

let us all put those thoughts to work, stop shouting at each other and get on with making this great country what it should be and giving it the legacy it should have in the 21st century. We should be leading the world showing people how democracy works. We should be holding our head high.

TRIBUTE TO BILL EMERSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FUNDERBURK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. WOLF] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to make some personal comments about our colleague, BILL EMERSON, who died Saturday night. BILL was a very honest, very decent, very ethical, very moral individual. As everyone knows, he had friends on both sides of the aisle. Republican and Democratic Members were very close to BILL personally.

I was in a small group with BILL that met in the House chapel every week. In the group are Republicans and Democrats, both backgrounds. We would pray for each other in the group, we would pray with each other in the group. BILL was an inspiration all the years together and was an inspiration during the very difficult time when he found out about his illness.

BILL EMERSON had a very strong faith, a very strong Christian faith. He loved the Lord very deeply, and his faith was very, very strong. As the other people know and the Washington Post points out today, BILL and the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. HALL worked together on the issue of hunger. The fact is BILL EMERSON went to many places with Congressman HALL, from Sudan to Ethiopia, to Somalia and similar places. I can safely say there are many people, hundreds of thousands or even millions of people that are alive today on the continent of Africa and other places that would not be alive had it not been for the work of BILL EMERSON working with Congressman HALL. BILL was totally committed to dealing with the issue of hunger and working together with TONY they did so much good that saved so many lives.

The fact is the people whose lives were saved do not even know how they were saved or why they were saved, but I want the record to show there are millions who are alive today because of the work of BILL EMERSON working with TONY HALL.

BILL loved his wife and loved his family, his four daughters, his wife Jo Ann. He would often talk about them. They were the center of his life, and he loved his family very, very much. Many times that we would meet he would talk about his wife and about his family, and we would exchange those things, and I just want that to be on the record.

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BILL loved this institution. That should be on the record. He was a page

in this House. I believe he was a page in the House during the time that there was an assassination attempt in the House of Representatives. I remember seeing the picture of the gentleman from Missouri, Mr. BILL EMERSON, and the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. KANJORSKI, who were both pages. That is how long BILL EMERSON goes back as being identified with this body.

He loved history. I think he read every book about Winston Churchill. He probably knew more about Winston Churchill than any person I knew. He knew more about Abraham Lincoln than anyone I knew. He loved this institution. He loved the Congress and he loved the House and he loved history.

Last, Mr. Speaker, I know he loved the Lord and he loved Christ. I know in his death he has gone to be with Jesus Christ. I include for the RECORD an obituary in the Washington Post.

The material referred to is as follows:
EIGHT-TERM REP. BILL EMERSON OF MISSOURI DIES

(By Martin Weil)

Rep. Bill Emerson (R-Mo.), who was found to have inoperable lung cancer last year while serving his eighth term in Congress, died June 22 at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center. He was 58.

Despite his illness, which sometimes led him to carry a portable oxygen canister to the floor of the House, Rep. Emerson was running for reelection. Agriculture dominated his district's economy, and he was in line to become chairman of the Agriculture Committee next year if he won and his party kept control of the House.

"He was a fighter," an aide said last night. Rep. Emerson believed "that he was going to beat this thing, and he fought it all the way."

Sometimes, in response to medical advice, he used a motorized scooter to help him get around Capitol Hill, aides said, but he was proud that he did not miss a vote this year until the week before he entered the hospital.

Rep. Emerson was admitted to Bethesda last Monday with a respiratory infection, and he issued a statement Thursday saying he was "resting comfortably and following doctors' orders."

Aides said he was a lifelong smoker who gave up cigarettes after his cancer was diagnosed last fall.

"All of Congress will feel the loss of Bill Emerson," said House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.). "He was a leader on nutrition programs and a man who was admired on both sides of the aisle."

"Politics in America," a reference work on members of Congress, described Rep. Emerson as a man whose votes and speeches demonstrated "a streak of ideological conservatism" but whose legislative career bore the stamp of pragmatism.

He was named in another reference work as being one of two key Republicans on the Agriculture Committee who early last year persuaded Gingrich to drop from the Republican "Contract With America" a proposal to put food stamps into block grants to the states. The food stamp program is a major part of federal spending on agriculture.

Rep. Emerson, a member of the House Select Committee on Hunger, traveled to starvation-stricken Somalia in 1992 to spotlight conditions there. When the committee was abolished, its chairman, Rep. Tony P. Hall (D-Ohio), fasted 22 days; according to "Politics in America," Rep. Emerson fasted every Monday in sympathy.

Rep. Emerson, a native of Hillsboro, Mo., largely was raised by a grandfather who was a county judge, and he acquired early what was to be a lifelong interest in politics and government.

As a teenager eager to become a congressional page, he came to Washington in the 1950s without the promise of a job. But repeated knocking on the doors of members of his state's delegation won him admiration for his initiative and resulted soon in the post he sought.

Aides said he regarded the assignment as a dream come true. After receiving a bachelor's degree in political science from Westminster College in Fulton, Mo., he returned to Washington to work for Rep. Robert Ellsworth (R-Kan.). Subsequent jobs included stints as a lobbyist and as a staff member for Sen. Charles McC. Mathias (R-Md.). In the meantime, he received a law degree from the University of Baltimore.

In 1980, he went back to Missouri to defeat a Democratic incumbent and become the first Republican to win the 8th District seat in 52 years.

Aides said Rep. Emerson's mother, Marie Hahn, his wife, Jo Ann, and his daughters, Elizabeth, Abigail, Victoria and Katharine, were at his bedside when he died.

MOST-FAVORED-NATION STATUS WITH CHINA, AND INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO PROTECT AMERICAN PATENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FUNDERBURK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from California [Mr. ROHRABACHER] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HONORABLE BILL EMERSON

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in remembering the gentleman from Missouri, BILL EMERSON, a decent, hardworking man who made great contributions not only to this body, not only to our country, but to the cause of a humane and decent world. We will remember him. He made major contributions to this legislative body.

Mr. Speaker, today I will be discussing something that goes to the heart and soul of a moral society, a decision that we will soon make about most-favored-nation status with China. Then, after a brief discussion on most-favored-nation status with China, in which the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. WOLF] will participate, I will give a longer presentation on a bill that will be introduced shortly on the floor of the House dealing with the American patent system and major changes that are being made in our patent system.

First, Mr. Speaker, let me say that as we move forward to the day when Congress will be considering most-favored-nation status for China, we must recall that this happens every year. Every year we are told that we must grant most-favored-nation status for the Communist Chinese because it will help them evolve.

The justification for not treating the Communist dictatorship like any other democratic nation, for example, like