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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Throw open the great doors. Let the standard bearers raise their flags. Mount the steps of this city built around the Hill, for he comes.

Prepare the Rotunda. Command the military to stand at attention. Let the people of the Nation and the world gather, for he comes.

Human mortality and dignity is framed for us at this moment, Lord, as a great man awakens from his sleep and enters Your new day.

May both Chambers and all parties, rich and poor alike, with all our greatness and all our frail diversity, prepare ourselves to welcome the 40th President of the United States. Echoes of Psalm 24 resound within us, O Lord, as we receive today the body of Ronald Wilson Reagan.

As he rests in our midst, may the memory of his warm smile melt our differences with candor and humor. May the openness of his faith in an optimistic tomorrow become promise for us all. May the cold walls of indifference and superiority crumble before our eyes. Be with us, Lord, as he sheds the ''surly bonds of Earth'' and we prepare President Ronald Reagan and ourselves to touch Your face, O God. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GREEN of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 116. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

RONALD W. REAGAN

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor as my colleagues have before me saddened by the death of one of our Nation's greatest leaders and humbled by the far-reaching impact his life has had on millions of people throughout the world. He was a great man and a gentle spirit. Optimistic, cheerful in service and buoyed by the confidence that comes with unwavering conviction, President Reagan reignited the feeling of promise for this country.

Ronald Reagan is the reason I became a Republican. And for many Democrats, he was the pathway to the Republican Party. He reminded us all that government cannot replace individual empowerment and told us in 1995 that every dollar the Federal Government does not take from us, every decision it does not make for us will make our economy stronger, our lives more abundant, and our future more free.

We join together with people across the globe in mourning the loss of Ronald Reagan. His decisive leadership during the twilight years of the Cold War indeed made him a beacon of hope for freedom-loving people throughout the world.

Our thoughts and prayers and our love go out to Mrs. Reagan and the entire family. Because of Ronald Reagan our Nation is stronger and our future is more free. Here we honor him and are continually working toward the dreamed-of-day he spoke of when no one wields a sword and no one drags a chain.

TEXAS AIR NATIONAL GUARD 147TH FIGHTER WING DINING-OUT

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the men and women of the 147th Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard, the Ace-in-the-Hole Texans, for inviting me to speak at their annual Dining Out recently in Houston.

The 147th Fighter Wing is based at Ellington Field in Houston, Texas. Every day the 147th continues to guard the skies over Houston and our Nation and protect the millions of residents in southeast Texas from drug traffickers, terrorists, and other airborne threats. They are on call 24/7 and keep guard over the fourth largest city in the United States and the vital energy infrastructure that powers our Nation.

They also perform an essential readiness mission by training many of our Nation's pilots as they prepare to protect our national interest overseas.

Houston is fortunate to have such a committed and patriotic group of men and women living and working in our community.

In addition to giving me the chance to meet many of the individuals of the 147th Fighter Wing, it was also an

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honor to meet and be joined at the dinner by Lieutenant General Wayne D. Marty, the Adjutant General for the State of Texas at the dinner.

I would like to thank the 147th and their wing commander, Colonel McNeely, for their hospitality. I was impressed with the fun these men and women can have as a team.

They gave me this T-shirt to wear that shows the F–16 that these Texans in the 147th fly when protecting their community and our Nation. The Ace-In-the-Hole 147th Texans.

HONORING MARCELLE WILDER

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, when I was elected to the Tennessee State senate, one of the first lessons that I learned was that the senate in Tennessee is a family. This week we have lost a member of that family. Ms. Marcelle Ann Morton Wilder left us this week at the age of 83 after a lifetime of dedication to her Lord, her State, and her husband, my former colleague in the Tennessee senate, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the State senate, John Wilder.

Ms. Wilder is an example of a life well lived, a life of grace and dignity. And her 63 years of marriage to Governor Wilder can only be described as a match made in heaven. He will miss his Ms. Marcelle. We will all miss her, and our thoughts and prayers are with the Wilder family.

REMEMBERING PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

(Ms. BERKLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere condolences to former first lady Nancy Reagan and the entire Reagan family. And I join our Nation in expressing profound sorrow at the loss of our 40th President.

Ronald Reagan had a special place in the hearts of Nevadans. Long before he came to the White House, Ronald Reagan in a another life headlined on the Las Vegas Strip as an entertainer in the early 1950s. Later as Governor of California, he worked with his counterpart from Nevada, former U.S. Senator and Governor Paul Laxalt, to address environmental threats to Lake Tahoe.

While in the White House, Ronald Reagan would often turn to his old friend from Nevada, Senator Laxalt, who was one of his closest advisers during his time in our Nation's Capital.

Ronald Reagan served our Nation with honor and distinction. He will long be remembered for his warm wit, his quiet strength, and ability to inspire through his words and his deeds. His actions as President reshaped the course of the 20th century, and his unbridled optimism helped restore America's faith in itself.

Today we also remember Ronald Reagan for his leadership and for his unwavering vision that Americans remain for all a land of hope, promise, and opportunity.

HOW ONE MAN REMEMBERS REAGAN

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, a few years ago I had the privilege of visiting with Natan Sharansky, a former Soviet dissident who is now an Israeli cabinet minister. I asked him what his reaction was, as he was in the Soviet Gulag at that time, to the ''Evil Empire'' speech. Here is his reaction as expressed in a recent quotation:

''In 1983 I was confined to an 8 by 10 foot prison cell on the border of Siberia. My Soviet jailers gave me the privilege of reading the latest copy of Pravda. Splashed across the front page was a condemnation of President Ronald Reagan for having the temerity to call the Soviet Union an 'evil empire.' Tapping on walls and talking through toilets, word of Reagan's 'provocation' quickly spread throughout the prison. We dissidents were ecstatic. Finally, the leader of the Free World had spoken the truth, a truth that burned inside the heart of each and every one of us.

''At the time, I never imagined that 3 years later I would be in the White House telling the story to the President. When he summoned some of his staff to hear what I said, I understood that there had been much criticism of Reagan's decision to cast the struggle between superpowers as a battle between good and evil. Well, Reagan was right and his critics were wrong.''

There is no doubt that Natan Sharansky speaks for millions of people who today are free. A great President, with a great legacy, Ronald Wilson Reagan.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S DRACONIAN EMERGENCY ORDER

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I find it somewhat ironic after the fumbling underreaction to mad cow disease that the United States Department of Agriculture is considering a Draconian emergency order for all Oregon nurseries in order to deal with an infection of sudden oak disease on one nursery.

The State Department of Agriculture has already appropriately quarantined the nursery. But before we create a regulatory nightmare for hundreds of small businesses and a huge regulatory roadblock, I would hope that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will work with the experts and our industry to protect both the environment and the vital commerce in nursery products.

There is no reason that we cannot do right by the environment and do it in a way that promotes proper treatment of this dangerous disease but avoids doing more harm than we do good.

REMEMBERING THE GIPPER

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the world is grieving this week over the loss of a true American hero, President Ronald Wilson Reagan. Ronald Reagan defined the honor and dignity of the office of the Presidency, and he lifted the spirits of a Nation with his hope and joyfulness that sprang from an abiding faith in God and a deeply held belief in the American dream.

President Reagan entered office during a time of doubt and despair and malaise with the economy sputtering and a looming Cold War that threatened our families. Yet he brought his conservative principles of individual freedom, limited government, personal responsibility, and peace through strength.

President Reagan led a successful revolution to promote tax cuts, recognizing taxes are the people's own money. He achieved victory in the Cold War, expanding democracy worldwide. And he realigned America's political process with an open door especially for young people.

His legacy lives on today as America unites to fight the war on terror liberating millions from tyranny to protect American families as our economy is booming through tax relief.

May God bless the Reagan family. May God bless our troops. And may God continue to bless America.

□ 1015

TRIBUTE TO FORMER PRESIDENT RONALD W. REAGAN

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as so many others have, to pay tribute to one of our Nation's finest sons and political leaders. Former President Ronald Reagan is worthy of respect and admiration both as a man and world leader, and his passing this weekend leaves each of us with a sense of loss and sadness.

His lasting mark on American politics is unquestionable. At a time when it was fashionable to declare one's political moderation, Reagan fearlessly changed the face of American politics by standing up and boldly declaring himself to be a conservative. He fought

for principles and causes that, before his Presidency, were considered heresy. Balanced budgets, tax cuts, smaller government, and a robust national defense were the hallmarks of his ideology, and he never shied away from articulating and fighting for those views.

He proudly became the father of political conservatism and made it possible for people like me to become a Member of Congress. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, those who espoused conservative political views had few outlets from which to share their philosophies, but Reagan ushered in an era of conservatism whose tide has yet to wane. The makeup of today's political world is due, in large part, to the legacy of Ronald Reagan.

PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, what distinguished President Reagan among American Presidents in the last century? Where many Chief Executives saw gray and moral relativism on the international landscape, he saw good and evil, right and wrong.

What relationship should we in the United States have with the Soviet Union, a tyranny that trampled freedom, starved its people, imprisoned dissidents, choked its economy and wrapped its tentacles around its neighbors? Do we engage them? Do we fight them in one corner of the world while doing business with them in the other? Can we coexist under the constant threat of mutual destruction and endless arms races? Do we practice detente, containment?

Ronald Reagan was the President who said, Americans cannot live like this, and I do not think the world's other citizens should. The day he stood at the Berlin Wall and defiantly challenged the Soviet tyranny with the unforgettable words, Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall, was the beginning of the end of the Cold War. God bless President Reagan.

PROGRESS IN THE FREEDOM OF IRAQ

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, in the midst of our national loss, gain. In the progress of freedom in Iraq, after months of sacrifice by U.S. and coalition forces, yesterday the United Nations Security Council agreed unanimously to a resolution outlining a free and democratic future for the people of Iraq.

By a 15 to 0 vote, which included France, Germany and Russia, the United Nations agreed to declare a formal end to occupation on June 30 and set into motion the process of an interim and permanent democracy in Iraq.

Make no mistake about it, Mr. Speaker, international approval of the progress of freedom in Iraq is a victory for this President and, I would add, a fitting tribute to the President in whose memory we will gather later today.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT RONALD WILSON REAGAN

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning with so many of my friends to pay tribute to the 40th President of the United States, Ronald Wilson Reagan, and to extend my condolences to his wife Nancy and to his family.

President Reagan will always be remembered as the architect of policies that ended the Cold War, peace through strength. He more than anyone else was directly responsible for giving us the possibility of a world that could live in peace. He ended the Cold War. He ended the threat of hostilities between the United States and Russia, and he brought an end to the Soviet domination in Eastern Europe.

He unleashed the power of the American economy. Yes, it cost money to defeat the Soviet Union. It cost money to defeat Soviet tyranny, but in the long run, was it worth it? You bet it was, for this generation and for the generations to come.

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN WAS AN INSPIRATION

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, President Ronald Reagan was an inspiration to me and millions of others throughout the U.S. and even all over the world. He saw the American dream come true in his life, rising from humble beginnings and achieving great, great success in almost every way.

He will certainly go down in history as one of our greatest Presidents, but his greatness may have been achieved in large part because, as one of his closest friends said a couple of days ago, he did not worry about how history would view him.

It has been said his greatest legacy will be leading us to victory in the Cold War, but his domestic achievements were great, too, especially in lowering taxes and helping curb the greed of government.

I had the privilege of meeting President Reagan on many occasions, starting when he was Governor of California. He was always so kind to me and to everyone, and possibly one of his greatest attributes may have been in showing us that you can have strong views on important issues, but still treat opponents with kindness, compassion and even good humor.

We are all better people, Mr. Speaker, because of the life and example of President Ronald Reagan.

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN WAS LIVING PROOF THAT IDEAS WIN BATTLES

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

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, for many years I have heard comments about the power of ideas. I learned as a youngster that the pen is mightier than the sword and that there is nothing so powerful as an idea whose time has come. President Ronald Reagan demonstrated that these and similar statements, are true. He was living proof that ideas win battles.

He was not regarded as an intellectual, but yet he understood the importance of the basic, simple ideas that this country is founded upon, the ideas of peace and freedom, freedom to worship, freedom to speak, freedom of the press, but he also went beyond that. He recognized that these are not ends in themselves, but these are means to an end, and freedom to worship is meaningless unless you use it to worship. Freedom of the press is meaningless unless you use it to print ideas that are for the betterment of the Nation.

Simple ideas, valiantly fought for. With grace, charm and a twinkle in his eye, he succeeded where others had failed. He inspired a troubled Nation. He brought us together. He conquered the symbolic Iron Curtain and brought it down, along with the very real Berlin Wall. He led to nuclear disarmament, the greatest threat to humanity during his tenure.

I rise today to thank President Reagan for what he did for this country, for the ideas he fought for and the transformation he made in the culture and the attitudes of this Nation.

RONALD REAGAN DEFINED THE AMERICAN DREAM

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

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, we rise today with solemn hearts for the loss of an American hero, a man with an optimistic vision of this country that was infectious. I stand as an individual who felt the energy of the Reagan era.

As a 19-year-old in 1980, I attended my first Republican convention where Ronald Reagan accepted the GOP nomination for President. My first vote for President was for Ronald Reagan, and I spent the beginning of adulthood under the spirit of a man who defined the American dream.

Today we stand in awe of a life of passion and accomplishment. Ronald

Reagan crumbled walls of oppression in Europe and rebuilt the American spirit. He was forever the gentleman statesman, a man who thought that politics, no matter how tough the battle with your opponent, should never leave scars.

In the end he bore no ill will to anyone, and in that mold he was the definition of a leader, a leader who inspired confidence in those around him and who led by example.

He feared not an assassin's bullet or political setback because he always looked to tomorrow, always believed the best days of America were ahead beyond the horizon, and that he would chart the course to take us to a better tomorrow. We stand here as a testament to that simple, yet powerful, truth.

EXPRESSING SORROW AND GRATITUDE TO THE REAGAN FAMILY

(Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am here to really just first express my sorrow and my gratitude to the Reagan family.

Through President Reagan's optimism and courage and strength, he carried this country from a state of what some people said was a state of malaise to further greatness. He understood and never apologized for his understanding that the United States was a source of good around the world, a source of freedom around the world.

I recall when he said his famous remark about the evil empire how all of the experts said he could not say that, that he was wrong, that they were not bad. Well, he was right, and he tried and fought hard and worked hard to spread freedom across the globe, to strengthen the United States and, therefore, also strengthen our allies to spread freedom.

He succeeded by tearing down the Berlin Wall, by tearing down the evil empire, by spreading freedom to millions of people around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, I am here again in awe of the life of President Ronald Reagan, his achievements, his success in spreading freedom, his success in making this country what it is today. The greatness that we have achieved today, in great part, is due to the optimism, the greatness, the spirit of Ronald Reagan. We can never thank him enough.

AUTHORIZING USE OF ROTUNDA OF CAPITOL FOR LYING IN STATE OF THE REMAINS OF THE LATE HONORABLE RONALD WILSON REAGAN, FORTIETH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 444) authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the lying in state of the remains of the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, the fortieth President of the United States.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 444

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That in recognition of the long and distinguished service rendered to the Nation and the world by Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, the rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used for the lying in state of the remains of the late Honorable Ronald Reagan from June 9 until June 11, 2004. The Architect of the Capitol, under the direction of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate, shall take all steps necessary for carrying out this event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RADANOVICH). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS).

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this may seem like a routine resolution because we must pass these resolutions to allow the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for certain events, but frankly, this is a very auspicious moment.

By statute, we have defined how state funerals are to proceed in this Nation's Capital. We have very few of them. I believe the last one was at the time of the death of President Lyndon Johnson of Texas. It is a great honor to host an event such as this in the rotunda, and today I rise to present a resolution which will grant permission to have the body of President Ronald Reagan rest in state in the rotunda of the Capitol so that the Members of Congress and members of the public may join in honoring him by viewing the casket.

This is, as I said, a very auspicious event, and fortunately, we do not have to do this often. But it inspires in us, again, respect for the ideals of our Nation and for the things that we do and that we believe in.

When President Reagan's body will arrive, the casket will be placed on a caisson, according to tradition and law, and that horse-drawn procession will proceed from near the White House to the Capitol. It will be followed by a black, riderless horse, indicating a fallen leader. The boots on that horse will be placed in the stirrups backwards, indicating the fallen leader reviewing the troops behind him. When that arrives at the Capitol, with great pomp and circumstance, an honor guard will present the casket and the body and carry them inside the Capitol, displaying the casket in the rotunda.

This evening we will have a memorial ceremony, restricted to the Members of Congress, in the Rotunda. Following that, the people of this Nation, anyone who wishes, may stand in line and view the casket and give their respects to our fallen President.

It is my pleasure to be able to present this resolution honoring President Ronald Reagan and providing the opportunity for the Members of Congress and for the public to view the casket and to pay their respects to this great man. It is the least we can do, and I wish we could do more because he did a marvelous job of leading this Nation in a very troubled time. When we had a broken economy and a dispirited people, he restored their spirits with grace, charm and a twinkle in his eye and eventually helped us prevail over the Soviet Union, which had threatened us for decades with nuclear weapons.

The world is a far better place because of Ronald Reagan, what he did, and the leadership he provided, and it is my pleasure to present this resolution and honor him in this way.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I join the distinguished chairman, or the appropriate person in his place, in support of this legislation to authorize use of the Capitol rotunda for this very sad occasion.

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There can be no more proper use of the rotunda, the center of the temple of our democracy, than to honor the late former President Ronald Reagan with a state funeral and lying in state.

With this observance, President Reagan will take his proper place in the pantheon of American heroes who have lain in state in this temple, benefiting their vast contributions to the fabric of our National political life.

Although I did not have the honor to serve in the Congress during President Reagan's term, I greatly admired him as a statesman, and his skills as the Great Communicator, and am grateful for everything he did for our country.

Mr. Speaker, it is especially fitting that Congress and the Nation pay their respects to our 40th President in this temple because several memorable events of his 8 years in office took place here. Of course, he delivered all of his State of the Union messages right here in this Chamber, including the one in which he dropped several pounds of paper onto the rostrum and urged Congress not to send him any more massive, catch-all spending bills.

In 1985, President Reagan returned from a Geneva summit meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, flew directly from Andrews Air Force Base to the Capitol by helicopter, and addressed a joint session, reporting hopeful progress on arms control and reassuring the Nation and the world.

Perhaps more relevant to the resolution before us, many Americans will recall that the bitter cold of January 21, 1985, forced President Reagan's second inaugural ceremony to come indoors and take place in the rotunda itself in

order to protect the multitudes attending and participating in the inauguration, who would otherwise have been at great risk from the elements and frostbite.

Throughout his life and career, President Reagan was always considerate of others. And like others who have preceded him in the Nation's highest office, Ronald Reagan hailed from a humble background. Born in 1911 in Illinois, Reagan grew up in the town of Dixon, was active in sports, drama, and student politics, all of which would serve him well later. In 1932, the future President graduated from Eureka College with a degree in economics and sociology. He embarked on a radio career that eventually led him to Hollywood, where he worked in the entertainment industry for 2 decades, principally in motion pictures.

He appeared in over 50 movies, including one of my favorites, the 1940 ''Knute Rockne: All American.'' In the film, Reagan portrayed the legendary Notre Dame athlete George Gipp, who set numerous football records during a 5-year career before succumbing in 1920 to an infection that struck 20 years before the discovery of antibiotics. In the movie's climax, Reagan earned his lifelong nickname when the dying Gipp asked Coach Rockne to urge his teammates to go out there and ''win won for the Gipper.'' For us football fans, especially one who has a son who played football, the scene is priceless. My son loved the movie, and he certainly loves football as well. And I have little doubt that today, for millions of Americans, the legends of George Gipp and the man who portrayed him on film have become inextricably linked.

In the 1960s, when the Gipper became active in politics, he generally supported Republican candidates, including Richard Nixon and Barry Goldwater. Like Nixon and Goldwater, Reagan became known as an ardent anti-Communist. In 1966, he became a Republican candidate himself, winning the first of two terms as Governor of California.

Two years after leaving office in Sacramento, Governor Reagan challenged President Gerald Ford for the GOP nomination for the Presidency, and nearly won it. In 1980, he won both the Republican Presidential nomination and the general election, where he received nearly 51 percent of the popular vote and carried 45 States and 489 electoral votes.

Of course, we all recall that in 1981 an assassin nearly ended our new President's life in a hail of gunshots here in Washington. Fortunately, the would-be assassin failed to achieve his demented purpose, and the President went on to survive not only gunshot wounds but also colon cancer.

The President also survived the bruising political battles so common in this capital city. He did so simply by refusing to take politics personally. President Reagan's ability to build and maintain a lasting friendship with House Speaker Tip O'Neill, with whom he disagreed on many political issues, exemplified an approach to politics and to governing which I greatly admire, and one that I wish others would emulate.

In 1984, President Reagan won reelection, with nearly 59 percent of the popular vote, the electoral votes of 49 States, and completed his two momentous terms. By the time he left office in 1989, he was, despite large budget deficits and the Iran-contra scandal, one of our most beloved Presidents.

The massive outpouring of grief seen across this country and the world since his death on Saturday is abundant proof of the esteem Americans hold for their 40th President throughout every city, suburb, and hamlet in this land.

Mr. Speaker, the state funeral and the lying in state authorized in the rotunda this week will be solemn state occasions whose purpose is to provide the public with an opportunity to view the body and mourn the passing of a head of state. Ceremony, history, and protocol will permeate these rites.

Among them, it is worth noting, that when President Reagan's body lies in state in the rotunda, his remains will rest upon the historic catafalque constructed for the funeral of our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln, another son of Illinois. All those who have lain in state in the Capitol rotunda have rested on the Lincoln catafalque, made of simple pine boards and draped in black velvet.

It is fitting that this relic, built for one who became, if not in life, one of the most cherished and beloved Presidents, will now be used to support the body of our 40th President, a cherished and beloved successor to Lincoln. As a people, we are truly grateful for President Reagan's long service to our country and for the opportunity to honor him and his memory in this way.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to play a role in these proceedings by managing this resolution for the minority, in the absence of our ranking member. I hope that all my colleagues will join in paying tribute to our 40th President by supporting this very important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. COX), a representative of the home State of President Reagan to offer some comments on this resolution.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and it is entirely fitting that we pass this resolution authorizing the remains of President Reagan to lie in state in the Nation's Capitol.

It was in this building that President Reagan took the oath of office in January 1981. Eight years later, he yielded his authority as President and Commander in Chief in this building, in that quiet peaceful transfer of power that is the hallmark of our democracy.

Many of the shining moments of his two Presidential terms took place right here in this Chamber. None are more thrilling than that 1982 State of the Union that marked his triumphant return shortly after he was shot by a would-be Presidential assassin.

And some of his greatest challenges have close associations with this Chamber as well. In his second term, after President Reagan had won Senate passage of his request for aid to the freedom fighters in Nicaragua, the challenge he faced was in this House. The President asked permission to address the House, but Speaker O'Neill said no. I served then as legal counsel in the White House, and I was asked whether the Speaker of the House could deny the President the opportunity to come and address the Congress in the people's House. And my answer, swiftly delivered, was ''absolutely.''

President Reagan did not mind the legal advice. He asked, ''They all have televisions, don't they?'' And he addressed the Nation from the Oval Office. As a result of that magnificent address, intended for all of us here but absorbed equally by the American people, this Congress did the right thing and democracy did move forward in Nicaragua. The Soviet Union was not able to establish a beachhead in our own hemisphere. And whereas upon President Reagan's assumption of office there were only 56 electoral democracies in the world, today there are 117, and over 1 billion people now live in democracies that otherwise would not.

When President Reagan took the oath of office here in this building, he was facing west. The west front of the Capitol was the staging area for that inauguration. He was the first President to do so. He thought it was important to face west, because not only was he a Westerner, not only was he a Californian, but the history of our country moving westward signified the spirit of frontier, the pioneer spirit, and entrepreneurship that President Reagan thought was the genius of America.

When his body is placed in the rotunda later today, it will come to the Capitol up those same steps on the west front and all of us will be looking west to his beloved State of California thinking about what President Reagan meant by that symbolism.

So it is entirely appropriate that we pass this resolution we address now. I know that each of us will take personal pride in recalling his contributions to our country, to our sense of patriotism as we observe the ceremonies in the rotunda later today and as we have our own personal moment to walk by that casket.

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As we heard of the death of our 40th President, Mr. Speaker, I could not help but think of the friendship that I had with his daughter who preceded him in death, Maureen Reagan. For 15

years, Maureen and I worked tirelessly for women's issues internationally. And for the respect that I had for her, and certainly did not know her father, I will say to all of my colleagues to please pass this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to present this resolution. I have pointed out the historical significance of it, and I urge the entire Congress to cast a unanimous vote. It is the last time to win one for the Gipper, and it is appropriate for us to express our appreciation to a previous leader and President at the time of his death.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I join with the distinguished gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) and the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) in support of this motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution to authorize the use of the Capitol Rotunda to honor President Reagan and I would urge all Members to do likewise.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very sad occasion for our country. Last Saturday, June 5, 2004, Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, departed this life, and now belongs to the ages.

Since I was first elected to this House in 1998, I did not have the privilege of serving with President Reagan. But I certainly wish I had known him. President Reagan's engaging smile, his reassured demeanor, and his boundless optimism about America, her people and her future, were literally contagious.

And the contagion surely did spread, Mr. Speaker. The overwhelming grief since President Reagan's death reflects the American people's respect for the man, and their gratitude for what he accomplished for present and future generations. While he may now be gone, he will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, as the Congress and the nation mourn our 40th President in the Capitol Rotunda, we might recall the many memorable moments that occurred under this great Dome during his 8 years in office. Indeed a harbinger of things to come, President Reagan asked that his inauguration take place for the first time on the West Front of the Capitol, so he could look out across the Mall toward the west. Not only did this vista accommodate more people attending the ceremony in person, it symbolically shifted the ceremony's focus toward the vast reaches of the country, where most Americans live.

Of course, President Reagan delivered all of his State of the Union messages, and addressed other joint sessions of Congress, from right here in the House Chamber. Once, after Congress had wrapped an entire year's worth of appropriations bills into one mammoth measure, he dramatically plopped a huge stack of paper—not even printed, but instead, Xeroxed copies—onto the desk with a "thud." He implored lawmakers never to repeat the practice. Unfortunately, it has done so repeatedly in the years since that speech. It was a bad practice in President Reagan's time, and it is a bad practice today.

President Reagan's second inaugural took place in the Rotunda, driven inside by the cold winter of 1985. While some television viewers might have been disappointed at the cancellation of the outdoor inaugural and the accompanying parade, I am sure many parents of high-school students scheduled to march in the festivities were relieved. In another thoughtful gesture, the President paused during his inaugural address to note the passing of a Democratic Representative, Gillis Long of Louisiana, who had died hours before.

Throughout his life and career, President Reagan was always considerate of others. Perhaps this attribute reflected the Midwestern values of his native Illinois, and the fact that Ronald Reagan came from humble beginnings.

Born in 1911 in Tampico, Illinois, Reagan's family soon moved to the town of Dixon, where he was active in swimming and other sports, drama, and the student government at the local high school. In 1932, the future President graduated from Eureka College, with a degree in economics and sociology. Popular among his peers and clearly blessed with a radio announcer's voice, after graduation Reagan embarked on a radio career. A journey to Los Angeles to cover a sporting event led to a Hollywood screen test, which in turn led to a contract at Warner Brothers studios.

Reagan made more than 50 movies, including "Knute Rockne: All-American," from which he earned his lifelong nickname for playing the famous Notre Dame athlete George Gipp. In the last reel of the film, legendary Notre Dame football coach Knute Rockne inspired his 1928 team, who was losing a game to Army, by telling them George Gipp's dying remarks, which were:

> Some time, Rock, when the team is up against it, when things are wrong and the breaks are beating the boys, tell them to go in there with all they've got and win just one for the Gipper. I don't know where I'll be then, Rock, but I'll know about it, and I'll be happy.

Needless to say, the inspired Fighting Irish went on to win the game despite their numerous injuries and underdog status. Today, millions remember Reagan as "the Gipper," and far fewer remember George Gipp. Reagan became even better known in the 1950s by working in television, appearing on such early programs as "Death Valley Days" and the "General Electric Theater."

Reagan lived the rest of his life in California, where in the 1960s, he became active in politics. Though a Democrat, even becoming president of the Screen Actors' Guild, he supported Richard Nixon in 1960 and Barry Goldwater in 1964. In 1966, as a Republican, Reagan won the first of two terms as governor of California. In the tumultuous year of 1968, Governor Reagan briefly sought the Republican presidential nomination, but lost to his fellow Californian, Richard Nixon.

In 1976, the Governor challenged President Gerald Ford for the GOP presidential nomination, and nearly won it at the Kansas City convention. In 1980, he won the nomination and the election, where he received nearly 51% of the popular vote and carried 45 states. Of course, we were all stunned on March 30, 1981, when an assassin shot the President and several others outside the Washington Hilton. Little did we know at the time how close the President came to dying of his wounds. The President went on to survive not only his 1981 gunshot wound, but also, in 1985, a bout with colon cancer.

President Reagan was, and his memory is, beloved in this town. He readily agreed with House Speaker Tip O'Neill's admonition, at an early meeting, that "after 6 o'clock, we're all friends." President Reagan worked to make friends not only with Speaker O'Neill, with whom he often disagreed on policy matters, but with countless others in Congress and around the country. The President's willingness to reach across the aisle and work in a constructive way, refusing to take politics personally, was a hallmark of his approach to governing. I wish others would follow his example in today's poisonous political environment in this city.

In 1984, President Reagan handily won reelection with over 58% of the popular vote carrying 49 states. By the day he left office in January 1989, he was, despite massive budget deficits and the Iran-Contra arms-for-hostages scandal, one of our most beloved presidents.

Mr. Speaker, the solemn state occasion authorized in this resolution will provide an official opportunity for the American people to mourn our former a head of state. This ceremony will be rich in history, and include the use of the Lincoln catafalque, originally built for the state funeral of our 16th President in 1865. This observance will enable Americans, through the Congress and others able to attend, to bid an official, fond farewell to President Reagan for his long career and many contributions to the rich fabric of our nation.

I am honored to play a role in these proceedings in my position as Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on House Administration and to represent the many residents of Connecticut who revere President Reagan and his memory. In their behalf, and mine, I offer Mrs. Reagan and the entire Reagan family the condolences and the thanks of a grateful nation for the President's service. I would like to close by joining our Committee on House Administration's Vice Chairman in urging our colleagues to pass this resolution and win one last victory for the Gipper.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce House Concurrent Resolution 444, to allow the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, the Fortieth President of the United States of America, to lie in state.

More than any leader in my lifetime, Ronald Reagan embodied the noble ideals and irrepressible optimism of the American spirit. As President, he led our country into an era of renewed faith in the American Dream. Ronald Reagan guided the United States to victory over Communism in the Cold War, and his domestic policies ushered in an age of unprecedented prosperity. As we stand in the wake of Ronald Reagan's recent passing, we mourn his loss, but we celebrate the remarkable legacy he leaves to the country he loved and served so faithfully.

Ronald Reagan was born into humble circumstances in the small town of Dixon, Illinois. It was in this quintessential Midwestern setting that Ronald Reagan recognized the near-limitless opportunities that flow from liberty, and consequently developed his deep and abiding appreciation for the founding ideals of our great country.

Rising from these modest origins, Ronald Reagan set off on a life journey that was both rich and diverse in experiences. As a young man, he spent seven summers as a lifeguard

on a hazardous section of river near his hometown where he saved the lives of 77 swimmers. He went on to become a college athlete and then traveled to Hollywood, where he became one of the most popular actors of the '50s and early '60s. But, it was in the realm of politics where Ronald Reagan would make his most meaningful and lasting impact, first as a two-term governor of the State of California and then, most significantly, as the President of the United States from 1981 through 1989. Quite, simply, Ronald Reagan changed the world, and we are all the better for it.

Ronald Reagan, more than any other individual, was responsible for winning the Cold War, the epic struggle that pitted the United States and its allies against a Communist force armed with enough nuclear weapons to threaten the existence of humanity. Relying on his deeply held beliefs of the supremacy of liberty and democracy, Reagan assumed the office of President and sought not to accommodate or merely contain Communist expansionism, but to defeat it. He had the courage to speak the truth about the former Soviet Union, to accurately label it as an ''evil empire'' that would ultimately be consigned to the ''ash heap of history.'' He realized that for democracy to prevail in this twilight struggle of differing ideologies with monumental consequences, he had to become a relentless warrior on behalf of the American ideals of liberty, free enterprise, and the primacy of the individual in society. His fortitude provided the American people with purpose and victory over Communism.

Ronald Reagan buoyed up our nation not only with his ever-present smile, his genial nature, and his self-deprecating humor but also with the substance of his ideas: his enduring faith in the innate goodness and creativity of the American people; his steadfast belief in the exceptionalism of our constitutional democracy and economic order; and his unyielding conviction that freedom and democracy will triumph over oppression and tyranny. Ronald Reagan was, and will always remain, a giant on the stage of history, a commanding presence and respected leader whose commitment to freedom and democracy will inspire generations to come. Truly it can be said that Ronald Reagan lifted the spirits of the American people by appealing to our best hopes, not our worst fears, and because of that, he will remain forever in the hearts of the American people.

Walking side-by-side with Ronald Reagan through his life's journey was his wonderful wife and best friend, Nancy. Her dignity and grace as First Lady were exemplary, but even more inspiring has been the strength and resiliency she has demonstrated since her husband was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease 10 years ago. Nancy's devotion to the former President has been nothing less than heroic, and our prayers and the prayers of a nation are with here during this time.

Though our hearts are heavy as we mourn the loss of a beloved leader, we are comforted knowing that Ronald Reagan has gone onto a better place. To borrow the words he used to comfort the nation following the *Challenger* disaster, Ronald Reagan has ''slipped the surly bonds to earth'' to ''touch the face of God.''

Passage of this resolution will allow us to pay tribute to this great man and his legacy. It will allow all those who loved and admired Ronald Reagan a final opportunity to say a final goodbye. As he lies in state, the American people will have the opportunity to pay their respects by coming to the Capitol Rotunda. I expect that many thousands will do so.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to support this Resolution.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RADANOVICH). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 444.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on House Concurrent Resolution 444.

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

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING USE OF ROTUNDA OF CAPITOL FOR LYING IN STATE OF REMAINS OF LATE RONALD WILSON REAGAN, 40TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES FROM JUNE 9 UNTIL JUNE 11, 2004

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 115) authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the lying in state of the remains of the late Ronald Wilson Reagan, 40th President of the United States, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 115

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That in recognition of the long and distinguished service rendered to the Nation and to the world, by the late Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, his remains be permitted to lie in state in the rotunda of the Capitol from June 9 until June 11, 2004, and the Architect of the Capitol, under the direction of the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall take all necessary steps for the accomplishment of that purpose.

The Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

A similar House concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 444) was laid on the table.

□ 1045

MOURNING THE PASSING OF PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the previous order of the House, I call up the resolution (H. Res. 664) mourning the passing of President Ronald Reagan and celebrating his service to the people of the United States and his leadership in promoting the cause of freedom for all the people of the world, and ask for its immediate further consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RADANOVICH). The Clerk will report the title of the resolution.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Time for debate on the resolution on the legislative day of June 8 had expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of that day, it is now in order to conduct a further period of debate on the resolution.

The gentleman from California (Mr. COX) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON) each will control 1½ hours.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. COX).

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), the Land of Lincoln and the birthplace of Ronald Reagan, and the chairman of the Committee on International Relations.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I have given much thought to what I might usefully contribute to the chorus of those thousands who will be called upon or be moved to voice their respect and their sadness at the death of President Reagan. His accomplishments will be rightly celebrated, his humanity and character justly praised, his passing mourned in words of elegance and emotion. How large a stone can one hope to add to this touring mountain?

President Reagan was the oldest person to be elected President in our history, and this is proof that you get the sweetest music from the oldest violins.

In the play Camelot, King Arthur says, ''We are all of us tiny drops in a vast ocean, but some of them sparkle.'' President Reagan was never a tiny drop in a vast ocean, but he did indeed sparkle.

By his life and service he put the ''sacred'' back in honor. Not through exhortation, but by example, Reagan's gentle leadership reminded a country disoriented by doubt of its enduring beliefs. In this, his guiding principle was that of George Washington's, ''Let us raise a standard in which the wise and honest can repair. The event is in the hand of God.''

He was a rare and subtly powerful speaker, able to instill in others a confident belief in their own capacities and goodness. And he could also inspire oppressed millions to demolish empires.

His eloquence reminds me of the story of ancient Greeks who, when Pericles spoke, said, ''How well he speaks.'' But when Demosthenes spoke, they said, ''Let us march.''

Among his many virtues was his defense of the powerless unborn. President Reagan understood that the precious gift of life was not confined to the privileged, the planned, and the perfect. Some have said that the most fearful aspect of dying is the terrible aloneness you must endure at the particular judgment; no advocate, no relative, no spouse, no child, just you, your sins and God. But I am sure President Reagan is not alone. I believe the silence was broken by the voices of thousands of little children, voices that were never heard in this world but are heard in the next, all pleading, ''Dear Lord, spare him, for he loved us very much.''

And then I can imagine Mr. Reagan heard a gentle voice, ''Come, beloved of my father, and enter the kingdom which has been prepared for you since the beginning of time.''

Mr. President, ''The shadows have lengthened, evening has come, and the busy world is hushed. The fever of life is over, and your work is done. May God in his mercy give you a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last.''

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor President Ronald Reagan. We can all admire the journey of his life. It was a life built on love of family and a profound love of our country.

In this time of mourning, I offer my sincere condolences and prayers to the President's family, especially to his wife Nancy. I hope that the sincere good wishes of all of their fellow countrymen can help to bring them some comfort at this time.

Above all else, the President was a leader who had strong opinions, yet he always respected the institution of government and worked within both parties to provide enduring success to millions of Americans.

Before he was President, Ronald Reagan was the Governor of a Western State and a leader who understood issues important to the West. As a Member of Congress from the Rocky Mountain West, I hold a deep appreciation for President Reagan's efforts to protect the Western way of life.

One issue that stands out is that of the MX missile. In the 1970s and 1980s, the Department of Defense was working to build the massive MX missile racetrack system in Utah's west desert, despite Utah's opposition. President Reagan was a strong advocate for national defense, and the military initially thought he would be a supporter of this proposal. As a fellow Westerner, President Reagan understood Utah's desire to protect its ranching and farming heritage. He understood why the State and its citizens adamantly opposed the project.

My father was Governor of Utah at that time. He found an open door in the Reagan administration, and he worked in a bipartisan manner with the administration to put an end to this plan. Thankfully for my State, President Reagan came into the situation with an open mind, and he was willing to listen to local stakeholders about their concerns with the MX proposal.

President Reagan established a process by which affected people could actually make their feelings known, which even now is a testament to the importance of a responsive Federal Government.

That was Reagan's approach. While he was a man of strong convictions, he was known for his civility and kindness in a business that is often abrasive. Ever the gentleman, his example is a good reminder to all of us in elected office of what it takes to truly serve our constituency.

I honor President Reagan's service to this great Nation. He will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I first met Ronald Reagan over 40 years ago when I was an undergraduate student at Stanford University in California. He and I and some others were involved in a primary election campaign for a United States Senator from California which proved to be very unsuccessful. But in the meetings that I attended that Mr. Reagan chaired, I recognized him as being a unique person with an uncanny knack to bring out the best in everybody.

He certainly proved that during his subsequent career: two successful terms as Governor of California and two successful terms as President of the United States, leaving office with the highest approval rating of any departing President since Franklin Roosevelt.

Look at the shape America was in when Ronald Reagan was elected in 1980. We went through a horrible decade of the 1970s. There was a Vietnam War, there was Watergate, there was Nixon's resignation, Gerald Ford's unsuccessful Whip Inflation Now campaign, Jimmy Carter's malaise, and long lines at the gas pump to buy 5 gallons of gas.

When President Reagan took office, he got us out of our national funk. His Morning in America speech and his philosophy gave us as a Nation and as individual Americans the self-confidence to do what America has always done; that is, to achieve the ultimate dream, to overcome the impossible, and to have each and every one of us reach our highest and best.

Much is said about Reagan turning around the economy and winning the Cold War, and some of the debate on the Cold War was about the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative, but there was a decision that Ronald Reagan made earlier that laid the groundwork for the collapse of communism. He persuaded then German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt to deploy Pershing II and cruise missiles in West Germany. That was extremely controversial at the time both in Europe and the United States. People said putting more missiles would encourage an arms race.

Well, Mr. Schmidt agreed to deploy them. He might have lost his job as a result of it, but he was able to see the fall of the Berlin Wall and the unification of Germany during his lifetime, and we have got to give credit to Ronald Reagan's international skills for doing that.

God bless you President Reagan, may you rest in peace.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend Americans learned of President Ronald Reagan's death. The President was an honorable and decent man whose legacy forever will be linked with the great love and optimism he had for his country. Unfortunately, his long and courageous struggle with Alzheimer's disease took him from us long before his death.

As a fellow Midwesterner, I appreciated the traditional American values he brought to Washington: his good humor, his love for his family, and belief in America. At a time when Americans had lost confidence in themselves, President Reagan reminded us we could achieve any goal, no matter how lofty.

When President Reagan addressed a grieving Nation after the Challenger explosion, he honored the astronauts for the way in which they lived their lives and affirmed that we would never forget them. Eloquently, he quoted the poem ''High Flight,'' declaring the astronauts had ''slipped the surly bonds of Earth to touch the face of God.''

Mr. Speaker, today in this House, we are honoring President Reagan for the way in which he lived his life and led our Nation. And as he takes his own journey to touch the face of God, I am confident in this statement: That his life and achievements will forever be remembered by this grateful Nation.

As the country and the world mourn his death, we will remember President Reagan as a great American who was a beacon of freedom for people everywhere. I think I speak for all of the Hoosiers in offering my condolences to his wife Nancy and the children.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH).

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise with the formidable challenge in 2 minutes to convey the thoughts and prayers of Arizonans and Americans as we remember our 40th President. While it is true that Ronald Reagan was a son of Illinois and a Governor of California before becoming the President of us all, it is also true that Arizona played an important part in his life.

Arizona was the place where Ronald and Nancy Reagan honeymooned. Arizona was the place where some of their children attended high school. Arizona was the place where Nancy's parents lived; and Arizona was the site of one of President Reagan's final political appearances. Even as our favorite son, Barry Goldwater, gave birth to then Ronald Reagan's political career in that epic speech A Time For Choosing in 1964, telecast nationally, which really put Ronald Reagan on the political stage, it was former President Reagan who arrived in downtown Phoenix 5 days before the 1992 election to offer words of support to candidates of our party.

□ 1100

I had the privilege of emceeing this gathering, and I was offstage with the former President as our now senior Senator offered remarks of introduction, and those remarks included the statement from Margaret Thatcher that the Cold War was won by one man, Ronald Wilson Reagan, and that victory came without a single shot being fired.

Mr. Speaker, I was in a unique position to hear the words of my friend from Arizona and to look at the reaction on the face of our former President.

Mr. Speaker, it is well known that many of us who enter the public arena suffer from no lack of self-esteem.

Mr. Speaker, I can tell you that President Reagan was incredibly humble, and that humility was expressed on his face as he offered a characteristic shrug of the shoulders before going out to offer his words to the assembly.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, and to my colleagues, let me simply say this. In observation from one of my constituents whose daughter-in-law escaped from behind the Iron Curtain, she said, ''President Lincoln freed the slaves of America. President Reagan freed the enslaved millions of Eastern Europe.''

God bless America. God bless Ronald Reagan.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT).

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today in paying tribute to a man who influenced my life personally, and I think I speak for many of my colleagues when I say that we would not be in politics, I indeed would not be in Congress, if it were not for Ronald Reagan.

President Reagan embodied the values that made America the shining city on the Hill: faith, family, freedom, and personal responsibility. Born to humble beginnings, he never lost the common touch. Few public officials had more empathy for the common people. He could make us laugh or cry, depending on what the situation called for. Most of all, he made us proud, proud to be Americans.

Ronald Reagan came into office during a great malaise. He made us believe again in ourselves, in our capacity to achieve great things. He ignored his critics and the cynics. He shouldered on with unstoppable optimism. He consigned Communism to the ash heap of history. As Margaret Thatcher said, he won the Cold War without firing a shot. He changed our party. He changed the way Americans see themselves; and in the end, he changed the world.

Borrowing from the song, I said to my wife, Mary, when he left office, he was a long time coming. He will be a long time gone. I thank God for giving us such men.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE), the home State of our dearly departed President.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, first, both personally and on behalf of my constituents in Orange County, let me offer my condolences to Mrs. Reagan and the Reagan family. I, like so many of my colleagues, probably would not be standing here today if it were not for Ronald Reagan.

He was an inspiration for a whole generation of young Americans, and his message of limited government and unlimited freedom, as well as his boundless optimism about America's future, motivated me and so many others to get involved in the affairs of our Nation. I first met Ronald Reagan as a student in California. That experience led me to become involved in the Youth For Reagan movement.

Over the years, I was privileged to meet him many more times. It was one of the most memorable meetings in 1986. I was visiting the White House as a State senator on the day that President Reagan ordered the bombing of Libya because of their open support for international terrorism. The President told me what a difficult decision it was, but how the future of our Nation and the safety of our citizens depended on firm action.

President Reagan was never afraid to take a stand, never afraid to do what was right, even if it was not popular at the moment.

In 1964 Ronald Reagan spoke these words to a generation of Americans: ''You and I have a rendezvous with destiny. Will we preserve for our children this, the last best hope of man on earth, or will we sentence them to take the last step into a thousand years of darkness?''

President Reagan understood the evil of communism. He knew the Cold War would end. He knew that there would be winners and there would be losers. Thanks to his resolve, freedom won. Thanks to his resolve, millions of people were set free.

President Reagan also understood that free markets go hand in hand with individual liberties. In 1981 he said:

''We who live in free market societies believe that growth, prosperity and ultimately human fulfillment are created from the bottom up, not the government down. Only when the human spirit is allowed to invent and create, only when individuals are given a personal stake in deciding economic policies and benefiting from their success, only then can societies remain economically alive, dynamic, progressive and free.''

At his second inauguration, speaking inside the rotunda of this Capitol building, President Reagan said:

''Our Nation is poised for greatness. We must do what we know is right, and do it with all our might. Let history say of us, these were golden years, when the American revolution was reborn, when freedom gained new life and America reached for her best.''

Throughout his career, Ronald Reagan was always helping America reach for her best. He inspired us with his spirit, with his optimism; and he led us with his commitment to principle and unwavering resolve. America and the rest of the world are better, safer, and freer places today because of Ronald Reagan. We will miss him dearly.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SANDLIN).

Mr. SANDLIN. I thank my colleague for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a profound sense of loss and sadness that I rise today to honor the memory of one of our Nation's most influential leaders, former President Ronald Reagan. Much has been said, and rightfully so, about President Reagan's infectious love of this great Nation. Ronald Wilson Reagan firmly believed that the United States of America had a unique role to play in the world and a singular place in history. In his first inaugural address he reflected on this faith in country in attributing the unparalleled prosperity and opportunity of this great land to the fact that ''freedom and the dignity of the individual have been made more available and assured here than in any other place on Earth.''

Mr. Speaker, his singular commitment to the inherent worth of the individual is a hallmark of Ronald Reagan's personal and political legacy. His sincere devotion to that core idea defined his personality, and it defined his Presidency. President Reagan defied then conventional wisdom that American heroes were a thing of the past. He said, ''Those who say that we are in a time when there are no heroes just don't know where to look. You can see heroes every day going in and out of

factory gates. Others, a handful in number, produce enough food to feed all of us and then the world beyond. You meet heroes across a counter, and they are on both sides of that counter.'' President Reagan's heroes were, in his words, ''the citizens of this blessed land.''

Mr. Speaker, President Reagan has often been called the Great Communicator, but President Reagan told us himself that he preferred to think of himself as a communicator of great things. However, to reduce Ronald Reagan to the words he spoke would be a tremendous disservice to his legacy, just as it would be wrong to reduce Abraham Lincoln's legacy to the Gettysburg Address or FDR's to the eloquent power of his fireside chats. President Reagan truly believed the ideas he communicated, and that faith drove in many ways a shift in the course of American politics.

Mr. Speaker, President Reagan was a unique figure in our politics. His devotion to principle, his commitment to the American people, his singular faith in the power of one were infectious. Yet despite his unrepentant drive to achieve what has been appropriately called the Reagan Revolution, he pushed his agenda with a smile and he relished open and honest debate. Notwithstanding sometimes profound disagreements, President Reagan understood that at the end of the day, we were not Democrats and Republicans but, rather, Americans and friends. He truly understood that there is a tremendous difference between strong beliefs and bitter partisanship.

Mr. Speaker, President Reagan was an eternal optimist who changed the world with hope and taught Americans that, even in the face of trials and tragedy, ''nothing ends here; our hopes and journeys continue.'' It has been said of President Reagan that although he was our oldest President, he made America young again.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest sympathies to Mrs. Reagan and to the President's children and their families and to honor the memory of a great American who loved America at least as much as she loved him.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the great State of our former, President, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH).

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the resolution paying tribute to President Ronald Reagan who once said, ''America is too great for small dreams.'' Whether through his faith in God's providence, his deep love for his wife, Nancy, his career as an actor, his service as Governor of the State of California and ultimately as our Commander in Chief, President Ronald Reagan envisioned and achieved big dreams. These dreams included lowering the tax burden on citizens through his advocacy of smaller government and striving for peace in the tenuous times of the Cold War.

As a boy in the fourth grade, I had the honor of shaking Mr. Reagan's hand at the Mariposa airport when he was on his way to Yosemite after he became the Governor of the great State of California. He is the very reason that I later became a Republican and devoted my life to public service.

President Reagan died on the very weekend of the commemoration of D-Day where just 20 years ago he heralded the heroes that lay before him in Normandy as those who ''helped end a war.'' Fittingly, we now herald this American hero for his unmatched achievements, including ending the Cold War. History will forever remember him for removing this threat of nuclear holocaust.

There are good men in the world, and there are great men. Great men employ their power humbly and create peace quietly. President Reagan embodied these traits and reminded us to believe in ourselves as the greatest country in the world.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD).

Mr. NORWOOD. I thank the gentleman from California for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise on the floor today to join my colleagues and the legions of Americans and freedom-loving people around the world in honoring the memory and the legacy of President Ronald Wilson Reagan. In the days that have passed since President Reagan slipped the surly bonds of this world, much has been said about our Nation's 40th President, of his boundless energy, eternal optimism, strong character, good judgment and, most important of all, his unmatched ability to lead and to deliver hope to America and the world at a time when it was needed most. Despite those who would suggest otherwise, the accomplishments and good fortune that befell this Nation and ultimately those behind the Iron Curtain on President Reagan's watch did not happen accidentally or through luck or simply being in the right place at the right time.

□ 1115

No, Mr. Speaker. Providing unfailing hope and guidance to a grateful Nation and all the world in a time of much despair is not luck. It is called leadership. And President Reagan will be remembered as a leader without peer, period.

Winston Churchill once said, ''The price of greatness is responsibility.'' President Reagan understood and accepted that responsibility like no one else, and he left greatness in his wake.

Mr. Speaker, if the measure of a man is the difference that he makes, then history will record that President Ronald Reagan was nothing less than a giant. He will be missed, but his legacy of leadership will live on in the history of this Nation.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE), a distinguished Member of this body, a true Reaganite.

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman, my favorite Reagan protege in the Congress, for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan will be remembered as a great man and a great American leader, who personified the highest ideals of the American people at home and abroad. After 8 years of his Presidency, the communism of Soviet Russia was collapsing, the American military was rebuilt, the Nation's economy restored, and its moral fabric renewed.

Many remember him as the ''Great Communicator,'' but as the President said many times, he was not a great communicator, he communicated great things. Those were the traditional American values of this Midwesterner turned national leader. They came from the profound Christian faith inculcated in a young Dutch Reagan by his beloved mother Nelle and from his heart. And, as the President said, ''They came from the heart of a great Nation.''

Those ideas were simple, straightforward, and distinctly American. President Reagan believed that freedom depended on limited government. He fiercely advanced the principles of less government, less taxes, a strong military, and a commitment to traditional moral values.

And President Reagan changed the course of my life. While youthful ambition led me to politics, it was the voice and the values of Ronald Reagan that made me a Republican. The Bible says, ''If the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?'' Ronald Reagan's great gift was to sound a clear call to return our Nation to the ideals of its Founders, and it was said that when he spoke, people just did not just agree. From coffee shops to tractor seats to high offices in tall buildings, when the American people heard Reagan speak, they said, ''Darn right.''

I had the privilege in 1988 as a candidate for Congress to sit with the President in the Blue Room of the White House and speak to him personally, and on that occasion, that great privilege of my life, I was able to look the President in the eye as he asked me how my campaign was going. I said, ''Mr. President, it is going fine, but I just want to thank you for everything you have done for our country and to encourage my generation of Americans to believe in this country again.''

I said then, and I say again, thank you, Mr. President. May God bless you, as, through you, God most certainly blessed the United States of America.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST).

(Mr. FROST asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor President Reagan's legacy to our country. I was elected in 1978, 2 years before Ronald Reagan assumed the Presidency. I served in Congress the entire 8 years of his Presidency and had the opportunity to observe him at close range. We often disagreed on domestic policy; however, we were largely in agreement on foreign policy, and Reagan, indeed, left an indelible mark in the field of foreign affairs. He correctly understood the economic vulnerability of the Soviet Union and exploited this to win the Cold War without firing a shot. He increased U.S. defense spending, an effort which I supported, and when the Soviet Union tried to keep pace, it fell apart from the economic strain.

The watchword of his administration was peace through strength. President Reagan brought hope and optimism to our country at a time when it was sorely needed. Also, he demonstrated through word and deed that one could disagree with their domestic political adversaries and still be friends at the end of the day. This is an element that is sorely missing from today's highly charged partisan atmosphere in Washington.

Ronald Reagan won his share of battles in Congress, but he did it without lasting rancor. That was perhaps his greatest legacy. We could use a little bit of that spirit today.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from the State of Wyoming (Mrs. CUBIN).

(Mrs. CUBIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great man, a great President, and a true friend to the people of Wyoming.

We all probably have our way of remembering President Reagan, but for me I will always see him atop his big white horse, pointing out to the distance as if to say, ''The future is that way, and we must ride into it.'' Here is the picture that I remember so well.

Today we are lucky enough to live in that future. The millions once enslaved behind the Iron Curtain are free, and the Cold War is over, with freedom the victor.

They say that fortune favors the brave, and fortune favored President Reagan. He helped us to believe in ourselves again and to believe in common dreams that bind us together as Americans.

When President Reagan took office, we were gripped with the fear that perhaps America's greatest days were behind us. Eight years later when he walked out of the Oval Office and into the sunset of his life, we knew that in America our best days will always be on the horizon.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Wyoming will be eternally thankful to Ronald Reagan. We will be eternally thankful that he was there on that white horse to point the way not into the sunset, but instead into a shining new morning in America.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, the death of President Reagan, given his publicly known battle with Alzheimer's, did not come as a surprise to many. Still, those of us in the United States and around the world are greatly saddened by his departure and by our loss.

He was an indelible figure, known not only in American history, but known throughout world history. The man that helped bring about the end of the Cold War will always be praised for his eternal optimism, love of country, principle stance on issues, the eloquence in which he communicated with the Nation, and his abundant faith.

It is my firm belief that President Reagan saw the best in everyone. As with most Americans, Reagan understood America's greatness lies within its people. It is the character of the American people that has guided us through all the obstacles we have had to overcome. And we recently celebrated the American spirit during the 60th anniversary of D-Day.

President Reagan was perceived as a man guided by principles. No matter what side of the aisle we were on, we always knew where he stood. His legacy will be the challenge that he opened to bring about peace between two superpowers. His work can be best summed up by the English author Richard Adams: ''The thinker dies, but his thoughts are beyond the reach of destruction. Men are mortal, but ideas are immortal.''

The man of abundant faith in country, family, and God, Reagan embodied the American spirit. Even in knowing his time on Earth was nearing, he wrote: ''When the Lord calls me home, whenever that may be, I will leave with the greatest love for this country of ours and eternal optimism for its future.''

Our thoughts and prayers are with Mrs. Reagan and their children at this difficult time. May God bless them, and may God bless the United States of America.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER).

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, most Presidents have been defined by the events of their day. Whether it is war, the economy, or domestic policy, these leaders have all been forced to react to the issues. Ronald Wilson Reagan, however, did not fit this mold. His Presidency defined the events of his day, which boldly resembles the world that we each live in.

Taking office in a relatively peaceful period in our history, where the Cold War was in an assumed perpetual state, rather than a quid pro quo acceptance of an evil empire on the other side of the globe, President Reagan challenged the conventional wisdom of appeasing the Soviet Union and challenged them directly, helmet to helmet, on the field of ideology.

President Reagan's administration had an exceptional consistency through his 8 years, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, words we often take for granted while denying ourselves a conscious thought that there are many who are denied these God-given, inalienable unalienable rights.

On June 12, 1987, what from what was West Germany's Brandenburg Gate, President Reagan spoke directly to Communist states, telling them what was painfully obvious to the Western world: A totalitarian system just did not work.

''We see failure, technological backwardness, declining standards of health, even want of the most basic kind: too little food. After four decades there stands before the entire world one great and inescapable conclusion: Freedom leads to prosperity. Freedom replaces the ancient hatreds among the nations with comity and peace. Freedom is the victor.''

This, of course, was the famous speech where President Reagan asked Mr. Gorbachev to tear down the Berlin Wall and to let men and women be free. President Reagan pledged cooperation in reducing nuclear weapons, maintaining peace, but doing so in a setting befitting civilized nations. This declaration, while a defining moment in his Presidency, was consistent of a President who believed, truly believed, in a free-market economy and in a world that called on personal responsibility and a hand up rather than a handout; limited government; the right of men and women to live free, and children to grow up in a world that did not require them to know the duck-and-cover routine.

Mr. Speaker, God bless the Gipper, and may God rest his soul.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOOLEY).

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of President Ronald Wilson Reagan, a man whose legacy will be remembered for generations to come.

I remember President Reagan as an optimistic leader who stood up for what he believed in and who led our Nation with passion, grace, and wit. President Reagan believed in the resourcefulness of the American people and believed that their ingenuity, courage, and hard work could build a better America and a better world.

President Reagan envisioned America as a can-do country, and he was devoted and unwavering in his commitment to the American people. His message of optimism provided hope for many Americans during challenging times for our Nation and for the world.

Today we remember his service and his leadership and join the rest of the country in mourning his passing. My thoughts and prayers are with his devoted wife Nancy and his entire family.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS).

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me this time for an opportunity to speak about a great American, a great statesman, a great leader for our Nation and for all of the free world.

I will submit my written statement for the RECORD, but I am honored to state just briefly how much I admired and how grateful I am for the service of President Ronald Reagan.

I am honored to say that the first vote I cast in a Presidential election as an 18-year-old freshman in college was in 1980 on behalf of Ronald Reagan. He turned the tide for our Nation at a difficult time in our Nation's history. He taught us to again believe in our Nation and believe in the principles for which our Nation stood and continues to stand this very day. He also reminded us to be grateful for the blessings we have as Americans.

My mom and dad showed me by example the importance of caring about our fellow citizens, and they taught me about community service and led me to an interest in public service.

□ 1130

Ronald Reagan furthered that interest and further inspired my desire to serve, first in the statehouse and now here in Congress.

On behalf of all of the people in the 19th Congressional District, I am honored to say, Mr. President, thank you on a job well done and on a life well lived. My deepest sympathies go to your family at this time of great loss. May God bless you and your family, and may God continue to bless the country which you so deeply loved, the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ronald Wilson Reagan, our Nation's 40th President, a true statesman and patriot, a husband and father, and a Great American. I offer my sincerest condolences to Mrs. Reagan and the entire Reagan family. My prayers are with them in this time of mourning and remembrance.

When Ronald Reagan was elected President in 1980, America was facing a crisis. The crisis went deeper than the economic problems of double-digit inflation, rising unemployment, long gas lines, and threatening military actions of the Soviet Union. After Vietnam, Watergate, and the hostage situation in Iran, America actually began to experience a crisis of faith in itself. More than any other person, President Reagan helped us to overcome our doubts and remind us that America is, in fact, a "shining city on a hill."

Ronald Reagan was the eternal optimist, a believer in America's abilities, ideals, and innate goodness. His faith in the greatness of our Nation was perhaps best expressed when he said, "In this land of dreams fulfilled where greater dreams may be imagined, nothing is impossible, no victory is beyond our reach, and no glory will ever be too great." Through his outlook and conviction, President Reagan restored America's confidence in itself.

As a result of Ronald Reagan's inspiring leadership as our President, the world changed dramatically. Economic stagnation was replaced with a dynamic economy. President Reagan challenged the Soviet Union to "tear down this wall," and the Berlin wall came down. He saw a day when Eastern Europe would join the Free World, and it did. He stayed firm at Reykjavik and, for the first time, Russia and America stopped building, and started destroying, nuclear weapons.

Ronald Reagan understood the price of freedom. Forty years after D-day, and 19 years and 364 days before he passed away, President Reagan commemorated "the boys of Pointe du Hoc" who took the cliffs at Normandy for the Allies during World War II. He said:

> The men of Normandy had faith that what they were doing was right, faith that they fought for all humanity, faith that a just God would grant them mercy on this beachhead or on the next. It was the deep knowledge—and pray God we have not lost it—that there is a profound moral difference between the use of force for liberation and the use of force for conquest. You were here to liberate, not to conquer, and so you and those others did not doubt your cause. And you were right not to doubt.
>
> You all knew that some things are worth dying for. One's country is worth dying for, and democracy is worth dying for, because it's the most deeply honorable form of government ever devised by man. All of you loved liberty. All of you were willing to fight tyranny, and you knew the people of your countries were behind you.

It is this understanding of history, this moral clarity, that helped Ronald Reagan to lead us to the freer world we have today. It is what helps to make President Reagan one of the giants of the 20th Century, along with his personal hero, Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Six years ago, in commemoration of Ronald Reagan's 87th birthday, I had the pleasure of joining First Lady Nancy Reagan and Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick at the Reagan Library in California. I was there as an elected member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly. But I was there, most importantly, as an American citizen who was honored to pay tribute to and to express my deep gratitude to President Reagan for his tremendous service to our Nation. In my conversation with Mrs. Reagan that day, my message was simply one of thanks. Thanks to her and, through her, to President Reagan for their dedicated, hard-working and outstanding service to our great Nation and its citizens.

Ronald Reagan's service to others, his statesmanship, his love of country, and his unwavering commitment to the principles of freedom, liberty, and justice for which our Nation stands, were great examples for all of us fellow citizens to emulate. President Reagan was truly inspiring to countless citizens. His example helped to affirm my own commitment to the ideals of public service, to the ideals of giving back to one's Nation, and certainly helped to affirm my interest in serving the public office, including here in Congress.

I am greatly honored to join with fellow Americans in saying: Mr. President, thank you for a job well done and a life well lived. You will long be missed and never forgotten. God bless you and God bless this great Nation you loved so dearly, the United States of America.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. EMERSON).

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, as we mourn the passing of President Ronald Reagan, I remember one experience in 1985 that to me defines President Reagan best. It was my daughter Katharine's first visit to the White House with the Emerson family. As we approached the Oval Office, outside of which we were to wait for the President, the door swung open. Katharine had been obediently holding my hand, but at that moment she broke away from me and she ran towards President Reagan. The Secret Servicemen standing between us and the President moved to stop her. "No, no," President Reagan calmly said to them. Katharine flew past the Secret Servicemen and jumped into the President's arms, and he lifted her up high.

The genuine joy on both of their faces struck me then. Today the memory reminds me that as strong a man as he was, President Reagan could easily match the enthusiastic happiness of a 2-year-old.

Even before she met him, Ronald Reagan was my daughter's hero. It was not the President's rhetoric that won her. It was not his stalwart countenance under the distress of terror in the Middle East, his unwavering courage in the face of communism, or his passionate leadership in the shadow of a nuclear threat. Not even the lure of the jelly bean jar on his desk made Reagan a great man to Katharine.

Plainly put, the quality that won her was the same one that won us all: his sincerity.

He was quintessentially American. He was a Midwesterner. He was a success story. He was a visionary. And finally, Ronald Reagan was not just a leader whom we believed in; he was a leader who believed in us.

But when I remember Ronald Reagan, I think of him calling off the Secret Service agents and happily sweeping Katharine up into his arms. He swept us all up that same way, and the tide of sincerity on which he carried us is the same one welling up in the eyes of our Nation right now.

A photo of Katharine in President Reagan's arms, taken seconds after she defied us to pursue a hug from her hero, today hangs in the front room of my Washington office. Every time I walk through that door, I see the photo and think of him as millions of us do: as a member of our family.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CALVERT). The gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) is recognized as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the United States of America lost one of our giants with the passing last Saturday of our 40th President, Ronald Wilson Reagan.

We come together today and this week in Congress, Democrats and Republicans, to pay tribute to the man who played a primary role in ending our Cold War with the Soviet Union and who, as the Center for American Progress said earlier this week, projected ''a never-failing sense of optimism which restored faith in the American Presidency in a Nation still scarred by Vietnam and Watergate.''

The Los Angeles Times said this week, ''His sunny self-assurance, his insistence that there really were simple answers to difficult problems, his knack for actually making things happen, all were soothing changes for a country that had endured Vietnam, Watergate, a Presidential resignation, an energy crisis, double-digit inflation, and the seizing of American hostages in Iran in the course of one tumultuous decade.''

In particular, Mr. Speaker, we remember Ronald Reagan for standing firmly with Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker in the early 1980s to drive down inflation and revive the economy, thus setting the stage for the prolonged American economic expansion of the early 1990s.

While President Reagan had deeply held core convictions, as a national leader he was also able to compromise and change directions when policies were not working. After instigating a large tax cut in 1981, for example, he later asked for tax increases to fight an exploding Federal deficit and tight monetary conditions. Without President Reagan's active support, the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act, which ultimately led to deficit reductions through imposition of pay-as-you-go rules, would never have become law.

President Reagan signed into law bills protecting 1.9 billion acres of wilderness in Washington State and Oregon. Known as a lifelong crusader against Communism, President Reagan combined military and diplomatic strength to develop a relationship with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev that ultimately led to limits on nuclear weapons and the end of the Cold War.

The Washington Post recently said, President Reagan was able to win the respect of Europeans through his ''commitment to winning the Cold War and his willingness to work peacefully to bring about the demise of the Soviet Union.''

Even in times of failure and disappointment, President Reagan stood tall, and he won the respect of all. Following the disaster at the Marine barracks in Lebanon and the Iran contra scandal, President Reagan accepted responsibility saying, ''This happened on my watch'' and ''if there is to be blame, it properly rests here in this office and with this President. And I accept responsibility for the bad as well as the good.'' That was a quote from President Reagan, and I think that shows the measure of the man that President Reagan was.

