

H. Res. 178

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

May 13, 2003.

Whereas Matthew J. Ryan, born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, led a distinguished career of public service devoted to the United States and the State of Pennsylvania;

Whereas Matthew J. Ryan served as a First Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps from 1954 to 1956;

Whereas Matthew J. Ryan began his service to the 168th District of Pennsylvania in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1962;

Whereas Matthew J. Ryan was elected Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1981, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, and 2003;

Whereas Matthew J. Ryan was the second longest serving Member and the third longest serving Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in its 321 year history;

Whereas Speaker Ryan's ability to negotiate with and unite Members possessing differing viewpoints in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives contributed to the betterment of Pennsylvania throughout his six terms as Speaker;

Whereas Speaker Ryan will be remembered for his quick wit and gracious demeanor, attributes which endeared him to colleagues and citizens alike;

Whereas Speaker Ryan received hundreds of awards and commendations during his four decades of service, including the National Conference of State Legislators' "Legislator of the Year Award" and the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce's "Citizen of the Year Award"; and

Whereas the "Speaker Matthew J. Ryan Building" of the Pennsylvania Capitol complex will forever serve as a testament to Speaker Ryan's faithful service to the State and as a reminder of his unwavering leadership in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives honors the outstanding life and work of former Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Matthew J. Ryan and offers its deepest condolences to his wife and family on his death.

Attest:

Clerk.