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S&P, Nasdaq hit records as Wall Street rises on NAFTA optimism

(Reuters) - U.S. stocks posted strong gains on Monday, with the benchmark S&P 500 and the Nasdaq hitting all-time highs, as news that the United States and Mexico were closing in on a trade deal added to optimism about the economy. Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) in New York, U.S., August 23, 2018. REUTERS/Brendan McDermid

A Mexican source familiar with the talks told Reuters "it's almost certain" that there will be an announcement about the North American Free Trade Agreement later in the day and U.S. President Donald Trump tweeted, "a big deal looking good with Mexico!"

Also helping sentiment was Washington pressing the European Union to speed up trade negotiations.

Nine of the 11 major S&P 500 sectors were higher. The top gainer was the materials sector .SPLRCM with a 1.38 percent increase, as prices of metals and gold rose. The trade-sensitive industrials sector .SPLRCI was up about 0.82 percent. Boeing (BA.N) and Caterpillar (CAT.N) rose 1.5 percent and 2.5 percent, respectively. Shares of automakers Ford (F.N), General Motors (GM.N) and Fiat Chrysler (FCAU.N) were up between 1.86 percent and 2.26 percent.

"What we are seeing is optimism that there is going to be some resolution to trade difficulties and then there's the news of the U.S. and Mexico closing in on the NAFTA deal," said Scott Brown, chief economist at Raymond James in St. Petersburg, Florida.

"Easing trade and NAFTA are probably the biggest things today but I think it's more fundamental than that, because we're still seeing a lot of signs of strength in the domestic economy and earnings stories have been very robust."

Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell said on Friday that the central bank's gradual interest rate hikes were the best way to protect the economic recovery, maintain strong job growth and keep inflation under control.

At 10:01 a.m. EDT the Dow Jones Industrial Average .DJI was up 213.17 points, or 0.83 percent, at 26,003.52, the S&P 500 .SPX was up 18.15 points, or 0.63 percent, at 2,892.84 and the Nasdaq Composite .IXIC was up 54.28 points, or 0.68 percent, at 8,000.25.

The defensive utilities sector .SPLRCU dropped 0.29 percent, and the real estate sector .SPLRCR dropped 0.01 percent.



FILE PHOTO: Chinese tourists pose for photographs with a landmark statue of a bull in New York August 24, 2015. This Wednesday, the S&P 500's <SPX> bull-market run will turn 3,453 days old, which in some market watchers' eyes will make it the longest such streak in history. The debate is when, not if, the run comes to an end. REUTERS/

Chipotle Mexican Grill (CMG.N) slipped 3 percent, the most on the S&P, after Wedbush downgraded its shares, citing higher risks to the burrito chain's near-term same-store sales and margin estimates.

Tesla Inc (TSLA.O) dropped 1.9 percent after abandoning a plan to take the electric carmaker private. Advancing issues outnumbered decliners for a 3.01-to-1 ratio on the NYSE and a 2.61-to-1 ratio on the Nasdaq.

The S&P index recorded 42 new 52-week highs and no new lows, while the Nasdaq recorded 121 new highs and 13 new lows.



Turkey's economic pain felt as far as Tennessee

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Turkey's currency crisis has roiled emerging-markets investors far and wide, including the U.S. state of Tennessee, where the state's retirement system is the biggest institutional holder in a Turkey exchange-traded fund (ETF). The Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (TCRS), which manages a retirement plan for public employees statewide, was the largest institutional shareholder in the U.S.-based iShares MSCI Turkey ETF (TUR.O), according to Thomson Reuters data based on public filings as of June 30, with more than with 880,000 shares valued

at around \$19 million as of Friday's value.

The Turkey ETF has lost around half its value for the year to date, hit by worries about Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan's influence over monetary policy and a worsening diplomatic rift with the United States. The lira TRY-USD=R is down more than 37 percent this year and the country's BIST 100 stock index .XU100 is down around 22 percent.

It was a reversal from the prior year, when the Turkey ETF generated a total return of nearly 38 percent in 2017, including dividends, according

to Thomson Reuters data.

"It is obviously a frustrating situation and it's a real shame what's happening in the country," Michael Brakebill, TCRS's chief investment officer, said in an interview on Friday.

