

a debt of honor and respect to Buddy Sizemore.

Buddy is a hero whose service and sacrifice will forever be emblazoned on the hearts of a grateful Nation. I offer my deepest condolences to all of those friends and family members who loved and admired this young man.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DON DENNEY OF THE UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF WYANDOTTE COUNTY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Don Denney, the long-time media relations specialist for the Unified Government of Wyandotte County, and Kansas City, KS, who died unexpectedly of a heart attack while at work on September 15.

I wholeheartedly echo the sentiments that Kansas City, KS, Mayor/CEO Joe Reardon shared with the Kansas City Kansan upon learning of Don Denney's death, "Don Denney was a wonderful and talented individual who gave 100 percent of himself to the community with his job at the Unified Government. We shall always remember Don Denney as a man who gave unselfishly as a public servant and citizen to a community that he deeply loved."

A graduate of Kansas City's Ward High School in 1970, Denney had owned a Dairy Queen restaurant and worked previously at the Kansas City Kansan, before beginning his tenure with the city of Kansas City in 1994. He remained with the Unified Government after the city and county consolidated governments in 1997. As former Kansan publisher William Epperheimer noted: "Of all his attributes, loyalty and hard work stood out. Don was a Kansas City Kansan advocate to the end and he worked his tail off for the paper and its readers, just as he was dedicated to the Unified Government and represented it to the metropolitan news media with so much honesty and dedication in his 'second career'."

Don Denney was also well known locally as the athletics announcer for Bishop Ward High School and Kansas City Kansas Community College athletic events, and was planning on announcing the Bishop Ward football game on the evening of the day of his death.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the Unified Government and the citizens of Kansas City, KS, in mourning the untimely death of a dedicated, honest public servant and I include with these remarks a moving tribute to Don Denney that was published in the Kansas City Star.

[From the Kansas City Star, Sept. 16, 2006]

KCK LOSES A FRIEND, SPOKESMAN DENNEY  
(By Mark Wiebe)

Don Denney, the face and voice of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kan., died Friday morning after collapsing at City Hall.

Denney, 54, began working for the city in 1994 after leaving his job as a reporter for The Kansas City Kansan. He was named spokesman for the Unified Government when the city and county merged in 1997.

But as many at a grief-stricken City Hall said, Denney was much more than the Unified Government's "media specialist," the man who answered reporters' inquiries or showed up at early morning fires. He was a

well-connected public figure, a person who effortlessly made friends, who loved his community and worked hard on its behalf. He considered the employees at City Hall his family.

"It's a great loss for the city," said Hal Walker, the Unified Government's chief counsel and a good friend. "He was nearly as visible as any of the mayors he served."

Mayor Joe Reardon called Denney a "wonderful and talented" man: "His love and enthusiasm for our community was infectious."

A Kansas City, Kan., native and graduate of Bishop Ward High School, Denney also was a longtime public address system announcer at the school's athletic games. Known to many as "the voice of the Cyclones," he devoted much of his free time to the school.

Unified Government Commissioner Tom Cooley was with Denney during a meeting Friday morning. He said Denney appeared to be in good spirits. "We were laughing and joking, cutting up," he said. "There was no indication that he was even uncomfortable."

But earlier this week, Denney, a diabetic who suffered a heart attack several years ago, complained of dizziness and said he had experienced a brief blackout. Wyandotte County Coroner Alan Hancock said Denney died of cardiac arrhythmia.

As news spread about Denney's death, reporters were quick to sing his praises. Steve Nicely, a former Kansas City Star reporter, recalled Denney as an honest reporter and spokesman.

"He was a conscientious guy, and I think really had a dedication to the truth," Nicely said. "Sometimes he'd get into trouble because he'd say something that was a little too true. I always thought that was a virtue."

Bob Werly, a former reporter for KMBC-TV, called him one of the best public information officials he'd ever worked with. His deep ties to the community didn't hurt.

"I would stand out in the street with him talking," Werly said. "It just seemed like every other car that came by either honked or waved."

Denney is survived by a brother, Fred Denney, and a sister, Mary Anne Denney. The funeral will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Cathedral of St. Peter, 431 N. 15th St.

JOHANNA'S LAW: THE GYNECOLOGIC CANCER EDUCATION AND AWARENESS ACT

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the House to take up and pass H.R. 1245, Johanna's Law: The Gynecologic Cancer Education and Awareness Act. This legislation has been cosponsored by 256 Members of the House of Representatives and 40 Senators.

H.R. 1245, through an educational and awareness campaign, will help women understand the symptoms of uterine and other gynecological cancers, the importance of having an annual exam, and the need for open communication with their doctors in an attempt to save women from preventable deaths.

Johanna's Law has the potential to help more than 80,000 women who will be diagnosed with some type of gynecological cancer this year. Beneficial to all women of various

ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds, the legislation will inform them of preventative measures and help them understand the symptoms which can lead to early detection and subsequently, save lives.

Of the women who will be diagnosed with gynecological cancer this year, 28,000 will die, primarily because they did not recognize their symptoms and the cancer detection came too late to treat the disease effectively.

The 5-year survival rates for the most common gynecologic cancers are 90 percent when diagnosed early. Survival rates drop to 50 percent or less for cancers diagnosed later.

Gynecologic cancers such as ovarian and endometrial cancer do not yet have a reliable screening test that can be used for the general population. The Pap smear reliably detects only cervical cancer. That's why knowing the symptoms of these cancers is key to early diagnosis.

Sadly, recent surveys confirm most women are unaware of the risk factors and do not recognize the early symptoms of gynecologic cancers. This lack of information and understanding is deadly.

September has been declared Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month by President Bush, and governors of all 50 States have also declared September Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month. However, over one-third of the women diagnosed this year with a gynecologic cancer will die from the gynecologic cancer primarily due to a lack of early education and prevention, as well as effective screening.

Data suggests that with even a modest improvement in outreach and education, we can save lives and precious healthcare resources, and improve the health of our Nation's women. This legislation will accomplish that—through education of both women and their health care providers.

Mr. Speaker, there is clearly a need for Johanna's Law and the time is now. The women of this country and their families deserve no less.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BARBARA C. McENROE

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I wish to submit for the RECORD the following tribute that appeared in NE Magazine on September 17, 2006. For most, words never quite convey the poignancy of the moment. For Colin McEnroe, his craft and the life of his mother merge in beautiful sentiment. I did not know Barbara McEnroe, but I know many families who empathize with her son's article, "Banana Chair Sunset." I sometimes believe that creative and vivid writing is genetic with the Irish, but McEnroe's love of his mother and father unfolds in this article in a way that shares with the reader the unique perspective of a family gathered at the bedside of a loved one soon to be gone. I'm honored to submit this for the RECORD. Our hearts go out to him, his son Joseph, and his family.

[From NE Magazine, Sept. 17, 2006]

BANANA CHAIR SUNSET

(By Colin McEnroe)

She was a tiny person born into a big world.