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Hawaii Sen. Daniel Inouye's casket was carried into the Washington National Cathedral on Friday for a memorial service attended by President Barack Obama, center, Vice President Joe Biden, former President Bill Clinton and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada.



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The president and other top leaders honor their colleague and inspiration

By John Yaukey Special to the Star-Advertiser

WASHINGTON >> The nation's most powerful leaders invoked the spirit of aloha as they bade farewell to Hawaii's Daniel K. Inouye, the second-longest-serving senator in U.S. history and a giant even among the "Greatest Generation" of World War II.

President Barack Obama spoke to mourners Friday at the majestic National Cathedral about his Hawaii connection to the senator.

"As someone who has been privileged to live in Hawaii, I know that he embodied the very best of that spirit, the very best of aloha," the Honolulu-born president said in an eight-minute eulogy.

Obama noted that Inouye's last word was "aloha" and said, "It was a final expression most of all of his love for the family and friends that he cared so much about, for the men and women he was honored to serve with, for the country that held such a special place in his heart."

Before Obama's remarks, former President Bill Clinton called Inouye "one of the most remarkable Americans I have ever known."

Inouye, 88, died Monday of a respiratory illness, ending a half-century career as a senator from Hawaii. He was honored at the National Cathedral amid bell chimes and solemn choirs carrying flickering white candles.

The ceremony was Washington's farewell to Inouye, whose body returns to Hawaii today for public memorial ceremonies this weekend.

Hawaiian music played during the cathedral service, reflecting

See INOUYE, next page

President Barack Obama delivered the euology for U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii on Friday at the National Cathedral in Washington. Inouye died Monday in Bethesda, Md. He was 88.

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INSIDE THIS SECTION

REMEMBRANCES

"He always stood up for the small guy," longtime friends of U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye recall.

FINAL TRIBUTES

The senator will be honored today at the state Capitol and Sunday at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.



CINDY ELLEN RUSSELL / CRUSSELL@STARADVERTISER.COM

Mourners left personal messages and photographs Friday in a condolence book at the Governor's Office in the state Capitol.



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PRESIDENTIAL TRIBUTE

Excerpts from President Barack Obama's remarks Friday at the funeral service for U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye at the National Cathedral in Washington:

"Danny was elected to the U.S. Senate when I was 2 years old. He had been elected to Congress a couple of years before I was born. He would remain my senator until I left Hawaii for college.

"Now, even though my mother and grandparents took great pride that they had voted for him, I confess that I wasn't paying much attention to the United States Senate at the age of 4 or 5 or 6. It wasn't until I was 11 years old that I recall even learning what a U.S. senator was, or it registering, at least. ...

"My mother that summer would turn on the TV every night ... and watch the Watergate hearings. And I can't say that I understood everything that was being discussed, but I knew the issues were important. I knew they spoke to some basic way about who we were and who we might be as Americans. ...

"And the person who fascinated me most was this man of Japanese descent with one arm, speaking in this courtly baritone, full of dignity and grace. And maybe he captivated my attention because my mom explained that this was our senator and that he was upholding what our government was all about. Maybe it was a boyhood fascination with the story of how he had lost his arm in a war. But I think it was more than that.

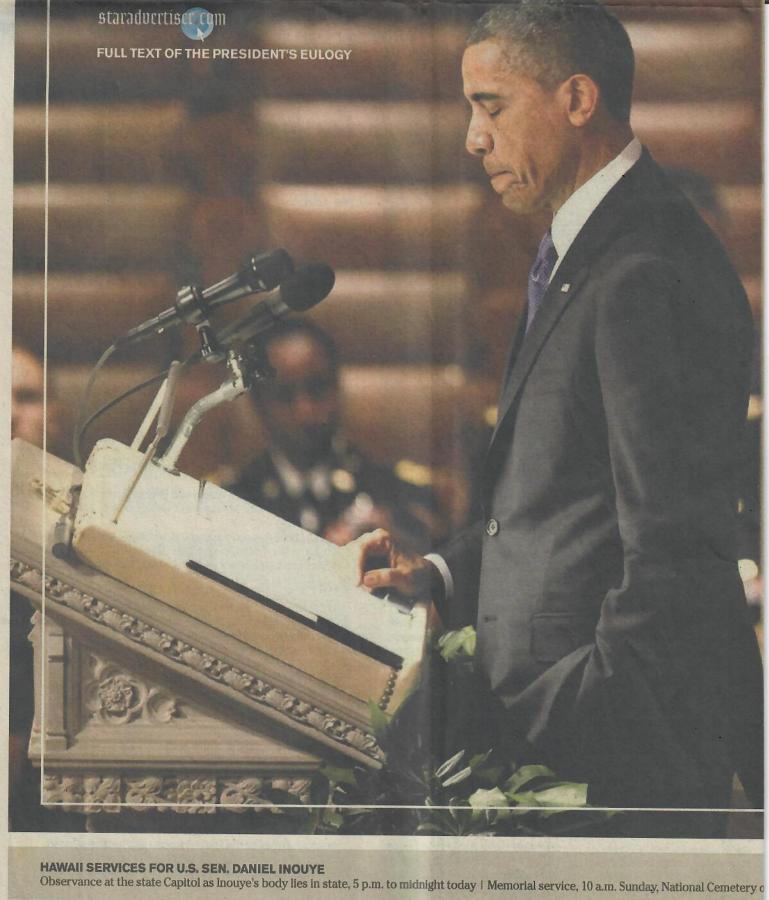
"Now, here I was, a young boy with a white mom, a black father, raised in Indonesia and Hawaii. And I was beginning to sense how fitting into the world might not be as simple as it might seem. And so to see this man, this senator, this powerful, accomplished person who wasn't out of central casting when it came to what you'd think a senator might look like at the time, and the way he commanded the respect of an entire nation, I think it hinted to me what might be possible in my own life. ...

"This was a man who as a teenager stepped up to serve his country even after his fellow Japanese-Americans were declared enemy aliens; a man who believed in America even when its government didn't necessarily believe in him. That meant something to me. It gave me a powerful sense — one that I couldn't put into words — a powerful sense of hope. ...

"Danny once told his son his service to this country had been for the children, or all the sons and daughters who deserved to grow up in a nation that never questioned their patriotism. 'This is my country,' he said. Many of us have fought hard for the right to say that ... but my point is, is that when he referred to our sons and daughters, he wasn't just talking about Japanese-Americans. He was talking about all of us. He was talking about those who serve today who might have been excluded in the past. He's talking about me.

"And that's who Danny was. For him, freedom and dignity were not abstractions. They were values that he had bled for, ideas he had sacrificed for, rights he understood as only someone can who has had them threatened, had them taken away ...

"May God bless Daniel Inouye. And may God grant us more souls like his."





CINDY ELLEN RUSSELL / CRUSSELL@STARADVERTISER.COM

Nohea Nakaahiki signed a condolence book for U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye on Friday in the Governor's Office at the state Capitol. Nakaahiki said the senator helped find care for her husband, who had Lou Gehrig's disease. "He was a true champion."

Friends recall senator's spirit and leadership

By Gary T. Kubota gkubota@staradvertiser.com

henever U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye was in Honolulu, he would ask his war buddy Glenn Nakasone to invite friends from Company E of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team for a gathering.

"I was very close to him," said Nakasone, an Aiea resident.

Nakasone and other World War II veterans of the 442nd, who fought to break the barriers of discrimination against Japanese-Americans and prove their loyalty to the United States, will pay their respects to their friend and his family at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl on Sunday.

Nakasone, 91, said "Danny" and he had a special bond.

Both were descended from families who came to Hawaii to work as contract laborers in the sugar cane fields.

Both were promoted to staff sergeant in Company E at the same time during World War II, and both became amputees as a result of the

war — Inouye lost his right arm, and Nakasone lost his left leg and a toe.

"Every time we get together he asks, 'How you getting along with your leg?'" Nakasone said.

Each required a couple of years of rehabilitation at military hospitals before they were discharged.

Their war injuries changed their plans for the future.

Nakasone had wanted to go into business but decided to get a federal job at Hickam Air Force Base as an accountant. Inouye, who had planned to be a surgeon, went to law school and entered politics.

Retired University of Hawaii academic adviser Rachel Omori, who is distantly related to Inouye, remembered her husband Morio sharing an office space with Inouye as attorneys when Inouye had his own law practice.

Omori remembered organizing a group of volunteer secretaries at night to type letters of support on behalf of Inouye when he made his first run for Congress in 1959.

"I always liked what he stood for. He always stood up for the small guy," she said.

Omori said when the veterans of the 442nd came home, they realized if they stood together they could make social and economic changes.

Omori said the senator understood the racial prejudice faced by Hawaii's Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II and how they suffered terrible injustices.

Omori said half of her family in California, including her sister, was interned in camps, while her brother joined the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and received a Silver Star for gallantry fighting for the United States in World War II.

"You see the irony?" she said. Former Maui Mayor Elmer Cravalho said Inouye was recognized as a leader among the Democrats early in his political career, rising to Territorial House majority leader after being elected to his first term in 1954.

Cravalho said the economic success enjoyed by working people in





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elected to his al House majority solitical career, among the Demonye was recogsyor Elmer my?" she said. in World War II. try fighting for and received a Sil-≥ 442nd Regimen-" while her ng her sister, was of her family in ble injustices. 'ld War II and how ns of Japanese anrejudice faced by senator under-

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"They blew his arm off in World War II, but they never, never laid a finger on his heart or his mind."

Former President Bill Clinton

Speaking at the memorial service for U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye on Friday at the National Cathedral in Washington

INOUYE: Senator instilled hope in 11-year-old Obama

Continued from A1

Inouye's love for his home state. He was Hawaii's first congressman.

Inouye's casket was carried into the cathedral by eight military pallbearers. Obama appeared to wipe tears from his eyes as he sat in the front row next to Vice President Joe Biden and Clinton.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid told the service that Inouye worked until mere minutes before his death, shaking hands with his friends and caressing the hands of his family in those final moments. Reid said the senator thanked his security detail and the doctors and nurses, and wrote notes detailing his last wishes.

Other political leaders hailed Inouye for his career, spirit and selflessness.

The tributes from the nation's political leaders were deeply personal. Biden said he remembered thinking of Inouye, "I wish I could be more like that man. He's a better man than I am."

Inouye was the first Japa-

nese-American elected to both houses of Congress and the secondlongest-serving senator in U.S. history. He was



Obama said.

One speaker after another described Inouye as a political giant with refreshing humility.

Obama said that Inouye ultimately decided he had done "OK" in representing his state and his nation the best he could.

"Danny, you were more than OK," Obama said. "You were extraordinary."

It was the second day of memorials for Inouye. On Thursday he became just the 32nd person to lie in state in the Capitol rotunda. Colleagues and aides lined the area five deep to say farewell.

The rare ceremony demonstrated the respect and good will he generated over the years. The last person to be honored in the Capitol rotunda was former President Gerald R. Ford nearly six years ago.

After Inouye became Hawaii's first congressman following statehood in 1959, he won election to the Senate in 1962. He was serving his ninth term in the Senate when he died.

> As a legislator, Inouye's specialty was steering federal money back home to help build the kinds of roads, schools

awarded the
Medal of Honor, the nation's
highest military honor, for
bravery during World War II,
including a heroic effort that
cost him his right arm.

"They blew his arm off in World War II, but they never, never laid a finger on his heart or his mind," Clinton said.

Inouye later became one of the nation's most influential politicians, playing key roles in congressional investigations of the Watergate and Iran-Contra scandals.

Obama told a story of taking a summer trip across America as an 11-year-old and spending the nights watching the Watergate hearings on TV with his mother. The president said that as the son of a white mother and a black father, he found it captivating to watch Inouye, his home state's U.S. senator.

"To see this man, this senator, this powerful, accomplished person who was not out of central casting ... and the way he commanded the respect of an entire nation, it hinted to me what might be possible in my own life,"

and housing that Americans on the mainland took for granted.

His death, along with the retirement of U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka, has taken a century of political clout from Hawaii's small four-member delegation in Washington.

Today, Inouye will lie in state at the Hawaii state Capitol from 5 p.m. to midnight. On Sunday a final public memorial will be held at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.

Obama, who returned today to Hawaii with his family for Christmas, ended his remarks Friday by saying, "And so we remember a man who inspired all of us with his courage and moved us with his compassion, that inspired us with his integrity and who taught so many of us — including a young kid growing up in Hawaii — that America has a place for everyone.

"May God bless Daniel Inouye. And may God grant us more souls like his."

The Associated Press contributed to this report.



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President Barack Obama wiped away a tear during the memorial service for U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye on Friday at the National Cathedral. He was seated alongside Vice President Joe Biden, former President Bill Clinton and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid.