Still, the investment was a small part of the fund, which at the end of its fiscal year on June 30 had a value estimated at \$49.7 billion and an annual return of 8.19 percent, according to data the fund provided.

"We own thousands of things and there are going to be a bunch that will go wrong and this is one of those," said Brakebill.



FILE PHOTO: A U.S. dollar banknote is seen through a magnifying lens on top of 100 Turkish lira banknotes in this picture illustration in Istanbul

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Texas remains No. 1 in U.S. wind energy

Texas installed the most wind capacity and remained the nation's top state for wind power in 2017.

The Department of Energy reported that Texas added more than 2,300 megawatts of wind power in 2017, pushing the state to nearly 22,600 megawatts of total installed wind power. Oklahoma had the second highest wind installations, with 851 megawatts installed.

The Texas additions are lower than the 3,615 megawatts and 2,611 megawatts of wind installed in 2015 and 2016, respectively.

A megawatt can power roughly 200 homes during periods of peak demand, according to the Texas' grid operator, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas.

The report said that 14.8 percent of the energy generated in Texas in 2017 comes from wind, up from 12.6 percent in 2016. Four states -- Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma and South Dakota -- saw more than 30 percent of their electricity generated by wind, with Iowa at the top with 26.9 percent of its energy wind generated.

The report said Texas, with its 22,599 megawatts of installed wind power, has more wind capacity than all but five countries, including the rest of the U.S. The states with the next largest wind capacity are Oklahoma at 7,495 megawatts, Iowa with 7,308 megawatts, and California with 5,555 megawatts of installed wind capacity.



Wind turbines in the Palalote Creek Wind Farm near Taft, TX. Monday, Oct. 28, 2013.

Exxon seeks wind, solar power delivery in Texas

Exxon Mobil Corp. has been looking to buy renewable energy for delivery in Texas, according to people familiar with the matter. The largest U.S. oil company sent out a request for proposals with a June 8 deadline, inviting solar or wind power suppliers to pitch contracts that would last 12, 15 or 20 years, according to a document obtained by Bloomberg and people with knowledge who asked not to be named discussing confidential matters. Exxon, based in Irving, Texas, is seeking at least 100 megawatts and would consider proposals for more than 250 megawatts.

"I have never seen an oil and gas company doing a corporate PPA anywhere near that size," said Kyle Harrison, a New York-based analyst at Bloomberg NEE, referring to the power-purchase agreements used to buy electricity. "If you're seeing the biggest oil and gas companies going out and making investments in clean energy, it shows that renewables are cost-competitive. This can be a way for them to show a commitment

to sustainability without suffering economically."

Exxon declined to comment. It's not clear whether the company has reached an agreement with any supplier to buy this power, nor whether it was seeking the electricity for its own use.

Exxon has been slow to follow Big Oil rivals such as Royal Dutch Shell Plc and BP Plc into renewable energy technologies. While Chief Executive Officer Darren Woods acknowledges the "risk of climate change" and is testing whether biofuel made from algae can work on an industrial scale, he said earlier this year that the company's investment dollars will follow oil magnate John D. Rockefeller's bet-on-what-you-know mantra.

But as the price of renewable power declines, the company may see the value in consuming wind or solar, even if it eschews producing that kind of energy. Texas is the biggest wind-producing U.S. state, with power prices occasionally going negative on windy days, and solar power is cheaper than coal in many parts of



the world. The number of companies contracting to buy renewables continues to expand. Excluding utilities, companies and agencies agreed to buy 7.2 gigawatts of clean energy worldwide through July, shattering the record of 5.4 gigawatts for all of 2017, according to BNEF.

"Good to see them dipping their toe in the water, but we'll have to wait to see if they put their foot in the water," said Amy Myers Jaffe, a senior fellow for energy and the environment at the Council of Foreign Relations in New York.