In the twilight of his life, President Reagan again provided hope and inspiration for millions of Americans with his valiant battle, with the devoted support of his wife, Nancy, against the ravages of Alzheimer's disease. Mr. Speaker, my father is afflicted with this cruel and debilitating condition. I share the hope of Nancy Reagan and millions of others that expanded stem cell research will some day unlock new discoveries needed to treat successfully Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, Parkinson's disease, and cancer.

I respect, I greatly respect the religious convictions of those people who are concerned about the expansion of stem cell research, but I hope soon we will find some middle ground between the two extremes and enable us to go forward with this research which one day may save the lives of millions of Americans. One of the legacies of our 40th President will be that we worked together to find a way to join in harnessing this technology and promise. The potential human health and scientific benefits of stem cell research are simply staggering, and I hope that we can join and leave a legacy for President Reagan and for Nancy Reagan as well.

In conclusion, I reflect back on Ronald Reagan's last major public address, his speech to the 1992 Republican National Convention. He could have been speaking, though, to all Americans, Mr. Speaker, because he said, he closed with these words: ''My fellow citizens, I want you to know that I have always had the highest respect for you, for your common sense and intelligence, and for your decency. I have always believed in you and in what you could accomplish for yourselves and for others. And whatever else history may say about me when I am gone, I hope it will record that I appealed to your best hopes, not your worst fears; to your confidence rather than your doubts. My dream is that you will travel the road ahead with liberty's lamp guiding your steps and opportunity's arm steadying your way.''

I hope that we in Congress, Mr. Speaker, can come together for the American people for an agenda; and I truly believe that even though we have honest, good-faith differences between the parties, we can put aside some of the rancor, some of the partisanship, and work on the American agenda the way that Ronald Reagan wanted us all to do.

Mr. Speaker, I could think of no better way to remember the legacy of President Ronald Reagan than by those words that he gave.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY).

(Mr. THORNBERRY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, like many Americans, I feel a real and personal sense of loss with the death of President Ronald Reagan. He was a great man and a great President, ranking in the top tier of all of our chief executives. He will be remembered as a pivotal historical figure; but, at the same time, many Americans feel as though they have lost a member of their family. Such was the unique character and legacy of Ronald Reagan, the President and the man.

My wife, Sally, and I each had the honor of serving as political appointees during the second term of the Reagan administration. We were down in the bowels of the bureaucracy, but proud to be working for and certainly inspired by President Reagan. With his optimism and his confidence in America, he inspired at least a generation of conservatives to be involved in public life and to advance the ideals for which he stood.

As important as his accomplishments domestically and internationally were, perhaps his most important success was to help the American people believe in themselves again. After the tumult of assassinations, Vietnam, Watergate, and malaise, Ronald Reagan came to remind us of the core values of the Founding Fathers and the special place that the United States has in the history of the world, that ''shining city on a hill.''

President Reagan was called The Great Communicator, but he said that what was truly great were the ideas he communicated. Those ideas were fundamental in the creation of the United States. As he noted in his farewell address, he communicated ''great things that came from the heart of a nation, from our experience, our wisdom, and our belief in the principles that have guided us for 2 centuries.'' Ronald Reagan brought out the best in us because he knew the best of us.

Our Nation was blessed to have been given Ronald Reagan, the President and the man.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the accomplishments which cause Ronald Reagan to stand among our greatest Presidents can be traced to a set of fundamental beliefs to which he adhered throughout his political career.

One of them was strong, steadfast confidence in the American people. President Reagan knew that government must be limited so that the unlimited potential of individual Americans could be unleashed. He knew that when families were able to keep more of the money they earned, not just the family but the whole country would benefit. The result of his tax relief and restraint of government was the longest period of economic growth in the nation's history.

President Reagan also believed, with the signers of the Declaration of Independence, that freedom is a gift of God, intended for all peoples. In his speech to the British Parliament in 1982, which he viewed as among his most important, he said:

> We must be staunch in our conviction that freedom is not the sole prerogative of a lucky few, but the inalienable and universal right of all human beings.

President Reagan was often underestimated. But, his clear words required clear thoughts, and those clear thoughts came from a clear vision and clear values, the articulation of which was refined over a lifetime of work. The amount of work and thought Ronald Reagan put into developing and expressing his views are only now becoming known, with the publication of some of the thousands of articles and letters written with his own hand.

He clearly believed that one must not be afraid to speak the truth, sometimes to the discomfort of his advisors. In the well-known speech in which he called the Soviet Union the "focus of evil in the modern world" he went on to urge his listeners and the country to

[S]peak out against those who would place the United States in a position of military and moral inferiority. . . . I urge you to beware the temptation of pride—the temptation of blithely declaring yourselves above it all and label both sides equally at fault, to ignore the facts of history and the aggressive impulses of an evil empire, to simply call the arms race a giant misunderstanding and thereby remove yourself from the struggle between right and wrong and good and evil.

Throughout his career of public service, Ronald Reagan did not remove himself from the struggle between right and wrong, good and evil. He engaged in that struggle, and he changed the course of history.

Before the British Parliament, President Reagan repeated the question asked by Winston Churchill in one of his wartime speeches: "What kind of people do they think we are?" President Reagan answered, "Free people, worthy of freedom and determined not only to remain so but to help others gain their freedom as well."

Being a "free people, worthy of freedom" and help[ing] others gain their freedom as well" remains America's challenge. My hope is that we pursue those aims with the determination and spirit that Ronald Reagan displayed throughout his career.

A President whose basic political philosophy about the role of government continues to occupy center stage in our domestic debates more than a decade after he left office; a President who changed the course of world history and helped free millions of people from totalitarian bondage; a man who restored a nation's confidence in itself and continues to inspire defenders of freedom everywhere—

Quite a record. Quite a life.

Again, our Nation was blessed to have been given Ronald Reagan.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN).

(Mr. CARDIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the people I represent in the Third Congressional District to express my sincere condolences to the Reagan family and to memorialize our 40th President, Ronald Wilson Reagan.

I had the opportunity to serve for 2 years in the Congress when Ronald Reagan was President of the United States, and I also had the opportunity when I was Speaker of the State legislature to work with President Reagan on behalf of the National Conference of State Legislators.

Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan was one of the most effective Presidents in the history of our Nation. He brought an agenda of change to Washington, and he developed public support for that change and then congressional support for that change. He did it using the process, to bring about a change of policy and expectation of our country. He also established America as a world leader, proud of our commitment to democracy and willing to get involved in international events to bring about change for the good. He laid the foundation for the end of the Cold War.

As I said, Mr. Speaker, he was a remarkable President and will be missed by all.

On January 20, 1981, President Reagan spoke of his abiding commitment to a special interest group that has too long been neglected. It knows no sectional boundaries or ethnic and racial divisions, and it crosses political party lines. It is made up of men and women who raise our food, patrol our streets, man our mines and our factories, teach our children, keep our homes, and heal us when we are sick; professionals, industrialists, shopkeepers, clerks, cabbies, and truck drivers. They are, in short, "we the people," this breed called Americans.

Mr. Speaker, he will be missed by all.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST).

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

America mourns these past few days the passing of a true American, one who reflects not only the values of the country in the 21st century or the 20th century, but Ronald Reagan had inherent in his body and his soul and his mind and his heart the idea that each of us has a passion for freedom, that each of us has a sense of urgency for justice.

Jefferson will be remembered for many, many things; but we will all remember those words, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

And Lincoln will be remembered for many, many things, but we will all remember those words after the Civil War: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, let us work together to bind up the Nation's wounds."

And a century later, another American that reflected the true values of our country said that "you will not be judged by the color of your skin, but by the content of your character."

These men through the centuries brought America together. They united America. They had a vision for America.

Ronald Reagan will be remembered for many, many things, but we will all remember with a sense of seriousness and joy when he said, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down that wall."

So what Mr. Reagan was trying to do was to impart that passion for freedom, that urgency for justice, not only for Americans and the vast array of cultures that we have here but for the rest of the world.

Mrs. Reagan, the Reagan family, America, President Ronald Reagan will be missed, but always remembered.

□ 1145

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of our time.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN).

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I entered college in the late 1970s, and so I remember well those times and the challenges that we faced: soaring inflation, soaring interest rates, soaring unemployment, gas prices that were sky high, on the world stage hostages in Iran, and the Cold War loomed large.

I remember that as President Reagan took office some pundits, some experts out there arguing that the office of the Presidency had become too big for one man. And they said maybe it was time to look at a different institution, co-Presidency or something like that. And then on to the stage came Ronald Reagan.

Through shear force of character, through his inspirational leadership, I am proud to say that he shaped the modern Republican Party, he shaped the office of the Presidency, he shaped a new America, indeed he shaped a new world, a new world that offered hope for freedom-loving people all around the world.

Mr. Speaker, not a bad accomplishment for one man.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS).

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, it has been said that Ronald Reagan loved Texas and Texas loved Ronald Reagan right back. So it was especially poignant that news of his passing occurred during our State Republican convention this past weekend. Indeed, State Senator Jane Nelson from my district in north Texas was quoted in the newspaper as saying, "We stopped at that point. We had a preacher on hand that gave him a beautiful tribute. We were able to come up with a picture, and we all sang 'Amazing Grace.' There were a lot of tears, mine included."

County judge Mary Horn was quoted in my local paper as saying, "He was the same up close as you perceived him to be on television. He was very sincere and very nice. When he talked to you, he talked to you. He didn't pay attention to things going on around him. You had his full attention."

State representative Myra Crownover said, "I remember that while Reagan was the oldest elected President, what sticks in my mind was the way he connected to young people. We had been through a decade of young people being disconnected with taking pride in

America, and he lit that spark again.'' Representative Crownover went on to say, ''You have to be appreciative of what his family is living through.'' Someone described it once as being halfway to heaven. I am so glad he has been released so he could go the rest of the way.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. FEENEY).

(Mr. FEENEY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, for all Americans, Ronald Reagan was a happy warrior who fought all of his life for freedom with a gracefulness and a confidence that inspired all of America. But for American contemporary conservatives like myself, Ronald Reagan was more than that. He was our Plato, laying the philosophical groundwork for limited government, freedom, and self-responsibility.

He was our Moses. After Lincoln, republicanism had been adrift in fighting our way out of a desert filled with statist tendencies and the march towards bigger government and welfare dependency, something Frederick Hayek described as ''The Road to Serfdom.'' Reagan reminded conservatives that America had a great rendezvous with destiny ahead.

Reagan was our Washington, the first contemporary President to consistently lay out conservative principles and steadfastly, calmly, and timely lead us during threats to freedom from big government and taxation at home, threats from tyrannical hegemony from abroad, to secure what our first President called the ''sacred fire of liberty.''

Finally, Ronald Reagan was a Churchill, warning of external threats not only to our homeland's freedom but of gathering storms building globally which endangered the aspirations of freedom fighters across the globe. And like Churchill, he then led us and led the free world in refusing to appease or coexist with totalitarian threats but instead insisting, like King Henry at Agincourt, that we wade into the enemy and win.

Finally, to quote Senator Benjamin Hill when he was speaking of the death of Robert E. Lee, I would like to quote him with respect to Ronald Reagan: ''He was a foe without hate; a friend without treachery; a soldier without cruelty; a victor without oppression; and a victim without murmuring. He was a public officer without vices; a private citizen without wrong; a neighbor without reproach; a Christian without hypocrisy; and a man without guile. He was a Caesar, without his ambition; Frederick, without his tyranny; Napoleon, without his selfishness, and Washington, without his reward.''

This week America gives President Reagan his very just reward.

By 1980, America's leaders were presiding over a self described "national malaise" domestically, 12 percent interest rates, 20 percent mortgage rates, and a rising misery index across the land.

Internationally, America seemed resigned to coexistence with an Evil Empire that had enslaved and killed tens of millions, and drawn down upon two-thirds of the world's people an "iron curtain" of suffering and hopelessness.

A decade later, it was morning again in America. Tax rates were cut from 70 percent to 25 percent, Gross Domestic Product rising at the fastest rates since World War II, stock markets booming and the American spirit transcending long forgotten malaise.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT).

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay our respects to one of the greatest leaders that this Nation has ever known, a man who will forever be held as a model for what is great about America.

As we take this time to mourn the loss of one of our Nation's greatest leaders, we should also celebrate his heroic and historic life that he lived. Ronald Reagan exemplified the best qualities that you would ever want in a leader. He was compassionate, he was caring, he was visionary, and he was strong. He took our Nation from a crisis in confidence to a country the entire world would view as a standard bearer of justice and liberty.

Americans, they put their trust in Ronald Reagan and, in turn, Ronald Reagan put his trust in each one of us. He had faith in the American individual, in one's ability to care for one's self. Ronald Reagan knew that we could do more for ourselves than any oversized bureaucratic burdensome Federal Government could ever do. Ronald Reagan believed that doing more for ourselves was really the best way that we could regain that long missing self-confidence in our American pride again.

So today, in the wake of the President's death, we must continue to learn from his teachings. And we must long remember after today the contributions that Ronald Reagan made to this Nation both for this Nation, and his actions, and their meanings.

So may the legacy of Ronald Reagan live on as long as we are all proud to raise up the Stars and Stripes and call ourselves the United States of America.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KLINE).

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to rise and join my colleagues in expressing my love and admiration and respect for President Ronald Reagan. I very much appreciate that here on the House floor last night and today colleagues from both sides of the aisle have stepped up to express their respects. I think that is an important thing. It is an indicator of what a truly great man, a great President, a great leader we had in Ronald Reagan.

Those of us who had the privilege and honor of working closely with President Reagan, and I was very fortunate that in his first months in office I had the position of being his Marine Corps aid and carrying the nuclear football, the codes, traveling with him, and having the opportunity to share some thoughts, it usually was him sharing the thoughts and me listening in rapt attention, but what a wonderful man.

When you were with and near Ronald Reagan, it really was morning in America. I never knew any one of us who worked with him or anyone who was in his presence that could not feel his love for life, his love for our country, his unstoppable optimism. And on the one hand he was, as we have heard many of our colleagues say, friendly, loveable, affable, ready with the joke; and on the other hand he was truly a man of steel.

He had a wonderful vision for America, a vision as he articulated of a city on the hill, a beacon of hope and opportunity for the world. And his resolute determination that we would not continue in the impossible impasse of the Cold War, the very Cold War that necessitated me and my colleagues to carry those nuclear codes; he refused to accept that as inevitable and he set out with the determination that is hard to imagine today, to end that impasse, to win the war, to defeat the Evil Empire. I was proud to serve with him.

I just want to express my love to him and my love to his family.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield for the purpose of making a unanimous consent request to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. EVERETT).

(Mr. EVERETT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I insert at this point in the RECORD my celebration of President Ronald Reagan's life, truly a man that made a great difference in this country and this world.

Mr. Speaker, I join this House and all the American people in mourning the loss of former President Ronald Wilson Reagan. His passing is not only a sad time for America, but for all nations.

President Reagan gave hope and optimism to a world fearful of an uncertain future. He stirred forgotten emotions of patriotism at home while evoking courage in millions abroad struggling under the yolk of communism.

He helped to end the Cold War and his legacy is much in evidence today as once again a strong and patriotic America leads the world against the evil of tyranny.

Another legacy of President Reagan—one for which he was attacked by the shortsighted—was his vision of a strategic missile defense for our Nation and our allies. Thank God Ronald Reagan did not waiver in his resolve to pursue research into a missile defense for America. His unbridled determination to protect America from nuclear annihilation ultimately brought the Soviet Union to its knees.

Today, 20 years later, President Bush is leading the launch of a long-awaited missile defense system that will make America more secure from the threat of nuclear attack by a rogue nation or terrorist organization. The groundwork research and development of this

vital defense program, the Strategic Defense Initiative, was begun under President Reagan.

I am honored to chair the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces which has a direct role in the funding and oversight of this landmark missile defense system. And, I am proud to know that my subcommittee's efforts are the continuation of the promise made by Ronald Reagan to bring about a safer future for our families.

On a personal note, the people of the Second District of Alabama have a special love for Ronald Reagan. On July 10, 1986, Air Force One landed at Dothan Airport and President Reagan joined hundreds of our citizens of the Wiregrass for fried chicken and a discussion of his tax cut plan. His charm and conservative message were very warmly received. It was clear to everyone there that he hated to leave, and we hated to give him up.

Now Alabama and America must say a final farewell to our beloved former President. Frankly, I can't imagine an America without Ronald Reagan. He symbolized more completely than anyone else in modern history what we loved so much about our country. He made America 'America' again and for that we will always be grateful.

On behalf of the people of the Second District of Alabama, I send my condolences to Nancy Reagan and her family. We join with the nation and the world in sharing in your grief.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from the State of Washington (Mr. HASTINGS).

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan is a large part of why I have the honor of standing here today. I am from Washington State but in the mid-1960s I lived in California. In 1966 I had the privilege of casting my first vote for Ronald Reagan in the gubernatorial primary and subsequently in the general election when he was elected Governor.

I moved back to Washington in 1976, and I served as a Reagan delegate to the Presidential Convention in Kansas City. He inspired me to get involved in public service. And 2 years later, I was elected to the Washington State legislature.

Reagan viewed the government as a servant of the people, not their master. Throughout his career, he worked for less government control over our lives. During his first inaugural address he said, and I quote, ''It is not my intent to do away with government. It is rather to make it work, work with us, not over us; stand by our side, not ride on our back. Government can and must provide opportunity, not smother it, foster productivity, not stifle it.''

While he made no apologies for what he believed, he was a pragmatist, not willing to sacrifice the good for the perfect. He has been quoted as saying, and I quote, ''Die-hard conservatives thought that if I could not get everything that I asked for, I should jump off the cliff with the flag flying, go down in flames. No,'' he said, ''if I can get 70 or 80 percent of what I am trying to get, I will take that and then continue to try to get the rest in the future.''

We can all point to a handful of people who shaped us into what we are today. My list certainly includes Ronald Reagan, who helped shape both my political ideology and the day-to-day manner in which I try to govern: without acrimony, with a touch of humor, and with an unwavering faith in the American people.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from the State of Florida (Ms. HARRIS).

□ 1200

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, tonight we join Americans from all walks of life and every political persuasion in mourning a President whose courage, vision, optimism and resolve renewed the Nation he loved.

As we look back with the clarity and assuredness that history affords, how easily we forget the staggering challenges that Ronald Reagan inherited January 20, 1981.

Haunted by the ghost of Vietnam, America seemed in retreat as Soviet aggression either enslaved or threatened significant regions of four continents. Meanwhile, the American people struggled as stagnant economic growth, double-digit inflation, and 20 percent interest rates ate away their life savings and crushed their hopes for the future. Most ominously, our leaders spoke of a crisis in the American spirit, of a pervasive malaise that appeared to have infected our hopes, our dreams and our will to persevere.

These problems seemed so severe and so insoluble that pundits and politicos wondered if the burdens of the Presidency had become too large, too complex and too demanding for any one person to handle, but not Ronald Reagan.

They also believed that the United States could only hope to become comfortable in its prison of mutually assured destruction with the Soviet Union and that the era of nuclear tyranny was with us forever, but not Ronald Reagan.

These so-called experts were even convinced that a vibrant economy was impossible without double-digit inflation, but not Ronald Reagan.

Rising from the humblest of beginnings, Ronald Reagan taught us once again how to embrace the extraordinary. His historic Presidency restored our spirit, revitalized our economy and transformed yesterday's garrisons of tyranny into today's arsenals of liberty.

Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan brought us together by reminding us of the unique blessings that we enjoy as a Nation, and as we grieve his passing this week, let us celebrate a life that exemplified the strength, the character and the resiliency of the American spirit

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the time.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand here today on behalf of myself and the citizens of the 6th District of Georgia and express my deep sympathy to the family of Ronald Reagan and my grateful appreciation for the life of Ronald Reagan.

I had the occasion to meet Mr. Reagan for the first time in 1970 when he began his pursuit on the national political stage, and I watched in amazement as this man transformed a decade of dissent and discord into a decade of hope and prosperity through the power of his positive attitude and to his great patriotism to his country.

As a young man in the 1950s, I remember crawling under the bomb shelters and under my desk when we prepared for the Cold War and the worst of the tyranny of communism, and I watched 35 years later as, through his powerful persuasiveness, Ronald Reagan broke down the Berlin Wall, broke down the Soviet Union and brought peace and prosperity to more of the world.

On this day on behalf of all of my constituents, my children and my grandchildren, I give thanks for the life of Ronald Reagan, and I thank God that Ronald Reagan came America's way.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS).

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I want to add my thanks to the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) for granting me the time to speak this afternoon.

I rise today to express my most sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Ronald Wilson Reagan and to the millions of Americans, Mr. Speaker, who join me and all of us in mourning the passing of this great leader this week.

I also rise to voice a great sense of loss and bereavement felt by a multitude of my fellow Nevadans who are now reflecting upon and celebrating the tremendous impact that our Nation's 40th and arguably most influential President has had on all of our lives.

Reagan's political accomplishments alone could fill volumes; yet his political goals would have been far more difficult to come by if not for his eternally honorable character and personality. This week, as Americans mourn this great loss together, we will reflect not only on his political legacy, but also upon Reagan's personal contributions to America and to our culture.

Ronald Reagan was more than a President or a Commander-in-Chief. President Reagan was a small-town boy who mastered his own destiny to become an inspiration and great motivating force for the principles and policies that many of us continue to fight for every day in the House of Representatives.

During my tenure in Congress, it has been one of my most distinguished honors and personal joys to lead my colleagues on multiple measures designed

to pay homage to Mr. Reagan. Most notably, in May of 2002, legislation I sponsored to grant Ronald and Nancy Reagan the Congressional Gold Medal became a reality when President Bush presented Nancy Reagan with this award, the highest honor Congress can bestow, in the Capitol rotunda.

Ironically, in light of the tremendous impression his life has left upon the American public, even the Congressional Gold Medal seems a tiny token of appreciation that can only be overshadowed by the monumental outpouring of respect, reverence and appreciation flowing from all corners of our great Nation this week.

So as we contemplate the magnificent life of President Ronald Reagan and mourn his passing, we are reassured by the fact that this body can and should keep his legacy alive. Congress can best honor President Reagan by continuing progress along a path of conservative policies that Reagan himself would be proud of, and with that, I once again send my warmest regards to the Reagan family.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, today our Nation weeps in a very sad week when we recognize that we have lost a President who changed the Nation and acted upon a policy that created positive change not only for this Nation, but for the entire world.

Those of us who went into politics in the 1980s, as I did, many of us went in because we were inspired by Ronald Reagan. I actually ran for office the first time in 1980, and something that I will never forget is that Ronald Reagan took the time for a young, just-getting-started fellow who is running for the State representative in Texas, to drop me a personal note of encouragement. Here was a man who was going to lead the Nation, and yet he took the time for one small elected official. I will never forget that.

Ronald Reagan believed in America. He knew America to be the most noble Nation on the face of the Earth, and he absolutely trusted the American people, that they would do the right thing, because he knew them to be the noble people who created this Nation. That message, as he inspired our country with that message, brought us out of malaise and started us on the path of glory to know that we are doing the right thing.

We have missed Ronald Reagan. We will miss him tremendously because he inspired us to the greatness that we have, and for that reason, he has been a blessing upon this Nation. We will not forget.

Back in Williamson County, where I come from, we celebrate Ronald Reagan's birthday every year, and that is our big birthday celebration because we know Ronald Reagan is the modern founder of the Republican Party today, and that inspiration causes us to celebrate his birthday.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, and we hope that they get through this with not too much crisis for all the blessings they have bestowed upon our Nation.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. FORBES).

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor one of America's greatest statesmen, President Ronald Reagan.

As Ronald Reagan makes his final trip to Washington, we remember this truly humble American hero. We remember a man with an ordinary beginning who went on to do extraordinary things, to chart the course for a generation, for a Nation and for the world.

Mr. Speaker, Washington is a town of leaders, and each of us who comes to Washington has a vision for the direction of our Nation. Rarely is there a man like Ronald Reagan who cannot only lead leaders, but who can do so with such integrity, principle and honesty.

In the midst of a Nation whose spirit had been crushed with war and economic burden, in the midst of people gripped with fear from the spread of communism, Ronald Reagan picked us up and breathed hope into our hearts. He reminded us of what we were fighting for. He said, ''The ultimate determinant in the struggle now going on for the world will not be bombs and rockets but a test of wills and ideas, a trial of spiritual resolve: the values we hold, the beliefs we cherish and the ideals to which we are dedicated.''

He reminded us that as Americans we have a responsibility to help those in need: ''We cannot turn away from them,'' he said, ''for the struggle here is not right versus left; it is right versus wrong.'' How true his words still ring today.

Ronald Reagan reminded us that government is not the answer to our problems, people are. ''The government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases,'' he said. ''If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it.''

By exposing and destroying burdensome and oppressive regulation and taxes, he restored the spirit that America's built upon: optimism, opportunity and self-reliance. In doing so, he not only energized the economy, but he rejuvenated the pride and self-worth of Americans.

Finally, Ronald Reagan reminded us of the importance of faith in our democracy. He said, ''Freedom prospers when religion is vibrant and the rule of law under God is acknowledged.'' He will be missed, but his words and spirit will continue on.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. BARRETT).

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, President Reagan changed our hearts with his optimistic outlook on life, the world and our place in it. He came to office at a time in our history when we were a little bruised and battered, and, simply said, he pulled us up by our bootstraps and taught us how to get back on the horse that knocked us off.

''America is too great for small dreams,'' he once said, but to Ronald Reagan these were not merely words that were used in a 30-second sound bite. These were words that went to the core of the man.

He reminded us that even though we may have our differences, our common bond as Americans sets us apart from the rest of the world. He believed in all that is good in America because he believed there is good in every American.

Ronald Reagan was a hero to me and a hero to an entire generation. He leaves a legacy of hope and prosperity that will last for generations to come.

I know there is a special place in heaven for Ronald Reagan, and I know in my heart he heard the words, ''Well done.''

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART).

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) for the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who I believe to be the greatest American President of the 20th century. President Ronald Reagan defeated the most powerful and dangerous military empire in the history of the world without firing a single shot. President Reagan knew instinctively that America represents good, and he knew that communism represents evil. He never wavered in his conviction that freedom is the birthright of all mankind.

The enemies of the United States never forgave him for his firmness, for his character, for his faith in the people of the United States and his faith in the cause of liberty. Even in his death, they continue to attack him. His hatred is evidenced by the declaration made by the tyrannical regime in Havana a few hours ago: ''He, who never should have been born, has died.'' That monstrous statement illustrates the ultimate evil of the tyrant who has enslaved the Cuban people for over 45 years. President Reagan knew that the Cuban tyrant and that Communist tyrants everywhere have represented and represent the antithesis of liberty, freedom and human dignity.

I think he was an extraordinary leader, Mr. Speaker, someone who inspired us all, changed America for the better and saved the world from tyranny.

May Ronald Wilson Reagan, apostle of freedom, democracy and human rights, rest in peace.

□ 1215

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON).

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I am one of those fortunate to have worked and served in the Reagan administration for 4½ years. I started off as a legislative aid, and I ended up being in charge of congressional affairs at OMB under Director Stockman and then under Director Jim Miller. Ronald Reagan had a vision, an agenda; and he knew how to get things done. He surrounded himself with good people that were smart, who shared his vision, and in fact knew the political process to get things done.

Back then, times were tough. We had the Cold War, we had double-digit inflation, double-digit unemployment, double-digit interest rates; and yet he was still able to get his agenda through and move the country forward. The odds were stacked against him. Man, Republicans did not control the Senate; and in this body, in the House, they did not control the House either. In fact, the margin was 70 or 80 votes short in the House. Yet he was still able to get his agenda through.

On the minority side, the Republican side, we had two terrific dynamic leaders, John Rhodes and Bob Michel, two Republicans that were minority leaders, never Speaker. They were both good, decent, honest people; but they never had the votes, or not the Republican votes. So Ronald Reagan appealed to the American people for his support. ''Reaganesque'' is a word today that you will find in the dictionary, a powerful word; and in fact he put policy over politics, and look at the results.

He beat an incumbent President, a good honest, decent guy, Jimmy Carter, who has done wonderful things since his Presidency; but the real test is your reelection, and Ronald Reagan won 49 of the 50 States. If that was not a mandate in terms of his agenda, I do not know what is. That mandate, winning 49 States, I think will serve as the record for any President running for reelection.

Yes, history will judge where he stands, rightfully so. But in large part it already has. Ronald Reagan was a great American President, a wonderful man who touched tens of millions of lives across this country in every respect of their life. I was proud to serve a wonderful President for those years.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The first time I met Ronald Reagan was the day I began work for him in the White House. We shook hands and exchanged pleasantries in the Oval Office. Of course, it is difficult to forget one's first meeting with the President of the United States, but what I particularly remember is how quickly he put me at ease. Of course, he told a joke.

Learning that I was a Harvard graduate, he told me the story of a friend of his who had graduated from Harvard Law School, had become a partner in a large firm but had lost his position due to a problem with drinking and drugs, and consequentially, in succession, he lost his wife, his family, his income, and even ran afoul of the law, being put in jail for shoplifting. But now he was out of jail. He had cleaned up his life and, most importantly, he had met a wonderful woman to whom he wished to propose marriage. But, and it was on this point that he asked the President's advice, he had not told this woman about his background for fear of losing her. So he asked the President, should I tell her that I went to Harvard?

I knew immediately where I stood. Two years later, I was with the President in the Oval Office, and I have a picture hanging on my desk of this moment, and I am sitting across from his desk, across from him, just the two of us. He has a big smile on his face, and I am about to burst out laughing because he was, of course, telling another joke.

It was a special privilege to travel with the President on Air Force 1, and what I particularly remember is the way the President came back to cheer up the staff, to regale us with stories and jokes. I was particularly fond of his amazingly authentic Irish brogue.

But I will not forget especially the last time I saw him as President. It was here in this Capitol. He had summoned us, the Republican Members, just days before the inauguration to give us a private valediction. No press, no public, just us. And he spoke from the Democratic sides of the aisle, from the rostrum on the left, a mistake I attributed to his lack of familiarity with House procedure. It was a mistake of mine, however. He knew exactly what he was doing. And as he described his political career, he described how I did not leave the Democratic Party, the Democratic Party left me; and he strode purposefully to this other rostrum to the delight of the Republican Members.

But what he told us that day rose far above party and partisanship. Because, of course, he saw a consistent thread throughout his career in his support for FDR, his campaigning for Harry Truman, his support and campaigning for Ike, and of course his own administration. A few moments after he finished here on the floor, we went to Statuary Hall and he mingled with the Members and we had a few private moments there. This was, of course, just a few feet from where in the rotunda later today his body will lie in repose. He did not tell me a joke at that time. Instead, after congratulating me on my recent election to Congress, something we had had the chance more exuberantly to celebrate after me and my new colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER), visited with him in the Oval Office in June, he told me never forget to trust the people who sent you here and always fight for the principles that you and I share.

It was the serious side of him because he was all about ideas. And while his humor, his gregariousness, his avuncularity has been much remarked upon in recent days, that was an important aspect of his leadership; but it does not tell us about the substance of his leadership, where he was taking the country. And it was the ideas that President Reagan brought to Washington that mattered most of all.

It is well known and much remarked upon that Ronald Reagan won the Cold War without firing a shot. He led the global movement to tear down the Berlin Wall. He led an economic renaissance at home by dramatically reducing the burden of taxes across the board, from a marginal rate of 70 percent down to 28 percent. But it is just as important to recognize the leading role that President Reagan played in supporting our country, such issues as the civil rights of women and men here at home.

President Reagan, of course, appointed the first woman to be ambassador of the United Nations. He appointed the first woman to be a Justice of the United States Supreme Court. He appointed the first woman to be Secretary of Transportation, the first Latina to be Treasurer of the United States.

On November 2, 1983, he made Martin Luther King's birthday a national holiday. He appointed the first African American chairman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, my good friend and great American, the late Clarence Pendleton. He extended the Voting Rights Act for a quarter century. He named the first Hispanic to the Cabinet, Lauro Cavasos, as Secretary of Education.

On August 10, 1988, he provided compensation to Japanese Americans who had been deprived of their civil liberties and their property during the infamous internment of World War II ordered by FDR.

Today, we can see the wisdom of President Reagan's policies from a distance. He appointed the first-ever Presidential Commission on AIDS and gave national direction to the effort to stop the spread of this terrible disease.

His was the statesmanship of a true leader. While fighting Soviet expansion in Africa, he fought apartheid and imposed sanctions on the racist Government of South Africa by executive order. He demanded as a condition of lifting those sanctions the release of Nelson Mandela. And yet he refused to declare economic warfare against the civilian population of that country, black, white, and all races as the United Nations had done in imposing its sanctions on Zimbabwe. So today, whereas Zimbabwe has become a living hell, an autocracy that has stripped away all pretense of law or property or personal safety, South Africa has a real democracy where all men and women can vote and where all are equal before the law.

In Central America, he prevented the Soviet Union from establishing a beachhead in our own hemisphere, and

likewise in Nicaragua. And throughout Central and South America and the Caribbean, just as in Central Europe and Asia, democracy grew and prospered.

Mr. Speaker, from that day in January of 1981, when President Reagan was sworn in, until last Saturday, the American people always knew where to look for a hero. President Reagan did great things not only for our country but for our world. Today, more than 1 billion people live in freedom because of his global leadership. In fact, all of the people of the world, those who enjoy the sweet blessings of liberty and those who still yearn for freedom, will always know where to look for a hero.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN).

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, this opportunity to share a few words about President Reagan.

Mr. Speaker, when our country was confronted with a terrible menace of dangerous ideology, Reagan rallied America and united the world to decisively defeat the threat of Communism. We are grateful for that leadership.

