

of the strategic importance of that town in the Revolutionary War, how it related to the world-decisive Battle of Saratoga, and what this meant in the war for American independence. Awestruck—having heard facts about his own hometown he didn't know—the visitor departed, shaking his head in amazement. Longtime friends of Limbaugh will understand the visitor's reaction. Among people who have had the privilege of knowing him these many years, astonishment and amazement long ago became commonplace.

"Pop," said a certain nationally syndicated radio talk show host to a rare studio guest four and a half years ago, "Who was president the year you were born?" "Benjamin Harrison," came the reply, without a second's hesitation. When he was a guest on his grandson's national radio show that afternoon in September 1991 on the occasion of his 100th birthday, Limbaugh was rounding out only his first century. He was still going to the office and billing hours as the nation's oldest practicing attorney. That broadcast originated from Kansas City because Limbaugh was there with family to attend the annual meeting of the Missouri Bar Association, of which he and a son were former presidents.

#### A NATIONAL TREASURE

On that centennial, in a firm voice that belied his years, Limbaugh continued, describing to an astonished national audience a boyhood devotion to his first contemporary political hero: Teddy Roosevelt. On in detail Limbaugh went, describing what a heroic figure TR was, how crucial his decisive action in sending the American naval fleet worldwide, what this meant for an America beginning to emerge from 19th century isolation into the first rank of world powers, and why, therefore he, Limbaugh, followed the magnificent TR out of the Republican Party to join the Bull Moose insurgency in the great campaign of 1912. Through a living, breathing history text was an audience of millions introduced to a national treasure whom we here in Missouri, and especially Cape Girardeau, had long valued so highly.

Glowingly, the accolades pour in—from judges, congressmen, senators, fellow members of the bar, Rotarians, friends far and wide. Family man as brother, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather. Author of a legal textbook and of numerous articles. Accomplished orator. Leading Methodist layman and Sunday School teacher. Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International. Life emeritus trustee of the Missouri Historical Society and its former president. Patriarch of a family of lawyers and Republicans. Limbaugh was a scholar in the law, in history, in political theory and in the Judeo-Christian tradition of ordered liberty. A scholar of the life of Patrick Henry, from memory he could quote William Makepeace Thackeray and Blackstone and so many others.

In 1985, family and friends packed into a local motel banquet room to honor Limbaugh at a surprise dinner celebration sponsored by local Rotarians. Tributes were read from President Ronald Reagan and from Justice Lewis Powell of the U.S. Supreme Court, long a Limbaugh friend. What stands out in the memory, though, is the address of the guest of honor. Few who were present that night will ever forget the throat-catching sense of excitement he evoked when he arose, without notes, for extemporaneous remarks. In a voice choked with emotion, Limbaugh told his audience that they didn't so much honor him as they did members of his family who, after his father's early death, "went without substance so that I could be the first in the family to leave the farm and go to Cape to the Normal School."

#### THE OPPORTUNITY OF EDUCATION

Limbaugh often spoke of his excitement upon traveling to Cape Girardeau—a day's ride by horse-drawn wagon—and glimpsing the spires of the school's main building. Here was a chance at education. From this hill-top, a great world beckoned. Prepare yourself, work hard, make your family proud, and you could accomplish anything. This, after all, is America, and this school, he told an audience at the university's 1973 centennial, is nothing less than "the fulfillment of a great national purpose."

How richly he added to this school, this community, this state and this nation. Few, then, there are of whom it can be said, as it can of Rush Hudson Limbaugh Sr., "Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into my kingdom." Somehow, we all know Limbaugh heard those words this week when the Lord called him home.

[From the Southeast Missourian, Apr. 10, 1996]

#### RUSH LIMBAUGH, SR.

Funeral service for Rush Hudson Limbaugh Sr., 635 Sylvan Lane, will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Centenary United Methodist Church. Dr. Neil Stein will officiate, with burial in Lorimier Cemetery.

Friends may call at Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel from 4-8 p.m. today, and Thursday from 10-11:30 a.m.

Limbaugh, 104, died Monday, April 8, 1996, at his home.

He was born Sept. 27, 1891, near Sedgewickville, son of Joseph H. and Susan Presnell Limbaugh. He and Beulah "Bee" Seabaugh were married Aug. 19, 1914, in Cape Girardeau. She died Sept. 2, 1977.

Limbaugh, the oldest practicing attorney in the United States, had practiced law since 1916. He founded the law firm of Limbaugh, Russell, Payne and Howard 50 years ago. He was a member of Centenary Church.

Survivors include two sons, Manley Limbaugh of Chester, Ill., Stephen Limbaugh of St. Louis; 10 grandchildren, and 19 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, two daughters, four brothers and three sisters.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Rhode Island [Mr. KENNEDY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

#### REACTION TO VETO OF BILL BANNING PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. JONES] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I was disappointed and appalled when President Clinton vetoed the partial birth abortion bill. The President's veto is in direct opposition to the will of the House and the Senate. Even more important, the President's veto is in direct opposition to the will of the majority of the American people.

No one really is sure how many partial birth abortions are performed or how many abortionists are using the method. However, we do know that the

overwhelming majority are performed on perfectly normal and healthy babies.

Clearly this is an issue that crosses party lines. The bill passed the House with 214 Republicans and 72 Democrats voting for the legislation, and in the Senate with 45 Republicans and 9 Democrats. Yet the President has the gall to go against the American people.

In recent polls, national polls of registered voters conducted in December by the Tarrance Group, 71 percent favored the bill that we passed. In another poll, 65 percent of pro-choice Americans supported the ban, the partial birth abortion ban. Specifically, 78 percent of women voters support the ban that the House and the Senate passed.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to read for the RECORD a statement by Ralph Reed regarding the veto of the partial birth abortion ban, and I quote:

Bill Clinton has taken his veto pen and pointed it like a dagger at the hearts of the innocent unborn. His veto is a brazen betrayal of his solemn promise to make abortion rare. It is an insult to millions of people of faith who consider abortion to be the taking of innocent human life. It will be very hard, if not impossible, for Bill Clinton to look Roman Catholic and Evangelical voters in the eye and ask for their support in November.

I further quote Ralph Reed and the Christian Coalition.

I am proud to add my voice to those Roman Catholic bishops who are so courageous, and implore President Clinton to sign this legislation. The partial birth abortion is when a child's brains are removed and the baby is systematically executed as it comes down the birth canal. By allowing this procedure to continue unchecked, President Clinton has disappointed and deeply offended one of the largest voting blocks in the electorate. Bill Clinton has done more today than jeopardize the lives of unborn children. He has jeopardized his own reelection chances.

□ 1700

Mr. Speaker, just one more letter I would like to make reference to before closing, because to the American people, this is an important issue to try to protect the life of the healthy unborn. This is from the Catholic Bishops and also from the Catholic Cardinals, and I happen to be Catholic.

"Your veto of this bill is beyond comprehension for those who hold human life sacred."

I further quote and read from the letter from the Catholic Bishops and Cardinals: "Mr. President, you and you alone had the choice of whether or not to allow children almost completely born to be killed brutally in partial birth abortions. Members of both Houses of Congress made their choices. They said no to partial birth abortions. American women voters have made their choices. According to a February 1996 poll by Fairbanks Mullin & Associates, 78 percent of women voters said no to partial birth abortions."

Further stated in the letter from the Bishops and the Cardinals, "We will also urge Catholics and other people of