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Editor's Choice



Sport Climbing - 2018 Asian Games - Women's Speed Relay, Medal Ceremony - JSC Sport Climbing, Palembang, Indonesia - August 27, 2018 - Gold medallists Lestari Puji, Susanti Rahayu Aries and Sallsabillah Rajiah of Indonesia listen to their national anthem as they celebrate on the podium. REUTERS/Edgar Su



FILE PHOTO: Founder and CEO of Tesla Motors Elon Musk speaks during a media tour of the Tesla Gigafactory, which will produce batteries for the electric carmaker, in Sparks, Nevada, U.S. July 26, 2016. REUTERS/James Glover/File Photo



Revellers take part in the Notting Hill Carnival in London



Greek Foreign Minister Nikos Kotzias (L) shakes hands with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi during their meeting at the Diaoyutai State House in Beijing, China, August 27, 2018. How Hwee Young/Pool via REUTERS



FILE PHOTO: A 5G sign is seen during the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona



FILE PHOTO: A view of Equinor's oil platform in Johan Sverdrup oilfield in the North Sea



Karate - 2018 Asian Games - Women's -50kg, Final Contest - JCC Plenary Hall - Jakarta, Indonesia - August 28, 2018 - Gu Shiaushuang of Taiwan celebrates after winning gold medal. REUTERS/Athit Perawongmetha



Vietnamese veteran, Pham Minh Chuc, pays respect after he wrote in a condolence book near a portrait of U.S. Senator John McCain (R-AZ) about his death at the U.S. embassy in Hanoi



Each year, roughly 40 million Americans, or about 14% of the U.S. population, move at least once. Much of that movement includes younger people relocating within cities, but it is trends of

Americans moving to warmer climates, more affordable areas, and better job opportunities that have largely determined migration patterns in recent decades. Because of those long-term patterns, as well as the recent period of economic recovery, cities in some parts of the country have lost tens of thousands of residents. To highlight the U.S. metropolitan areas that have had the largest net decline in population as a result of migration between 2010 and 2017, the Wall Street Journal reviewed population figures from the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program.

The cities where the most people are moving away from can primarily be found in the Northeast, Midwest, and West Coast, particularly in states like Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and New York. Among the cities where people are leaving in droves are places such as Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis, New York, and Los Angeles.



In some U.S. cities, everyday comfort and happiness is much harder to attain than in others.

William Frey, demographer at the Brookings Institution, a nonprofit public policy research group, explained that these cities that have been losing thousands of residents due to migration are part of the long-term trend of movement from the Northeast and the Midwest to warmer climates, a trend that has increased in recent years.

"The story of the broader migration pattern in the U.S. is from Snow Belt to Sun Belt," Frey said. "That migration has slowed a little bit in the early part of the decade, when we were still dealing with the aftermath of the recession, but it's coming back."

Detailed findings
Not all the cities with the largest net declines in population from migration since 2010 are necessarily the fastest shrinking cities. However, among the U.S. metropolitan areas with the highest net population declines due to migration, the vast majority have had the largest overall decreases in population.

Two notable exceptions are New York and Los Angeles. While tens of thousands more people moved out of each city than moved in, both cities have still had among the highest net increases in population. This is because of natural population growth — hundreds of thousands more people in these cities have been born than died. Notably, Los Angeles had a net migration loss of 93,959, but the overall population increased by over three-quarters of a million people because of births.



Fairbanks, Alaska
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,011
• Population change, 2010-2017: +2.2% (97,585 to 99,703)
• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 12,364 births, 3,417 deaths

• Median home value: \$226,900

Johnstown, Pennsylvania
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,070

• Population change, 2010-2017: -7.4% (143,674 to 133,054)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 9,624 births, 13,203 deaths

• Median home value: \$93,400

Hinesville, Georgia
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,171

• Population change, 2010-2017: +3.2% (77,919 to 80,400)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 12,218 births, 3,030 deaths

• Median home value: \$133,600

El Centro, California
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017:

Every Year, Almost 40 Million Americans Pick Up And Move Creating An Economic Impact On Many Of The Country's Largest Cities

Population Migration Patterns: Here Are Some Of The U.S. Cities Americans Are Abandoning

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

-7,219

• Population change, 2010-2017: +4.8% (174,528 to 182,830)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 22,531 births, 7,106 deaths

• Median home value: \$170,900

Frey explained that movement from New York and Los Angeles to many of the cities with the largest net migration increases is due to residents of these cities getting pushed out because of rising populations and prices, the latter of which is a product of the economic recovery. "Now that things are picking up again, people are moving out of cities. As the housing market is coming back, people are being sucked out of pricey areas to where it is more affordable again."

