

those who, like herself, grew up with very little, but yet could look to this great country and actually believe that they could achieve their dreams. For JULIA was born to a teenage mother, and that, from the time that she was born in the late 1930s, going into the early 1940s and World War II, was a struggle and an unsurmountable task in and of itself. They had to struggle together. JULIA CARSON herself raised two children as a divorcee. So first of all, she understood what a single parent, a mother with two children, had to overcome to make sure that those children saw in themselves and saw in her a future.

It's likely that she was already destined for public service, and so by finding Andy Jacobs, her finding him and as well his finding her, it was a match made in heaven. But she stopped along the wayside to give support and comfort to workers, United Auto Workers, and understood what it meant, a hard day's work for a good day's pay. So early on she was on the battlefield, and her time in respective legislative bodies only spoke to her continued desire to serve.

But I like something about JULIA and I like something about the description of her. And my good friend and colleague from Indiana, Congressman HILL, just said a liberal in Indianapolis. I ask the question how you can walk around in Indiana and call yourself liberal and be victorious. That was JULIA. Love conquers all, the love that she had for her people, but the love that they had for her stood largely to embrace her and surround her with armor against those who would try to do her political harm.

I was fascinated in listening to the Congressmen speak of the vigil. Can you imagine people just gathering out of pain and joy, the pain of possibly losing Congresswoman CARSON, but also the joy of having her. Going to her house. Now, we are the people's House. So Members of Congress are exposed and people know all about them. But can you imagine people feeling so comfortable that they would come to her block and just stand in silence or singing or praying or testifying just to say, We want to be near her. What a moving expression that must have been, and I'm so sorry that I missed it. But it was a showing of their own appreciation for her resilience, her astuteness, and her ability to be underestimated.

I went to Indianapolis, and it was that first year, her reelection after her first term, Madam Speaker, and yes, they were all out. And it was the year of the targets, it was the year of impeachment here in this body, and people were not feeling good, they were feeling ugly. And the right wing, as it could be defined, and I don't say it in a partisan way, but the guys who were trying to get her in reelection came up with all kinds of things. Soft on crime, they accused her of, a number of issues that they thought would get her unelected.

Well, I'll tell you, she had a good history with the people of Indianapolis. In fact, she even had some conservatives supporting her. Why? Because she was truthful in her belief for social services. But she also came up with the idea that welfare recipients should work for their benefits. I'm sure it was crafted around giving them hope and giving them goals and giving them the ability to believe that they could succeed, but she was applauded for that. And she was called a person who wrestled a problem to the ground.

Madam Speaker, I close by simply saying that we have lost a warrior, a soldier on the battlefield, but tonight we celebrate her life. My sympathy to her family. And thank you, JULIA, for being our friend and my friend.

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#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO HONORABLE JULIA CARSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BALDWIN). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPs) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CAPPs. Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues this evening in honoring the life of our dear friend, JULIA CARSON. And I want to say a word in keeping with the comments by our colleague, our leader, JOHN LARSON from Connecticut, who spoke of the sacredness, really, of this hour that we can spend with one another to lift up the life of a colleague such as JULIA CARSON.

JULIA entered Congress the same year as my husband, Walter, in 1996. And the reason I honor this time together is that I have a poignant memory. My husband died suddenly, and my daughter and I found ourselves on the floor here listening to his colleagues, now my colleagues, speak of his life. And it was a tradition that I wasn't familiar with, but it touched me in a way that I know blesses the memory of those who have gone, who have served with us. And in this case, for someone as special as JULIA CARSON, it is a moment that this place becomes what it should be, and is treasured by me.

Now, this Member of Congress became my colleague, JULIA CARSON, when I joined Congress in 1998. One of the first events I attended as a Member was an event held by domestic violence advocates, a coalition, a national coalition of the kind of grassroots organizations that I know JULIA CARSON represented in Indianapolis, but I also, in my previous life as a nurse in my community, knew very well at the community level. I wasn't as experienced when I came to Congress as JULIA was when she did. And I listened to her. We were kind of lined up, Members of Congress, to address this coalition on domestic violence. I could speak from my professional experience. But she spoke before me. And she dazzled that crowd because she spoke as a survivor and as

someone who had experienced every single thing that they themselves were here in this Capitol to represent on behalf of our community. She had broken the barriers that have entrapped so many Americans of color, Americans who are women. She knew how to fight for herself, for her children as a single mother, as a community member who knew what ceilings were like with class, gender, ethnicity, race, and she could relate that to people.

On that day that I listened to JULIA as a brand new Member, I knew that I was in a very special crowd if it included someone like JULIA CARSON. She knew how to take her experiences and become such a role model and strong advocate; civil rights, victims of domestic violence. She improved the lives of countless individuals, and she did so by fixing things that were broken, but also by inspiring people to not give up.

And then, as we moved along and as has been referenced, her style and her elegance, I used to love to see her here and to see her bearing and to see her fitting the word "queen" in every sense of that word. What a delight to serve with JULIA CARSON. And we saw her, as her illness began to show its effects on her body, never on her spirit, never on her soul, never once dampened her smile, her dazzling beautiful smile. And when I would see her moving slowly, and then with assistance, even in a wheelchair, to come and move about, she never gave an indication of weakness or that she was down. She was always up and inspiring me when I would see her. I wanted to spend time with her.

This was a tough time for her. She never let us know it. She kept fighting for all of the issues she cared so much about. And now I want to just close by saying, you know, JULIA, we owe you to continue the legacy that you began.

I think of JULIA's suffering with lung cancer. And I think about the fact that three of her colleagues, four, now, of our colleagues this year have died of cancer from this place. And JULIA, I make a pledge to you and to the others that we need to not rest. We need to follow your courage and your endurance and not rest until we do something about this dreaded disease, and do something here, and do it in your memory, and do some other things in your memory as well. And so, I make that pledge to you, JULIA.

And I also join my colleagues in remembering you forever for your wit, your elegance, your perseverance, and of course always, JULIA, your smile. I will always love you and treasure your memory.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO HON. JULIA CARSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.