Ronald Reagan elevated the office of President. When mistakes were made, Ronald Reagan personally accepted responsibility. It did not matter what focus groups, polls, his advisers, political consultants said, he understood that the buck stopped with him and him alone.

He was an American icon, forever remembered for his warmth and the respect he afforded to others, and our thoughts and prayers today are with Nancy and his children and his family at this very difficult time.

Even when President Reagan broke the hearts of the Democrats, he was respected for his honesty, his beliefs, and the dedication he displayed in pursuing them.

As a young elementary student during the *Challenger* disaster, it was enormous comfort to those of us who were all watching, because there was a teacher on the *Challenger* at that time, to listen to President Reagan as we began to question why America was sending these astronauts up into space; why was there a teacher on the *Challenger* at that time. And President Reagan said to us that the future does not belong to the faint-hearted, it belongs to the brave, and communicating to us what America was all about.

I also remember as a young man President Reagan interacting with then-Speaker Tip O'Neill, in the way they got along, and they laughed and they talked and they joked. And that was a great example for those of us who were beginning to get acquainted with the political system.

I remember the courage and the humor that President Reagan showed when he was shot, hoping that the doctors were all Republican and telling his wife, who was terrified, that he forgot to duck.

I also cannot help but remember President Reagan, during the Washington Redskins ceremony at the Rose Garden after winning the Super Bowl, hitting Gary Sanders on the money as he ran a drag pattern across the Rose Garden.

The differences then, despite our disagreements, were real; but because of the way President Reagan led, he taught us that there is a big difference between strong beliefs and bitter partisanship. Strong beliefs and a love of country are the only way to bring this country forward as we face the enormous challenges that we have before this body today.

Ronald Reagan always stressed that we are a can-do country. Democrats and Republicans both believe this. And I believe it is that sense of optimism, as we look back on history, that the Presidents that moved the Nation forward were optimistic and believed the best and the brightest in this country would continue to move us forward.

□ 1230

Mr. Speaker, I believe we can get back on the right track with strong leadership and a real commitment to confronting the problems that face American families today. In the words of Ronald Reagan, we can do better. With tolerance and inclusion, uniting rather than dividing, we can continue the legacy of Ronald Reagan.

So when we return to work next week, I hope this House will be inspired by the leadership of Ronald Reagan instead of mired in the partisan politics that have too often affected our work as of late. We should be inspired by his patriotism and devotion to our country, and we should remember his faith, his optimism, and his unwavering commitment to his convictions as we do the work of the American people.

In the words of President Reagan, those comforting words he gave us some 18 years, and we will never forget Ronald Reagan, nor the last time we saw him, for now he has slipped the surly bonds of Earth to touch the face of God. We will miss him.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. BROWN).

(Mr. BROWN of South Carolina asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, like so many Americans, President Reagan was not only my President, but also my inspiration. My own calling to public service in 1981 was in no small part as a result of President Reagan's example. Without his leadership and passion for our great Nation, I would not be standing in this great Chamber before Members today.

He was a shining light and a beacon of hope not only for our Nation, but also for the world. At a time in history when it was desperately needed, he sought peace in our world and was a champion of democracy and freedom. We are all better as a result of his contributions, and his legacy will live forever.

If I had to describe President Reagan with just one adjective, it would not be courageous, optimistic or kind, or any number of other fitting adjectives for such a great man, it would be American. Above all things, President Reagan was an American. He so embodied the spirit, courage and hope of America that he was able to reach out and touch his fellow citizens. He trusted the American people to be able to make decisions for themselves, and in turn they trusted him. He had a dream to make America stronger by putting more responsibility back into the hands of the people. He understood that Americans could manage their hard-earned dollars better than any government agency. He empowered the citizens to work harder and to improve our Nation from the ground up.

I am proud to model my views on government after one of our great Presidents, President Reagan. Even those who have never met him or who disagree with him politically felt a special connection with President Reagan. He was a people's President, arguably unlike any others before or after.

He invigorated and inspired those young men for the battle ahead, just as he invigorated and inspired a Nation while he was in office. President Reagan always celebrated life, and he loved every day of it. I am honored to be celebrating the life of such a great American with Members today. We were blessed and honored as a Nation to have President Reagan as both our leader and as our friend.

Mr. President, you were not just marking time. You made a tremendous difference in the lives of all Americans. You made the Nation stronger and the world a safer place for democracy. Today we still enjoy the fruits of the Reagan revolution. You fought for freedom, and today it does not waver. You were the inspiration of so many, including myself, and today we remember and say thanks to you. On behalf of the entire First Congressional District of South Carolina, a grateful Nation and myself, thank you, Mr. President, and may God bless you and your family.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. ROSS).

(Mr. ROSS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, the great communicator, an all-American patriot, relentless pursuer of freedom, these qualities describe America's 40th President, Ronald Reagan.

We can all agree that President Reagan's enduring love for his country and his idealistic outlook renewed faith and hope to a generation of Americans. My fond memories of President Reagan will include, among others, that defining moment nearly 14 years ago as I

watched with pride as he, as a former President, chiseled away at the Berlin Wall. I was truly moved by the immense joy and pride that he radiated and that radiated on the faces around him. You see, it had not been that many years before that in his famous speech he said, ''Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.''

President Reagan's commitment and service to our country and the world will be forever remembered in the hearts and minds of people around the globe. I join millions of others throughout the world who continue to keep Mrs. Reagan and their family in my heart and in my prayers as we pay tribute to the 40th President of the United States of America, former President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE).

(Mr. COLE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, there are few men in our history whose lives can be said to have changed the world. Ronald Reagan was one of those men.

Ronald Reagan was an inspiration to me personally and politically. In 1984, I was honored to head his reelection campaign in Oklahoma. I also served as chairman of the Oklahoma Republican Party during his Presidency. A favorite memory of mine is of a meeting with the President and Republican State party chairmen from the South at the White House in 1988. A 15-minute meeting turned into an hour-long treasure as he regaled us with one hilarious political story after another. Ronald Reagan loved politicians, he loved politics, and he loved public service.

I cannot claim to have known Ronald Reagan well. I was privileged to be with him on more than a few occasions. All the same, he changed my life and the lives of millions of others. He was a voice of faith, faith in America, faith in her people, faith in their future, and, most profoundly, faith in freedom.

Ronald Reagan inspired us to do great things. With him we accomplished much. It is for us to continue to build that shining city on a hill to which he so often referred. There is much yet to do. Ronald Reagan was my hero; but more importantly, he was an American hero. We mourn his passing, but we celebrate his life of achievement and patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, there are few men in our history and there will be few men in our future who live their lives in such a way that the world will be changed because of their existence. Ronald Reagan is one of those men. His dignity, character, strength and convictions will distinguish him in the pages of history and define him as one of the greatest presidents of the twentieth century. President Reagan was an inspiration to many and his optimism for America's future encouraged those across all party lines. He knew there was a brighter tomorrow through the path of strong values, hard work, tough decisions and perseverance. His leadership pulled America through the end of the Cold War, pushed the Soviet Union and the eastern Bloc onto the ''ash heap of history'' and restored the virtues of idealism and optimism to our country. He was a visionary who instigated the rebirth of conservatism and shaped the Republican Party into the governing national majority we see today.

Ronald Reagan was a source of inspiration to me both personally and politically. I was serving as Executive Director of the Oklahoma State Party when Reagan was elected. In 1984, I was honored to head his re-election efforts in Oklahoma. I also served as Oklahoma GOP Chairman during his presidency, so I had opportunities to meet and work with him.

Ronald Reagan had a magic that really appealed to people. A favorite memory is of a meeting with the president and Republican state party chairmen from the South in 1988. A 15 minute meeting turned into an hour-long treasure as he regaled us with one hilarious political story after another. His wit and humor are as fresh in my memory today as they were 20 years ago. I was privileged to see up close what so many Americans intuitively felt when watching him on television. He was an extraordinary man who lived life and enjoyed being with people. It is no wonder he was able to move thousands of people and mobilize them to support his efforts. It's a gift few of us have—and he had that magic in abundance.

Not only is Ronald Reagan a personal hero to me, his influence has shaped a generation of politicians. And by doing that he instilled the values that the Republican Party embraces today. Countless Republican officeholders got into elective politics because he fired their imagination. More profoundly, he showed that the institution of the presidency does work. We seldom remember that after the trials of Watergate and twenty years of failed or shortened administrations, some thought our country was too big for one man to govern, inspire and shape. No one, particularly those who worked with Ronald Reagan, question that today.

And let us not forget that he was a very effective politician whose drive to succeed and will to win were intense. He lost primary after primary in 1976 before coming back from the political graveyard in North Carolina, Texas and Oklahoma. Former Republican National Chairman Frank Farenkopf tells the story that on election day in 1984, the president was so far ahead in the polls that he and Ed Rollins cancelled a rally in Minnesota. He did not need to be bothered, they reasoned. After he won 49 states and only lost Minnesota by about 2,500 votes, the president liked to tease both of his advisors about their election day gaffe. It became a joke, but the president wanted Minnesota in his column.

Much has been made in recent days of Ronald Reagan's courage. We saw his physical courage when an assassin sought to take his life in early 1981. We saw it again when he confronted the ravages of Alzheimer's with grace, candor and sensitivity. But President Reagan also had the courage of his ideas and an ability to see the right path for his party and for is country.

One of Ronald Reagan's biographers, Edmund Morris, tells of his astonishment when he read the president's diaries from his time in office. He learned how many of the major and complex decisions of the Reagan Administration were made by the president, alone and in private. Ronald Reagan did not care, Morris recounts, who got the credit as long as his decisions were implemented and his goals for America came closer to realization. Recently Kiron K. Skinner and Marty Anderson's fine works detailed the depth and breath of Reagan's view of the world—a view he implemented in office.

In describing another great man at another time in history, Winston Churchill writes in his History of the English Speaking Peoples that Robert Peel was " . . . the dominating force and personality in English politics . . ." who "whether in Opposition or in office . . . towered above the scene. He was not a man of broad and ranging modes of thoughts, but he understood better than any of his contemporaries the needs of the country and he had the outstanding courage to change his views in order to meet them.'' Robert Peel, Mr. Churchill added, saw the industrial revolution in Britain that made her the pre-eminent world power in the nineteenth century was driven not by the government but by private enterprise, by capital, by entrepreneurs, by a free people willing to take risks.

There are many differences between Robert Peel and Ronald Reagan. Mr. Peel split his party and destroyed a governing coalition to support Free Trade—a decision validated by history. As a governor and then as a president, Ronald Reagan united a party badly divided over ideas and led it out of the political wilderness. The Republican ascendancy in national government today is a direct result of his leadership. But in reading Winston Churchill's appraisal of Robert Peel's political biography. He was the dominating personality in American politics for a generation.

From the vantage of the early twenty-first century, it is hard to recall the mood of the country and its troubles at his election in 1980. Watergate, defeat in Vietnam, unrestrained Soviet adventurism, double digit inflation and interest rates, massive unemployment, an energy crisis, American hostages in Tehran, the end of the post-War U.S. domination of the global economy—all these combined to give some a sense America's best days were behind her; that perhaps free enterprise and freedom were not the answer; that we had to accept totalitarian communism as a legitimate and equally plausible alternative to our own way of life. Ronald Reagan rejected these ideas. He was optimistic about America, he believed the United States was ''a shining city on the hill'', a beacon of hope and freedom to the world. He understood communism was evil and free peoples must defend themselves against the darkness of tyranny and oppression. He saw a bright and prosperous future for all Americans, one where their work could carry them as far as they dared to dream. Looking back, we take all these things for granted, but Ronald Reagan was ridiculed by the intellectuals and so-called realists of his day. It took real courage to stand up for his beliefs to put them into practice, and to defend them from the faint of heart while they took root and blossomed. To paraphrase Mr. Churchill's assessment of Mr. Peel, Ronald Reagan understood his countrymen better than anyone else on the political stage. They needed leadership, he gave it and they loved him for it.

Like Mr. Peel, Ronald Reagan also had the courage to change his views. A New Deal Democrat, his partisan affiliation and ideological vantage point slowly shifted over time

from a liberal Democrat who believed in government intervention to a conservative Republican who trusted Americans and the people of the world to solve their own problems. As anyone who has even a passing understanding of Hollywood and it's cultural and political outlook knows, this was not an easy thing to do. Ronald Reagan learned about communists first hand when he battled to keep them out of the entertainment industry. Much of his later political success was based on a willingness to stand up to Soviet aggression. Yet, when a glimmer of light came through the darkness behind the Iron Curtain, President Reagan saw America's chance for victory through negotiation and began to talk to the Soviets and their leader, Mikhail Gorbachev. Many of his longtime supporters decried his decision and they did so with good reason because the Soviets historically did not negotiate in good faith. But the president had the courage and the vision to see the great opening and he took it. And, like so many times in the past, he was right. And we are better for it.

Mr. Speaker, like many Americans I cannot claim to have known Ronald Reagan well. I was privileged to be with him on more than a few occasions, but more often I watched him on television or read about him in the morning's newspapers with the rest of the country. All the same, he changed my life. And he changed the lives of millions around the world. His was a voice of faith. Faith in America, in her people, and in freedom. He inspired us to do great things. With him we accomplished much. Though he has gone to a better place, it is for us to continue to build that shining city on the hill. There is much yet to do. But Ronald Reagan's legacy and memory will inspire us in our task.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU).

(Mr. WU asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) for their bipartisan leadership in this tribute to President Ronald Reagan.

I would like to share a personal story, one little vignette about my experience with President Reagan. It was during my student days, during my college senior year. Then-Governor Reagan came to Stanford to speak. The speech was organized. It was sometime between his 1976 Presidential campaign and his 1980 Presidential campaign. He had been Governor of California.

His speech at Stanford was organized by the Young College Republicans or the Young College Conservatives. Whoever organized it, they carefully screened the audience, and a lot of folks were screened out. But for whatever reason, I was screened in.

Then-Governor Reagan gave a very good speech, after which he took questions. I was one of the ones who rose to ask a question. Of course, it was a challenging question. As I was going into the question, members of the audience started to boo me, and the moderator rose to cut off my question. It was at that point that Mr. Reagan stepped up and said, ''No, no, no, I want to hear the young man out, and I want to answer his question.'' I had my say, he answered the question, and of course he got a standing ovation.

But I think it is that moment, that image of Mr. Reagan, that I remember, his graciousness, his openness, his generosity of spirit, the willingness to hear folks out and hear debate. That is a sign of greatness in any individual, and there were lessons for that day almost 30 years ago, and they are perhaps lessons today for the Washington in which we work today.

My best wishes to the family, and God bless Ronald Reagan.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON).

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I, like all of my colleagues, would like to extol the wonderful accomplishments of President Reagan, the economy coming back from the doldrums, the destruction of the Berlin Wall, and the Communist menace that we faced so much back in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. But what I want to talk about today are personal experiences I had with Ronald Reagan.

When I was running for office over a period of 10 or 12 years, I promised my mother, who was a waitress for many, many years at L.S. Harris & Company, that if I ever got elected to the Congress of the United States, the first thing I would do is take her in the front door of the White House and introduce her to the President of the United States.

I got elected in 1983. I called the White House and they said, yes, we can give you a couple of minutes with the President. I called my mom, and I took her in the front door of the White House expecting a very perfunctory kind of meeting where he would shake hands and take a picture, and that would be it. Unbeknownst to me, he contacted my office and tried to find out everything he could about me. When we walked in, he put his arm around me and said to my mother, ''This is one of the finest young Congressmen in the Congress. I want you to know that I really appreciate all of the things he has done,'' and he reeled off three or four things I had accomplished that I did not think he had any idea about.

I could see my mother's chest expanding, expanding, and expanding. Here is a little lady from the Midwest who had a very tough life, was abused as a wife, and protected me and my sister from abuse from my father. She had nothing but a tough life, and here was the President of the United States telling her what a great guy her son was. I will never forget that as long as I live. She walked out of that office with my stepfather and me, and she was so proud. She carried a picture of the President and us together for the rest of her life. She was so proud to the day she died. He was that kind of a guy.

I remember another time I debated Al Gore when he was in the House and Tom Downey of New York on the Strategic Defense Initiative when the President first started talking about defending this country from an incoming missile attack. I debated Al Gore and Tom Downey on a Special Order for probably 30 or 40 minutes, and I thought that was the end of it. And 2 days later, I got a personal handwritten letter from the President thanking me for sticking up for him. Who would believe the President of the United States would take the time to write a handwritten note to a new Congressman just because he took a position that paralleled the President's? He was a wonderful, down-to-Earth man.

One more little anecdote, and then I will let the rest of my colleagues talk. When I first got elected, they had a dinner for all of the freshmen Congressmen. After the dinner, we were walking around the Green Room, and everybody was patting the President on the back and saying what a great job he had done with the tax cuts. As he walked by me, I thought I better talk about something besides tax cuts because he is just walking past everybody, and I really wanted to talk to the guy.

As he walked by, I said, ''President Reagan, one of my favorite movies was King's Row.'' He said, thank you very much, took two steps past me, stopped, turned around and came back, and talked for 10 minutes about that movie. It was one of the greatest thrills of my life to get a real insight into what he did as a movie actor. He really enjoyed it as well. All my colleagues gathered around. It was one of the highlights of the evening.

That is the kind of guy Ronald Reagan was. He cared about people in addition to being a great President.

I would like to say to his family, God bless you, all of you. Mrs. Reagan, you were great to us when you were First Lady. God bless you and your family. The good Lord, I am sure, has a very high place in heaven for Ronald Reagan.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL).

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I do not have stories like the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), personal interaction with former President Reagan, but as somebody growing up and loving politics, I obviously watched his Presidency as a student of politics.

Here was a guy known as a great communicator, an eternal optimist. It makes sense when one thinks about it: A guy who grew up in Dixon, Illinois, a troubled home, faced a series of disadvantages, and one day wakes up in the White House.

□ 1245

What is there not to be optimistic about? And he had that sense of optimism, and everybody can talk about different skills or techniques or tactics as a communicator; but the truth is he never left Dixon, Illinois. He had that common touch. He knew about walking-around folk, and he understood

their lives, and he could tell a great story that gave people a sense of his ideas. So he spoke of our common wisdom and our common sense.

One of the other things that I very much admired on the policy, although I do have differences obviously, was President Reagan's commitment to the earned income tax credit. In 1986, he greatly expanded the earned income tax credit; and if I can quote him, ''This is the best antipoverty, the best profamily, the best job creation measure to come out of Congress.''

That was President Reagan on the earned income tax credit; and he understood that through a tax credit we can help create jobs, help be profamily, did not have to have a government bureaucrat to do it, but it was something we could do through the Tax Code to reward work, reward responsibility, and fight poverty at the same time.

I think that was a tremendous program. We expanded it in 1993 and again later on in 1997, but Ronald Reagan in 1986 really put the muscle behind the earned income tax credit, a great program that I think lifted millions of American families and children out of poverty and did it by rewarding work, not dependency.

Lastly, Ronald Reagan spoke to our patriotism and our sense of love. He came into office at a time when people did not think you could do the job of the Presidency. It was just so overwhelming. And with his ease, his grace and his confidence, he restored people's confidence in that office.

Mr. Speaker, he has a legacy of patriotism and confidence in America and the American people, and it will endure. Our hearts go out to Mrs. Reagan and his entire family, to a great, great patriot.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER).

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan's belief in the ideals of individual liberty reassured America to believe in itself and inspired people all over the world.

Like a flower perfect in its bud and as it is in its bloom, it spreads its seeds before it dies. So did Ronald Reagan as he spread the seeds of liberty and its attributes to the people of the world through the pursuits of freedom.

His critics viewed him as a throwback in time, almost antediluvian; but what Ronald Reagan possessed were principles and ideals that were ageless. They served as guideposts for our country in time.

I will always remember his courage to take a stand in the face of adversity, especially the evils of tyranny. He understood that liberty is protected by the vigilant who must be ready to prepare and defend freedom, thereby preserving peace.

I will always remember his charm and smile. They were infectious. He was always able to stay above the fray, undetracted and undeterred with his calm demeanor and balanced temperament. I believe his optimism inspired people in more ways than this body could ever articulate. To Ronald Reagan, one cannot believe impossible things, for it oppresses the soul and forks hope.

He dared Americans to dream big and made it fashionable to be a dreamer of dreams. His sentimentality reflected his care and concern for people. I thank the Reagan family for permitting the state funeral so that people can mourn their President.

On behalf of my constituents in Indiana, I extend their thoughts and prayers of many Hoosiers to the Reagan family.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from South Dakota (Ms. Herseth), the newest Member of this body.

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, many Members of this House worked closely with President Reagan and were fortunate to call him their friend. Many were inspired to service by his example and point to his Presidency as a turning point in their lives. For many in my generation, he is the first President we really remember from the beginning of his Presidency to the end. He is the first President who inspired us with his confidence and optimism as well as his humility.

He is the first President in our memory to truly embody that graceful strength that we seek from our leaders in times of crisis and uncertainty. We will all remember President Ronald Reagan in our own way, shaped by our own perspective. What I will always remember most is the respect, the dignity, and the sincerity with which he treated others, as will all America for generations to come. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Nancy Reagan, his family, and his many friends.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KENNEDY).

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, our country had suffered its fair share of lumps in the 1970s, and in 1980 we were looking for a leader who would draw a line in the sand and say ''no more.'' We found that rare man in Ronald Reagan. Ronald Reagan succeeded where others failed because throughout his public life he concerned himself with getting things done, not winning applause. In fact, one of Reagan's hallmarks was the plaque he kept on his desk that said: ''There is no limit to what you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit.''

As a businessman, I admired Ronald Reagan's dedication to this seemingly modest goal. Putting success ahead of personal accolades is a difficult lesson for many to learn, but a talent all great men seem to instinctively possess. It is an axiom that turns productive individuals into innovative leaders, and it turned Ronald Reagan into one of the greatest leaders and greatest Presidents we have had. Ironically, the more Reagan sought to distance himself from the successes he knew grew from the sweat and tears of the American people, the more it turned out that those people admired him for his principled leadership. That leadership earned Ronald Reagan widespread respect and helped Reagan form broad bipartisan coalitions to renew America. The results were immediate, winning historic legislative victories on providing tax relief and strengthening our military. The economy flourished as our national pride returned.

I can recall what a difference Ronald Reagan made in my own life, from the depressed job market I entered after graduating from college in 1978 to the vastly improved job opportunities I found after graduating from business school in 1983. The world was a wholly different place in those 5 years because the Reagan Era had become the Reagan Revolution.

The impact that Ronald Reagan had on our world is immeasurable. When he took office, our collective national spirit had been lulled to sleep in the morass of the 1960s and the 1970s. Reagan seized the sleeping giant and shook it wide awake with a jolt of optimism and patriotism and a reminder of our destiny as Americans that our best days lay ahead.

May God bless the spirit and family of Ronald Reagan, our 40th President, and one of our true national heroes.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE).

Mr. ETHERIDGE. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Second District of North Carolina, I rise to pay my respects to the late Ronald Reagan, the 40th President of the United States of America. My wife, Faye, and I join all North Carolinians and all Americans in expressing our condolences to former First Lady Nancy Reagan and the entire Reagan family.

Ronald W. Reagan served two terms in our Nation's highest office after winning overwhelming margins of victory in the Presidential elections of 1980 and 1984. His time in office was marked by renewed pride in America, and he is to be commended for his steadfast devotion to liberalization from the oppression of communism and that vicious rule in nations throughout the world.

Regardless of one's position on President Reagan's policies and politics, all Americans remember his warmth of spirit and the respectful manner in which he engaged in public debate. This approach kept acrimony to a healthy minimum even when conflicting views on vitally important issues were debated in this House and in this city. That example stands in marked contrast to the divisiveness and bitter partisanship we have too often witnessed since his Presidency.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, all Americans stand in solidarity and salute Nancy

Reagan and the whole Reagan family for the dignity and grace that they have displayed through the former President's long and difficult struggle with Alzheimer's disease. Their struggle has been our struggle, for it reminds us of the afflictions millions of Americans face in anonymity every day. The Federal Government must act to ease this needless suffering by increasing research funding and modernizing regulations to allow for potentially lifesaving research using stem cells and other medical techniques. The pain on Mrs. Reagan's face should prod the conscience of this country to end the cruel victimization of stricken patients who require potentially lifesaving research.

In conclusion, the passing of President Reagan closes an important chapter in American history. As the leaders of the 20th century pass from the scene, we must endeavor to carry on their legacy of progress at home and American leadership in the world. On behalf of the people of North Carolina, I rise today to say, rest in peace, Mr. President.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FERGUSON).

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Seventh District of New Jersey, I rise to pay tribute to the life and legacy of one of the great Presidents in the history of the United States, Ronald Reagan. In a farewell address at the end of his second term, President Reagan said that those in his generation ''were taught very directly what it means to be an American. And we absorbed, almost in the air, a love of country and an appreciation for its institutions.''

In many ways, President Reagan was my first President. His presence was the dominant force in America and in politics when I first started thinking about policy issues, the role of government, and America's unique place of leadership in the world. And I believe, for my generation and for so many more, President Reagan enabled us to do just what he had been taught in his generation: to absorb, almost in the air, a love of country and an appreciation for its institutions.

After the turmoil and tumult of the 1960s and the 1970s, President Reagan helped America regain its confidence. He helped us to remember who we were, what being an American meant, and the greatness which would allow America to play a pivotal role on the world stage. Ronald Reagan believed in peace through strength, and he won the Cold War. He believed in the dignity and the value of every human person, and he believed in an optimistic vision for the future of America which resulted in one of the golden ages of American patriotism, prosperity, and progress. He was able to be a tough leader and a formidable adversary; and he did it with his own human touch, with a warm sense of humor, and his ever-present humility.

Future generations will teach their children just as we are teaching ours that the life and legacy of President Ronald Reagan will take its rightful place alongside the greatest leaders in our Nation's history and as one of the pivotal figures of the 20th century who quite literally changed our world for the better. For this, we will forever be in his debt. May he rest in peace.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Alabama (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Alabama. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, it is probably somewhat appropriate that I follow my friend from New Jersey (Mr. FERGUSON) because, like some other Members in this body, I passed from being a child to being a grown man under the Reagan Presidency during those 8 years. And it is appropriate and I am honored to stand here today as part of the great bipartisan tradition in this country to express my condolences to the Reagan family.

This is not a moment for party. It is a moment for solemn reflection about America and about someone who cared very deeply about America. Make no mistake, there are some on my side of the aisle who, including myself, have profound disagreements with the direction of what has been called the Reagan Revolution.

□ 1300

All of us in this Chamber do not share the same vision or the same viewpoints on a number of the President's policies during the 1980s, but this is a time to give him his due, and this is a time to remember what the best tradition of Ronald Reagan's conservatism meant.

One of my strongest memories of Ronald Reagan was one of his last great speeches when he went to the Berlin Wall about 24 years after John F. Kennedy went there, and he said symbolically to Mikhail Gorbachev, then the leader of the Soviet Union, Mr. Gorbachev, if you are serious about reform, if you are serious about freedom, come to this place, open this gate, and tear down this wall. And somehow 15 months later the wall was gone.

Ronald Reagan was fortunate that he lived to see successes on his own terms, he lived to see the wall come down in Berlin. And I have to believe this: We can debate as historians what caused the Soviet empire to fall without a shot being fired. We can debate as people who follow history what caused the Soviet Union to implode. But we ought to be generous enough this week to say that Ronald Reagan's courage was a part of that. His willingness to stand up to the Iron Curtain was no small part in the dismantling.

How do we honor Ronald Reagan? There are different opinions in this Chamber about how we do that. Let me close my time today by giving just one Member's opinion. President Reagan spoke very eloquently of a shining city on a hill. If we are to ever build a shining city on a hill that is America, we have to recognize that a shining city has no hollows, a shining city has no walls, and a shining city is one where all of our people somehow have a foundation and a chance for growth.

Ronald Reagan's conservatism, properly understood, oriented to the needs of our times, ought to mean at least this: It ought to mean that we believe in one community in America. It ought to mean that we believe in a community that is strong enough to raise up all of our people and strong enough to reconcile all of our differences.

So I end today by saying that whatever our differences with our friends on the other side of the aisle, whatever our differences with the direction of the 1980s, we ought to be secure in the sense that we are all Americans, and we ought to be secure in the sense of freedom that Ronald Reagan spoke about that day in Berlin, because there are all kinds of walls that still need to come down, and to truly salute this man's legacy, that ought to be our business today.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON).

(Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, I first met Ronald Reagan through a local leader in our State, Faith Whittlesey, who was one of Ronald Reagan's earliest supporters in the eastern part of America for the Presidency. And it was a glorious day in 1984 when Ronald Reagan came to my home county, stood on the steps of the courthouse where I was then the vice chairman, and held my hand up alongside of another famous American, Tug McGraw, and endorsed me for the congressional seat. I did not win that year, Madam Speaker, but I came within 412 votes of unseating a 10-year, very popular incumbent. I won the seat 2 years later and have been here ever since.

But I took up two of Ronald Reagan's key issues: his work with the Soviet Union, now Russia, and his work on missile defense. And over the past 18 years that I have been in Congress, it has been my pleasure to try to live up to the expectations and to the role model that Ronald Reagan established for all of us.

Madam Speaker, he was someone who understood the Russian people, and he was someone who taught us in America that in the end, if we would simply trust but verify, if we would simply stand up and be candid with them, that in the end they would respect us. On the issue of missile defense, it was Ronald Reagan who said that we should not leave America unprotected and vulnerable.

How amazing it is 18 years later, Madam Speaker, that one of the most

popular officials in Russia today is Ronald Reagan. In polls that have been conducted in Russia, they look to Ronald Reagan because he was a leader of stature and because he was someone who the Russian people respected, because he saw through the Communist leadership and held fast with the Russian people for a better time. So it was appropriate that when I last traveled to Russia 3 weeks ago for my 37th trip that we discussed a new initiative with the Russian people, in honor of Ronald Reagan, taking their radar systems and using them with our radar systems to develop a joint missile defense system. How proud Ronald Reagan would be.

But for all of his work in helping us defeat communism, in helping us move toward missile defense, and helping to reinvigorate our economy, I will remember Ronald Reagan, Madam Speaker, most for what he was as an individual person. He was a very humble man. He would take the time to meet with anyone regardless of their stature in life.

As a first-term Republican, I had the honor of being invited to the Oval Office with my family. I took my five kids down to the Oval Office with my wife, and my youngest was then 4 years old, and he was more concerned with the inside furnishings of the Oval Office than he was with the stature of the President. That did not matter to Ronald Reagan. In fact, I would later find out that in the book of the favorite photographs of Ronald Reagan, this photograph would appear, which is also on the wall of the Reagan Presidential Library in California. How proud I am that my family had the chance to meet Ronald Reagan and that my 4-year-old son, who is now 21 years old, who is here making faces at the camera, received a signed personal photograph from Ronald Reagan and received words of encouragement back then that are still important to each of my five kids today.

I remember Ronald Reagan most for not just what he did for the world, but what he was as a role model for everyone that met him. He was someone who genuinely cared about people. He was someone who would take the time to reach out to a 4-year-old or a 6-year-old and give them words of encouragement.

Ronald Reagan is a role model for all of us, and for that we give thanks, and we thank his wife and send our sympathies to the entire Reagan family.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. MCNULTY).

Mr. MCNULTY. Madam Speaker, President Reagan's long struggle with Alzheimer's disease has ended, but the legacy of his extraordinary life remains.

In 1998, my mother died as a result of the impact of Alzheimer's disease; so I know what families go through during times like that. And I will always be inspired by Nancy Reagan and the other members of the family for their tender caregiving to the former President over that very long period of time.

Many people today have mentioned the occasion of the tearing down of the Berlin Wall by the people, and I recently looked at those pictures of the former President when he participated in chipping away at the wall. I was on the Committee on Armed Services at the time, and I had a chance to do that, too. As I was standing there watching people chipping away at the wall, tearing it down piece by piece, I noticed as the pieces were falling off the wall, some of them would catch the pieces and put them in their pockets. I said to myself, aha, they are taking souvenirs of the Berlin Wall, and I thought I might like to do that.

And already capitalism being in evidence, I looked down, and there were vendors selling pieces of the wall. They were in little cellophane wrappers marked with the date they were taken off the wall. But ever the skeptic, I said to myself, how do I know that those pieces came off the wall?

So I further looked around, and I saw this guy walking back and forth with hammers and chisels, renting them out. So I went over with my translator and made the deal and gave him some money, and I did what President Reagan did, and I chipped off some pieces of the wall. I brought them back home, and I gave them to veterans as a thank you to them for their dedication through the years and for the fact that they were responsible for what was happening on that particular day and at that particular time in history.

President Reagan was a proud and patriotic American whose persistent advocacy for democracy led in part to the breakup of the Soviet Union and its devolution into 15 individual democratic republics. And I was in one of those republics as a member of a delegation from Congress on their independence day. In Armenia, and I watched in awe as 95 percent of all of the people in that country went out and voted. I watched them stand in long lines for the privilege of voting in a free election for the first time in their lives. I noticed they brought covered dishes with them, and after they voted, they held little celebrations and banquets in each of the polling places.

And what a thrill it was to be with them the next day in the streets of Yerevan, their capital, as they danced and shouted and sang, ''Ketze asat ankakh Hayastan,'' which means ''Long live free and independent Armenia.'' Then they pointed to the United States of America as their example of what they wanted to be as a democracy.

So I thank all of the men and women who served in the uniform of the United States military through the years for helping to make that happen, and I also thank the Commander-in-Chief for 8 years, Ronald Reagan, for helping to make that happen.

