

our business in this House will forever be influenced by Mo. We can disagree, but Mo demonstrated time and again that humor will insure that we do not have to be disagreeable.

It is no secret that politically, Mo and I were on opposite sides of the political spectrum, but when it came to Arizona, we could work together as well as any two Members. His legacy in Arizona is really twofold. We both came from a generation that saw Arizona boom from a State of small communities in rural environment to aggressive growth in full-fledged urban areas. What made Arizona attractive to so many from around the country, the lifestyle and the uniqueness and beauty of the environment, were the focus of Mo's work in Arizona. While he worked tirelessly to protect Arizona's grandeur and protect it for future generations, he was also instrumental in insuring that Arizona had the resources she needed to support a growing population and economy. Protection through wilderness areas, and water through the Central Arizona Project. Such were the dichotomies of Mo Udall.

Mo earned people's respect through listening, hard work, humor, and compromise. He certainly earned mine.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today in paying tribute to Mo Udall, and would note that two Udalls, MARK and TOM, are Members of the 106th Congress and are carrying on the legacy set by Mo and his brother Stewart.

There are those today who will speak about Mo Udall, the gentleman from Arizona. Mo Udall, the Presidential candidate. Mo Udall, the powerful chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and his vast legislative accomplishments. Mo Udall, the man.

I share the sentiments of my colleagues in these matters. As a freshman Member of Congress I began serving on the Interior Committee in 1977, the year Mo became its chairman. Under Mo's leadership, the years that followed were extremely productive for the committee. Many of Mo's legislative initiatives were enacted into law, such as the Alaskan Lands Act. Under Mo Udall's guidance the committee produced a legendary amount of wilderness and park legislation that will stand as testimony to the will and foresight of this great man.

Others will speak to those issues. I will speak to but one of Mo Udall's legislative achievements; one that left its mark on the lives of every citizen of this Nation's coalfields: The landmark Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

Mr. Speaker, for many years leading up to the enactment of this law, the gentleman from Arizona saw what was occurring in the Appalachian coalfields of this Nation due to unregulated surface coal mining. By the 1970's, it became increasingly clear that the proliferation of acidified streams, highwalls, refuse piles, open mine shafts, and other hazards associated with past coal mining practices could not be ignored.

It was on February 26, 1972, that a coal waste dam located on Buffalo Creek in Logan County, WV, collapsed causing a flood of truly horrible proportions in loss of life, injuries, property damage, and people left homeless.

This disaster, coupled with mounting concerns over the failure of several States to properly regulate mining, ensure reclamation and the development of surface coal mining in the semiarid West for the first time raised the

level of public attention to the plight of coalfield citizens adversely affected by certain coal mining practices from a local, to a truly national, level.

The Congressional debates of the mid-1970's, and bills passed only to be vetoed, set the stage for Mo Udall's introduction of H.R. 2 on the opening day of the 95th Congress in 1977.

As a newly elected Representative from West Virginia, I was honored to serve on the Interior Committee at this time, at the very time when Mo Udall took the leadership reins of the Committee, at the very time when after years of struggle it looked likely that a federal strip mining act would pass muster. I was given a great compliment when Mo Udall chose this freshman Member from West Virginia to serve on the House-Senate Conference Committee on H.R. 2, and stood in the Rose Garden with President Carter and Mo Udall when the bill was signed into law as the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

This law has served the people of the Appalachian coalfields well. It has made the coalfields of this Nation a much better place in which to live. The vast majority of the coal industry is in compliance with the law, and countless acres of old abandoned coal mine lands have been reclaimed under the special fund established by the act.

Mo Udall's original insight and foresight have proven correct and we are very much indebted to him. When God made the mountains of my home State of West Virginia, he made a special breed of people to preside over them. We are born of the mountains and hollows of our rugged terrain. Our State motto is "montani semper liberi"—mountaineers are always free. Although Mo Udall is from the southwest, from Arizona, he understood us. He understood the true beauty of our hills and hollows. He is, in my mind, an honorary West Virginian. And his years of diligence in not only gaining the enactment of the 1977 law, but in pursuing its implementation, will be long remembered by all West Virginians.

Now, if Mo was here, I can imagine what he would say. He would tell the story about a young man at a banquet. This young man was getting an award and he was flustered and he said, "I sure don't appreciate it, but I really do deserve it."

Mo turned over responsibility on the committee for the surface mining act to this gentleman from West Virginia, his chairman of the Subcommittee on Mining and Natural Resources. As I undertake my duties in this regard, the words Mo spoke on the 10-year anniversary of the enactment of the 1977 law ring in my ears: "The act was, and is, more than a piece of legislation. It is a vehicle of hope for those who live and who will live in America's coalfields." Mo left some big shoes to fill.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot conclude without making note of one other mining initiative. Mo understood what was occurring in the coalfields. But he also understood the abuses that took place in the West, in hardrock mining for copper, gold, silver and other such minerals under the Mining Law of 1872.

It was also in 1977 that the effort to reform the Mining Law of 1872 came to a head. Mo Udall, a reform supporter, however, found that the press of Committee business and other considerations would cause this particular initiative to be shelved for the time being.

Ten years later, in 1987, as his Mining Subcommittee chairman I resurrected the issue and today, mining law reform legislation is being actively considered by the Congress. Mo, I will do my best to use the same judgment, same humor, you would bring to the debate. Mo Udall, this one piece of unfinished business, once completed, is for you.

God bless you, Mo Udall.

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the concurrent resolution.

The previous question was ordered. The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 40, the concurrent resolution just adopted.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

#### ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, MARCH 8, 1999

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

#### HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1999

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, March 8, 1999, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 9, for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

□ 1330

#### DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SESSIONS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

#### RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as