Frey gave the example of one common migration pattern: Los Angeles to Las Vegas, the latter of which had the 15th highest net population increase due to migration. Los Angeles has always lost residents to Las Vegas, but when the recession hit and housing prices fell, that movement slowed significantly.

Bakersfield, California
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,314

• Population change, 2010-2017: +6.4% (839,621 to 893,119)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 102,106 births, 41,099 deaths

• Median home value: \$204,200

Norwich-New London, Connecticut
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,365

• Population change, 2010-2017: -1.8% (274,059 to 269,033)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 19,518 births, 17,252 deaths

• Median home value: \$242,000

Now that housing prices have recovered in Los Angeles and have become too expensive for many residents, people are once again moving out of the city in droves. As of 2016, Los Angeles had the seventh highest median home value of any metropolitan area, at \$578,200. Las Vegas' median home value is just slightly more than half that, at \$233,700.

"The same sort of thing is true for a place like New York," Frey added. "There has always been huge movement going from New York to Florida, but during the Great Recession period that slowed up quite a bit, and now it is picking up again."

Frey added that the reasons behind the decline in population in cities like Los Angeles and New York -- overcrowding and high prices -- are very different than the reasons for decreases in other cities on this list, notably Rust Belt cities like Flint, Michigan; Toledo, Ohio; and Rockford, Illinois; and even larger cities like St. Louis, Cleveland, and Milwaukee. These cities have been losing domestic migrants for decades due to stagnating economic conditions stemming from the decline of American manufacturing.

Methodology
To identify America's Fastest Declining Cities, 24/

Wall Street reviewed the annual estimates of resident population and the estimates of the components of residential population change from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017, provided by the American Community Survey. Population, and home value data also came from the 2016 American Community Survey. (Courtesy USA Today)

Here Are Some Of The Other Cities That People Are Leaving According To The Study

Fresno, California
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,571

• Population change, 2010-2017: +6.3% (930,495 to 989,255)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 113,926 births, 47,252 deaths

• Median home value: \$238,100

Macon-Bibb County, Georgia
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,877

• Population change, 2010-2017: -1.5% (232,286 to 228,914)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 21,752 births, 17,233 deaths

• Median home value: \$122,000

Anchorage, Alaska
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -8,464

• Population change, 2010-2017: +5.3% (380,821 to 400,888)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 43,973 births, 15,756 deaths

• Median home value: \$299,700

Vineland-Bridgeton, New Jersey
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -8,476

• Population change, 2010-2017: -2.6% (156,628 to 152,538)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 14,926 births, 10,604 deaths

• Median home value: \$165,900

Erie, Pennsylvania
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -8,511

• Population change, 2010-2017: -2.1% (280,564 to 274,541)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 22,920 births, 20,396 deaths

• Median home value: \$125,700

Mobile, Alabama
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -8,517

• Population change, 2010-2017: +0.2% (413,143 to 413,955)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 40,422 births, 30,886 deaths

• Median home value: \$126,800

Atlantic City-Hammonton, New Jersey
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -8,550

• Population change, 2010-2017: -1.7% (274,540 to 269,918)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 22,801 births, 18,976 deaths

• Median home value: \$215,100

Fayetteville, North Carolina
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -8,741

• Population change, 2010-2017: +5.6% (366,322 to 386,662)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 47,548 births, 19,638 deaths

• Median home value: \$134,600

Jacksonville, North Carolina
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -8,791

• Population change, 2010-2017: +9.1% (177,799 to 193,893)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 30,768 births, 7,184 deaths

• Median home value: \$151,500

Yakima, Washington
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -8,916

• Population change, 2010-2017: +2.9% (243,237 to 250,193)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 29,681 births, 13,811 deaths

• Median home value: \$166,300

Sierra Vista-Douglas, Arizona
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -9,495

• Population change, 2010-2017: -5.0% (131,356 to 124,756)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 11,814 births, 9,110 deaths

• Median home value: \$130,100

Farmington, New Mexico
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -9,633

• Population change, 2010-2017: -2.4% (130,045 to 126,926)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 13,381 births, 6,949 deaths

• Median home value: \$153,100

Lawton, Oklahoma
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -9,641

• Population change, 2010-2017: -2.3% (130,291 to 127,349)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 14,355 births, 7,848

deaths
• Median home value: \$124,900
Charleston, West Virginia
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -9,772

• Population change, 2010-2017: -5.6% (227,061 to 214,406)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 18,078 births, 20,856 deaths

• Median home value: \$111,300

Saginaw, Michigan
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -9,783

• Population change, 2010-2017: -4.1% (200,169 to 191,934)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 16,380 births, 14,912 deaths

• Median home value: \$96,200

Pine Bluff, Arkansas
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -10,001

• Population change, 2010-2017: -9.3% (100,278 to 90,963)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 8,244 births, 7,701 deaths

• Median home value: \$84,700

Montgomery, Alabama
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -10,317

• Population change, 2010-2017: -0.2% (374,541 to 373,903)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 35,032 births, 25,380 deaths

• Median home value: \$135,700

Wichita, Kansas
• Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -10,335

• Population change, 2010-2017: +2.3% (630,924 to 645,628)

• Natural growth, 2010-2017: 65,873 births, 40,647 deaths

• Median home value: \$132,400

Additional cities Americans are leaving include the following:

Watertown-Fort Drum, New York, Albany, Georgia
New Haven-Milford, Connecticut, Visalia-Porterville, California, Shreveport-Bossier City, Louisiana, Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford, Connecticut, Youngstown-Warren-Boardman, Ohio-Pennsylvania, Peoria, Illinois, Hartford-Corcoran, California, Rochester, New York, Brownsville-Harlingen, Texas, Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, Virginia, North Carolina, Syracuse, New York, Toledo, Ohio, Rockford, Illinois, New York-Newark-Jersey City, New York-New Jersey, Pennsylvania, El Paso, Texas, Flint, Michigan, Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, Wisconsin, Memphis, Tennessee, Mississippi-Arkansas, Cleveland-Elyria, Ohio, St. Louis, Missouri, Illinois, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, Michigan, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, California, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, Illinois, Indiana-Wisconsin.
For additional information, go here: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/economy/2018/06/13/50-worst-cities-to-live-in/35909271/>



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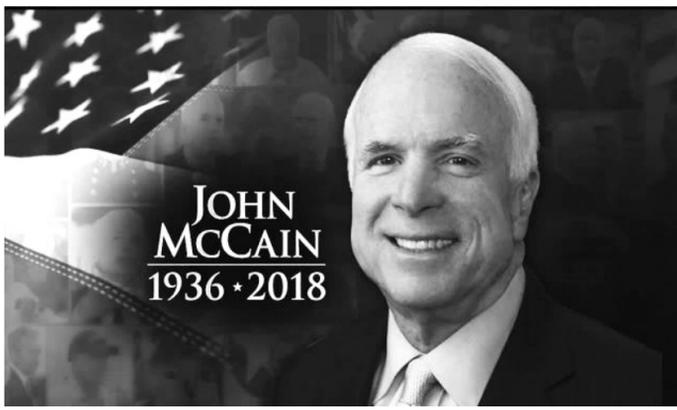
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America Mourns Death Of John McCain - War Hero And Political Icon

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



Phoenix (AFP) - America paid tribute Sunday to John McCain, the Vietnam War hero and two-time presidential candidate with a legendary temper whose personal courage and insistence on treating even his foes with respect earned him near-universal admiration.

McCain died on Saturday, four days shy of his 82nd birthday, following a yearlong battle with an aggressive form of brain cancer. He is survived by his wife Cindy and seven children, three of them from an earlier marriage.

Flags flew at half-mast over the White House and US Capitol in honor of McCain, as organizers announced he will lie in state at the US Capitol Rotunda.

That honor has been accorded to only a few notable Americans, including John F. Kennedy, Ronald Reagan and civil rights icon Rosa Parks.

A memorial service will take place at the massive National Cathedral overlooking Washington on Saturday before McCain is laid to rest according to his wishes at the US Naval Academy in nearby Annapolis, Maryland, on September 2, his office said.

Ahead of the national ceremonies, McCain will lie in state at the Arizona State Capitol Rotunda on Wednesday and a memorial service will take place at the North Phoenix Baptist Church.