By Gary T gkubota@sta

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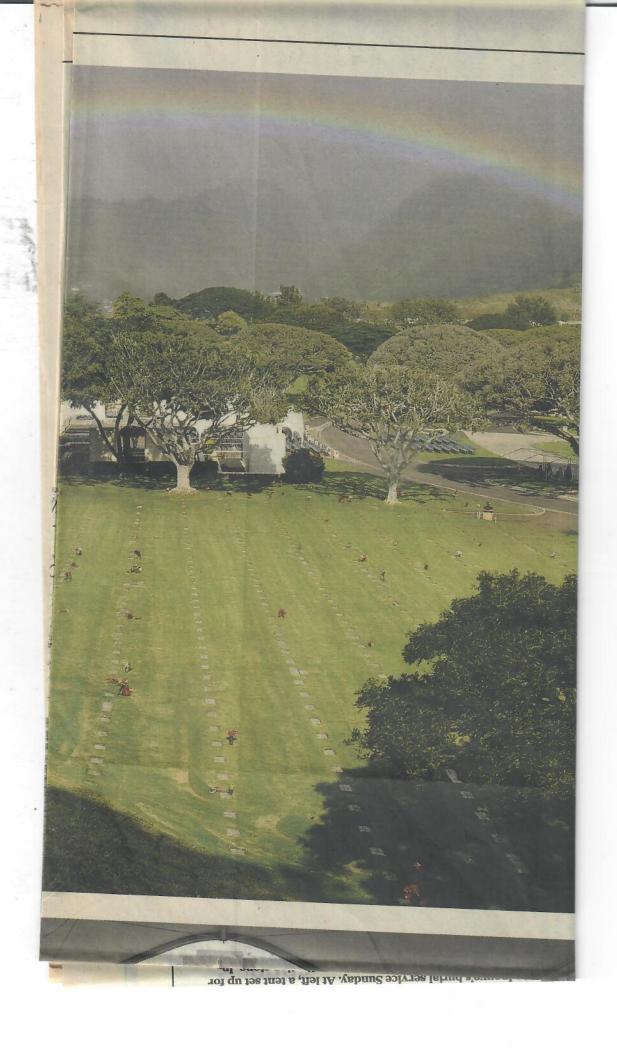
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AN AMERICAN HERO? HAWMII MOURNS

DANIEL K. INOUYE | 1924 - 2012



the life of an extraordinary man, Sen. Daniel Inouye. A friend of education, a passionate advocate for our colleges and universities and a leader of integrity and vision, Sen. Inouye embodied values that represent the heart of HPU: pono, kuleana and aloha. His legacy shines as an example to our students and a reminder of something a great man once said when Sen. Inouye was still a member of the U.S. House of Representatives: "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country."

Mahalo for all that you did, Senator Inouye. E ho'omaha me ka maluhia.

CIFIC UNIVERSITY IIC INSTITUTE

U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, president pro tempore of the Senate and a recipient of th how he would like to be remembered, Inouye said, "I represented the people of l

The venerable senator 'ch

aniel Ken Inouye, a Hawaii icon who lived a life of remarkable service to his country that included sacrificing his right arm in combat during World War II and representing the islands with distinction for nearly 50 years in the U.S. Senate, died Monday. He was 88.

The Hawaii Democrat, who had earned the Medal of Honor for his heroism in battle, died of respiratory complications at 5:01 p.m. Eastern time (12:01 p.m. in Hawaii) at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. The senator had been hospitalized since Dec. 6 after fainting in one of his Senate offices.

His staff said Inouye's wife, Irene Hirano Inouye, and his son, Daniel Ken Inouye Jr., were by his side when he died. Inouye was hopeful last week that he would return to the Senate, but when asked how he would like to be remembered, he said, "I represented the people of Hawaii and this nation honestly and to the best of my ability. I think I did OK.

His staff said his last word was "aloha." Doctors had been trying to regulate Inouye's oxygen intake. His staff said the senator, a former heavy smoker, had a sizable portion of his left lung removed in the late 1960s after being misdiagnosed with lung cancer. He had been breathing with the help of an oxygen supplement for about nine months.

The World battled so Inouye's wi Hanabusa a Loss of Inouye could cost isle Colleagues fo **'giant** of Tributes to



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ASSOCIATED PRESS / SEPT. 19, 2011

Medal of Honor, died Monday of respiratory complications. When asked recently awaii and this nation honestly and to the best of my ability. I think I did OK."

anged our islands forever'

DePledge radvertiser.com

Inouye's death marks the end of an era in the Senate as the World War II generation fades from the marble halls. He was the most senior member and the second-longest-serving senator in history after the late U.S. Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va. U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., will replace Inouye as Senate president

pro tempore, third in line to the presidency.

Inouye's death also means an abrupt loss of seniority and influence for Hawaii. He had served as chairman of the powerful Appropriations Committee, which oversees federal spending. U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii, is retiring after 22 years when his term expires in January.

Inouye urged Gov. Neil Abercrombie in a letter delivered to the governor Monday morning to name U.S. Rep. Colleen Hanabusa, D-Hawaii, as his successor.

But on Monday the practical and political consequences of Inouye's death were temporarily set aside, and his friends and colleagues honored a man whom many fondly called "Danny," a patriot who will be remembered as an American hero.

"Tonight, our country has lost a true American hero with the passing of Senator Daniel Inouye," Hawaii-born President Barack Obama said in a statement. "The second-longest serving senator in the history of the chamber, Danny represented the people of Hawaii in

Please see INOUYE, A4

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