Today I join with all Americans in mourning his passing and in expressing deep gratitude for his tremendous public service as both Governor and as President.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, for purposes of debate, I yield 25 minutes, about half of my time, to the gentleman from California (Mr. COX).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Without objection, the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) now controls an additional 25 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I sincerely thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD).

Mr. RAMSTAD. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, I rise to proudly pay tribute to the greatest President of the 20th century, Ronald Wilson Reagan, whose suffering has ended and heavenly life begun.

My fellow Minnesotans join me in mourning the loss of America's 40th President and celebrating the life of a man who personified both the greatness and goodness of America. All Americans and freedom-loving people around the world owe President Reagan our deepest gratitude for his strong, principled leadership that ended the Cold War and brought freedom to millions of people.

As we celebrate President Reagan's remarkable career and historic legacy, we also celebrate a man of strong character, deep conviction, unforgettable charm, and wonderful wit. No Minnesotan will ever forget President Reagan braving the below-zero windchill to ride in a convertible in St. Paul's Winter Carnival Parade and proclaim, ''I thought my ears would fall off.'' It was that cold.

Madam Speaker, as America honors our beloved 40th President, we also thank God for a leader who restored pride and made the American people believe in themselves again. Always the eternal optimist, President Reagan instilled confidence and optimism at a time both were in short supply in our country.

Thanks to President Reagan's strong leadership and undying belief in free-market capitalism, the great entrepreneurial spirit of the American people was unleashed, and prosperity was restored here at home.

Madam Speaker, our hearts go out to Nancy Reagan and the Reagan family on their great loss. Mrs. Reagan has showed the whole world the true meaning of love and loyalty these past 10 very painful years as her beloved husband suffered from cruel Alzheimer's disease, the same deadly, debilitating disease that took the life of my own mother just months ago.

So today, Madam Speaker, as we celebrate the life and legacy of Ronald Reagan, let us honor this great President by keeping his legacy alive, a legacy of love for his faith, family,

friends, and country; a legacy of freedom, liberty, and opportunity for all people; a legacy of public service deeply rooted in faith, principle, character, and conviction. And let us always remember President Reagan's warm, infectious, kind smile that lit up every audience, inspired us and gave us hope, just as we remember our ''rendezvous with destiny.''

Rest in peace, Mr. President, in the loving embrace of our Lord and Savior.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. PUTNAM).

□ 1315

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I was in grade school when President Reagan was elected, so my thoughts and observations are not based on any particular policy, but on the man, on the spirit himself.

We took great courage as a Nation in watching him as he dealt with an attempt on his own life. We watched in awe at his unwavering commitment to freedom everywhere around the world and his commitment to peace through strength, which allowed him to win the Cold War without a shot being fired.

He moved an entire generation of young people to that same cry for freedom, the battle to spread liberty and democracy and freedom and equality around the world, and he did it with a sunny, hopeful, cheerful, optimistic demeanor. He appealed to the very best in us, never preying on our worst fears, but backed up by a steely resolve, backed up by principle, backed up by the notion that it was better to be right than to be popular. In doing so, he succeeded with an understanding, a very clear understanding, of the power of the American spirit when it is unencumbered, when it is let loose to achieve its own potential and carve out its piece of the American dream. He always believed in the goodness of the American spirit and the human spirit around the world. He understood that the strength of America, the resilience of America is in her people. He inspired in us all of those great factors without preying on the worst.

Madam Speaker, may we ever be vigilant gatekeepers of his shining city on the hill. God bless the Reagan family, God bless America, and God bless this institution to whom President Reagan has given so much.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER).

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from California for yielding me this time, and I rise today in tribute to a great American, Ronald Reagan.

We have heard extensive remarks this morning about his two major accomplishments, I believe: the end of the Soviet Union as we know it, and setting in place employer tax rates leading to an economic recovery. If we think about what happened, he was the first to call for the end of the Soviet Union and, frankly, the first to predict the end of the Soviet Union as we knew it. No one in my lifetime has done more to spread freedom around the world than Ronald Reagan, and we all owe him a great debt not only here in our country, but around the world.

His tax policies of the early 1980s led to an economic recovery in the 1980s, and I believe the entire expansion of the 1990s can be traced back to the lower tax rates set in the early 1980s, giving investors a reason to invest in our economy.

But I think Ronald Reagan's greatest contribution to our country was his optimism, his hope, and his belief in the strength of the American people. One only has to look at what we went through in the 1960s and the 1970s and what Ronald Reagan inherited when he took office. America, to say the least, was on its heels. We had gone through the problems of the Vietnam era; we had gone through problems with the Presidency; we had gone through the problems of the energy crisis; and this new animal that came upon our economy called inflation.

America was beginning to wonder about itself, and it was Ronald Reagan who talked about the shining city on the hill and all that America could be. It was Ronald Reagan that knew and said that our best days lie ahead, not in the past, and he was right. The hope that he brought, the enthusiasm he brought, and the belief in the American people was something that did, in fact, renew the American spirit.

His patriotism and the patriotism he brought to our country was something that we have not seen for some time. I know in my case, I and my entire family grew up in the Democrat Party, and it was Ronald Reagan, it was Ronald Reagan, who showed me that I was a Republican. It was Ronald Reagan who encouraged me to take a more active role in my community. I was proud to be a volunteer on his campaign in 1980. And, Mr. President, let me say this: You were my hero then; you continue to be my hero.

It was Ronald Reagan who inspired me to make a commitment to public service and to do my share on behalf of the American people, and forever I will be grateful.

Mr. President, we still love you.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, those of us who have had the good fortune to be born and raised in Arizona have always had the words and life of Barry Goldwater to shape our political philosophy. It was during the Goldwater campaign of 1964 that Ronald Reagan came to national prominence. During that campaign, Reagan delivered a speech so memorable that it was known thereafter simply as ''The Speech.'' It was, in my opinion, the greatest political speech ever delivered.

In it, Reagan included the words, ''You and I are told that we must choose between a left or right, but I would suggest that there is no such thing as a left or right. There is only an up or down: up to a man's age-old dream, the maximum in individual freedom consistent with law and order, or down to the antheap of totalitarianism.''

Equally memorable was the line: ''This is the issue of this election. Whether we believe in our capacity for self-government or whether we abandon the American revolution and confess that a little intellectual elite in a far-distant capital can plan our lives for us better than we can plan them ourselves.''

Madam Speaker, having now spent 4 years in the far distant capital, I can attest that this insight from Ronald Reagan still bears remembering.

I was never able to meet President Reagan personally. It is one of my great regrets in life. But like all Americans, I am well acquainted with his goodness. I will always be grateful that he was my President.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO).

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, America has lost a great patriot with the passing of President Ronald Reagan. My fellow West Virginians join me in mourning his death.

As our President, he shepherded America through tough times, cutting taxes and invigorating our Nation's economy. President Reagan's service as a statesman reflected the good freedom could do when waged against tyranny.

In June of 1987, President Reagan stood in front of the Brandenburg Gate in Germany, calling upon Mikhail Gorbachev to ''tear down this wall.''

Reagan aimed to replace the instability brought by fear of nuclear war with the firm backing of freedom.

When the wall fell, a wave of sovereignty rolled through Eastern Europe, washing away suppressive governments and leaving in its wake democracies firmly backed by individual liberty.

Americans will always measure their President against the high bar Ronald Reagan has set for the Presidency. But along with being a statesman, a peacemaker, and a leader, Ronald Reagan was a kind man who I was very honored to have met, a loving husband and father, and a compassionate human being.

I will always remember Ronald Reagan for his ability to lift up the American people, inspiring us to rely on ourselves, not on our government, to overcome challenges in our lives. His legacies will be remembered for years to come. Freedom over fear, the individual before its government, and the strength of America overall.

May God bless America, and may God bless our President, Ronald Reagan.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, as we mourn the loss of President Ronald Reagan, let us also celebrate the absolutely incredible life that he lived, a life that had such a positive impact certainly on our Nation and, in fact, the entire world.

Madam Speaker, I live in Macomb County, Michigan. That is the home of the so-called ''Reagan Democrats.'' That term really had its genesis in Macomb County and has become certainly part of our nomenclature. It describes a huge block of citizens, average Americans, principally ethnic, blue collar, who had voted Democratic for literally generations.

And then along came Ronald Reagan, and he captured their hearts and he captured their minds with the power of his ideas and the vision for America, ideas that were powerful, yet very, very simple: that freedom is a universal right of every human being; ideas about personal responsibility and the fundamental values that built our Nation, and the eternally optimistic idea that America is a great Nation whose best days continually lie in our future.

President Reagan never wavered, never backed down from his defense of freedom, of his belief that we could achieve peace through strength. Of course, his strong stand created countless critics, and yet today those critics must recognize the rightness of his cause and his methods. History has certainly proven him to be right.

Because of the leadership of President Reagan, Soviet communism collapsed and hundreds of millions of people who lived under Soviet domination now live as free people.

Because of the leadership of President Reagan, our national spirit and the spirit of free enterprise rose up and has spread across the entire globe.

Because of his leadership, the world continues to look to America to continue to export liberty and freedom and democracy.

Our Nation and the world owe a debt to President Reagan that can really only be repaid in one way: We must continue to fight for democracy, for freedom, and for liberty, and so we shall.

God bless President Ronald Wilson Reagan. May he rest in peace.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND).

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend from the great State of Kansas for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, I, too, rise today to mark the death of President Ronald Reagan and to pay tribute to a great American. I extend my deepest sympathies and prayers to Mrs. Reagan and the entire Reagan family. With President Reagan's death, our country lost yet another member of the greatest generation, a member who typified his generation with his work ethic, his optimism, and his patriotism.

I believe that all of us, regardless of political affiliation, were impressed by how much President Reagan loved America, how much he believed in its basic goodness and the decency of this great country. He was so proud to represent a country that stood for freedom and equality, and he worked for many years to help spread freedom across the globe.

I was fortunate enough to witness firsthand the effect of freedom spreading across the world. After graduating from college, I had the privilege of traveling to Europe and spending time in the countries that were formerly part of the Soviet Union that were struggling to gain a place in the world as free nations. My travels included a stop in Berlin to celebrate the reunification of Germany. I hammered away with a sledgehammer at the Berlin Wall with thousands of people from all over the world. I still have a piece of that wall, which sits on my desk.

It was inspiring to be a part of history in this way, and I can only imagine how wonderful it must have been for President Reagan to have played such a seminal role in the transformation of the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc nations. With the end of the Cold War, we face an exciting new world of independent nations throughout Eastern and Central Europe.

As we face current challenges throughout the world, I look back to the patriotism and optimism with which President Reagan approached international and domestic issues, and I feel grateful that we have his example.

Aside from his leadership on issues of international importance, I also appreciate President Reagan's willingness to find bipartisan compromise in order to achieve results. To him, politics was not a blood sport; it was the art of the possible. Coming to Congress several years after both President Reagan and Speaker Tip O'Neill had retired, I always enjoyed listening to my colleagues tell of the two men swapping stories and jokes as they negotiated important pieces of legislation.

President Reagan's bipartisan spirit and constant optimism are testament to his leadership skills and his love for his country. It is an approach to governing and it is an approach to leadership that we need to restore.

May God bless his soul.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois (Mr. CRANE).

Mr. CRANE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to and express my sympathy on the passing of one of Illinois' greatest sons, Ronald Reagan.

□ 1330

I was inspired by Ronald Reagan some 40 years ago when he, the Great Communicator, first outlined his vision for America. His vision was one of free enterprise, strong defense, and limited government. I was so drawn to these principles that I worked with fellow conservatives to nominate him for President in 1968 and again in 1976.

The biggest heartbreak in my political career came in 1976 when we were unable to secure Reagan the nomination. But we stayed at it. Ronnie stayed true to his principles; and, finally, in 1980 we had a man in the White House who I knew would turn this country around. Reagan did just that. He turned around our economy, he ended the Cold War, and he renewed hope for Americans.

Reagan was able to accomplish so much in his years as President because he approached everything as a gentleman. He never allowed politics to become personal. He treated everyone with respect even when he disagreed with you. And always his wit and humor won you over.

I am proud to say that I knew Ronald Reagan not so much for his accomplishments, and there were many, but I am more proud to have known him for the man he was. As President, Reagan brought his hometown-Illinois values with him to the White House. And these are the same values we all share in Illinois, the value of hard work, of faith, family, and unlimited opportunity.

Reagan was, as history will bear, one of America's greatest Presidents. And I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering his family and this Nation during our season of mourning. And may God bless us all.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I yield 10 minutes to the other side. I understand they have a number of speakers who would like to address the House.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for his kindness.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT).

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, what do you say about a man like Ronald Reagan that has not already been said? Ronald Reagan took the oath of office here in Washington D.C. in 1981 and, actually, just a short distance from where we are standing here this afternoon. At that time that he took office, I was 15 years old. I did not realize at that time the impact that this new President would have on this Nation and the world. I did not realize the moral and strong leadership that he would provide this Nation.

Ronald Reagan served in the highest office of our land throughout my time in high school, college, and my first couple of years of law school. And with most of America, I listened to the tributes as they started pouring in over this past weekend. During the weekend and since that time, President Reagan's speeches, his remarks and comments have been played and reviewed time and time again.

However, over the weekend I heard one speech that I had never heard before. It was a speech that President Reagan delivered at a prayer breakfast

in Dallas, Texas, on the morning of August 23, 1984. It is so relevant to our situation today that if you did not know better, you would think he delivered the speech just a few days ago.

He discussed religion and its role in the political life of our Nation. He made clear from the beginning of his speech that he was not speaking as a theologian or as a scholar, but rather as someone who had been around for quite a few years.

He talked about the critical role in the political life of this Nation that faith and religion had played and, furthermore, how that had worked to benefit our Nation.

He went on to say that the Founders understood that there was a divine order which transcends the human order. He then eloquently stated that he believed George Washington knew the city of man cannot survive without the city of God, and that the visible city will perish without the invisible city.

While time will not permit me to discuss all of his remarks today, I would like to include his remarks in the RECORD that President Reagan made at that prayer breakfast in Dallas in 1984. Of course, it would not be appropriate to talk about Ronald Reagan without talking about how much he loved life and how much he valued life. He was a man of compassion, and people of all ages would do well to emulate Ronald Wilson Reagan.

REMARKS AT AN ECUMENICAL PRAYER BREAKFAST IN DALLAS, TEXAS, AUGUST 23, 1984

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, very much. And, Martha Weisend, thank you very much. And I could say that if the morning ended with the music we have just heard from that magnificent choir, it would indeed be a holy day for all of us.

It's wonderful to be here this morning. The past few days have been pretty busy for all of us, but I've wanted to be with you today to share some of my own thoughts.

These past few weeks it seems that we've all been hearing a lot of talk about religion and its role in politics, religion and its place in the political life of the Nation. And I think it's appropriate today, at a prayer breakfast for 17,000 citizens in the State of Texas during a great political convention, that this issue be addressed.

I don't speak as a theologian or a scholar, only as one who's lived a little more than his threescore ten—which has been a source of annoyance to some—[laughter]—and as one who has been active in the political life of the Nation for roughly four decades and now who's served the past 3½ years in our highest office. I speak, I think I can say, as one who has seen much, who has loved his country, and who's seen it change in many ways.

I believe that faith and religion play a critical role in the political life of our nation—and always has—and that the church—and by that I mean all churches, all denominations—has had a strong influence on the state. And this has worked to our benefit as a nation.

Those who created our country—the Founding Fathers and Mothers—understood that there is a divine order which transcends the human order. They saw the state, in fact, as a form of moral order and felt that the bedrock of moral order is religion.

The Mayflower Compact began with the words, ''In the name of God, amen.'' The Declaration of Independence appeals to ''Nature's God'' and the ''Creator'' and ''the Supreme Judge of the world.'' Congress was given a chaplain, and the oaths of office are oaths before God.

James Madison in the Federalist Papers admitted that in the creation of our Republic he perceived the hand of the Almighty. John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, warned that we must never forget the God from whom our blessings flowed.

George Washington referred to religion's profound and unsurpassed place in the heart of our nation quite directly in his Farewell Address in 1796. Seven years earlier, France has erected a government that was intended to be purely secular. This new government would be grounded on reason rather than the law of God. By 1796 the French Revolution had know the Reign of Terror.

And Washington voiced reservations about the idea that there could be a wise policy without a firm moral and religious foundation. He said, ''Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, Religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man (call himself a patriot) who (would) labour to subvert these . . . finest [firmest][1] props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere Politician . . . (and) the pious man ought to respect and to cherish (religion and morality).'' And he added, ''. . . let us with caution indulge the supposition, that morality can be maintained without religion.''

[1] White House correction.

I believe that George Washington knew the City of Man cannot survive without the City of God, that the Visible City will perish without the Invisible City.

Religion played not only a strong role in our national life; it played a positive role. The abolitionist movement was at heart a moral and religious movement; so was the modern civil rights struggle. And throughout this time, the state was tolerant of religious belief, expression, and practice. Society, too, was tolerant.

But in the 1960's this began to change. We began to make great steps toward secularizing our nation and removing religion from its honored place.

In 1962 the Supreme Court in the New York prayer case banned the compulsory saying of prayers. In 1963 the Court banned the reading of the Bible in our public schools. From that point on, the courts pushed the meaning of the ruling ever outward, so that now our children are not allowed voluntary prayer. We even had to pass a law—we passed a special law in the Congress just a few weeks ago to allow student prayer groups the same access to schoolrooms after classes that a young Marxist society, for example, would already enjoy with no opposition.

The 1962 decision opened the way to a flood of similar suits. Once religion had been made vulnerable, a series of assaults were made in one court after another, on one issue after another. Cases were started to argue against tax-exempt status for churches. Suits were brought to abolish the words ''under God'' from the Pledge of Allegiance and to remove ''In God We Trust'' from public documents and from our currency.

Today there are those who are fighting to make sure voluntary prayer is not returned to the classrooms. And the frustrating thing for the great majority of Americans who support and understand the special importance of religion in the national life—the frustrating thing is that those who are attacking religion claim they are doing it in the name of tolerance, freedom, and openmindedness. Question: Isn't the real truth that they are intolerant of religion? [Applause] They refuse to tolerate its importance in our lives.

If all the children of our country studied together all of the many religions in our country, wouldn't they learn greater tolerance of each other's beliefs? If children prayed together, would they not understand what they have in common, and would this not, indeed, bring them closer, and is this not to be desired? So, I submit to you that those who claim to be fighting for tolerance on this issue may not be tolerant at all.

When John Kennedy was running for President in 1960, he said that his church would not dictate his Presidency any more than he would speak for his church. Just so, and proper. But John Kennedy was speaking in an America in which the role of religion—and by that I mean the role of all churches—was secure. Abortion was not of religion—and by that I mean the role of all churches—was secure. Abortion was not a political issue. Prayer was not a political issue. The right of church schools to operate was not a political issue. And it was broadly acknowledged that religious leaders had a right and a duty to speak out on the issues of the day. They held a place of respect, and a politician who spoke to or of them with a lack of respect would not long survive in the political arena.

It was acknowledged then that religion held a special place, occupied a special territory in the hearts of the citizenry. The climate has changed greatly since then. And since it has, it logically follows that religion needs defenders against those who care only for the interests of the state.

There are, these days, many questions on which religious leaders are obliged to offer their moral and theological guidance, and such guidance is a good and necessary thing. To know how a church and its members feel on a public issue expands the parameters of debate. It does not narrow the debate; it expands it.

The truth is, politics and morality are inseparable. And as morality's foundation is religion, religion and politics are necessarily related. We need religion as a guide. We need it because we are imperfect, and our government needs the church, because only those humble enough to admit they're sinners can bring to democracy the tolerance it requires in order to survive.

A state is nothing more than a reflection of its citizens; the more decent the citizens, the more decent the state. If you practice a religion, whether you're Catholic, Protestant Jewish, or guided by some other faith, then your private life will be influenced by a sense of moral obligation, and so, too, will your public life. One affects the other. The churches of America do not exist by the grace of the state; the churches of America are not mere citizens of the state. The churches of America exist apart; they have their own vantage point, their own authority. Religion is its own realm; it makes its own claims.

We establish no religion in this country, nor will we ever. We command no worship. We mandate no belief. But we poison our society when we remove its theological underpinnings. We court corruption when we leave it bereft of belief. All are free to believe or not believe; all are free to practice a faith or not. But those who believe must be free to speak of and act on their belief, to apply moral teaching to public questions.

I submit to you that the tolerant society is open to and encouraging of all religious. And this does not weaken us; it strengthens us, it makes us strong. You know, if we look back through history to all those great civilizations, those great nations that rose up to even world dominance and then deteriorated, declined, and fell, we find they all had one thing in common. One of the significant forerunners of their fall was their turning away from their God or gods.

Without God, there is no virtue, because there's no prompting of the conscience. Without God, we're mired in the material, that flat world that tells us only what the senses perceive. Without God, there is a coarsening of the society. And without God, democracy will not and cannot long endure. If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under.

If I could just make a personal statement of my own—in these 3½ years I have understood and known better than ever before the words of Lincoln, when he said that he would be the greatest fool on this footstool called Earth if he ever thought that for one moment he could perform the duties of that office without help from One who is stronger then all.

I thank you, thank you for inviting us here today. Thank you for your kindness and your patience. May God keep you, and may we, all of us, keep God.

Thank you.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY).

Mr. MURPHY. Madam Speaker, the people of Pennsylvania join me in offering their sympathies and prayers to Nancy Reagan and all the members of the Reagan family. But more so, we offer our gratitude for sharing this great man.

In his memory, I humbly offer these words: While flags fly low we gather here to offer words of praise. With tributes to our leader gone, reflect, remember, pray. Our Nation's forests, oceans, plains, majestic mountain skies where some saw only clouds above, he saw hopes spirit rise.

While enemies in shadows crept where evil's hatred stood, some brooded and in weakness slept. He saw strength in our good. America, your song shall soar over this Nation blessed, though some will turn to doubt and fear, his hope shall never rest. The sun shall set and darkness fall, yet stars their beacons give. Do not ye grieve that he is gone, rejoice that he has lived.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER).

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise to offer a long delayed thank you to President Reagan for his help with a personal matter of mine. By the time I turned 15 in 1980, I had grown acutely aware of a quadrennial rift between my parents. My father was a Truman Democrat, my mother was an Eisenhower Republican, and my brother and myself were, of course, KISS fans.

Then one cold November night, there was a thaw. My father walked in the door, sat my mother down and, in a hushed, tremulous tone, as if every fellow Irish Catholic Democrat he had known from his days in the St. Francis Home for Boys Orphanage, every worker in a Detroit Labor Day parade, and everybody on every St. Patrick's Day pub crawl might somehow overhear him, Dennis Vincent Patrick Mullen McCotter admitted to his wife, quote, ''I cannot believe I went and did it, Joan, I voted for him.'' Him was Ronald Wilson Reagan.

This vignette of American democracy's unifying force occurred in millions of homes across our Nation in 1980. The resulting national unity, which was brought about through the thawing of so many families' political Cold Wars, ultimately led to the end of the global Cold War.

Madam Speaker, today the words of Albert Camus ring true: ''A man does not show his greatness by being at one extremity or the other, but rather by touching both at once.'' Truly, President Reagan was a unifying force for moral good in our Nation and our world. And thus his great humility would have precluded him from ever agreeing, Ronald Reagan was a great man. He will be mourned and missed and forever remembered.

I offer my perpetual gratitude to the man, and my profound condolences to his family.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE), the chairman of the Republican conference.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, the citizens of Ohio join me in my sincere condolences to Mrs. Reagan and her family during these very difficult times and to express my humble thoughts on the legacy of Ronald Reagan. While we have all heard him called the Great Communicator, he was so much more. He had a commanding presence. He captivated all who listened by his simple and eloquent demeanor, but he was so much more. He was great at communicating, yes, but, more importantly, he communicated great things.

His ideas resonated with the American people because they were the people's ideas. His vision for America made sense to us all because we had those same dreams in our very own hearts. His principles were clear because they were the very values we all held so dearly then as we do now: freedom, responsibility, peace through strength.

The irony is that Ronald Reagan did not speak to the people; we somehow spoke through him. We saw ourselves and we heard our own hearts in the words that he spoke. He was one of us, and that is why this Nation truly mourns his loss this week.

May we all seek to promote the principles that Ronald Reagan embodied, lived and enunciated so courageously over the course of his magnificent life.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BURR).

Mr. BURR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues and the rest of the Nation to mourn the passing of one of our Nation's greatest Presidents, but also to celebrate his legacy. While Ronald Reagan is considered by almost everyone as an extraordinary leader and one of the greatest Americans, it was not Ronald Reagan's vision, his confidence, his charm or his strength that truly set him apart.

It was his boundless optimism and his overflowing love and concern for his fellow men that made Reagan who he was and which were his underlying source of everything he accomplished. Reagan saw himself as an ordinary man, called to serve his country to the best of his ability, and serve he did.

He inspired a Nation to rediscover the principles of freedom that have made our country great. We remember Ronald Reagan as a man who maximized his gifts from an unknown to an actor to a Governor to the leader of the Free World. Our President was one who never stopped growing and giving.

President Reagan's life provides a witness to how we should all live, stirring up whatever gifts and potentials we have so that the world is a better place when we leave, more so than when we arrived. We remember President Reagan as one who named bad leadership for what it was, and turned his people towards a nobler path. He said the only places communism would work are in heaven because they do not need it and in hell because they already have it.

Today, we are enjoying a world where communism is de-fanged and former communist nations rank among our closest allies, much of which is due to President Reagan's unflinching commitment and resolve to seeing peace and freedom flourish throughout the world.

President Reagan was a true man of the people. What Reagan did more than anything else, and it will be his lasting legacy, is replace despair with hope. Most people, even his detractors, admired and respected his integrity. He never thought that he had all the answers or that he was put on Earth to reveal and implement God's plan for the rest of us.

Madam Speaker, he has now, and as he noted in the eulogy of the crew of the *Challenger* shuttle, and I quote, ''slipped the surely bonds of Earth and put out his hand and touched the face of God.''

The days of this week will be remembered for many, many years. Let them be remembered well. Let them be the passing of the torch. A new day is dawning. Leadership, vision, optimism, and faith most of all are needed at every level in our great country and in our homes. Reagan used to say that America's greatest days are ahead of it. Now it can be said so are his.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2¼ minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in expressing condolences to the family of President Ronald Reagan but also, of course, to celebrate the life of one of America's true heroes.

President Reagan once announced America is too great for small dreams. It was this optimism about America and his confidence in the American people that I remember most vividly when I first met him in 1981. He had an

infectious optimism that, like so many, I was infected with. It had a lasting impression on me.

Shortly after taking office, President Reagan acted on his optimism and his certain beliefs launching the boldest economic plan since Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal.

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His program for economic recovery called for the largest tax cuts in American history. Think about this. Over his tenure, our Federal tax system went from 14 income tax brackets with a top rate of 70 percent to a much simpler 2 brackets with a top rate of 28 percent. This unleashed growth and brought America's economy roaring back.

He also acted on his strong beliefs in dramatically strengthening our Armed Forces. He chose to go toe to toe with the Soviet Union in the Cold War and confront the failure of communism, leading to the freedom of millions of citizens in Eastern Europe and what was to become the former Soviet Union.

I see that legacy of Ronald Reagan today. I see it in our approach to the economy that this body has undertaken to try to strengthen the economy and grow jobs, and I see it in our effort to win another global war, this one against terrorism.

For all of his accomplishments, one of Ronald Reagan's traits I most admired was his humility. He was a regular guy. His Midwestern modesty and intuitive understanding of the role of leadership in an America founded on equality and democracy made him a natural leader and a beloved figure.

One also had to appreciate President Reagan's humor. He once said, ''Politics is a very rewarding profession. If you succeed, there are many rewards. If you disgrace yourself, you can always write a book.'' Well, fortunately for our country and the world, he was a very successful politician, and we all, all of us, continue to share in the rewards.

In his 8 years as President, so much of his ambitious vision for American and the world was accomplished. And for his optimism, his ideas, his humility, his humor and public service, our Nation and the world are better off today. May God bless him and his family and continue to bless the country he so loved.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Washington (Mr. NETHERCUTT).

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Madam Speaker, last Saturday our Nation lost one of its greatest leaders. As we mourn Ronald Reagan's passing, we celebrate his life of service as a lifeguard, an entertainer, a union leader, a spokesman, a Governor and a President.

As leader of the free world, he not only defended liberty, he expanded the realm of freedom. He liberated millions with the power of his ideas.

As President, he revitalized the American political system. The bipartisan celebration of his life here is a tribute to his greatness. Let us remember Mr. Reagan's example and work to improve civility and public discourse in American politics.

President Ronald Reagan was an American hero and a personal hero of mine. I met him 18 years ago, but it feels like yesterday. We all feel we knew Ronald Reagan. When he stepped off Air Force One in Spokane, we realized that he was a big man. He was larger than life. He was very personal. He was gracious. He wowed the crowd, and he touched each individual.

Having met Mr. Reagan, I know firsthand how his unwavering vision for our shining city willed the Nation to new heights. Even after his passing, his vision must and will continue to guide us.

God bless Ronald Reagan and his family and his lasting legacy of freedom.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN).

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise, as my colleagues before me, to recognize this great President, Ronald Reagan. He was a visionary leader who challenged the entire political order of his day. He had the courage to call evil evil; the Soviet empire the evil empire. For that, and for his conviction that freedom would prevail, he was bitterly criticized by his detractors.

Along the same lines, he pioneered a concept of economics that said if we have lower taxes, that it would energize the economy and ultimately that the government would raise more revenue. That was also bitterly criticized. It was called Reaganomics, and yet it worked, and it has worked again to bring us out of the last recession, the same principles.

He believed in the concept of defending America. It was the idea of a missile defense. They called it Star Wars, his detractors, and yet we are building those very things.

He was a man who challenged the political order of his day and redefined an entire political movement and advanced the cause of freedom around the entire world, and for that we all need to say to God, thank you for this great President.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR), the chief deputy whip.

(Mr. CANTOR asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for the time.

I rise today to proudly stand with my friends and colleagues to pay tribute to President Ronald Reagan. President Reagan had the courage to lead America to greatness again after so many others had written us off as a country whose best days had passed. He was a lone voice who dared to believe that the Cold War could be won and communism could be conquered peacefully through strength.

He led United States from double-digit inflation, skyrocketing interest rates and recession to unprecedented economic growth and prosperity. His commonsense ideas of lower taxes and limited government brought us out of those troubling times. His ability to inspire and effect change was truly unique.

I remember fondly my parents' pride in being delegates to the 1980 Republican convention and casting votes to nominate Ronald Reagan to be President. While in high school and college during his Presidential term, I was dramatically impacted by his moral clarity and courage.

President Ronald Reagan had the positive spirit and courage of his convictions that inspired our generation and future generations to enter public service and make a difference in our country.

My family and I send our condolences to Mrs. Reagan and the Reagan family. Nancy Reagan deserves our steadfast support at this time and has earned our respect alongside her husband for her faithful service to our country.

Religion played a crucial role in his life. Ronald Reagan knew he could set out and accomplish his goals because of his strong faith in God. His mother Nelle taught her son to believe in a loving and merciful God. Her teaching helped guide her son throughout his life as actor, Governor, and President.

Having spent several decades battling the evils of Communism as president of the Screen Actors Guild and as Governor of California for two terms, Reagan held strong convictions that were based on his faith in God and led him to run for President in 1980. He would win in a landslide and become our nation's 40th President.

Reagan's religious convictions would immediately be put to the test. After surviving an assassin's bullet in the third month of his Presidency, Reagan believed God saved his life. He wrote, ''I've always believed that we were, each of us, put here for a reason, that there is a divine plan for all of us. I know now that whatever days are left me belong to Him [God].''

He believed God saved his life for a reason, and he set out to ensure that he fulfilled God's plan for him in the White House. In an era when people tried to diminish the role that faith and religion play in the political life of the United States, Reagan knew that the United States was ''richly blessed with His [God's] love and generosity.'' Reagan also knew that if we failed to remember that the United States is a Nation under God, then the United States would be a ''Nation gone under.''

During the 1980s, Reagan's religious convictions allowed him to set an agenda that was new and optimistic. His strong faith enabled him to preserve and never waiver when opponents called his economic and foreign policy plans ''radical'' and ''dangerous.'' As a result, Reagan played an integral role in winning the Cold War, in restoring economic prosperity to the United States, and in helping liberate millions of people from the evils of Communism. He entered the White House with a

goal to change the country—he ended up changing the world. He led his life with a mission to fulfill God's plan and, in turn, accomplished so much for all of us.

My family and I send our condolences to Nancy Reagan and her family. Nancy Reagan deserves our steadfast support at this time and has earned our respect alongside her husband for her faithful service to our country.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2¼ minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER).

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Madam Speaker, today we come before this House in a saddened state. A man of unquestioned integrity and strong character has passed from our Nation's midst into the hands of God. Ronald Reagan was a man with a good heart, and he had more of an impact on the world than any living American today.

We express our condolences to Mrs. Reagan and the Reagan family.

Many of us are very grateful because of how Ronald Reagan inspired us, encouraged our activity in public service, and I know he encouraged my involvement in public service. I cast my first vote in 1976 for Ronald Reagan in the Republican primary, and I had the privilege just 5 years later to serve in the Reagan administration. I have many fond memories of Ronald Reagan.

Man is not measured by what we say, but by what we do. President Reagan believed in the right of freedom for individuals and nations. He spoke honestly of the need for government reform in the United States and publicly hoped for a brighter future for the citizens of the Soviet empire.

