

and received his Bachelor of Science in Forestry from Iowa State University in Ames. After completing one year of graduate work at the Biology School at Harvard University, he went to work for the Colorado State Game and Fish Department, and eventually became the Coordinator for the Federal Aid to the Wildlife Restoration Program.

In 1946, he went to work at the Regional Office of the Bureau of Reclamation, where he was responsible for wildlife, recreation, and land use planning in reclamation projects in a four state region.

During the 1950s, Ted worked with other conservationists to encourage Colorado legislators to enact legislation to establish a state park system. Thanks to the efforts of Ted and this group, today all Coloradans—and our visitors as well—can enjoy State Parks throughout Colorado.

In 1957, Ted joined the National Park Service and steadily ascended to various planning positions, eventually becoming the Assistant Director for Cooperative Activities in 1964. In this capacity, he was responsible for studying potential areas, and master planning existing areas of the National Park System, Wilderness, Federal Agency and State Assistance, Park Practice and the International Affairs Programs of the Service.

The large number of additions to the National Park System during the middle and late 1960s reflect the magnitude of this activity.

In September 1969, Ted became Superintendent of the National Capital Region of the National Park Service. In March 1971, he became the Assistant Director to the Director.

From 1972 to 1976, Ted was responsible for the National Park Service program activity in Alaska as related to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and was key to development of National Park areas in Alaska.

During this period, he became Chairman of the Alaska Planning Group for the Department of Interior and coordinated the multi-agency effort that produced the 28 "Four System" legislative proposals and related Environmental Impact Statements as submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Interior, Rogers C.B. Morton, in December 1973. In February 1976, Ted retired from the National Park Service.

Ted's work thus set the stage for enactment of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, which was signed into law by President Carter on December 2, 1980. This Act is often called the most significant land conservation measure in the history of our nation. The statute protected over 100 million acres of federal lands in Alaska, doubling the size of the country's national park and refuge system and tripling the amount of land designated as wilderness.

While with the National Park Service Ted was Chairman of the United States Section, Joint Japan-United States Panel on National Parks and Equivalent Reserves. He was also a member of the Canadian-United States Committee on National Parks; a Board Member of the Wilderness Society Governing Council; a member of the International Union Conservation of Nature; and Chairman of the Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas.

After his retirement he was president of the Wilderness Society Governing Council from 1978 to 1980; a Board Member of American Rivers, Inc.; and Management Consultant to Silvertip Consulting and the Defenders of Wildlife.

He was the recipient of the Meritorious and Distinguished Service Award of the Department of Interior, was recognized in 1981 by the Japanese Government by receiving the 50th Anniversary Award for his distinctive work in their behalf, and received the Robert Marshall Award from the Wilderness Society on their 50th Anniversary—the Society's highest award presented to a private citizen.

Ted also received the Alaska National Parks Conservation Leadership Award and recognition for his initial work on the making of the Klondike Goldrush an International Park between the United States and Canada.

At the time of his death, he was living in Colorado, where he had served on the Bureau of Land Management Land Disposal Committee for Clear Creek County, and performed work on the Task Force for Evergreen Lake, as well as on some of the Open Space areas in Jefferson County.

Ted and his wife Helen were married 57 years. Their four children now live in Denver, Alaska, and Brazil. I hope the sadness of their loss is tempered by pride in their father's record of achievement and the many lasting gifts he has left to our country and the world.

RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY AS NATIONAL MARFAN AWARENESS MONTH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in recognition of February as National Marfan Awareness Month and to pay tribute the thousands of people across the nation who are living with the Marfan syndrome and related connective tissue disorders.

The National Marfan Foundation is celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary this year and continues to dedicate itself to saving lives, and improving the quality of life for individuals and families affected by Marfan syndrome and related disorders by raising awareness, providing support and fostering research.

This year marks the 15th annual National Marfan Awareness Month, a national awareness campaign which focuses on Marfan syndrome, a genetic disorder of the connective tissue that can affect the skeleton, eyes, heart and blood vessels. Because of the disorder, the aorta, the large artery that carries blood away from the heart is weakened and prone to enlargement and rupture, which is often fatal.

It is estimated that 200,000 people in the U.S. are affected by the Marfan syndrome or a related connective tissue disorder. Marfan syndrome is often hereditary, but 25 percent of affected people are the first in their family to have the disorder. It affects both male and females and all ethnicities. Thousands do not even know that they are affected and if left undiagnosed, it can result in an early sudden death from aortic dissection.

There is no cure for Marfan syndrome, but with an early diagnosis, proper treatment and careful management of the disorder, the life span can be extended into the 70s. Without a diagnosis and treatment, people may die as early as their 20s, 30s or 40s.

In addition, to National Heart Month, February was designated National Marfan Aware-

ness Month because of President Abraham Lincoln's Birthday. Lincoln is believed to have been affected by Marfan syndrome because of the many outward signs of the disorder he portrays. People with this condition are frequently taller than other non-affected members of their family with disproportionately long limbs, fingers and toes. They often have an indented or protruding chest bone, a curved spine, flat feet, a high arched palate and loose joints.

Other famous people with the Marfan syndrome include Jonathan Larson, the Tony Award-winning playwright of the Broadway musical *Rent*; Flo Hyman, captain of the U.S. Olympic Volleyball team who won a gold medal in 1984, Charles de Gaulle, Rachmaninoff, and Mary Queen of Scots.

Mr. Speaker, according to the National Marfan Foundation, in my district in Pennsylvania there are approximately 190 families that have to live with this disorder and the fear of dying at an early age.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, approximately 14,000 people die each year of aortic aneurysms and dissections, 20 percent of which can be contributed to those carrying a genetic disorder such as the Marfan syndrome.

Due to lack of medical awareness about the disorder, many people still die undiagnosed and untreated.

I rise today to commend those working in my district and State who work tirelessly on this issue in the hopes of one day finding a cure for Marfan syndrome.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me and the National Marfan Foundation in raising awareness of this potentially life threatening disorder. I look forward to working with members on both sides of the aisle to increase federal support for critical research and prevention programs aimed at improving the quality of life for Marfan syndrome patients and their families.

IN MEMORY OF EDWARD R. CUMMINGS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Edward R. Cummings of Maryland and lament his untimely passing. Mr. Speaker, we all know of the many unsung heroes that make this great institution work, the staff and advisers who labor in obscurity but without whom we could not do our work to represent the American people. It is even more so in the Executive Branch, where an individual can spend a whole career and never be introduced to the wider public, laboring not for the recognition that drives so many in the public sphere but instead toiling to uphold the public interest to and to serve his country. Our government cannot function without such individuals and it is they who can bring order and sanity to an ever changing kaleidoscope of figures who pass through the United States Government as elections occur and administrations change.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday this Nation lost such a person, a remarkable public servant and a remarkable human being, Edward R.