

previously served as president, chairman, and director of the Tennessee Hotel and Motel Association. He has also served the Legal Aid Society of Nashville, the Easter Seals Society of Tennessee, the YMCA Black Achievers Program, the Tennessee Police Athletic League, the Nashville Chapter of the American Cancer Society, the United Way of Tennessee, and other organizations.

On the national level, Mr. Vaughn is a member of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus Advisory Council and a past member of the White House Conference on Travel and Tourism Issues Task Force, serving in 1995.

Jack Vaughn is a community leader and a personal friend whose leadership and selfless contributions have greatly benefited residents of the Fifth Congressional District of Tennessee. I wish him much success in the years ahead and the very best in his retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO MINNESOTA SENATE'S RALPH GRAHAM; A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT

**HON. JIM RAMSTAD**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 1999*

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Minnesotan who represented the very best in public service for more than three decades as Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms for the Minnesota Senate.

Ralph Graham passed away January 28 and leaves a loyal legion of friends at the Capitol in St. Paul, friends and former State Senators like me, who benefited so greatly from his wit, wisdom and key assistance.

Mr. Speaker, when I was first elected to the Minnesota Senate, Ralph Graham was one of the first people I met. His dedication to the Minnesota Senate and the law-making process was truly impressive. He quickly became a trusted friend and I was often blessed to be the recipient of his pragmatic, bipartisan insights on the important issues facing our state and the Legislature.

He was very proud of his job, and that's why he excelled at it. He kept watch over the Senate like a father over a child, the pride evident in his face and every gesture. The commitment he brought to his job each and every day was inspiring.

Mr. Speaker, Ralph's heart, energy and dedication made coming to the Senate a special pleasure. He guarded the Senate chamber's doors and decorum with a patient yet relentless zeal, plainly revealing a love for his job and deep respect for the integrity of the Minnesota Senate.

Ralph's sense of history and duty to his state and country was most remarkable. His father, Charles, also worked at the Capitol. And for nearly 40 years, Ralph helped our nation's brave veterans by working as an X-ray technician at the Minneapolis Veterans Medical Center and, before that, as a messenger in the veterans hospital's administration department.

Mr. Speaker, Ralph Graham's pride and performance set a tremendous example for generations of Senators and their staffs. His values, devotion to Senate traditions and the dignity he brought to the chamber will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all the people of our great state and nation, I want to express my heartfelt sympathy to his family, and my thanks for all he did to make our democracy stronger in so many ways. The Minnesota Senate has lost a valued officer and treasured friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. HERBERT H. BATEMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 1999*

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, along with two of my colleagues, I attended the funeral of former governor Mills Godwin of Virginia on Tuesday, February 2, 1999. As a result, I was absent for two recorded votes. Both votes were under suspension of the rules.

Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

H.R. 68, Vote No. 7, "yea."

H.R. 432, Vote No. 8, "yea."

A TRIBUTE TO ELI AND MARILYN HERTZ

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 1999*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my great admiration for Eli and Marilyn Hertz, two outstanding individuals who will be honored by Camp Ramah in the Berkshires on March 13, 1999.

Eli Hertz, the founder and President of the Hertz Technology Group, is a towering figure in the personal computer industry. His computers have won numerous awards and are widely recognized among industry professionals and observers as the gold standard in quality, performance, and affordability. Marketing Computers lauded Hertz's vision, noting that he is "able to shift with industry changes \* \* \* a barometer of the future."

Eli Hertz's devotion to public service is as strong as his commitment to professional excellence. His efforts to build a strong Jewish community and a healthy relationship between the United States and Israel are especially notable.

Among the important organizations benefiting from Eli Hertz's leadership are the Joint High Level Advisory Panel to the U.S. Israel Science & Technology Commission, the Advisory Board for the New York-Israel Economic Development Partnership, the America-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee. Mr. Hertz sponsored and authored portions of Partners for Change: How U.S.-Israel Cooperation Can Benefit America, a highly-respected blueprint for a new Middle-east.

Marilyn Hertz is herself an expert in computer programming, with extensive experience as a lecturer, as well as a co-founder and principal officer of the Hertz Technology Group. Now responsible for human resources and general management, Mrs. Hertz has been invaluable to the company's success and growth.

Marilyn Hertz is also active in a wide range of civic and charitable organizations, most es-

pecially the PTA and Camp Ramah, where her passion for the Jewish community and its children is given full expression every day.

Together, Eli and Marilyn Hertz represent the very best in our country—a personal devotion to service, a professional commitment to excellence, and a visionary grasp of the opportunities open to all Americans in the future.

I am delighted that the Hertz's many friends and admirers are joining to recognize their accomplishments, and I am proud to add my accolades to this well-deserved tribute.

IN HONOR OF JAMES LOUIS BIVINS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 1999*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of James Louis Bivins on his induction into the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

James Louis Bivins has led an admirable life. He overcame extreme hardships and disappointment, to become a role model to many. In his stellar professional boxing career from 1940 to 1955 James Louis Bivins went 85-25-1 with 31 knockouts. During his career he fought and defeated eight future world champions. From June 22, 1942 until February 25, 1946, during Boxing's Golden Age, Jimmy Bivins was undefeated going 28 bouts without a loss.

Since his retirement from professional boxing James Louis Bivins has given back to the city of Cleveland. As a world-class hall-of-fame athlete, Mr. Bivins has served as a mentor to hundreds of young boxers in his thirty years as a trainer on the west side of Cleveland.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Bivins for his induction into boxing's most hallowed club.

KAZAKSTAN'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 1999*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues disturbing news about the presidential elections in Kazakstan last month, and the general prospects for democratization in that country. On January 10, 1999, Kazakstan held presidential elections, almost two years ahead of schedule. Incumbent President Nursultan Nazarbaev ran against three contenders, in the country's first nominally contested election. According to official results, Nazarbaev retained his office, garnering 81.7 percent of the vote. Communist Party leader Serokbolsyn Abdildin won 12 percent, Gani Kasymov 4.7 percent and Engels Gabbasov 0.7 percent. The Central Election Commission reported that over 86 percent of eligible voters turned out to cast ballots.

Behind these facts—and by the way, none of the officially announced figures should be taken at face value—is a sobering story. Nazarbaev's victory was no surprise: the entire election was carefully orchestrated and the