

1345

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

I would say that there are many people who will have the advantage of life saving techniques and medical discoveries because of the work that the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER) has done to expedite and move along medical research in many, many areas.

I want the gentleman to know that I will miss him, that he and I do not have as many differences as he and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) have, but it is a real pleasure to be working with him. I will certainly miss the gentleman from Illinois when he leaves here.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I will be delighted to yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, let me just take a minute to say that I have now served in this body for 21 years and 20 years on the Committee on Appropriations. I have loved every single minute of it. There is nothing that can compare with service in this institution.

I have had a highly educated, highly informed, caring constituency to represent. It has been a joy to represent them here in Washington.

To be able to become involved in issues that I think are important for the future of our country and to attempt to reflect them in our values as a government has meant everything to me.

It has been a source of tremendous pleasure to work with people that I respect. The gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) are people that I respect tremendously, highly. People who fight for the things they believe in but do so in a way that brings credit to this institution.

Yes, we disagree and we fight, but it has been a true pleasure to work with the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) as my chairman, to work with him prior to his becoming chairman. He is a man that I have always looked up to and been able to rely on. And to work on the opposite side of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), both on the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education and on the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs. We have fought, I think, very cleanly. I certainly have a huge respect, admiration and friendship for the gentleman from Wisconsin as well.

Mr. Speaker, I leave this body with a great deal of sadness because, while I may not miss the kind of days we are having right now, I will miss very much the men and women that I have been so privileged to work with over all these years. It is a great privilege and an honor to be a Member of this body.

I feel that I have done my very best to try to represent the things that I believe in very deeply. It has been a joy to work with the people in this Chamber all these years. I thank my colleagues very much.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, October 24, I was not present in Washington and, therefore, unable to vote on that day. My wife Kasey and I became the proud parents of a baby girl, 7 pound, 2 ounce, 21-inch baby girl. This is our second child.

Had I been here, I would like the RECORD to reflect that I would have voted no on rollcall vote 541, yes on rollcall vote 542, and yes on rollcall vote 543.

Also, Mr. Speaker, if I may, on Thursday, October 26 of this year, yesterday, I again was not able to be in Washington and, therefore, unable to vote because I was picking up my wife Kasey and our newborn baby and taking them both back home from the hospital.

Had I been present, I would like the RECORD to reflect that I would have voted no on rollcall vote 553, yes on rollcall vote 554, no on rollcall vote 555, no on rollcall vote 556, no on rollcall vote 557, no on rollcall vote 558, no on rollcall vote 559, no on rollcall vote 560, yes on rollcall vote 561, and no on rollcall vote 562.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CROWLEY. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the gentleman, I want to congratulate Kasey, I want to congratulate the new arrival, Kenzie; is that correct?

Mr. CROWLEY. Kenzie, yes.

Mr. HOYER. Seven pounds, two ounces, I understand, of beautiful baby girl. As the father of three young women myself, I know the joy of having a daughter. And, of course, I know the gentleman's son well, and he is going to be blessed with his sister.

I want to say that I am sure there is not a person in this Chamber or an American anywhere who does not think the gentleman made the right judgment. Congratulations to you.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I want to just say that she will be eligible for dating when she is 40 years of age. So I thank all my colleagues very, very much.

Mr. HOYER. If the gentleman will continue to yield, Mr. Speaker, I would advise him that that is a good theory, but it does not work out in practice.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BUFFY WICKS

(Mr. FILNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a valued member of my staff here in Washington, Ms. Buffy Wicks, on her completion of the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C. just last Sunday, a marathon which raised millions of dollars for AIDS research.

Although almost 18,000 people took part in this marathon, my wife and I were watching very carefully Buffy's accomplishment. She committed to raising at least \$1,600, and did not surprise me one bit that she exceeded that goal. She is an intelligent and principled young lady who is an asset to my office and our community. Her dedication to raising money for AIDS follows her commitment to the causes of peace as a graduate student in Peace Research at the University of Oslo, to the American Civil Liberties Union, and to progressive congressional candidates.

I join each and every member of my own staff in saying congratulations on a job well done. Buffy, we are proud of you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW YORK YANKEES AND NEW YORK METS

(Mr. ENGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as a Bronx boy born and bred, and as someone who represents Bronx, New York, I want to congratulate the New York Yankees, the World Champions of 2000, for their wonderful season and, therefore, their victory in the World Series yesterday.

When I was growing up, I lived within walking distance from Yankee Stadium. I remember the old teams with Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris, and these Yankees certainly winning the World Series three years in a row shows they are truly champions.

I also want to congratulate the New York Mets for a wonderful, wonderful season and for being the winners of the National League. The subway series, and I went to as many World Series games as I could go to, really has made all of us as New Yorkers proud. In fact, my cap, which says "Subway Series" and has the number 4 train and the number 7 train on it, is something, again, that makes New York very, very, very proud. Not since the 1950s, when I was just a little boy, have we had a subway series in New York, and I have never seen such electricity coming from the city.

So we are all really winners; the New York Mets, the New York Yankees, two great phenomenal teams. I am proud to be a New Yorker, and I say again congratulations to the World Champion New York Yankees and to the National League Champions, the New York Mets.

FOND FAREWELL

(Mr. FORBES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the privilege of having the floor to address my colleagues, and I stand here out of respect and great admiration and affection for Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle.