

Thank you, Vince, Jerry, and Judge Millett for your moving remarks. My name is Matt Roberts. I served alongside Barbara as an Assistant to the U.S. Solicitor General for seven years, and I have been a director of the Barbara McDowell Foundation for the past five years. In a few minutes, I will read some remarks praising Barbara and the Foundation that we received from Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Justice Ginsburg asked me to read those remarks, so that you would all know that, although she is unable to be here in person, she is definitely here in spirit.

Justice Ginsburg was a big fan of Barbara, and she strongly supports the Foundation — both for good reason. Working alongside Barbara at the SG's office, I saw what Justice Ginsburg also saw: In an office filled with committed and impressive advocates, Barbara was even more committed — and more impressive — than the rest. Perhaps that was because she connected with her cases on a personal level, and that personal connection led her to go the extra mile. So, when Barbara took on a case arguing that the Mille Lacs Indians retain the right to hunt and fish on Minnesota lands, she didn't just sit in her office like a typical assistant, poring over the books, devising clever arguments. She also travelled to the reservation, where she bonded with tribal leaders over the peace pipe, and saw for herself how tribe members continue to engage in traditional

hunting and fishing practices. Back in DC, Barbara used her firsthand knowledge — and some clever arguments that she had devised while poring over the books — to convince five members of the Court to rule for the Indians.

Taken from us far too early, Barbara is no longer here to pursue the commitment to justice that she displayed in the Mille Lacs case and in the many cases she argued while head of the Legal Aid Appellate Advocacy project. But Barbara is ably represented by the Foundation that pursues her legacy. And like Barbara herself, the Foundation stands out among its peers for its commitment to and its impressive record in pursuing social justice.

But Justice Ginsburg has summarized the spirit and the accomplishments of Barbara and the Foundation more articulately — and more concisely — than I, so let me close with her words. The Justice writes: