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BAUCUS HONORS THOMAS'S SERVICE ON FINANCE PANEL

*Late Senator led subcommittee on international trade,
brought "decency and humor" to six-year tenure on committee*

Washington, DC – Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) today remembered his fellow Senator and Finance Committee member Craig Thomas (R-Wyo.), and particularly expressed gratitude for his years of service to the panel. Senator Thomas joined the Finance Committee on July 17, 2001, becoming the fifth Senator from Wyoming to do so. He chaired the Subcommittee on International Trade in the 108th and 109th Congresses, and helped the committee establish the Energy, Natural Resources and Infrastructure Subcommittee, on which he served as the Ranking Republican in this Congress.

"Craig Thomas was a good man and a good neighbor, both in the West and on the Finance Committee. He was earnestly committed to serving the people of Wyoming and the whole country, and he brought great decency, dedication, and humor to his work on this panel," said Baucus today. **"We've lost a valued colleague and a treasured friend in Craig Thomas, and my heart goes out to his family and to every citizen of Wyoming who mourns him today. The Finance Committee will seek to honor Senator Thomas's legacy of public service with our own efforts this year."**

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