

NORM has wit and humor. Our staffs have been playing softball in a joint team for the past 2 years. Our team is called, Farr from the Norm. My predecessor, Leon Panetta and NORM had a softball team called, The Sign of the Rising Pizza.

NORM has never forgotten how to give back to his community from being mayor of San Jose, serving on the board of regents at Santa Clara University, and being a member of the board of directors of Smart Valley, Inc. In Washington, he has been chair of the visitors committee for the Freer Gallery, an active member of the board of regents of the Smithsonian Institution and a member of the board of directors of the Kennedy Center.

NORM's energy, enthusiasm, wit, and compassion will be missed. His ability to explain every detail about cross country jet travel, his knowledge of the transportation industry, and his ability to know the name of everyone and introduce them is remarkable. The northern California teammates GEORGE MILLER, ANNA ESHOO, PETER STARK, TOM LANTOS, NANCY PELOSI, ZOE LOFGREN, and me will carry on in your tradition, but Congress will never be the same without you.

Good luck and goodnight but never goodbye. You have left your mark. God bless you. Thank you, NORM, for making this country a better place in which to raise our children.

TRIBUTE TO JOE SLABBINCK

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend Joe Slabbinck who was honored this past Wednesday by the Clinton Township Democratic Club. Joe was recognized at the club's biannual awards dinner at Paradiso Elegant Banquets in Clinton Township.

Joe and his wife, Brenda, have dedicated much of their lives to improving our community. After 30 years of work at Chrysler Corp., his success at helping build world class quality cars is only surpassed by his success in building organizations dedicated to meeting people's needs.

Joe is currently a board member of the Clinton Township Goodfellows. In the past he has served as president, vice president, and secretary of the group. The Interfaith Center for Racial Justice and the Volunteer Services Committee of the United Community Service have also benefited from Joe's commitment to civic involvement.

I have known Joe for many years and have had the fortunate opportunity to work with him on numerous occasions. Joe always makes sure that projects stay on track. He is the first to take responsibility and the last to take credit. His strong work ethic and sense of humility mean that everyone enjoys working with him.

I commend the Clinton Township Democratic Club for recognizing Joe. He is committed to making the world a better place and his recognition at tonight's dinner is well-deserved. His time, talents, and energy are appreciated by all of us and we are grateful for his efforts.

On behalf of the Clinton Township Democratic Club I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Joe Slabbinck. He has provided outstanding leadership in our community and I know he is proud to be honored by the club.