

HONORING THE LIFE OF STEPHEN
PETER LYNCH

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep regret and sorrow that I announce to the House the passing of a good friend and former staff member, Stephen Peter Lynch.

Steve was a native of New Bedford, Massachusetts, the whaling and textile capital of the world. He was a Vietnam War Era Veteran and was recommended for the Seventh Army Commendation Medal. After his honorable discharge in 1970, he attended Saint Louis University in pursuit of a post-graduate degree in Political Science. He was a seasoned Capitol Hill staffer for almost thirty years and was an active member in the Irish community, along with many other civic efforts.

Steve's work on Capitol Hill began in the fall of 1973, where he served as a research assistant to the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Criminal Justice. There, his research on the Federal Rules of Evidence and the development of Special Prosecutor legislation were to hold the key to his work on Capitol Hill for the remainder of his professional career. In addition to his research duties, he also assisted in the investigations of the firing of Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox, the pardon of President Richard M. Nixon, and the subsequent attempt to reopen the pardon investigation. This work also included being a special assistant to the Subcommittee Chairman on the impeachment investigation of Richard Nixon and serving as a Committee representative to the staff and security force of Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller during his Vice Presidential confirmation hearings.

His other service on Capitol Hill included: Staff Director on the Regulatory Agencies and Export Opportunities Subcommittees of the House Committee on Small Business (1975–1983); Minority Professional Staff Member on the Subcommittee on Export Opportunities and Special Small Business Problems, House Committee on Small Business (1984–1991); House Committee on Small Business, Minority Staff Director (1991–1993); and House Committee on Small Business, Majority Director of Special Projects (1994–1996).

In 1998, after a short retirement, Steve returned to Capitol Hill to serve on the House Judiciary Committee's staff on the Impeachment investigation of President Clinton, where he conducted research analysis and acted as the archivist for the Committee until 2001. His consummate knowledge of the history of the Nixon investigation made him invaluable to the committee.

As an active member of the Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee of Washington, D.C. since 1983, Steve was instrumental in getting many prominent individuals to serve as parade Grand Marshal, including House Speaker Thomas "Tip" O'Neill (1986), the First Lady of the American Theater, Helen Hays (1987), and the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Carmencita Hederman (1988). As Chairman of the Parade Committee (2000–2002), Steve expanded the parade's visibility nationally. He began by having a web site created, reorganizing and expanding the Committee, and establishing the office of Chairman Emeritus in tribute to past

parole chairmen and naming Cecilia Farley as the first Emeritus.

Steve's participation in the Irish-American community went beyond his parade activities. He was a founding member of the American Foundation for Irish Heritage with the late John O'Beirne. Since 1990, Steve served as Secretary on the Board of Directors. The American Foundation for Irish Heritage was instrumental in getting Congressional legislation passed to designate March as "Irish-American Heritage Month" by Presidential Proclamation.

In addition to pursuing his Irish roots, Steve also shared his love for people and history by volunteering with other organizations. He served as co-chairman of the Friends of the Negro League Baseball Players Association, as well as historian for the Capitol Hill Philatelic Society.

Steve passed away on March 9, 2003, at his home in Takoma Park, Maryland. He is survived by his sister, Diana L. Coyne; his niece, Elizabeth Coyne; his nephew, Michael Coyne; brother-in-law, Jay Coyne, and half-brother, Frank Lynch.

All of us who knew Steve enjoyed his warm and caring spirit. We will miss him. I conclude with the old Irish Blessing:

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And the rains fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
Godspeed, old friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded on rollcall numbers 65, 66 and 67. I was unavoidably detained and was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall numbers 65, 66 and 67.

HONORING PHILLIP HALLE

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Phillip Halle, a community leader, political activist, loving family man, and a great Floridian. Born originally in New York, Mr. Halle moved to Florida after practicing law in New York City for many years.

Mr. Halle will be long remembered by residents of Plantation for his staunch commitment to civic affairs in the town and in the greater region of South Florida. Over the years, Halle fulfilled numerous civic posts. As a prominent member of the Lauderdale West community in Plantation, Halle served as their representative to the city and to the Broward County Commission.

In addition to representing his local community, Phillip Halle was once named chairman of the Broward County Consumer Protection Board and the Sanitary and Health Control

Board. Clearly, Halle felt passionate about serving his community and helping his neighbors.

Halle volunteered his time and resources to various causes, including acting as president emeritus of the Broward Coalition of Condominiums, a group representing 67 condominium groups, and being director of the Jewish National Fund, B'nai B'rith, and Temple Beth Israel.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly a special occasion for me to honor Mr. Halle. His earnest efforts to assist his neighbors and be active in the community serves as an example to us all. His enthusiasm and dedication to many causes will be a legacy that stands to last forever.

Mr. Halle is survived by his wife of 71 years, Kate Halle, along with son Michael Halle and daughter Gilda Siegel, in addition to seven grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHE-
VILLE MEN'S BASKETBALL
TEAM

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of the University of North Carolina at Asheville Men's Basketball Team. In the University's rich seventy-six year history, the 2002–2003 Men's Basketball Team is the first to represent the school in the NCAA Tournament.

This accomplishment was achieved through the incredible effort the men's team demonstrated during the Big South Conference Tournament. The team had three consecutive wins and defeated Radford University, 85–71, to clinch the Big South Conference title.

Not only did the men's team win their division championship, but they continue to represent the school well in the NCAA Tournament. The UNC-A Men's Team, on Tuesday, March 18, 2003, defeated Texas Southern, 92–84.

This proud moment in the University's history could not have been achieved without the leadership and effort of several individuals. Coach Eddie Biedenbach and his assistant coaches, Thomas Nash and Nicholas McDevitt, have done an incredible job guiding these outstanding men. In addition, the support of Chancellor James Mullen, Athletic Director Dr. Joni Comstock and her staff, and Drs. Eric Iovacchini and Kevan Frazier with the Office of Student Affairs have been instrumental in the success of the program.

Finally, I would like to mention the Senior leadership of the men's basketball team. Andre Smith, Alex Kragel, and Ben McGonagil have devoted themselves to this team, to this effort, and to this University. On behalf of North Carolina's Eleventh District, I would like to congratulate the team, the staff, and the student body on their success, both present and future.