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each of them. Tom Baker, who kicked the hell out of me when I ran for my first chairmanship, who came up to me immediately after and said, let's go have a beer, he taught me that what we do here in the Legislature should never be personal. Adrian Smith used to sit up here, used to sit just in front of me. I remember how red he would turn when former Senator Hilgert and I would tell somewhat naughty jokes. (Laughter) He must have gotten tired of that as he moved back to the back of the room, sits now with the more dignified senators. Senator Marian Price, who works quietly on caring issues like ensuring we have adequate number of nurses and tougher laws regarding an treatment of animals, her caring nature won't be soon forgotten. Senator Matt Connealy, one of my best friends. Matt and his wife, Judy, have devoted their lives to public service and making Nebraska a better place. My only hope is that Matt will find a job so that Judy can come to the Legislature and serve. She'd do a much better job than Matt and take up a lot less space. (Laughter) Bob Kremer, a wonderful man who's worked tirelessly to make Nebraska more competitive in ethanol and value-added agriculture. Senator Redfield and her fantastic work on income tax and other business-related issues. Senator Thompson, who I have a tremendous amount of respect for, who I have made so angry at times I think she wanted to absolutely And yet, she would invite me to her house shortly kill me. after one of our blow-ups, and other than making me sit out and on her deck alone for dinner (laughter), treated me with the utmost graciousness. Senator Byars and his tireless work to make our Nebraska a healthier place and his work on the Health We'll all leave here richer because of Committee. experiences here. But I'll tell you, I leave with the best of I leave with 40 extra pounds due to all Cudaback-provided potato chips, Senator Combs' M&M's and all those luncheon meetings. But to me, I leave here with the best of all, my beautiful wife, Renee, who I met when she was legal counsel to the Speaker. It's been a great experience. going to tell you what my last official act was. The Governor kind of ruined it for me. My last official act was to steal the step stool that he uses to give his speech. (Laughter) since he's already done that, I guess it kind of stole my thunder. It's been a great experience. I think the world of all of you and thank you very much. (Applause)