Yet his words were not empty and did not ring hollow. President Reagan backed up these beliefs by reducing the government's burden of taxes on individuals. He committed himself to rebuilding our American military. He inspired Americans to believe in themselves and their country, and, through almost sheer will, defeated communism without firing a single shot. As he spoke, the world listened because the force of America was behind his voice.

When President Reagan uttered those fateful words, ''Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall,'' a collective shiver shot down the spine of the Soviet Union, as if communism's death knell was being rung for all the world to hear. Even President Reagan's opponents concede that he defeated the Soviet empire.

Under President Reagan's leadership, America experienced an unmatched period of economic growth. Under President Reagan's legacy, hundreds of millions of people around the world now live safe from the fear of the threat of communism, free from the threat of Marxist-Leninism, and eager to extend an open hand to our former enemy and now our friend, Russia and the former Soviet states.

The spirit Ronald Reagan embodied was of a special sort. Whether it was reinvigorating the American economy or comforting the loved ones of those lost on the *Challenger* space shuttle, President Reagan never forgot who he worked for and what cause he was dedicated to. Ronald Reagan was committed to the American citizen, the American dream and the American spirit.

Madam Speaker, as a man, a patriot, a fellow Illinoisan and United States President, Ronald Reagan will be greatly missed, and I deeply mourn his passing, but I cannot help but think that long after the pain and sorrow of his departure has diminished, the legacy that President Reagan left with us of commitment to one's country, of faith in one's resolve, of hope for a better tomorrow will be remembered and live on in the hearts and minds of Americans for generations to come.

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN).

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman, my colleague, for yielding me the time.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to join with my colleagues in marking with sadness the passing of President Ronald Reagan. I send my deepest condolences to Mrs. Reagan and the entire Reagan family and to those friends who knew the President best.

Ronald Reagan was a man of principle, deep patriotism and great humor. He loved his country, and he loved the American people. His was, in many ways, the quintessential American life: moving from a small town to chase the American dream in California, achieving success through hard work and determination, and finally giving back through public service.

One of the things I most admired about President Reagan was his ability to disagree without being disagreeable. During the 1980s, I was a staff member for the late Congressman Joe Moakley from Massachusetts. We had a front row seat to the great political battles between the Reagan White House and the House of Representatives under Speaker Tip O'Neill. While President Reagan and Tip O'Neill had sharp political differences, they never had sharp words. Their arguments were never nasty. They were never personal. At the end of the day, their battles shifted from policy to who could tell the most outlandish story or the funniest Irish joke. It is an example that I believe all of us should try to do a better job of following.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to take a moment to say just how much respect and admiration I have for Nancy Reagan. These last several years have been extremely difficult for her as President Reagan battled Alzheimer's disease. Mrs. Reagan has faced this tremendous adversity with strength, dignity and class, and she serves as an inspiration to us all.

Again, my wife Lisa and I send our sympathy and our prayers to the Reagan family during this sad time, and I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. COX. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. LEWIS).

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mourn the death of President Ronald Reagan and to pass along the thoughts and prayers of the people of the Second District of Kentucky to the Reagan family.

So much of President Reagan's life was dedicated to public service. From the summer shores of his Illinois hometown to the silver screens of Hollywood, to Sacramento, Washington, D.C., and his final heroic battle with Alzheimer's disease, President Reagan's vision and confident leadership continues to inspire national spirit, improving quality of life in the United States and extending freedom and democracy across the globe.

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During his inaugural address in 1981, President Reagan remarked, ''We are too great a Nation to limit ourselves to a small dream.'' His dream, family, work, neighborhood, peace, and freedom embodied the hopes of millions of Americans, shepherding the Nation into economic recovery and renewed national pride while demonstrating an uncompromising moral leadership abroad that brought communism to its knees.

He was a man whose love for his country stirred the spirit of his countrymen to a new age of patriotism and pride in America. His keen understanding of right and wrong, good and evil provided the leadership needed to defeat an Evil Empire.

His was an exemplary life, uniquely American, and worthy of the love and admiration of so many men and women across the world. May he rest in peace.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise with my friends and colleagues today to pay tribute to a man who inspired a Nation and a generation. His America was a strong Nation, where opportunities were limitless.

His list of accomplishments is long and distinguished. He won the Cold War, he brought back our confidence, he cut taxes and grew the economy. He was an outstanding leader throughout the world.

I did not have the pleasure of knowing President Reagan personally; but like millions of Americans, I marveled at his abilities. He comforted us after the *Challenger* disaster, he stood tall against communism, and he made it morning again in America.

Ronald Reagan's enduring legacy, though, will be that he was a people's President. His concern for every American was genuine. He spoke with a twinkle in his eye and always had a story that illustrated his point perfectly. He was for us, because he was one of us.

America will soon say goodbye to one of our greatest Presidents. Mr. Speaker, his courage, humor, and grace will be missed by all of America. The shining city on the hill will continue, but for now with a heavy heart.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BURNS).

Mr. BURNS. Mr. Speaker, once or twice a century we are given a President who stands above the rest. President Reagan was such a leader. He united this country in a way that we have not been united since. He did so by simply speaking out for what the vast majority of the people of this country knew to be the truth: President Reagan declared that there is a God and that we, as a Nation, are under his authority.

Like President Washington before him, he made no apology to anyone's sensibilities. He called the Evil Empire of communism exactly what it was and committed this Nation to defeating it. He was the first President to begin the battle to reverse the overreach of Federal bureaucracy in the lives of our citizens.

Let us truly honor the memory of Ronald Reagan by never ending the fight he so nobly waged for God and for country.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time remains.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) has 11½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) has 9 minutes remaining.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HOSTETTLER).

(Mr. HOSTETTLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Indiana's Eighth Congressional District, I rise not only to pay tribute to Ronald Wilson Reagan but to also thank him for a Commander in Chief we could always be proud of.

The most important role of any American President is that of Commander in Chief of our Armed Forces; and I, for one, do not need to wait for history to conclude that he was one of the greatest Commanders in Chief this Nation has ever had.

Last year, my son Matthew and I were honored to attend the commissioning of the newest U.S. Super Carrier, CVN–76. I could not think of a better namesake for CVN–76 than Ronald Wilson Reagan. The ship's motto is appropriately, ''Peace Through Strength.'' While he is rejoicing in heaven, the American people should feel comforted in knowing that his legacy lives on in a mighty U.S. warship that bears his name and will provide firepower for freedom for another 50 years.

So Communists and terrorists and other enemies of freedom, you have been forewarned. You have not heard the last from Ronald Reagan. And as he used to say when he was President, ''You can run, but you cannot hide.''

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, may the prayers and thoughts of a loving free world comfort his wife, Nancy, and their children during their time of supreme sorrow and unimaginable loss.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is truly unfortunate that it takes a time of crisis or tragedy to bring our Nation together. This week, for example, we have seen and heard from Members of both sides of the aisle a tribute to a great President, Ronald Reagan. He was a humble man; he was a gracious man and kind. We may have had differences of opinion on policy, but I think we all concede he was a good, good, decent man.

I never presume to speak for my friends on the other side of the aisle, but I think all of us would agree that we have the greatest Nation in the whole world, and one of the things that makes us so great as a Nation are the personal liberties and individual freedoms that we all share here in this country. The Bill of Rights of our Constitution gives us more economic and personal freedoms than people almost anywhere in the world, and we are a better Nation for that. And I think that is something Ronald Reagan would say if he were here right now.

I think we can learn a lot of important things, and a lot of speakers on both sides of the aisle have annunciated some of those things this morning. We should try harder to disagree without being disagreeable. We should always treat each other with respect. And we should understand that we are all Americans and we are all in this together. We all want basically the same thing for our country and for our people.

If we can do that, I think we are going to be better as a Nation and stronger as a people. We need to find ways to bring us together and not to divide us. I think 85 to 90 percent of the people in this body are good, decent, honorable people who want to do the right thing for our country, Republicans and Democrats.

We need to understand that even when we have honest good-faith differences on policy issues, such as the $7 trillion debt we have right now, and the $500-plus billion deficit, this should not be about Republicans and Democrats; this should be about what is right for our country, and this should be about what is right for our children and our grandchildren and future generations in this country.

I hope that we will take this occasion, the passing of a great President, Ronald Reagan, to come together and again dedicate ourselves to doing what is right for our country and putting aside partisan politics.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE).

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add my voice to the chorus extolling the life of President Ronald Reagan. On a similar occasion, over a century ago, Lincoln said of Washington, ''How do you add glory to the sun?''

I was at President Reagan's inauguration, and when he said, ''It is time for us to realize that we are too great a Nation to limit ourselves to small dreams,'' my spine stiffened, and so did that of so many people in the crowd. I got goosebumps when he called out that ''peace is the highest aspiration of the American people. We will negotiate for it, sacrifice for it; we will not surrender for it, now or ever.''

From that day on, I knew America was back. You see, many people speak of the Reagan Revolution. I like to think of it as the Reagan restoration. Reagan restored our optimism, our belief in our ability to create, and the belief that God put man on this Earth to be free and that he made America to prove it.

President Ronald Reagan changed the paradigm. He changed America's foreign policy from one of benign containment to active confrontation. And for the first time since communism began extending its sinister reach, we saw its hand pushed back.

Our sympathies certainly go to the entire Reagan family.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE).

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, as we consider world history, we know that each generation will be faced with its own challenges. And though I am certain that the human race will survive; for a Nation to survive these challenges, each generation must continually produce men and women who are sufficient to the moment and equal to the task. It needs to generate men and women who see without limits, who work without tiring, and who sacrifice without restraint. A nation must find within itself in these times of trouble those who will forego comfort and give up the beaten paths of certainty to find new courses of action and overcome all obstacles in pursuing the truth. Mr. Reagan was sufficient for the moment and equal to the task.

Mr. Speaker, we are here to mourn the passing of a President, but we are here to celebrate the life of leadership and sufficiency that Mr. Reagan represented.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I am pleased to join with my colleagues in recognizing the lessons of the life of Ronald Reagan and his legacy. Among those lessons would be a

sense of civility in debate. Among those lessons would be disagreeing without being disagreeable. Among those lessons would be the ability to recognize the humanity of our opponents, and they are lessons that we should all take to heart.

Another part of the legacy, and I think the lasting legacy of President Reagan, will derive from the painful period as we watched Alzheimer's take this vibrant and warm and really great person into, as Mrs. Reagan said, a different place, a different world. And I hope we will use this to rededicate ourselves to research in Alzheimer's and stem cell research so that others will not follow the former President in this path that was really painful for all of us to watch.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON).

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I first heard about Ronald Reagan in probably 1970, when Joan Baez, on my Woodstock album, referred to the Governor of California as Ron Ray Gun. And this was a young person, so I thought if Joan Baez is against him, it is probably a good thing. Yet as I went through my years and got in college, I had an opportunity to hear Mr. Reagan speak at the Kansas City Republican convention in 1976. And in his concession speech on the nomination going to Gerald Ford, he gave a great speech and he talked about what we have to do as Americans to preserve the great life-style that we live. I was very impressed with that speech. So in 1980, when he ran for President and was the nominee, certainly I was very enthusiastically in support of him.

He was elected in a year when we had hostages in Iran, the economy was in the tank, and the spirit of America was in the doldrums. He won by a landslide, with great expectations, though, and a great mandate. He needed to cut taxes, and he did. He moved along and created an economy that gave 19 million new jobs over the next 8 years. Inflation was reduced, as well as interest rates. He built defense to the extent that we got over, finally, Vietnam. He talked about things like the Evil Empire of the Soviet Union and peace through strength. And he said things that were politically incorrect at the time, like "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down that wall," even though people in our own party did not like him saying those things.

He was very basic. Nancy Reagan led the Just Say No to Drugs campaigns, and I think it was very effective in getting young people to think twice about it.

He had that Irish twinkle in his eye. And when he got shot, even though it was a very serious wound, he said, gee, I hope you are all Republicans. He had that kind of calmness and happiness about him as he went through things. And I, as so many young people, were inspired by him. So when I ran for the State legislature in 1984, I pulled out a photograph that Libby, my wife, and I had taken with Ronald Reagan in 1980, and I ran an ad that said, "Reagan/Kingston: Face it, we need conservatives at all levels of government."

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But I believe that was a key factor in helping me. He had those kind of coattails. He believed in family, America. He loved Nancy. He showed us a husband-and-wife relationship at its finest. He was kind. The Carter-Reagan, Mondale-Reagan campaigns were not nasty, mean or vicious. In fact, he would say to Jimmy Carter if he disagreed with some of Mr. CARTER's facts, "There you go again."

He liked joke-telling and told the jokes about the Soviet Union and got his point across, but when he was in the Oval Office, he always wore his coat out of respect for the Oval Office and the office of the Presidency.

In his final speech as he left Washington, D.C., he said, and I quote, "As I walk off the city streets, my final words to the men and women of the Reagan revolution: My friends, we did it. We were not just marking time. We made a difference. We made the city freer and left her in good hands."

The lights of this city shine, but the future will burn brightly because of men and the leadership of Ronald Reagan.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The Chair would remind Members that the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) has 8 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) has 3½ minutes remaining and the right to close.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to my friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. COX).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) controls 6 minutes.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California (Mr. COX) has 6½ minutes remaining.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS).

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I count my blessings for President Ronald Reagan. I count my blessings for this man because he spoke from his heart and he spoke the truth. Obviously he was an exceptional communicator, but he was also extraordinarily honest. You did not have to wonder where Ronald Reagan was coming from. He had core principles: confronting tyranny, expressing strength to the world, believing in our market economy, reducing the size of government.

The bottom line is, he had extraordinary faith in our country, in the promise of America that the best of America is yet to come. And the best generations of Americans are yet to come. He trusted Americans to spend their own money and lead their own lives. In the process he knew our country and the world would benefit.

I am absolutely convinced President Reagan totally changed the debate. He helped our country recognize that people have their own sense of self-worth and that we trust them to do the right thing.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, when President Reagan took office on that cold day in 1981, the world needed a hero, and on that day President Reagan sent a message to every American and to every human being enslaved by the Soviet empire. Confronting not the armies of Saddam Hussein or Slobodan Milosevic, but the largest military machine in the history of the world, President Reagan simply said, "No weapon in the arsenals of the world is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women."

Then he led a worldwide movement for individual liberty and the human rights of all people. Today the Soviet Union sits on the ash heap of history, and the Reagan legacy can be measured in lives liberated and dreams fulfilled.

Before Ronald Reagan became President in 1981, there were 56 electoral democracies on Earth. Today there are 117. Today more than a billion more people are living in freedom than on the day that he took office.

President Reagan also liberated America, the land that he called the last best hope of mankind. Many Washington pundits at the time believed that the United States was suffering from an inevitable decline. President Reagan had a different view. He believed that America's greatest days were ahead, if only we could free our people from the shackles of big government. He knew that people, not governments, create prosperity, and that markets are the dynamic expression of individual freedom reinforced by property rights and the rule of law.

He believed that the government management of an economy, whether in the form of wage controls, price controls, or regulation of production, produced growth and misery in direct proportion to the loss of freedom. Upon assuming the Presidency, he immediately ended price controls on oil, and within 4 months the price of oil fell over 60 cents per gallon.

When a government union broke the law and mounted an illegal strike against the taxpayers, President Reagan upheld the rule of law, and even the Soviet Union noticed. Secretary of State George Schultz said this may have been the best foreign policy decision Ronald Reagan ever made.

Ronald Reagan and a Democratic Congress cut marginal income tax rates from 70 percent to 28 percent and ushered in the longest peacetime economic expansion in American history. Inflation fell from over 12 percent to 1 percent, and interest rates dropped dramatically. People were free to work and keep most of what they earned and to save for their family's future instead of relying on the state.

In 1981, Ronald Reagan was the first President to take the oath of office on the west front of the Capitol. He said he wanted to be looking west to symbolize the pioneer vision and spirit that he knew still lived in America. Later today his body will be carried up those same western steps of the Capitol. In just a few hours, President Reagan will lie in State a few feet from where we are now gathered.

As we imagine him looking up at the monumental artwork in the dome, at the Apotheosis of George Washington, perhaps we will hear him again speaking to us in the words he once used in this very place: Now we are standing inside the symbol of our democracy. Now we hear again the echoes of our past. A general falls to his knees in the hard snow of Valley Forge; a lonely President paces the darkened halls and ponders his struggle to save the Union; the men of the Alamo call out encouragement to each other; a settler pushes West and sings a song, and the song echoes out forever and fills the unknowing air.

As we gather in the rotunda and gaze upon the flag-draped vault that holds the mortal remains of our 40th President, I know that if we listen, we will hear those echoes of the past. We will hear that pioneer song because it is the American sound. Like Ronald Reagan, it is hopeful, big-hearted, idealistic, daring, decent and fair.

Mr. President, we loved you in life because you helped us love America, and you so nobly represented the country we love. As we lay you to rest, we will always respect and honor your leadership, your humility, your strength, your humor and your character. You told us that those who say we are in a time when there are no heroes just do not know where to look. Mr. President, all of America now knows where to look. You and our beloved First Lady, Nancy Reagan, will be our heroes for as long as there is an America and as long as love of freedom is carried in human hearts.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) for his very cogent remarks, and I really appreciate the civility with which this has been conducted today.

The gentleman from California mentioned the fact that President Reagan and a Democratic Congress presided over large tax cuts back during President Reagan's term, and I grant that. But at the same time, President Reagan was not a strict ideologue and he understood that when large deficits appeared, that we as a Nation needed to do something to deal with those large deficits and not put our country deeper and deeper in debt.

He agreed to actions to correct that course, and I think we as Democrats and Republicans hopefully can come together here and recognize that a $7 trillion debt and deficits of over half a trillion dollars cannot go on, and our kids and grandkids and the future generations of this Nation cannot sustain that kind of problem if it continues.

I hope we will come together with an attitude of civility that was characterized by President Reagan and work on these problems together because we have a lot more in common than we have differences. We are all Americans. We all love our country, and we want to do what is right by our country.

Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude by saying that I think if we work together and understand that we are all in this together, we will do the very best we can for the Nation we love, the United States of America.

May God bless Mrs. Reagan and the Reagan family, and may God hold Ronald Wilson Reagan in His loving arms.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, heaven is a little sunnier and little more optimistic with the arrival of one of the greatest American patriots and Presidents of the 20th Century, President Ronald Reagan.

He inspired me, as he did many others. Across the country and around the world, millions are mourning the death and remembering the life of this man, patriot, and President. There is a sense of profound loss, and rightly so, in a the hearts of all Americans. This week we will all search for a way to pay our respects to a man who made it "morning in America" again.

President Reagan's message of hope restored America's faith in what we could become. He loved this country, and he believed in the people that called it home. His optimism was infectious and at the end of his term as President—Americans had caught his vision and understood their place in the world.

Reagan's stewardship ushered in an era of peace and economic prosperity. Reaganomics—reducing the size of government, allowing Americans to keep more of their own hard earned money instead of having it taxed away—brought about an economic revival in our nation.

Reagan's leadership ended the Cold War, brought down the Berlin Wall, and charted a new course for both America's and the world's future. A future that was secure—made possible by "peace through strength." We would do well to bear this wisdom in mind as we continue to defend America against the threats posed by adversaries.

It is very difficult for one person or a single nation to pay tribute to a life as big, as bold, and as heroic as Ronald Reagan's. His own words are perhaps the best testament of his convictions. His actions are the most sincere depictions of the character that defined his life. His humility and grace endeared him to all American's hearts.

In announcing to the world that he had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, Mr. Reagan wrote, "Let me thank you, the American people, for giving me the great honor of allowing me to serve as your president. When the Lord calls me home, whenever that day may be, I will leave with the greatest love for this country of ours and eternal optimism for its future. I now begin the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life. I know that for America there will always be a bright dawn ahead."

President Reagan's legacy will live on in the hearts and memories of all Americans. His integrity, dignity and wisdom are immortal and will challenge us each day to 'act worthy of ourselves'—worthy of America.

Thanks to Ronald Reagan—there are bright days ahead for America.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, Great American Patriot, and conservative stalwart.

This past weekend, I joined a delegation of Members from this body in honoring the veterans—both living and fallen—who brought freedom to Europe by storming the beaches of Normandy. Unfortunately, transportation problems have prevented me from participating more fully in commemorating the passing of a truly great president. Had I been able, I would have certainly joined my colleagues in unanimously voting to mourn the passage of Ronald Reagan.

Ronald Reagan was born in Tampico, Illinois, a small town in the heart of America. His Midwest Christian upbringing helped to mold Reagan into the conservative icon that he has become. When I was 14 years old, living in a small rural Midwest town, I heard Ronald Reagan's "A Time for Choosing" speech for Barry Goldwater. That speech and many of his other speeches, which I would listen to on records, inspired me to get involved in politics and to fight for conservative values. I know Reagan did not inspire me alone.

Ronald Reagan did not just speak about conservative ideals. He lived them and led with them. At a time when conservatives and conservatism were derided and ridiculed, he showed young politicians a new way to be a conservative.

In 1981, President Reagan became the President of the United States. A boy from a small town had proven the American dream was still alive. At a time when a belief in America and freedom seemed to be at an all time low, Reagan's optimism renewed the confidence of a Nation. Reagan's plans for economic revitalization, smaller government, and a strong military moved the United States toward a brighter future.

Over the course of two terms, he turned the United States and the world around. He was not content with the status quo domestically or internationally. Today, the world and the country are better for it. Our current prosperity is based on the course he charted. The freedom that millions of people enjoy can be attributed in part to him.

This past weekend was the 20th anniversary of Reagan's moving D-Day speech. This Saturday marks the 17th anniversary of his Berlin Wall speech. Both of these speeches were devoted to freedom. As one of the 20th Centuries greatest advocates of freedom—both political and economic—Ronald Reagan has few equals.

As Ronald Reagan ends his journey, I mourn his passing, but I am overwhelmed with gratitude that he was able to accomplish so many things for the United States of America.

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan ran for President to change America. In the end, he had changed the world. As Arizonans, we can be proud that our state played a vital role in the "Reagan Revolution".

Barry Goldwater started what became the Reagan Revolution with his own run for the Presidency. For the first time since Calvin

Coolidge, conservatives had a champion. Some dismissed Goldwater's loss as the end of the nascent conservative movement, but they were wrong: it was just the beginning.

Reagan took to the national political stage during the Goldwater campaign 40 years ago with his seminal speech ''A Time for Choosing.''

In losing the battle for the White House, Goldwater passed the conservative torch to Ronald Reagan to continue the war of ideas. Together they nurtured the conservative movement and helped it grow. In 1966, Reagan's campaign for Governor of California struck the same themes as Goldwater's presidential campaign. He won in a landside. It was the biggest political victory of the conservative movement since Goldwater had defeated the sitting U.S. Senate Majority leader in 1952.

My father, Stephen Shadegg, was Goldwater's campaign manager, speechwriter and a close friend. Growing up in Goldwater's shadow and being a part of the conservative movement from birth gave me a special appreciation for who Reagan was. Just as Goldwater, Reagan's greatest tool was the truth. When Ronald Reagan said something, you knew it came from the heart.

Reagan was one of the few politicians who had deeply held beliefs and never strayed from fundamental principles. The rarest commodity in Washington, D.C. is courage, yet Reagan was nothing if not courageous.

He also touched people's lives. Just look at the hundreds of thousands of people who stood in line for hours this week to pay their last respects. A telling tribute to a man who had done so much for his country and whose citizens admired and loved him in return.

President Reagan is rightly remembered for numerous accomplishments. We are all better off today thanks to the economic revolution that brought double-digit interest rates and inflation to its knees. His tax policy proved that ''a rising tide'' of economic recovery ''lifts all boats.''

Reagan is best known as the aggressive opponent of communism, the strong cold warrior that stood up to the Soviets and their allies across the globe. Less known is that this doctrine of ''peace through strength'' allowed President Reagan to sign the largest arms reduction treaty at the time.

Ronald Reagan was a normal citizen who used his charm and steadfast beliefs to shape the United States into the Country it is today. He provided great optimism, sparked economic growth, gained military superiority, and bridged international relations.

We all have a special memory of Reagan. Obviously for me, the 1964 speech was a formative part of my political life. In the speech he outlined his dedication to limited government and personal responsibility, ideals that guide me as I serve the people of my district and Arizona.

> This idea that government was beholden to the people, that it had no other source of power is still the newest, most unique idea in all the long history of man's relation to man. This is the issue of this nation: Whether we believe in our capacity for self-government or whether we abandon the American Revolution and confess that a little intellectual elite in a far-distant capital can plan our lives for us better than we can plan them ourselves.

He had a simple vision. He knew that individual choice and freedom was essential for people to feel pride in themselves, instead of dependence on the government. Reagan knew that the true American dream was to be free to live your life and achieve your goals without government interference or regulation.

President Reagan was one of the towering figures of the 20th century and one of the greatest defenders of freedom that America and the world has ever known. Ronald Reagan was an heir to Barry Goldwater's vision that the greatness of America lies not in its government but in its people. His faith in the individual, belief in free enterprise, and unending conviction in providing freedom of choice in everyday decisions, helped to restore ''the great, confident roar of American progress, growth, and optimism.''

Rather than mourn our loss following the passing of President Ronald Reagan, we should instead celebrate his life and his countless contributions to our country. And, we should renew the promise to keep America ''that shining city upon the hill.''

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of our Nation's greatest Presidents and a fellow Californian, President Ronald W. Reagan.

A child of America's heartland, he became a man of the west. A towering presence, he gained fame as a movie star and entertainer before turning his considerable gifts to public service. A man of great wit, faith, optimism, conviction and conscience, he believed fervently in the good of all men but especially the American people.

It was from his unwavering faith and from the people, first in his adopted state of California and later throughout the nation, that he drew his great strength. A natural leader, he commanded respect and loyalty from all who had the honor of serving with him. President Reagan brought grace and dignity to the high office he held, always treating those around him with respect and kindness. He never lost his connection to the working people and spoke to all Americans with such clarity and honesty that he will be forever known as ''the great communicator.''

Along with his beloved wife, Nancy, President Reagan was a frequent visitor to the Palm Springs area which I have the honor of representing in Congress. The Reagans frequently spent New Year's Eve with their dear friends, Ambassador and Mrs. Walter Annenberg, enjoying the relaxing desert environment and a friendly round of golf. A playground for movie stars and Presidents, the Palm Springs community was a welcome haven from the hectic world of celebrity and politics. The Reagans had many local friends and contacts, and the Palm Springs area was and still remains Reagan country.

As someone who has always said that it is perhaps harder to be the spouse than the individual holding elected office, First Lady Nancy Reagan was a reservoir of strength for the President throughout their remarkable life together. His most fervent supporter and staunchest defender, Nancy deserves our recognition and thanks for her role in this most American story.

President Reagan's many achievements are now part of our Nation's proud history, and the contributions he made ensured a safer world and a brighter future for the American people. History will recall that his words helped bring down the walls that kept the people of the Soviet Union oppressed and isolated from the freedom of the west. His economic policies and the strength of his convictions laid the foundation for the greatest economic boom in America in the ''American century.'' But, the history lessons will never be able to convey the sense of purpose and pride he instilled in our nation through the sheer strength of his spirit and the optimism of his words.

We owe this remarkable American a tremendous debt of gratitude. His leadership redefined the political landscape in our country and energized our people with purpose and hope. To paraphrase the poet, ''we shall not soon see his like again.''

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of California's 45th district, I extend my deepest sympathy and condolences to First Lady Nancy Reagan, their children and the entire Reagan family. I have no doubt that President Reagan has seen his faith rewarded as he goes to his rest. May God Bless President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to join my colleagues and remember the vision and achievements of our 40th President, Ronald Wilson Reagan. Ronald Reagan came to Washington with a core set of values that guided him through his two terms as our Nation's leader. President Reagan fought to reduce taxes, diminish the role of an intrusive Federal bureaucracy, and to end forever the oppressive Communist regime in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

The times during which Reagan sought to achieve these goals could not have been more daunting. America in 1981 was a land of broken spirit. Many citizens could not live the American dream due to interest rates in the double digits. The Soviet Union had surpassed the United States in military capability. But Ronald Reagan achieved what he set out to do through a combination of ideology, pragmatism, charm, self-effacing humor, and, yes, hard work.

When the President left office in 1989, the Nation was in the midst of an economic renaissance. The Reagan tax cuts led to 96 straight months of economic growth. Record numbers of Americans were experiencing the pride that goes along with home ownership and economic self sufficiency. The Communist bloc would soon be a memory due to Reagan's determination. Ending communism was a stand upon which Reagan absolutely would not compromise. To him, the Soviet Union was truly an ''evil empire'' which was morally at odds with the United States and the principles of human dignity. Reagan battled head-to-head with Gorbachev at five peace summits and at home secured more money for our Nation's defense. Thanks to this combination, millions upon millions now live in freedom and Russia is a valued ally in America's quest for global freedom.

Perhaps the most enduring legacy of Ronald Reagan was his ability to make us proud to be Americans. Reagan gently lifted our spirits with his cheery optimism and geniality. He soothed our fears with a good joke or a funny story. He could have been our friendly neighbor or our favorite uncle. A reporter once asked Reagan what Americans saw in him, to which he replied ''Would you laugh if I told you that I think, maybe, they see themselves, and that I'm one of them? I've never been able to detach myself or think that I, somehow, am apart from them.''

On a personal note, I cannot forget the warmth and kindness that I was shown by this

great man. I first met Reagan in 1976 and later visited him at the Oval Office. He provided me with invaluable advice during my first run for Congress. During this meeting, he spoke of the beauty of our mountains and the kindness of the people of North Carolina. He remembered fondly his visits to Western North Carolina before he was a candidate and afterwards. During every meeting with Ronald Reagan I was treated with kindness, grace, and great humility.

Few political leaders have had the vision and integrity of Ronald Reagan. He had the guts and the courage to tackle the toughest problems of 1980s America. He left his office with a stronger and prouder nation than he inherited. He made us want to believe in ourselves and he made us a better people. Mr. Speaker, I and my constituents in Western North Carolina will always be grateful for Ronald Reagan's service to our Nation.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, this week our Nation lost an individual who had an enormous impact on our country and the world. Ronald Wilson Reagan, our Nation's 40th President, had a great and positive impact on our economy, our security, and our national pride. I believe that just as his achievements will remain with us for many decades, so too will his legacy of exercising sincerity and consistency in all actions, both inconsequential and monumental.

President Reagan was an ordinary man who became an extraordinary leader. I will remember him most for his sense of optimism and hope. In the most difficult of times, it was President Reagan who had the power to allay our worries, raise our spirits, and guide this Nation to prosperity.

Working on Ronald Reagan's first campaign in Jacksonville in 1980, I saw first hand his strength of character and his sense of optimism and hope. Ronald Reagan lifted this Nation up at the time when we needed it the most. He made us feel good about being American. Ronald W. Reagan knew who he was and he knew what he believed. These are the qualities of a great leader.

President Reagan's strength of character and firm beliefs led to revolutionary policies in dealing with the economy, national security, and federal taxation.

Under the presidency of Ronald W. Reagan, our Nation experienced a lengthy period of economic revival where inflation was brought under control, employment grew, and a stifling federal tax burden was lifted from millions of hard working Americans.

President Reagan's defense policies were pivotal in the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War. His commitment to a strong national defense and a safe and secure world is personified through the phrases, "Trust but verify," "Peace through strength," and most of all, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"

At the end of his two terms in office, the Reagan Revolution had succeeded in giving the Nation its longest recorded period of peacetime prosperity without recession or depression. President Reagan succeeded in keeping his campaign promise of restoring the great, confident roar of American progress and growth and optimism.

Mr. Speaker, I am so very pleased to have known this man. I am even more pleased that Ronald Reagan answered the call to public service and contributed all that he did. His leadership blessed our great Nation. Our country will never forget his awesome contributions. For now and years to come, may the people of the United States examine the life of our 40th President, and reflect upon his great achievements. Ronald Wilson Reagan lifted this Nation, and changed the world.

Mr. ISTOOK. Mr. Speaker, like millions of Americans, I want to pay tribute to President Ronald Reagan, the 40th President of the United States. I have shed many tears this week, because I loved Ronald Reagan, and I know how much he loved this country and the American people.

President Reagan inherited a country disillusioned and with serious economic problems, yet when he left office eight years later, it was truly "Morning in America." This was more than an economic boom. President Reagan restored pride and dignity to the United States and to the office of the presidency. He advocated personal responsibility and limited government—government that gives a hand up, not a hand out.

He deserves more credit than anyone else for the collapse of communism and the fall of the Iron Curtain, bringing freedom to many millions of people. He spoke proudly and freely of morals and principles, of right and wrong, of good and evil. He believed in the goodness of the American people, and he helped us believe in ourselves.

Recently, my wife and I made a special trip to visit the Reagan ranch near Santa Barbara, California. The humble and simple nature of his beloved ranch home reflects the genuine basic values that he cherished and lived by. America is a better place because of Ronald Wilson Reagan, who greatly loved our country and who championed our ideals.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was honored to have served in Congress for the last 2 years of President Reagan's second term.

President Reagan devoted his life to the preservation of freedom. He believed that "no weapon in the arsenals of the world is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women."

His global fight against communism is one of the most significant events in world history. Many said this enemy of freedom could not be conquered. But the Berlin Wall fell because President Reagan made it fall.

Since the president's death last Saturday we have heard all or parts of the speeches that inspired so many for so long. They earned him the nickname "The Great Communicator."

Mr. Speaker, President Reagan will always be The Great Communicator because of what he said and did. But his public remarks were also notable for what he did not say and what he did not do.

He did not pound the podium. He did not flail his arms, or yell. He did not substitute manufactured emotion for reason. He did not exploit human suffering.

The style and manner of his speech combined with the power of his ideas made verbal and physical gimmicks completely unnecessary.

