The increased workload did not dampen his bright attitude, however. Mr. Moses consistently does all he can to solve passport problems and ensure positive outcomes. Over the years, he has proven to be a model government employee, and he will be missed.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Steve Moses for his lengthy and influential career, and thank him for his many outstanding contributions to the city of Chicago. I wish him the best of luck and continued happiness in his retirement and all his future endeavors.

HONORING WILLIAM A. LaMARCH, U.P. VETERAN OF THE YEAR

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a constituent who has distinguished himself both in service to his country and to his community. Mr. William A. LaMarch has been named ''Upper Peninsula Veteran of the Year'' by the U.P. Veterans Committee. It is an honor befitting the dedication and patriotism Mr. LaMarch embodied both in the Armed Forces and in civilian life.

Mr. LaMarch, a resident of Escanaba, Michigan, is a decorated Marine who served his country with honor. In 1961, Mr. LaMarch received the Good Conduct Medal, awarded to enlisted members of the military who complete three consecutive years of honorable and faithful service. Mr. LaMarch also received two Meritorious Mast Awards, first in 1961 and again in 1963.

After being discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps, Mr. LaMarch continued to build a legacy of service. He is currently serving as commander of American Legion Post #82, and is a life member of AmVets #123 and of Marine Corps League #444. He can be heard calling bingo at the V.A. Hospital in Iron Mountain, a position he has held for eight years. He has also served as the finance officer of Post #82, a member of the Marine Corps League Funeral Honor Guard and the Delta County Veterans Council Funeral Honor Guard.

Mr. LaMarch has also played a vigorous role in the community beyond his extensive activities as a dedicated veteran. He served six years on the City of Escanaba Board of Review and volunteers for the Salvation Army as a bell ringer, food bank, and basket worker. He is also a member of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

William A. LaMarch is one of the driving forces behind the U.P. Whitetails Association and the highly successful Delta County Wildlife Unlimited.

Over the years, Mr. LaMarch's accomplishments and devotion to his community have been recognized with numerous awards and recognitions. He has been named Legionnaire of the Year, twice named Elk of the Year, and received the Elks Grand Exalted Ruler's Commendation for Excellence. He received the Dan Patch Outstanding Volunteer Award and has been recognized by the Red Cross as a 22 gallon donor.

William LaMarch is a man who understands profoundly the value of service and the responsibility we have to help others. He stands as an example of what it means to be a true American hero, both in battle and within our own communities. His character and his generosity are a shining example of the spirit and strength that have defined the Upper Peninsula throughout its history.

Madam Speaker, William A. LaMarch embodies the words bravery, dignity, and service. He is an individual who has been recognized by his community and his fellow veterans as a leader and a model citizen. With that in mind Madam Speaker, I ask that you, and all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives, join me in saluting William A. LaMarch for his lifetime of service and in congratulating him on being awarded U.P. Veteran of the Year.

MOURNING THE DEATH OF SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my deep sadness and regret for the passing of Senator EDWARD KENNEDY. The world has lost a tremendous leader and an exceptional spirit. Senator KENNEDY's voice was a unique source of inspiration on the Senate floor, and he will be greatly missed for his public service and work to improve the lives of the less fortunate.

Senator KENNEDY was arguably one of the most influential Senators in United States history. He was an exceptionally accomplished legislator who authored roughly 2,500 pieces of legislation over the course of his 46-year-long career in the United States Senate. More than 300 of Senator KENNEDY's bills went on to become law, and he had a rare ability to reach across party lines in the interest of passing important pieces of legislation. He was always well versed on policy issues and highly prepared for committee hearings and floor debates.

As the Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, Senator KENNEDY courageously led the push to reform our nation's failing health care system. He strongly believed that all Americans deserved to have access to affordable health care options and supported a number of initiatives, including America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009. Senator KENNEDY also helped enact the State Children's Health Insurance Program, the Medicare prescription drug benefit, the Ryan White Care Act and the Family Medical Leave Act.

Although health care was Senator KENNEDY's passion, he was also committed to combating discrimination. Even when it was politically unpopular, Senator KENNEDY believed in an America where ethnic minorities and women were treated equally. He supported Title IX, which outlawed discrimination on the basis of sex in institutions of higher education and the renewal of the Voting Rights Act, which banned racially discriminatory voting requirements.

My prayers go out to the Kennedy family in this time of profound grief. I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in remembering the life of a true American hero who dedicated his life to improving the lives of others.

A TRIBUTE TO THE JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF WESTERN KENTUCKY

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Junior Achievement of Western Kentucky on their 50th anniversary. This important organization deserves recognition for achieving this milestone.

The Junior Achievement of Western Kentucky was established in July of 1959 and has served over 125,000 students in the last half-century. As a partnership between education and business, Junior Achievement helps students understand the economy and better prepare them for their future.

The Junior Achievement of Western Kentucky should be proud of their contribution to the community. I commend the organization, students, and volunteers on their 50th anniversary.

HONORING MR. JOHN RAILEY

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mr. John Railey in recognition of his 50 years of dedicated federal service.

''The fun part of accounting is finding the things that went wrong and figuring out how to fix them.'' This statement by John Railey summarizes the attitude that has made him an anchor at the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore, Maryland, where he has served both on the waterfront and in the Fiscal Department for five decades.

A lifelong resident of Baltimore, Mr. Railey began his federal career at the Coast Guard Yard in the Sheet Metal Shop as an apprentice. Upon completion of his apprenticeship program, Mr. Railey excelled as a sheet metal worker. He was selected as the first tradesman at the Yard to be trained to program and operate the first computer-controlled equipment at the Yard. Seeking to become a foreman, Mr. Railey pursued Yard-required management courses at the University of Baltimore. In 1968, Mr. Railey successfully completed his college degree in Business Management.

In 1969, Mr. Railey took a position as a Planner/Scheduler in the Industrial Engineering Division. Interested in learning the business-end of the Yard, he took a position as an Accounting Technician in the Fiscal Department in 1974. With his attention to detail and relentless problem solving skills, Mr. Railey was promoted from an Accounting Technician to an Accountant, where he has excelled as the Yard's expert on the financial administration of Yard Project Orders. Mr. Railey has mentored numerous members of the Fiscal Staff and has assisted scores of project managers in the Industrial Staff. Throughout his tenure with the Coast Guard Yard, he has continued to demonstrate remarkable conscientiousness. Mr. Railey's eagerness to troubleshoot accounting anomalies in any project is inspiring to each and every colleague.