinions to interfere with the way the Legislature worked, and if you ever visited with him you knew what his observations were, they were real keen and to the point. But we're going to miss his commitment, his gentle manner of dealing with people in a very professional manner because he valued that most. He was professional in what he did. The state I think has lost a loyal and wonderful citizen and this Legislature has lost a fan, a friend and a very valuable asset and I know his family has lost a caring and devoted husband and father. His wife, Helen, is a very loyal follower of our proceedings. She watches all the time. We want to extend our sympathy to her and to the rest of Bill's family and we want to acknowledge to the rest of this state Bill's tremendous commitment to public service and our gratitude for doing that and I'm glad that every member of the Legislature has taken the opportunity to recognize that, Mr. Clerk, and we want to thank you for drafting this resolution. Madam President, I hope the Legislature will join me in voting unanimously to approve this resolution.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Pedersen.