Mr. Speaker, there are many ways to judge a president's place in history. I believe a question we must ask is: What kind of impact on world and national events does a President have after he leaves office? By that standard President Reagan is a historical giant. Consider two examples:

First, President Reagan initiated the largest peacetime expansion of our military ever. It gave him the strength to win the Cold War without firing a shot.

But would our soldiers, sailors and airmen have achieved such rapid success in the first Gulf War if we sent our 1980 forces and weapons to fight? Would we have won the ground war in 100 hours without President Reagan's military build-up? Of course not. I believe we would have prevailed, but not with such stunning success.

And our modern, 21st Century military that is fighting the war on terror in Iraq today would be years, if not decades away, without President Reagan's "Peace Through Strength" doctrine.

Second, President Reagan launched the boldest economic growth plan since the New Deal. When he came to office 14 income tax brackets, with the top rate a suffocating 70 percent. After he left office there were only two income tax brackets existed, with a top rate of 28 percent. Yes, we know this created the longest economic boom in history throughout the 1980's. But what about the 1990's?

Mr. Speaker, without President Reagan's three-year across-the-board tax reduction plan in 1981, and without the fundamental restructuring of the nation's income tax code in 1986, we would not have experienced the job creation machine of the 1990's. We would not have created a new class in America—the Investor Class. And our economy certainly would not have survived and rebounded as it did after the 9–11 terrorist attacks and corporate scandals.

President Reagan left office with a united America, a strong America, and a prosperous America. His America is the country every president—every American—aspires to live in.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan forever changed the landscape of American politics. He will be remembered as a President who loved his country and inspired us all to be better Americans.

President Reagan was a principled leader, and many times his beliefs put him at odds with Democrats. Despite these disagreements, he taught us that there is a big difference between bitter partisanship and strong beliefs.

My thoughts and prayers are with Mrs. Reagan and her children at this difficult time.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, on the passing of President Reagan it is right and good that our Nation gathers for mourning, prayer, and remembrance.

As I inventory my memories of Ronald Reagan, I can't help but smile at the recollection of such a good and sensible man. The first time I voted for a President, I voted for Ronald Reagan. Each time since I cast my first ballot, I have compared every candidate to President Reagan.

That's because Ronald Reagan set the standard, he personified leadership. He . . . was . . . America. He was our greatness, our promise, our free will, and our character.

Ronald Reagan showed us love of family, even in the midst of challenges to our values and barbs to tradition.

He and Nancy were unafraid to show their affection, to put their pure love for each other on display. When you saw the Reagans together, you couldn't help but feel part of their family. Their mutual fondness and love brought true meaning to the term "first family."

Not only a defender of traditional values, Ronald Reagan brought common sense to

bear on government. He reigned in the scope of the federal government, while spurring growth in the private sector.

Ronald Reagan changed the world. He spread democracy to places where freedom was a term without meaning. President Reagan stood up to the rising tide of communism, instead presenting the future that liberty ensures.

He changed the world by example, showing the power of a free people. He ended the cold war with fearless resolve, lifting our fears of imminent attack by soviet missiles and giving a future to nations ravaged by the ills of communism.

Not only did Ronald Reagan change the world, he changed America. He led us back to prosperity. He made us proud to be Americans again. Ronald Reagan brought us closer to his image of a ''shining city on a hill,'' and showed us that we could be great again. Under Reagan's guidance the rest of the world came to look to us for our leadership again.

And although we are saddened by his death, we are comforted by the promise he restored in America. President Reagan said ''For while I take inspiration from the past . . . I live for the future.'' So must we.

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, I remember working in Washington during Ronald Reagan's transition in 1980. It was heartening to see the change in attitude and renewed patriotism among the public and in Washington. You see, in those days so many Americans felt discouraged about their government and their future.

And then the sheriff rode into town. He brought with him a wholesome, Western perspective. His optimism was contagious, and he had a love for this country and its people as big and as colorful as the Montana sky. His was a kind of hope that people hadn't seen in our Nation since well before Vietnam, Watergate, and the tough economic times that he came to vanquish.

''Sheriff'' Reagan's determination and infectious charm disarmed this town of its grip on the American taxpayer, in favor of limited government, free enterprise, and a renewed faith in the power of the American Dream. Abroad, our President's unwavering stand for liberty brought down the Iron Curtain, ended the Cold War, and helped restore freedom to millions of people around the world. He made us—made me—proud to be an American.

Several years ago, that sense of pride motivated me to successfully lead the effort in Montana to change the name of our annual Republican Lincoln Day Dinners to Lincoln-Reagan Day Dinners, in honor of the two greatest Republicans, Abraham Lincoln and, of course, Ronald Reagan.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my sorrow on the passing of President Ronald Reagan.

I had the privilege of meeting President Reagan twice—once when I participated in a G.I. Forum event in El Paso, TX, honoring veterans, and the other time while I was in the Border Patrol providing security as the President visited Brownsville, TX.

It was easy to see that President Reagan was blessed with a good nature and positive spirit. All Americans remember his abiding love of country and strong defense of freedom.

President Reagan has left a lasting legacy in the way he confronted communism and helped to end the Cold War. He was the kind of leader we needed during those difficult years. For that, our Nation, and the world, will be forever grateful.

On behalf of my constituents in El Paso, I extend heartfelt condolences to the Reagan family during this very sad time.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, during our week of mourning for President Ronald Reagan, I want to take a moment to honor the life and memory of a great Reagan Republican, Jack Vaughan, who died June 11, 1994, at the age of 33. Jack campaigned for Ronald Reagan on both Presidential campaigns, worked for Newt Gingrich out of college, and served three terms in the Georgia General Assembly before falling victim to cancer 10 years ago.

Jack was a College Republican who really took Reagan's message of optimism to heart. His love for his country and State propelled him into public service and led him to three unopposed terms in the Georgia State House of Representatives. He was a leader to Cobb County, the State of Georgia, and served as inspiration for young Republicans seeking careers in public service.

Since his death in 1994, the Georgia Republican party has named their young Republican of the year award after Jack Vaughan, for the most distinguished individual going above and beyond his or her means to serve party and country.

Jack Vaughan was the son of Gretchen and Jack Vaughan; he is survived by his wife Diane Vaughan Rainey and son John Vaughan III.

Although Mr. Vaughn is no longer with us, his spirit of hard work and dedication lives on in the hearts and memories of all those who wish to better our country and see the worth and value of the American people and citizens of Georgia.

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, former President Reagan's influence on the world was tremendous. He was bigger than life. Whether it was on the silver screen or before thousands of cheering Americans—he was, in so many ways, the American dream. His messages of hope and possibility touched so many people around the world.

Many Iowans have a special place in their heart for Ronald Reagan or ''Dutch'' as he was known to those who used to listen to him on the radio during the 1930s.

In 1932, after graduating from college, Reagan began working as a temporary staff announcer for radio station WOC in Davenport, IA. In 1933, WOC merged with radio station WHO in Des Moines, and Reagan was hired as chief sports announcer for the new station. Here, Reagan announced Chicago Cubs baseball games—reading them from teletype reports. I remember him recounting how he was forced to improvise games for as long as 15 minutes when the teletype machine would unexpectedly stop.

At the time, radio personalities were treated as big stars and what a great place to start a career in entertainment—in Iowa. As we all know, Mr. Reagan went on to a career in movies but many Iowans remembered listening to his sportscasts and helped him in pursuit of higher office in the 1970s and 80s.

I can remember ''Dutch's Dollies''—a group of ladies who were longtime fans cheering wildly at his campaign events. They were loyal supporters with very long memories of their man Dutch.

There are many great stories about Ronald Reagan and his ties to Iowa, but I want to express my admiration for the entire Reagan family.

Ronald Reagan touched me in a manner I could not anticipate—through Alzheimer's disease.

For the better part of the last decade I shared the sadness of this disease with the Reagan family. Like all Americans, we read about the Reagan family's long goodbye to the President. During their painful days, the entire Latham family was saying their own long goodbye to my father Willard Latham, who succumbed to the disease in 2001.

Ronald Reagan will be remembered for many things but for millions this week we are reminded of the ravages Alzheimer's disease has on its victims and their families. Let us all pray for those who are devastated by this affliction and let us keep the Reagan family in our thoughts and prayers.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, today is a day of reflection. We reflect on the life and leadership of former President Ronald Wilson Reagan. We remember all that is good in our country, and all our Nation has to offer its people. Ronald Reagan made a significant and lasting contribution to the strength of our economy, our military, and restored America's self-confidence.

President Reagan was an inspiration to me as I embarked upon a political career in Boulder City, NV, more than 20 years ago. He instilled in me that America was indeed a place everyone can rise as high and as far as his ability will take him. His own humble beginnings are proof of that. He taught me the meaning of civility, and to respect your political adversaries despite your disagreements.

President Reagan changed the course of history, for both the United States and the world. He implemented foreign policy that would later end the cold war and free many nations from the iron curtain.

President Reagan strengthened our economy. His leadership taught us that the Federal Government is not the solution for our problems and set us on a course that would lessen taxes and decrease inflation, helping many Americans achieve the American dream.

On behalf of the people of the Third Congressional District from the great State of Nevada, I offer my deepest sympathy to Mrs. Reagan and the entire Reagan family.

To conclude, let me recap the final words of President Reagan's farewell address to the American people from the Oval Office—''My friends: We did it. We weren't just marking time. We made a difference. We made the city stronger. We made the city freer, and we left her in good hands. All in all, not bad, not bad at all.''

Mr. President, thank you for all you've done for the Nation and the world. Americans will miss you.

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, we have lost a giant in American politics and world history. Ronald Wilson Reagan was not only a great President, he was a good man. He will be remembered fondly for his character and with great appreciation for his tremendous triumphs in spreading peace and freedom throughout the world.

In addition to tearing down the iron curtain of communism, rebuilding America's military, presiding over the Nation's longest period of growth and prosperity, it was the little things

that made him great. He cared about people, including the smallest among us. His heart of kindness reflected that of his Creator's in its compassion toward ''the least of these.''

Ronald Reagan comforted us when we grieved. Whether to the families of the 101st Airborne Division or to a Nation in shock after losing the space shuttle *Challenger*, President Reagan knew what to say and how to say it. He also knew when to be silent and simply offer a reassuring embrace. He was the most powerful man in the world, yet he exuded the warmth and kindness of a gentle grandfather. We respected not just the office he held, but the man who held it.

President Reagan earned his respect. He knew what he believed, established his goals upon those beliefs and committed to achieve his dreams. The world is a much improved place because he lived by his deeply held convictions.

Ronald Reagan knew you shouldn't penalize people for working hard, so he fought to enact sweeping tax relief that spurred unparalleled economic growth. He knew there was a difference between good and evil, so he called out the ''evil empire,'' and it ultimately crumbled. Ronald Reagan knew people wanted to feel good about this country again, so he told us it was morning in America—and we saw that it was.

He touched numerous lives in the Fourth Congressional District of Kansas. Every year I attend the Lincoln Day Celebration in Independence, KS, I am reminded by local residents of Ronald Reagan's visit there in 1966. They remember it as if it were yesterday. And they still love him.

We love Ronald Reagan. We have named our national airport, Washington's largest government building and more than 50 other sites across this country in tribute to our Nation's 40th President. He captured our hearts with his next-door-neighbor kindness, rekindled our patriotism with his effusive and infectious love for this country, and he inspired us with his principled leadership.

In his personal and moving letter disclosing his bout with Alzheimer's disease, the President conveyed the essence of his entire being. In that letter, he was optimistic about America, and he asked us to take care of his beloved Nancy because he was concerned about the burden she would bear. There was not a word of self pity or dread. Ronald Reagan wrote about the sunset of his life, but proclaimed for America, ''a bright dawn ahead.''

Mr. Speaker, we too believe that America's future is bright, but it pales in comparison to the place where Ronald Reagan now lives.

President Reagan had a strong faith in God and spoke of his reliance on prayer in both good and difficult times. During his address at the National Prayer Breakfast in 1982, President Reagan said he believed the United States was a blessed land that had been set apart in a special way. But, he also had the following warning:

> Sometimes, it seems we've strayed from that noble beginning, from our conviction that standards of right and wrong do exist and must be lived up to. God, the source of our knowledge, has been expelled from the classroom. He gives us His greatest blessing, life, and yet many would condone the taking of innocent life. We expect Him to protect us in a crisis, but turn away from Him too often in our day-to-day living. I wonder if He isn't waiting for us to wake up.

President Reagan went on to urge Americans of faith to get involved and to restore ''our spirit of neighbor caring for neighbor.'' In his conclusion he added:

> We are told in II Timothy that when our work is done, we can say, ''We have fought the good fight. We have finished the race. We have kept the faith.''

Ronald Reagan's struggles on this earth are finished, but his work carries on. He indeed fought the good fight, and we are all better off because of it.

May God bless Ronald Wilson Reagan, and may God provide strength, peace and encouragement to Mrs. Reagan and the Reagan family in the days ahead.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor America's 40th President, Ronald Wilson Reagan.

President Reagan was an ordinary man who led an extraordinary life. He came from a middle-American family of modest means to become the leader of the most powerful Nation in the world, inspiring its people along the way.

President Reagan was a decisive leader. He was a strong commander-in-chief. He was a statesman. He was a gifted communicator. He was a skilled political adversary. He was an eternal optimist. He was a patriot. He was, above all, an American. He used these skills, and his love for our country, to change the course of history for the better.

President Reagan accomplished much during his presidency. He helped defeat communism and end the Cold War. He rebuilt our national defenses. He advanced freedom throughout the world. He led the longest economic recovery in our Nation's history. He lowered taxes. He fundamentally changed the way we think about government. ''We meant to change a nation,'' he said in his farewell address to the American people, but instead, ''we changed the world.''

President Reagan literally helped save a world that needed saving.

President Reagan also convinced us to believe in ourselves again. He took charge of a wounded Nation that doubted itself and helped us rediscover our pride and patriotism. He reminded us that America and its people are fundamentally good, decent and deserving of God's blessings. He restored America's greatness and instilled in us his eternal optimism that our best is always yet to come.

President Reagan left America better, stronger, freer and more prosperous than we ever had been. Looking back on his accomplishments in the White House, he said that he was proud that ''we weren't just marking time; we made a difference,'' adding with his usual humility ''all in all, not bad, not bad at all.''

Not bad at all, Mr. President.

President Reagan battled Alzheimer's disease with the same dignity and courage with which he lived his life. He asked us, in his last letter to America, to remember that he had ''the greatest love for this country of ours and eternal optimism for its future.'' We know he loved America. I think it is clear America loved him.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have known President Reagan and am honored to have, in some small measure, done my part to ensure that his vision for America and the world came to pass. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for dedicating his life to improving ours.

In this time of great sadness for the Reagan family and the American people, let us take comfort in the knowledge that the leader we so loved has fulfilled his earthly mission and has finally reached the place of peace in which we all may one day rejoice. May God eternally bless Ronald Reagan and continue to watch over the shining city on a hill he so loved.

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today, I pay tribute to a great American, our 40th ' President, Ronald Reagan.

Under Ronald Reagan's presidency and leadership, America stood tall again in the world as a ''shining city on the hill.'' Americans were proud once again to be Americans.

Ronald Reagan assumed the presidency when America was facing an Iranian hostage crisis, a rising inflation rate, increasing unemployment, and an energy crisis that saw Americans waiting in lines to purchase gasoline.

Upon assuming the presidency, Ronald Reagan proposed a bold economic and defense program. His economic policy created the longest peacetime job expansion in history. Under his leadership, our defenses were rebuilt to handle any adversary. It was his leadership that saw America triumph as the communist evil empire that scarred Europe fell.

President Reagan fought for his convictions and followed up his campaign promises with successful action. Under his leadership, government bureaucracy and regulations were reduced. Taxes were lowered and a strong national defense was rebuilt to fight against the spread of communism. These moves won him a landslide re-election victory.

I agree with the words of this great President when he said, ''government is not the solution. Government is the problem.''

I also agree with President Reagan's words at the 1992 Republican National Convention in Houston, TX, when he said:

> A lot of liberal democrats are saying it's time for a change; and they're right; the only trouble is they're pointing to the wrong end of Pennsylvania Avenue. What we should change is a Democratic Congress that wastes precious time on partisan matters of absolutely no relevance to the needs of the average American. It's time to clean house. Clean out the privileges and perks. Clean out the arrogance and the big egos. Clean out the scandals, the corner-cutting and the foot-dragging.

Ronald Reagan was a president who, in a time of politicians, proved himself a statesman. He was a leader who, when others demanded compromise, preached conviction; a gentleman who, in time of average men, stood taller than anyone else.

He ranks as one of the finest men ever to hold the office. He was successful as a radio broadcaster, actor, union leader, Governor and President. But, above all else, he was a successful American whose legacy lives on in these halls and across this land. May God bless this great man, his family and this land that he so dearly loved.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and honor that I congratulate Mr. Alan VanderMeer on his retirement from the Plumbers Local Union 210. Alan has spent over 40 years dedicating his life to the interest of the Plumbers Union as well as his community in Northwest Indiana. There will be a celebration of his accomplishments on June 10, 2004 at the Plumbers Local Union 210 in Merrillville, IN.

Alan has accomplished many visionary goals throughout his career. After being initiated into Plumbers Local 130 in Illinois, Alan admirably served in the Armed Forces in 1962. He also served as an Apprentice for Plumbers Local 130 from 1960 to 1964, and in 1978 he transferred to Local 519 in Miami, FL.

Alan later demonstrated his loyalty by his outstanding service to Plumbers Local 307 in Hammond, IN. He transferred to Local 307 in 1980 and was appointed J.A.T.C. member in 1984. In July 1990, he was elected as Business Manager and he served as J.A.T.C. Chairman, Retirement Trustee Chairman, Welfare Trustee Chairman, Arbitration Board Chairman, Property Trustee Chairman, Local 307/433 Joint Organizing Trust Co-Chair, PAC Chairman, and Golf Committee Chairman. During the years 1991, 1996, and 2001 he was a Delegate to the United Association Convention. He is presently a Delegate to the Indiana State Pipe Trades, where he served as Vice President from 1990 to 2000.

Alan was initiated into Plumbers Local 210 in July 2000 and was appointed Business Agent. He currently serves as J.A.T.C. member, Retirement Fund Trustee, Welfare Fund Trustee, Vacation Fund Trustee, Market Recovery Fund Trustee, Arbitration Board Member, Property Fund Trustee, and Golf Committee Chairman.

While Alan has dedicated a substantial portion of his life to the betterment of union members he has always found the time to serve his community as well. Since 1990 he has been the Chairman of Plumbers Local 307 and Local 210 Children's Christmas parties. Alan currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Lake County Contractors Licensing Board, the Hammond Urban Enterprise Association, and the Workforce Investment Board. He is a member of Pirates and the American Legion. Alan was also awarded the 2004 Sagamore of the Wabash by Governor Joe Kernan.

Mr. Speaker, Alan VanderMeer has given his time and efforts selflessly to the people of Northwest Indiana throughout his years of service. His family and friends can be proud of the contributions this prominent individual has made. I sincerely wish Alan VanderMeer a long, happy, and productive retirement. Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Mr. Alan VanderMeer for an outstanding career, not only with the Plumbers Union, but in service to his community as well.

Mr. SCHROCK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and remember a great man, a great leader and a great President.

Ronald Wilson Reagan is a man none of us will soon forget. In the annals of American and world history, Ronald Reagan will be recognized and remembered with the great leaders of our past like Winston Churchill, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

As a principled leader, he challenged political leaders in our Nation, in both parties, to go beyond the status quo, to think beyond the realms of the possible, to reach new heights in public discourse by doing more than debate the problems ailing the American people, and to actually find a solution.

He actively worked to enact new policies that brought our Nation out of the malaise of the 1970's.

He fought communism and tyranny, bringing freedom to more people in the world than has ever been achieved in history.

His principle of, ''Peace through strength,'' not only led our Nation to become the preeminent superpower in the world, but it also brought the Soviet empire down to its knees, ending the Cold War once and for all.

When was the last time we have seen a world leader stand boldly on the doorsteps of an enemy and challenge him to ''Tear down this wall''? President Reagan knew what had to be done and he did it. Why? Because it was the right thing to do.

I think most Americans will remember Ronald Reagan for the inspiration he gave us all. He helped us to believe in ourselves again. After our failed efforts in Vietnam and the protests and marches against our actions there, after Watergate, after economic malaise, and after the Iran Hostage Crisis, America was in a state of despair with very little hope in the future.

But President Reagan helped us to believe we could be better, and became better. He showed us America could be strong and win the Cold War, and we became strong and won it. He promised us he would invest in the American people to turn the economy around. He made that investment and dividends are still paying off today.

President Reagan optimistically led the way. The Nation followed and we are better off because of it.

In spite of all that President Reagan did for our Nation, the one thing that speaks volumes about his character and the man that he was, was the way he loved Nancy. He was not embarrassed about his love for her, rather he demonstrated it at every opportunity.

President Reagan was committed to his family, to his Nation and to the world. He was dedicated to his integrity, principles and the belief that America could become that shining city on a hill.

Today, we say goodbye to this great man, leader, President and husband. We miss President Reagan. May God bless him and his family.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, my memories of Ronald Reagan are much like the memories of so many of those who met President Reagan and who were absolutely charmed by him.

Ronald Reagan wasn't just called the ''Great Communicator'' because he could give good speeches; he was a brilliant communicator on all levels. He understood how the everyday person on the street understood issues, and he framed things in such a way that people believed him. He presented his ideas simply and eloquently.

He was also excellent one-on-one. His Irish charm was all encompassing. That charm made him an agreeable opponent when we disagreed on issues. He welcomed opposition on a matter; he understood that democratic societies only flourish when both sides of an issue are clearly heard. He relished debate.

President Reagan's acting career was helpful to him in his political career, although his detractors often denigrated him for it. But he was a good actor; his performance in Kings Row was widely hailed. But World War II intervened and his advancing career was diverted to military service, making movies for the troops.

My personal memories of the President were times we saw each other in the White House or the Capitol. The first time we met, my 10-year-old daughter, Yvette, accompanied me to the White House party for new Members of Congress. After being rebuffed by a security guard when she asked if she could get Reagan's autograph, the President found out and obliged her with his autograph.

I remember another meeting with him that was rather high stakes on the international stage. I'd just returned from El Salvador in the mid 1980s with a CODEL of House Members where we'd sought to bring back good information about the rebel uprisings in Central America, particularly there in El Salvador.

Talking about—and debating at points during the conversation—international policy with the President of the United States in the Oval Office was a heady moment. We marveled that a migrant worker from Robstown and a lifeguard from Illinois would wind up in this room, talking about such important things.

He loved this Nation and felt a great responsibility to it. When his tax cuts and economic policies produced mountains of massive deficit, he stepped up and reversed his policy, raising taxes higher than any president before him—or since—has ever done. His insistence that the Soviets tear down the Berlin Wall rang truer than anyone would have believed at the time.

He had a sweet soul. This was one of the central tenets of the man. He loved his wife deeply, and the entire Nation has come to love her even more after they left the White House. Nancy Reagan's monumental strength in the face of facing her dear husband's illness, without him entirely with her, might have broken lesser people.

One of the President's greatest contributions to humanity, and to this Nation, may have come after he left office to begin the long dark walk away from us, and his beloved family. That this strong, vigorous man was so removed, so empty, was chilling for all of us. The eyes that danced with Irish charm began to narrow with confusion.

The Nation was deeply moved watching this much-loved president face the indignities of Alzheimer's so bravely and with such conviction. We have been moved to seek new science and new treatments for the cruel disease that claims the last decades of many Americans, and drains their families.

For all we have said here today, Ronald Reagan will be remembered most profoundly as an eternal optimist, embodying the quintessential American spirit. At our core, we are all optimists, thinking about tomorrow. Former House Speaker Tip O'Neill once illustrated President Reagan's indomitable optimism with a story the President told him. President Reagan compared himself to the kid who walks into a room full of horse dung, and asks excitedly, ''Where's the pony?''

I join the House of Representatives today in honoring the life and service of Ronald Wilson Reagan and offer my condolences, those of my family, and those of my South Texas constituents, to Mrs. Reagan and the rest of their family.

May the Lord bless President Reagan's soul, and comfort Mrs. Reagan and their family in this time of loss.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I remember Ronald Reagan as an enthusiastic American patriot. He truly enjoyed being President. He was just like everyone's uncle or grandfather. He always had a kind word to say. He could disagree, without being disagreeable.

I have served with six Presidents, and I liked him personally.

Even one of his principal opponents, House Speaker Tip O'Neill, liked him.

President Reagan was well known for his great sense of humor. On Saint Patrick's Day, Tip O'Neill invited President Reagan to the Speaker's dining room to have lunch with the Irish Members of Congress. In his remarks, President Reagan said, with great humor, ''I am told that on Saint Patrick's Day, one should spend time with saints and scholars, so you know that when I leave here I will have to go to two other places.''

We all loved it.

On the international level, President Reagan made it difficult for the Soviet Union to compete with us, either economically and militarily.

May he rest in peace.

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former President Ronald Wilson Reagan and to extend my deepest sympathies to former First Lady Nancy Reagan and the Reagan family. I join with the millions of Americans who mourn the death of our 40th President. President Reagan demonstrated an unwavering commitment to freedom, justice and democracy and left an indelible mark upon our Nation and the world.

On this occasion of remembrance, we are reminded of the pain and devastation wrought by Alzheimer's disease, a neurological illness which President Reagan endured during the last decade of his life. From this challenge, Mrs. Reagan has led a valiant effort to enable ongoing embryonic stem cell research, in the hope for a cure for this debilitating disease, as well as Parkinson's, Diabetes, Cancer and Multiple Sclerosis.

On April 28, I joined more than 200 of my colleagues in the House of Representatives in sending a letter to President George W. Bush in support of Mrs. Reagan's efforts on behalf of scientific research on stem cells. In February 2003, Senators HATCH, FEINSTEIN, KENNEDY, SPECTER and HARKIN introduced legislation to ban human reproductive cloning but allow nuclear transplantation research to continue under strict federal guidelines. I commend them for their leadership on this important issue and know that with the continued support of Mrs. Reagan, progress toward a cure for Alzheimer's and other diseases will be possible, ensuring a brighter future for millions of Americans.

As we honor the life and legacy of President Reagan and extend our condolences to his family and friends, let us remember the dignity and grace with which he lived his life and provide a fitting tribute to his memory by renewing the commitment to this noble cause.

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues, indeed all Americans, in paying tribute to a great man, the 40th President of the United States—Ronald Wilson Reagan.

President Reagan was an extraordinary and visionary leader, who saw our great Nation as having a unique role, purpose, and destiny in the world. He saw it as a beacon of freedom, a land of unlimited opportunity, and in his words, a shining city on the hill.

Mr. Reagan took office during a time of great pessimism. There was Watergate; Vietnam; the hostage crisis in Iran; and gas lines, runaway inflation, and double-digit interest rates here at home. There were those who told us that we had to lower our expectations, that we could no longer shape our destiny, and that our best days were behind us.

Ronald Reagan saw a different future. It was a future in which we were limited only by the size of our dreams; where the spirit of our pioneer ancestors was still alive, it just needed to be rekindled. It was a vision where hard work, imagination, creativity, and a little luck would allow ordinary men and women to accomplish extraordinary things.

Taxes were cut, inflation and interest rates were reduced, and gas lines disappeared. Americans went back to work; the economy roared forward; and in the process, Mr. Reagan restored our confidence, uplifted our spirits, and made us proud to be Americans again.

The rebirth here at home was accompanied by equally dramatic changes abroad. The march of totalitarianism, that seemed inevitable a few years earlier, was halted as Mr. Reagan rebuilt our defenses. The creaky Soviet system disappeared quietly, without a shot being fired. And the Berlin Wall, the greatest symbol of oppression, fell, and millions of people around the world tasted freedom for the first time.

We Americans, and indeed all freedom loving people around the world, owe President Reagan an enormous debt. We will miss him, but history will never forget what he accomplished in 8 short years. As a grateful nation comes together to say goodbye, our collective thoughts and prayers go to Mrs. Reagan and her family.

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor President Ronald Reagan. Ronald Reagan once said, ''We in government should learn to look at our country with the eyes of an entrepreneur, seeing possibilities where others see only problems.'' It is that spirit that brought me and many others into the public service profession. I am proud to have cast my first presidential vote for Ronald Reagan in 1980. Fortunately for this country and the world, a majority of my fellow citizens agreed.

Ronald Reagan served as a beacon of hope and inspiration. His vision of a stronger, optimistic America inspired me to action. In 1980 I was a young student at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa and I jumped right into grassroots politics on my campus. I was selected to attend the Republican National Convention that summer and was one of the youngest delegates there.

Iowans are proud of our connection to President Reagan. WOC, a Davenport radio station in my district, gave Ronald Reagan his first job out of college and he lived in Iowa for several years.

Ronald Reagan made the future something to charge toward rather than fear. His philosophy was based on a brilliant truth: He knew without a doubt that having faith in Americans would create the best America.

The Reagan Revolution is still the foundation for my core beliefs: The American people make better decisions about their daily life than the government can for them. Keeping America secure is job one. Peace is best achieved when you negotiate from a position of strength.

I keep a plaque on my desk with a quote from Ronald Reagan. It reads ''There's no limit to what a man can do or where he can go if he doesn't mind who gets the credit.''

Today, I join my colleagues, thousands of Iowans and millions of Americans in giving credit to Ronald Reagan for renewing our nation and for changing the world forever with his leadership and ideals.

Thank you, Mr. President for reminding us why we should be proud to be Americans and for making us feel safe when nothing in the world seemed safe. Above all, thank you for your humor, optimism and for believing the best in us. We will never forget you.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan was great world leader with a fierce devotion to freedom, democracy, and the sacredness of human life—including the unborn.

He advocated peace through strength and played a major role in dismantling Soviet Communism which he rightly called the evil empire and stopped its extension into Latin America and elsewhere. I remember some of his critics laughing when he challenged Gorbachev in Berlin to ''tear down this wall.'' They're not laughing any more.

Ronald Reagan championed the 1981 tax cut—the largest tax cut in history—totaling $750 billion by 1986. All wage earners—low, moderate and upper income levels—got a 25 percent across-the-board cut in personal income taxes. Long term capital gains were also cut and the results were stunning—19 million new jobs created as Americans began to believe and hope again.

Ronald Reagan was strongly pro-life and fervently believed that women deserved better than abortion and that unborn children are precious and deserve respect.

Having been elected to Congress in 1980 along with President Reagan, I saw firsthand and often how genuine he was. He was a man of abiding principle who inspired our Nation to greatness, always believing America's best years lay ahead.

He endured personal hardship—including an assassination attempt—with incredible poise, dignity, and even humor.

Who can forget President Reagan telling Nancy after he was shot, I forgot to duck.

President Reagan will be missed, but his legend will endure.

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the greatest leaders of the past century, a man who committed himself to making our Nation more powerful, united, secure, prosperous, and proud.

By definition, a leader is one who guides, and as President of this great country, Ronald Wilson Reagan guided us with grace and dignity through one of the most critical periods in our country's history. His optimism led our county into a new era and brought hope and freedom to millions of people in the world.

When the Cold War pitted the United States and the Soviet Union against each other in an ideological struggle of the highest stakes, President Reagan steered the nation and led the free world with steady resolve and confidence.

Throughout his time in office, President Reagan stood for the principles and ideals of the American people. His steadfast moral clarity was not expressed in political rhetoric but implemented by action. His style was clear and bold. He redefined and transformed his political party with a new image and momentum. He set a new standard of political cooperation in American government. He created a new economic policy. Finally, he reestablished American leadership through the force

of his vision and the power of his personality. Most poignantly, it was with that vision that he spoke boldly before the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin in 1987 to demand Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to ''open this gate . . . tear down this wall''. The rest is history. Within months the wall came down, Eastern Europe was free, and the Soviet Union collapsed.

Ronald Reagan spent 8 years turning American hopes and dreams into reality and affirming our status as the greatest nation on earth, and for that, America is forever indebted to him.

God bless Ronald Reagan.

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, steadfast leadership, eternal optimism, profound faith, inspirational articulation, fierce patriotism: when America needed these qualities in a leader, President Ronald Reagan stepped in to fill the void. We come here to the Congress today to celebrate and honor the life of a man whose will forever be etched in history as one of the greatest leaders of the 20th Century.

The stories have been told so often by those of us who supported President Reagan over the years that they seem mundane, almost like a fictional novel or a movie script. High taxes, a struggling economy, a need for international stature and respect, and low morale affected the nation. At that time, a man who had come from the most humble beginnings stepped up to offer his vision for America. Washington politics tend to bring a variety of characters to the capital city, and Ronald Reagan was the unlikeliest of candidates: a child of a transient family with little income. He dreamed of being a writer or an artist, became a sports broadcaster, then a Hollywood actor, later a union leader, even later a governor, and finally a President.

His political affiliation would change over the course of a lifetime, but his core belief system remained essentially unchanged. Throughout his life, Ronald Reagan believed America is capable of great things and its people could and would lead the way if left unburdened by taxation and regulation. President Reagan also had an insatiable thirst to let the rest of the world enjoy the gifts of freedom and liberty. The ''shining city on the hill'' would be the beacon for the rest of the world.

Often dismissed or underestimated by political opponents, President Reagan had the most valuable weapon in the political arsenal: a bond with the people. Even in the face of his political defeats, it was the support of the American public that sustained and invigorated him.