"This is a rare and distinct occurrence for a truly special man," said Arizona Governor Doug Ducey, adding: "John McCain is Arizona."



After his capture by the North Vietnamese, John McCain spent 5 1/2 years in captivity as a POW in North Vietnam. McCain was shot down on Oct. 26, 1967, while flying his Skyhawk dive bomber. He was taken prisoner with fractures in his right leg and both arms. He received minimal care and was kept in deprived conditions and minimal care. McCain (above) is shown lying in a hospital bed in Hanoi, North Vietnam, after being taken prisoner of war.

In Phoenix, a succession of ordinary Ar-

izonans left flags or flowers at McCain's office or a local mortuary to honor the man who represented them in Congress for 35 years.

Former presidents George W. Bush, a Republican, and Barack Obama, a Democrat -- his successful rivals in, respectively, the 2000 and 2008 elections -- are set to speak at the national memorial service, according to The New York Times.

Media reports earlier this year said the senator had expressly asked that President Donald Trump not be invited. Instead, Vice President Mike Pence is expected to attend.

- 'Deepest sympathies' - As tributes poured in from the US and abroad, Trump said simply that he sent his "deepest sympathies and respect" to the McCain family.

A rare Republican critic of Trump, McCain had accused the president of "naivete," "egotism" and of sympathizing with autocrats, especially after Trump's widely criticized appearance in Helsinki alongside Russian President Vladimir Putin.

McCain cast a decisive vote last year that killed Republican at-

tempts to repeal Obama's health care reforms. The repeal was a Trump priority, and the president never forgave McCain. The hawkish McCain was an unrelenting critic of Obama's foreign policy, saying the Democratic president was weak on Libya, Iraq and Syria.

Still, Obama said he and the senator "shared, for all our differences, a fidelity to something higher -- the ideals for which generations of Americans and immigrants alike have fought, marched and sacrificed."

Bush, whose tough campaign against McCain in 2000 left both sides bruised, praised the Arizonan as "a man of deep conviction and a patriot of the highest order."

Ordinary Americans also paid tribute, many of them in Phoenix, McCain's hometown.

"I didn't agree with him all the time," said Michelle Hasnelle of Phoenix "(but) he was always for the people of Arizona -- he was one of us."

McCain spent more than three decades in the Senate, looming large in debates over war and peace and the moral direction of the nation.

As chairman of the Senate Armed Ser-

vices Committee, he was a powerful advocate for the nation's veterans.



John McCain shown with his daughter Meghan McCain.

- 'A great statesman' - As a fervent Atlanticist, a persistent critic of authoritarian leaders, and a frequent congressional traveler, he earned respect around the globe.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel called McCain "one of the great political figures of our time (who) fought tirelessly for a strong transatlantic alliance."

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said he was "an inspiration to millions."

McCain "embodied the idea of service over self," according to British Prime Minister Theresa May, while French President Emmanuel Macron saluted "a true American hero."

Across the Pacific, the China Daily referred to him as a "titan of American politics."

Sarah Palin, whom McCain plucked from obscurity to become his 2008 White House running mate, described him as "a fighter, never afraid to stand for his beliefs."

McCain drew criticism from the left for giving a platform to Palin's right-wing views, which contributed to the rise of the conservative Tea Party movement. But he also earned respect from liberals for his steadfast opposition to torture and his push for immigration reform.



Top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer said he would seek to rename a Senate building in McCain's honor.

Praise for McCain however was not universal: Chinese social media users called him an "enemy of China" for his hawkish foreign policy views.

And comments on the US far-right Breitbart website slammed the senator for his key vote against the Obamacare repeal.

McCain had been away from the Senate floor since December, remaining at his Arizona ranch for treatment of glioblastoma -- the same form of brain cancer that took the life of another Senate giant, Democrat Ted Kennedy, in 2009.

The son and grandson of four-star admirals, McCain will be buried in the cemetery of the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, on a peaceful hillside overlooking the Severn River.



As a student at the academy, he had a reputation as a rebel, but with a wit and charm that drew people to him.

In 2015, McCain himself revealed the simple epitaph he wanted on his tombstone, which will stand alongside those of naval heroes going back to the 1800s: "He served his country." (Courtesy https://www.yahoo.com/news/)

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