

The magic moment of maturity in every voter's life comes when he or she accepts the fact that no candidate is right on every issue. At that moment, one becomes either a chooser or a loser. . . .

I will not say here how I will vote, partly because it's against my newspaper's rules, but mainly because millions of undecideds would follow like lemmings and make me responsible for the result and unable to creatively backbite or pettily bicker.

William Safire

The Clothespin Vote, N.Y. Times, Nov. 6, 2000, at A39

In his clear-eyed criticism and self-criticism, as well as his devotion to linguistic honesty and his very catholic capacity for friendship, he was a reminder (alas, perhaps one of the last) of the combination of partisanship and nonpartisanship that a democracy needs in order to stay healthy. — *Suzanne Garment*