

Mr. Speaker, much work remains to be done for freedom and democracy in Hong Kong and in China. The United States Congress must continue this work.

TRIBUTE TO BOB DIEDRICH

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to pay recognition to a man of my district that has diligently served his community for years. The city of Cortez has honored Mr. Bob Diedrich by selecting him as the 2003 Citizen of the Year. I am honored to rise today and acknowledge his contributions that have prompted this well-deserved award.

Bob's service to his community has included his election to the City Council in 1992, and being selected to serve as the Mayor Pro-Tem of Cortez in 1995. On the city council, Bob facilitated projects to increase the size of the city's park as well as the building of a new police station. Sitting as chairman on the Sanitation Board, Bob worked hard to see the completion of the city's new sewage treatment facility plant. In addition to all of his outstanding work on the City Council, Bob has dedicated himself to working with numerous charitable and civic organizations in his Cortez community.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to a dedicated citizen of Colorado. The time and effort Bob puts into serving his community is admirable and worthy of this recognition.

HONORING JAMES WESLEY
"WILLIE" YORK

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James Wesley "Willie" York. Mr. York was a builder, developer, realtor and philanthropist whose creativity and generosity have shaped Raleigh and the State of North Carolina in ways we will appreciate and honor for years to come. He died in Raleigh on March 2, at the age of 91, after an outstanding career that spanned the 20th century.

Long before shopping malls and urban planning became the norm in America, Mr. York took the bold step of developing land that combined multifamily housing and shopping facilities in a community setting. When it opened in 1949, Raleigh's Cameron Village was the first shopping center in the Southeast, and it has flourished through multiple changes in the years since. From that visionary development, Mr. York completed numerous other construction projects that have become landmarks in Raleigh. They include York Industrial Park, the Raleigh Farmers' Market, the Velvet Cloak Inn, Mission Valley Inn and Shopping

Center, and Northgate Shopping Center in Durham.

Mr. York was also a public servant and made numerous contributions in this arena to enhance the public good. As a member of the Raleigh School Board, he became a leader in the peaceful desegregation of the school system. J. W. York Elementary School was named for him in 1965 in recognition of his efforts. From 1976 to 1985, Mr. York brought visionary leadership to the Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority to ensure that it would continue to meet the demands of a growing region. By organizing major bond campaigns, he raised over \$163 million to finance construction of a major runway, additional terminals, and ground transportation. A 1933 graduate of North Carolina State University, Mr. York was also a life-long Wolfpack fan and devoted supporter of that institution. His leadership and generous contributions shaped development of the campus and gave life to the J. C. Raulston Arboretum.

Mr. York is survived by seven children, 13 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. I particularly want to acknowledge the leadership of his son Smedes, who has continued his father's development and philanthropic work. Smedes' tenure as mayor of Raleigh from 1979-83 was a progressive era for our capital city, and he has been a respected voice in many projects before and since.

The Fourth Congressional District and all of North Carolina are more livable places because of Mr. York's vision and gutsy determination to enhance the character of our infrastructure and the life of our communities. His legacy is much more than the bricks and mortar of his buildings; they are visible symbols of his strength and imagination. They will continue to be welcome reminders of his leadership in the years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THE LATE
RAUL JULIA

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker I rise today as a supporter of H. Con. Res. 287 which honors and recognizes the life of the late Raul Julia. This is an honor that is well deserved for a man who dedicated his life not only to the performing arts but also to his community. I want to thank my distinguished colleague Representative GUTIERREZ for bringing this bill to the floor and giving appreciation for a truly outstanding human being.

As an actor alone Raul Julia has made an outstanding contribution to this country. In New York City he obtained roles in Shakespearean plays that were often not given to Hispanic actors. In his 10 years on the Broadway stage he was nominated for four different Tony Awards. We all remember his role as Rafael the fix it man on Sesame Street. His performances were not only memorable but they made a lasting impression on those who watched him. His success made it possible for Hispanic actors to gain greater recognition.

However, to say that Raul Julia was a great actor is only telling half his story. He was a tremendous activist for the elimination of hunger. It is fitting that after his death in 1994, the Hunger Project for which he had been a spokesman changed its name to the Raúl Juliá Ending Hunger Fund. It was his hope that so many Americans and people worldwide who were downtrodden would have a way to bring themselves up. His life and the efforts he made are an example to us all that success is not merely measured in the number of accolades you receive but in the number of people you touch. Raul Julia touched lives around the world, he was not merely content with success on the stage, he wanted to have the kind of success that was truly felt by people.

The Hispanic community is the fastest growing community in America and with role models like Raul Julia the future for these proud people is bright. There are those who might say that a career in the arts is superfluous, but I have to strongly disagree with them. The arts are what inspire us, what allows us to believe that the impossible is possible. Raul Julia fulfilled that vision and more, his work allowed Hispanic actors to gain greater access to the stage. His work for the hungry and in his birth country of Puerto Rico lifted the spirits of so many. While his life was too brief, it was one that was well spent. Our nation needs more men and women of conscience and determination like Raul Julia, I feel confident that this nation's burgeoning Hispanic community will help produce them.

TRIBUTE TO DON ROBINSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute to the memory of Don Robinson today. To anyone who has skied the beautiful slopes in Aspen, Colorado, they probably have Don Robinson to thank, and it is his contributions to Colorado skiing that I would like to recognize here today.

Don Robinson was a pioneer in his field, creating many of the ski trails on the Aspen Highlands. For over forty-five years, Don worked on the popular mountain, creating most of the original runs. One of the mountain's hardest trails is his namesake, which is fitting considering the amount of hard work and dedication Don put in to making Aspen's ski slopes some of the best in the world. In addition to creating so many trails, Don was an active member of his church where he enjoyed singing with the Church Choir.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to Don Johnson. Don helped turn a little known town into one of the greatest ski destinations in the world. The Aspen community, the State of Colorado and skiers around the world mourn his passing. My heart goes out to his wife Janet and his family during this difficult time of bereavement.