In 1980, a nation in need of change selected Ronald Reagan to restore the shine to a tarnished America. Over the course of two terms, President Reagan revolutionized the Republican Party and changed the political atmosphere in a way still being felt today. He did what he said he would do. He lowered taxes, igniting an economic boom that reverberates to this day. A more streamlined tax code was authored. Regulatory burdens were challenged. Our armed forces were restored and then strengthened. The threatening scourge of communism was confronted in a way that America's enemies had not anticipated. Not only did President Reagan turn to face this menace, he out-argued his opponents and used the tools of freedom and democracy to win a war few thought could be won without the use of massive weaponry.

After achieving these monumental victories, one would think that perhaps President Reagan's ego would match the size of his victories. Nothing, however, was further from the truth. President Reagan always gave the credit to the American people and American ideals. He treated his job as a valuable temporary loan from the American people, a loan that should be respected and returned with dutiful appreciation. He left the office of the Presidency with a poignant farewell from the Oval Office:

> We've done our part. And as I walk off into the city streets, a final word to the men and women of the Reagan revolution, the men and women across America who for eight years did the work that brought America back. My friends: We did it. We weren't just marking time. We made a difference. We made the city stronger. We made the city freer, and we left her in good hands. All in all, not bad, not bad at all.

Truer words have never been spoken, as President Reagan left Washington having achieved the triad of goals he was elected to accomplish in eight short years: improving the economy, restoring American prestige internationally, and reestablishing the confidence of the American psyche.

Just a few years later, his quiet exit from public life was as graceful as his exit from the White House. Ronald Reagan's well documented final battles with Alzheimer's disease were fought with the same conviction and courage that his many public battles were fought. We all knew the ''long goodbye'' would eventually knock at the door. And, while we sadly mourn our loss today and send our deepest sympathy to Nancy and the rest of the Reagan family, we can also take solace in and celebrate one last Reagan victory: the ''Great Communicator'' now has been welcomed to a place where his faculties are restored, his great skills have been returned to him, and he probably smiles down on us as a grateful America says ''Thank you, Mr. President'' once again.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, we are blessed to live in a country filled with so many men and women willing to go beyond the call of duty, to accomplish great things for the benefit of their fellow citizens. Each day, ordinary souls are called upon to perform extraordinary tasks. I rise to pay tribute to one of the greatest individuals of our time—President Ronald Reagan.

Like the WWII veterans honored last week during the dedication of the National WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C., and those honored this past Sunday on the 60th anniversary of D-Day in Normandy, President Reagan was a great American, steadfast in his appointed duty, thorough in thought, long on compassion and short on vanity.

His love of freedom and embrace of optimism were virtues of many in the Greatest Generation. Let us pray that our generation, and the generations to come, remember that freedom is a worthy cause.

I traveled to the beaches of Normandy this week, joining President Bush, Speaker HASTERT, and others, to commemorate the 60th anniversary of D-Day. During the ceremonies, I could not help but feel Reagan's presence.

In his own speech on that shore twenty years ago, President Reagan said, ''The men of Normandy had faith that what they were doing was right, faith that they fought for all humanity, faith that a just God would grant them mercy on this beachhead or on the next. It was the deep knowledge—and pray God we have not lost it—that there is a profound moral difference between the use of force for liberation and the use of force for conquest.''

President Reagan understood, like our WWII soldiers, that what they were doing was not to harm, but to help. That even though sacrifices would be made—the greater good was at stake and no price was too high.

In announcing that he had Alzheimer's disease, Ronald Reagan said that he was beginning the journey that would lead him ''into the sunset'' of his life. He said, ''I know that for America there will always be a bright dawn ahead.'' Since 1994, Reagan had suffered the cruelty of Alzheimer's. So our sorrow today is tempered by the knowledge that the President has indeed gone to a better place—a place where he has a front row seat to watch all the bright dawns that lie ahead for America.

President Reagan is responsible for so many of those bright dawns that we have to look forward to. He changed the world by living his convictions. Not ''clinging to'' them or ''sticking to'' them, but living them. Reagan's core beliefs were exactly that. They were at his core and were therefore part of his every action.

Reagan's convictions gave him confidence. He was a man of the people. He listened. And when he heard what the people needed, he took action, in accordance with his convictions. On the domestic front, the people said they were tired of their economy spiraling downward, so Reagan worked to reverse that trend.

To accomplish these feats, President Reagan was not afraid to take hard stances. But he also knew that these changes would take bipartisan efforts. We should all remember, respect, and try to live up to Reagan's model of bipartisanship. His efforts to change America were based upon his philosophy and beliefs—not upon any partisan gamesmanship.

On foreign policy, Americans said they were tired of living in fear, so Reagan worked to bring security. President Reagan engineered the end of the decades-long Cold War. Because of his policies, and his faith that freedom would prevail, our children and grandchildren are not growing up with the constant fear of mutual destruction. We all are able now to live in a world that, though still imperfect, strives toward peace, works for justice and rejects tyranny.

I call upon my colleagues to remember Reagan's strength. Remember him as he was while in office. In his final radio address as president, on January 14, 1989, Reagan said, ''The hope of human freedom, the quest for it, the achievement of it, is the American saga.'' Reagan's hope, his quest, and all his achievements—those are what we all honor and remember.

Now, too, the Great Communicator, has gone the way of so many of our greatest generation. I rise not only in sadness for his passing, but more importantly in celebration of his life, his accomplishments and his deeds. I rise to pay tribute to President Reagan in the words he used to honor the crew of the *Challenger* Space Shuttle in 1986—''We will never forget him, nor the last time we saw him, as he prepared for the journey, waved goodbye and slipped the surly bonds of earth to touch the face of God.''

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my condolences to First Lady Nancy

Reagan, as well as the children, family and close friends of former President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Reagan was a visionary leader who guided our great country through difficult and dangerous times. He faced adversity with a smile and quick wit. He solved problems with sober determination. He gave us hope for the future of freedom and prosperity. He reminded us what it meant to be proud Americans.

We mourn his loss but remember that he left us with a rich heritage of memories, ideals, and a trail of lives changed at home and abroad because of his efforts. For that, we will be eternally grateful.

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of our 40th President and Illinois native, Ronald Reagan, and in strong support of H. Res. 664. Many words come to mind when President Reagan's name is invoked; principled, loyal, patriotic, compassionate, caring, and humble, to name a few.

His philosophy in life was the same philosophy that he employed in his approach to politics and government; believe in the good of people, believe that what is right will eventually triumph, believe in the value of each and every human life, and believe in the strength and the power of freedom and individual liberty. He once said that ''America is too great for small dreams''. He truly saw our great Nation as the shining city on the hill and as the beacon of freedom for oppressed people throughout the world. Nowhere else in the world and at no other time or place in history has one nation been so prepared and had the means to promote freedom, peace, and stability than the United States does right now. Ours is a heavy burden but one that must be borne. Reagan understood that.

He also once said that ''you can tell a lot about a fellow's character by his way of eating jellybeans''. In this simple way, he told us that, in the end, character is what matters and that life is really a series of simple choices between what is right and what is wrong. No one person is responsible for another person's destiny. It is the choices that we make everyday that we must account for. Reagan believed, as I do, that an individual's personal initiative and the willingness to accept the consequences and rewards for their actions and, most importantly, the freedom to do so, is what make our Nation great.

He believed in people. He believed in America. He traveled to towns in what is now my Congressional district, like Charleston, Illinois in 1976 and Mattoon, Illinois in 1980 because every person was important to him. The people in rural Illinois and similar places across the country believed in him, because he believed in them. He often asked, ''did we forget that government is the people's business, and every man, woman and child becomes a shareholder with the first penny of taxes paid?'' Reagan constantly promoted this philosophy of government. The government of the United States belongs to all of us and public servants have an obligation to the people to be good stewards of their dollars, uphold the Constitution, and protect them from all enemies both foreign and domestic.

He believed in peace. When naysayers told him that building our military and our nuclear arsenal would finally push us into a war with the former Soviet Union, he knew that principled diplomacy, firm, yet reasonable rhetoric, the economic power of our nation, and the promotion of freedom would bring communism to its knees. And when it did, he called on the scientific community who gave us nuclear weapons to ''direct their talents to the cause of mankind and world peace to give us the means of rendering these nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete.'' He believed in peace through strength and he proved that it works.

I will miss President Reagan and I send my deepest sympathies and condolences to his family with the thanks for sharing him with me and the rest of the nation. He inspired many. He lived by example. Rest in peace, Mr. President.

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, the leadership that Ronald Reagan provided changed the country and the world.

I had the privilege to be elected to Congress during the heady days of the 'Reagan Revolution.' I had barely won a special election in June 1981 to keep the Fourth Ohio District in Republican hands, and as a young freshman congressman was quickly invited to the White House to meet the President and his aides.

It was more than a welcome to Washington because the President's tax cut package was pending on the floor the next week, and I think they were there to take my temperature as well as to make sure that I was going to vote for the tax cut.

I was proud to support the tax cut, the military buildup that helped win the Cold War, and the President's policies up and down the line.

President Reagan's economic program lifted us out of the malaise of the late 1970s, when America was doubting its greatness, and set the stage for a historic period of prosperity that benefitted all segments of our society.

Still, I believe that Ronald Reagan is most likely to be celebrated as the President who led the way in winning the Cold War. People in the past had always talked about the containment of Soviet communism and yet Reagan's theory behind the Cold War was essentially, we win and they lose. He was able to lead the country and Congress into modernizing our military and ultimately brought about the end of what he called the Evil Empire.

For those of us who grew up in the shadow of nuclear annihilation, what could be more important than the victory that was won without firing a shot? It was won with ideas, and was something that I honestly thought I would never see in my lifetime.

I had the thrill of traveling with President Reagan on the Heartland Express during a whistlestop campaign tour through Ohio in 1984. Everytime there would be a crowd gathered in a crossroads in a small town, the President would stand in the back of the train and wave. He was obviously in a buoyant mood. Large crowds cheered him during stops in Sidney and Lima, and people still remember that today.

We remember President Reagan for his vision, leadership, and infectious optimism.

I don't think I ever met anybody in politics or anywhere else who didn't like Ronald Reagan as a person. They may have disagreed with him on a number of issues but they never disliked him personally. I think President Reagan's legacy in politics is this ability to disagree without being disagreeable, to see politics as a noble calling and that you have your debates and arguments and have a beer afterwards. That is missed very much today in Washington and I don't think we're the better for it.

Our country will accord its highest honors to Ronald Reagan as we pay our heartfelt respects to him this week. But he will be remembered each day that men and women live in freedom, because what Ronald Reagan ultimately believed in was dignity and liberty for each individual.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, first, I would like to share my heartfelt condolences with Nancy Reagan and the Reagan children. Our nation owes them a special debt of gratitude for their strength in caring for their husband and father over the past decade as he battled Alzheimer's disease and for everything they've done to uphold his dignity and legacy for our country.

As we prepare to lay former U.S. President Ronald Reagan to rest, it's important that we reflect on his brave and principled leadership—and the hope he gave to countless individuals in our country and around the world.

Looking back at the footage of Reagan's speeches and other public appearances, one of his most striking qualities was his enduring optimism. At the time that he entered the White House, self-doubt and pessimism had practically paralyzed our nation and most Americans saw no end in sight to soaring inflation, economic stagnation and the Cold War.

Though he had a realistic view of the challenges that faced the United States, Reagan believed in us. He knew that free individuals have immense potential for good, and he knew the strength of our American system of free enterprise and self-government. His ''can-do'' spirit infused our country and brought a renewed sense of hope and opportunity to those who had nearly forgotten what America stands for.

Fundamentally, Ronald Reagan trusted us. He trusted that Americans know how to spend the money they earn better than the federal government does. He trusted that, once barriers to private enterprise and economic growth were lifted, American creativity and drive would bring our economy and jobs back. He trusted American resolve in defense of liberty. And he trusted people enough to speak plainly with them about his beliefs and intentions.

President Reagan's words carried weight because we knew he meant what he said—and the Soviets and the rest of the world knew it too. He was not a poll-watcher. He was a man of conviction—a man with a clear philosophy that guided his actions. This philosophy was rooted in a love of freedom and a deep faith in God.

Speaking to students at Moscow State University on May 31, 1988, Ronald Reagan said ''Democracy is less a system of government than it is a system to keep government limited, unintrusive: A system of constraints on power to keep politics and government secondary to the important things in life, the true sources of value found only in family and faith.''

Imagine what it must have been like for him to bring this message to the heart of an empire where government had for decades superceded individual rights. Reagan's commitment to actually winning the Cold War, his determination to secure peace through strength, and his recognition that communism is a bankrupt, immoral ideology were essential to ending the Soviet threat and liberating the Eastern bloc nations and their people.

When you consider the countless individuals who owe their freedom in part to Ronald Reagan's leadership and the many Americans who today have close friends or family with whom they have reunited in areas formerly off-limits—who had been shut away behind the Iron Curtain—you get a sense of why so many across the world feel a personal connection with Reagan.

On top of all his achievements, beyond all that Reagan did to rejuvenate our economy, win the Cold War, and renew our country's sense of purpose and optimism, there was the man himself. He had great confidence in America's founding values as well as an excellent sense of humor. And he succeeded in raising the level of discourse in our political arena. People might have disagreed with him on policy decisions, and his opponents in Congress argued fiercely with him, but at the end of the day they respected one another. It was a time of greater civility in politics, and we should strive to recapture that.

We look to Ronald Reagan's example as an inspiration today and express once more the thanks of a very grateful nation.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, this week, America is united in mourning for President Ronald Reagan.

President Reagan will be remembered as a great optimist who helped convince America to believe in itself again.

He believed that the Cold War would end and the Berlin Wall would fall during his lifetime. And he was right. His words inspired people living behind the Iron Curtain to believe that freedom was attainable.

Ronald Reagan was a loyal Republican but an American first. With his profound personal decency and disarming sense of humor, he rose above the kind of bitter partisanship that infects American politics today.

Personal attacks were below him. He was a patriot and a man of integrity—and he never questioned the patriotism or integrity of others.

Our politics were polarized then as they are now. But President Reagan knew how to compromise and get things done for the American people.

The Speaker of the House during the first six years of his presidency was Tip O'Neill of Massachusetts. Speaker O'Neill was a staunch Democrat with a very different vision for government, and a great leader in his own right.

Working across party lines, President Reagan and Speaker O'Neill passed reforms to preserve and strengthen Social Security. They enacted sweeping tax reform to close tax loopholes and lower marginal rates.

As we mourn and honor President Reagan, this Congress should pledge to follow in his example.

Hold firm in your beliefs, but respect those who differ. Compete vigorously at election time, but then go to work for the American people. Stand united in times of sorrow and adversity.

Ronald Reagan's final accomplishment will endure as one of his most important—bringing attention to the tragedy of Alzheimer's with his eloquent letter to the American people.

One of the best ways to honor him is to rededicate our efforts to find a cure for this terrible disease.

I join my colleagues in honoring the memory of President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of President Ronald Reagan.

First, let me extend my condolences to Nancy Reagan and the entire Reagan family for this tremendous loss. But let me also thank Nancy and her family for taking care of the President for all these years. Rest assured the nation mourns with you today.

When I think of President Reagan the feeling that stirs within me is hard to put in words. In reflecting on what to say I realized the best way for me to explain my feelings is to explain who I am. Simply, I am a Reaganite!

Being a Reaganite provided me the wonderful opportunity to come to Washington and work in the Reagan Administration. I did not come to Washington for a job but I came to Washington to be a foot solider in the Reagan Revolution. I had the opportunity to trade in the walking of precincts to walking the halls of his Administration. And for this I am forever grateful.

This opportunity allowed me to play a small part in President Reagan's goal of giving America back to America. As a result of his leadership, we did not hang our heads any longer but rather we raised them up and remembered our moral standing in the world. Through his leadership, a nation was motivated.

At the time President Reagan was elected to office, the country was losing faith and confidence in its being. In 1980, the Soviets had invaded Afghanistan, inflation was in double-digits, homeownership was near impossible and optimism was nonexistent. By the time his Administration ended, the Soviet empire crumbled, inflation's back was broken, homeownership soared and morning dawned in America. With a set of principles, one man who wanted to make a difference set out and changed the world.

But to see President Reagan's legacy, as George Will stated, one has to see what no longer exists. We no longer see Soviet expansion and aggression, we no longer see the Berlin Wall and we no longer see devastating economic plight. These are testaments to his courage and his ability to communicate his resolve to the nation.

President Reagan realized another decade of detente would not protect America and another decade of stagnant economic policies would not free the individual. Through his force of personality and conviction he set about changing our future. And he relegated our worries to the ash heap of history.

President Reagan pursued policies that resulted in derision and loathing from some. But he had no hesitation in pursuing his goals because he knew what was right. His beliefs were steadfast and unwavering. He set his course and plowed through the skeptics. He was not Teflon. He was Iron.

Being a Reaganite is not solely relegated to a certain place and time or a certain individual. Instead, it is set a set of beliefs. A set of beliefs imbued in many Members of Congress, their staffs and individuals throughout this country. It is a longing to assert and maintain America's rightful place in the world, as the shining city on the hill.

President Reagan, thank you for restoring hope in America. It has been Morning In America since your Presidency.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, President Ronald Reagan wrote an indelible chapter in America's and in the World's history. As our Country mourns his loss, our prayers go out to Mrs. Reagan and his family, and our future will long hold to the lessons of his public service.

It is the lesson of public service that defined our 40th President's life that also defines the good work of West Virginia's National Guard. And, as our former President lies-in-state at the Nation's Capitol I will be honoring his legacy with the West Virginia's finest as they help Southern West Virginians recover from another round of devastating floods.

As our Nation is mourning President Reagan's loss, many West Virginians are rebuilding their homes and their lives, as again last week, West Virginia bore the brunt of Mother Nature's wrath. But, as we always have done, we will join together and move forward once again.

Recent storms produced flooding throughout my home State of West Virginia, and joined with Governor Wise in requesting that President Bush issue a federal major disaster declaration. Tuesday, June 8, 2004, President Bush honored that request declaring the State of West Virginia a federal disaster area, and making residents of Boone, Braxton, Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Fayette, Gilmer, Jackson, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Mingo, Nicholas, Putnam, Raleigh, Roane, Wayne, Webster, Wirt, and Wyoming Counties eligible for federal assistance to help them pick up the pieces.

This week as America honors President Reagan in our Nation's Capital, I will be in Southern West Virginia with our coalfield residents as we pick up the pieces and move forward. I have already seen some of the damage first hand, and I was in Mingo and Logan Counties last week when members of the West Virginia National Guard, fresh off their tour of duty in Iraq and overseas, arrived to help Southern West Virginians start putting their lives back together.

Moving forward, after such losses, is never easy. The old saying goes, Rome wasn't built in a day. Neither were the homes and towns that were washed away by the torrents of recent rains. It will take more than a day to build them back. But the West Virginia National Guard will help the steadfast residents of those counties pick up the pieces so they can rebuild their houses, businesses, and lives as quickly as possible.

The destruction caused by flooding in Southern West Virginia over the past few years has been unprecedented, and the relief should equal the need. Just as these heroes in uniform returned from the dry sands of the Iraqi desert, they were called to help out the waterlogged residents of Southern West Virginia.

In West Virginia, our people always band together to help their fellow man, and our National Guard is displaying the genuineness of this testament. All of those who have joined in the help, we want to thank them. With God's help, we will make it through this. Again.

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to President Ronald Reagan, an Illinois native, as the nation celebrates his many contributions to the United States and the world. While I did not always agree with him, he always had my admiration and respect for his strong leadership and his dedication to the American people. His relationship with the citizens of this great country may be his ultimate legacy. President Reagan spoke directly to their hopes and fears and was embraced for his role as the ''Great Communicator.'' Above all else, he made us feel good about America again.

From humble beginnings, President Reagan went on to play a pivotal role in some of the great events of the 20th Century, most notably the Cold War and eventual fall of the Soviet Union. While never afraid to take a hard line, he was a pragmatic leader who acted without malice, which was evident in the support he received from Democrats. It was this aspect of his leadership that we should all try to replicate. President Reagan's impact on American politics was profound, inspiring legions of young people to public service, not unlike what President Kennedy accomplished years before.

Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan loved the United States of America, and he was a stalwart leader in the pursuit of freedom and democracy. President Reagan had a personal vision for the country that was undeniable and unshakeable, and the lines of people waiting to view his casket are a testimony to the fact that he had a tremendous emotional impact on this nation. I would like to extend my condolences to his wife Nancy and the rest of their family, and I join the rest of America in honoring his dedicated service.

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, Americans often measure history in Presidential cycles. When we look at the individuals who have served in the White House it is the conjunction of character and circumstance that defines and demarcates administrations.

It would be misguided to suggest that any individual ''won'' the Cold War, but it was Ronald Reagan's inspiration—''Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall''—that symbolized American resolve. He gave hope to those oppressed and he gave voice to those who stood tall. Communism imploded, largely on his watch.

Domestically, President Reagan articulated the values of the frontier. ''Government is not the solution, it is the problem,'' he said in his first inaugural address. But he was not a ''no government'' ideologue. While his administration contrasted in many ways with the social activism of Franklin Roosevelt, he did not favor undoing the New Deal. ''How can we love our country and not love our countrymen?'' he asked, ''and loving them not reach out a hand when they fall?''

Reared on the sweeping plains of the Midwest and, later, an adopted westerner, he loved open spaces—of the land and of the mind. He put his faith in freedom.

Ronald Reagan understood the timber of the American character. With the most authentic voice in the history of democratic politics, he spoke to a world hungry for values. He succeeded because his was the voice of American optimism.

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, I share your grief at the passing of former President Ronald Reagan and join you in remembering his remarkable service to our country.

I was fortunate to have served as a Member of Congress during President Reagan's eight year tenure. At the time, I was a member of the democratic Boll Weevils, a group frequently called upon to help President Reagan with his legislative agenda. I can attest to what some of you know and what others have read or heard about him—he was among the greatest of our nation's presidents. He was permanently grounded in principle, so much that no one who worked for him had any doubt about what was expected of him.

President Reagan is rooted in the essence of our nation's character. He appealed to our better instincts and was unyielding in his devotion to our country. I was always amazed at the way he appealed to young people. I think it was because they could see the truth in him. Like a grandfather who had seen it all and abandoned the notion of judging us, he preferred to see the goodness in us all. We, in turn, could imagine that goodness leading us to that shining ''city on the hill.'' Those who came later missed the opportunity to encounter true greatness. Those who experienced him will never forget it.

Thank you for your compassionate support in honoring the legacy of our former President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of the 40th President of the United States, Ronald Wilson Reagan. President Reagan was the most courageous, daring and fearless president that I have had the pleasure of serving with in my 22 years in the United States House of Representatives. Ronald Wilson Reagan was one of the two greatest presidents of the 20th Century. Ronald Wilson Reagan was one of the most outstanding presidents in the history of the American Republic. I was a great fan of and on many occasions, a very strong supporter with my vote of President Reagan.

I will always remember the day when my wife, Rose Marie, and I met with President Reagan in the Oval Office. He was as friendly and down to earth as the man-next-door. We had our picture taken with him and asked him to autograph cards with the presidential seal for each of our children, Laura and Dan, which he did. President Reagan first wrote the cards out differently for each my daughter and son, but said he should have known better and so he wrote the same greeting for both of them.

It was a great honor to meet President Reagan and serve with him in the United States of America's government for many, many reasons. But, I believe mainly because he gave back to America its optimism, its pride, its enthusiasm, and its belief in itself. There can be no greater service than that of a president who can render to America these qualities; and for that, President Reagan truly was one of the greatest Presidents of the United States.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, all Americans mourn the death of President Ronald Reagan, but those of us who had the opportunity to know President Reagan are especially saddened. I got to know President Reagan in 1976 when, as a freshman congressman, I was one of only four members of this body to endorse then-Governor Reagan's primary challenge to President Gerald Ford. I had the privilege of serving as the leader of President Reagan's Texas delegation at the Republican convention of 1976, where Ronald Reagan almost defeated an incumbent president for his party's nomination.

I was one of the millions attracted to Ronald Reagan by his strong support for limited government and the free-market. I felt affinity for a politician who based his conservative philosophy on ''. . . a desire for less government interference or less centralized authority or more individual freedom . . .'' I wish more of today's conservative leaders based their philosophy on a desire for less government and more freedom.

Ronald Reagan was one of the most eloquent exponents of the freedom philosophy in modern American politics. One of his greatest achievements is the millions of Americans he helped convert to the freedom philosophy and the many he inspired to become active in the freedom movement. One of the best examples of President Reagan's rhetorical powers is his first major national political address, ''A Time for Choosing.'' Delivered in 1964 in support of the presidential campaign of Barry Goldwater, this speech launched Ronald Reagan's career as both a politician and a leader of the conservative movement. The following excerpt from that speech illustrates the power of Ronald Reagan's words and message. Unfortunately, these words are as relevant to our current situation as they were when he delivered them in 1964:

> It's time we asked ourselves if we still know the freedoms intended for us by the Founding Fathers. James Madison said, ''We base all our experiments on the capacity of mankind for self-government.''
>
> This idea—that government was beholden to the people, that it had no other source of power—is still the newest, most unique idea in all the long history of man's relation to man. This is the issue of this election: Whether we believe in our capacity for self-government or whether we abandon the American Revolution and confess that a little intellectual elite in a far-distant capital can plan our lives for us better than we can plan them ourselves.
>
> You and I are told we must choose between a left or right, but I suggest there is no such thing as a left or right. There is only an up or down. Up to man's age-old dream—the maximum of individual freedom consistent with order, or down to the ant heap of totalitarianism.
>
> Regardless of their sincerity, their humanitarian motives, those who would sacrifice freedom for security have embarked on this downward path. Plutarch warned, ''The real destroyer of the liberties of the people is he who spreads among them bounties, donations and benefits.''
>
> The Founding Fathers knew a government can't control the economy without controlling people. And they knew when a government set out to do that, it must use force and coercion to achieve its purpose. So we have come to a time for choosing.

One of the most direct expressions of Ronald Reagan's disdain for big government came during a private conversation when we where flying from the White House to Andrews Air Force Base. As the helicopter passed over the monuments, we looked down and he said, 'Isn't that beautiful? It's amazing how much terrible stuff comes out of this city when it's that beautiful.' ''

While many associate Ronald Reagan with unbridled militarism, he was a lifelong opponent of the draft. It is hardly surprising that many of the most persuasive and powerful arguments against conscription came from President Reagan. One of my favorite Reagan quotes comes from a 1979 article he wrote for the conservative publication Human Events regarding the draft and related ''national service'' proposals:

> . . . it [conscription] rests on the assumption that your kids belong to the state. If we buy that assumption then it is for the state—not for parents, the community, the religious institutions or teachers—to decide who shall have what values and who shall do what work, when, where and how in our society. That assumption isn't a new one. The Nazis thought it was a great idea.

I extend my deepest sympathies to Ronald Reagan's family and friends, especially his beloved wife Nancy and his children. I also urge

my colleagues and all Americans to honor Ronald Reagan by dedicating themselves to the principles of limited government and individual liberty.

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solemn remembrance of President Ronald Reagan. I do not stand alone. All across the country, and the world, we mourn. We remember a strong governor, President, husband, and father. Let us stand firmly by Mrs. Nancy Reagan and her family, offer our prayers and show our support and appreciation—let us through our actions bring comfort to the Reagan family to help them cope during this difficult time. Little can be said to make this difficult time easier. Given the outpouring of support that this country and his family have received from the world, words are not necessary.

Words are not necessary to honor a man whose popularity stemmed from his ability to communicate. No words I can say today can erase the sorrow and feelings of loss shared by so many communities that he touched throughout his tenure as governor of my state of California and as the President of our nation. Even the ''Great Communicator'' often relied on actions—not words—to help those who needed it. At a time when the immigrants of our nation had nowhere to turn, President Reagan signed the historic Immigration Reform and Control Act, granting hard-working and deserving families legal permanent residence, paving the way for new American citizens, and thus uniting our nation.

Today, as a united nation, we stand together as fellow Americans and with the world to mourn the loss of Ronald Wilson Reagan, fortieth President of the United States—the picture of unity communicating our sorrow, remembrance and honor for a leader.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, as we pause to remember the life and service of the late President Ronald Reagan, no greater testament to his achievements as leader of this nation exists than the sentiments of gratitude being offered by millions of Americans. It is my great honor to lift up just a handful of the reflections on the passing of Preside Reagan made by residents of my congressional district:

He was a great American; his message was one that still resonates today.—The Honorable Jane Nelson, Texas Senate.

I had a chance to tell him how much I wanted him to run for president and that if he did, I promised to work really hard for him. He was just the same up close as you perceived him to be on television. He was very sincere, very nice. When he talked to you, he talked to you. He didn't pay attention to things going on around him; you had his attention. The world is certainly a better place because of Ronald Reagan being here and serving as the president of the United States. I'm sad we lost him, but it's wonderful he's now receiving his just rewards.—The Honorable Mary Horn, Denton County, Texas.

President Reagan made us feel good again about being Americans, and not just being proud of our country, but really invoking that patriotic spirit again. We've lost a great, great man.—Dianne Edmondson, Chair, Denton County GOP.

I remember that while Reagan was the oldest elected president, what sticks in my mind was the way he connected to young people. We had been through a decade of young people being disconnected with taking pride in America, and he lit that spark again.—The Honorable Myra Crownover, Texas House of Representatives.

He will always be remembered as the architect of the policies that ended the Cold War—peace through strength. He, more than anyone else, was directly responsible for giving us the possibility of the world living in peace: He ended the Cold War, ended the unspoken hostilities between the United States and Russia, and brought an end to the Soviet domination in Eastern Europe. He unleashed the power of the American economy. Yes, it cost money to defeat the Soviet Union; it cost money to defeat Soviet tyranny. Was it worth it in the long run? You bet it was.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the life and legacy of Ronald Reagan.

This past weekend, it was fitting, and in some ways almost proper, that we paid tribute to the brave young soldiers of D-Day and simultaneously remembered the life and service of President Ronald Reagan. Like those soldiers who sacrificed on Normandy Beach, Reagan inspired a country at a critical time in our nation's history through his optimism and advocacy for the ideals of democracy, freedom and love of liberty.

He helped end the ''Cold War,'' confronted the curse of communism, rebuilt American self-confidence and our Armed Forces, and above all, made America a standard bearer for freedom and justice.

Many of our children are not old enough to remember the dangers that stood before us at the height of the Cold War or how President Reagan's resolve helped end it.

Still, over the next few days, maybe even weeks, and certainly in the history books to be written, they will learn, as will our children's children, about who Reagan was and what he did for America.

Like so many of us, I continue to read with interest about the life and times of our former President. One recent newspaper column touched me and I would like to share just a few lines of that with my colleagues.

The columnist wrote: ''What an era his was. What a life he lived. He changed history for the better and was modest about it. He didn't bray about his accomplishments but saw them as the work of the American people.''

Mr. Speaker, this is the sign of a leader. We are a grateful nation for his good humor and inspiration.

Thank you Mr. President—for your service; for your optimism; and for your belief and commitment to doing what is right for America.

Our thoughts and prayers remain with the Reagan family during this time of mourning.

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues, indeed all Americans, in paying tribute to a great man, the 40th President of the United States—Ronald Wilson Reagan.

President Reagan was an extraordinary and visionary leader, who saw our great Nation as having a unique role, purpose, and destiny in the world. He saw it as a beacon of freedom, a land of unlimited opportunity, and in his words, a shining city on the hill.

Mr. Reagan took office during a time of great pessimism. There was Watergate; Vietnam; the hostage crisis in Iran; and gas lines, runaway inflation, and double-digit interest rates here at home. There were those who told us that we had to lower our expectations, that we could no longer shape our destiny, and that our best days were behind us.

Ronald Reagan saw a different future. It was a future in which we were limited only by the size of our dreams; where the spirit of our pioneer ancestors was still alive, it just needed to be rekindled. It was a vision where hard work, imagination, creativity, and a little luck would allow ordinary men and women to accomplish extraordinary things.

Taxes were cut, inflation and interest rates were reduced, and gas lines disappeared. Americans went back to work; the economy roared forward; and in the process, Mr. Reagan restored our confidence, uplifted our spirits, and made us proud to be Americans again.

The rebirth here at home was accompanied by equally dramatic changes abroad. The march of totalitarianism, that seemed inevitable a few years earlier, was halted as Mr. Reagan rebuilt our defenses. The creaky Soviet system disappeared quietly, without a shot being fired. And the Berlin Wall, the greatest symbol of oppression, fell, and millions of people around the world tasted freedom for the first time.

We Americans, and indeed all freedom loving people around the world, owe President Reagan an enormous debt. We will miss him, but history will never forget what he accomplished in eight short years. As a grateful nation comes together to say goodbye, our collective thoughts and prayers go to Mrs. Reagan and her family.

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, President Reagan led the nation with resolve and courage. He showed these same qualities in his battle against Alzheimer's disease.

President Reagan will be remembered for many things—a great communicator, devoted husband and an unflinching patriot.

But I will remember him most for reminding America that when we are at our best, very little can deter or defeat us. God bless you Mr. President and thank you for your service to our country.

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, President Ronald Reagan was an American icon. He's the President who won the Cold War. And he'll always be remembered for his eternal optimism, his strength, great wit and charm.

Even when he disagreed with Democrats, he was respected for the honesty of his beliefs and the dedication he displayed in pursuing them. He taught us the difference between strong beliefs and bitter partisanship. He lived by the noble idea that at the end of the day Democrats and Republicans were simply Americans and friends. I wish we had more of that today.

We should be inspired by this 40th American President's patriotism and devotion to our country. And we should remember his faith, his optimism and his unwavering commitment to his convictions as we do the work of the American people.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, this week our Nation mourns the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, our 40th President of the United States. It has been stated in many of the newspaper and television commentaries that he was one of the more complex figures of the 20th century. As with all our major political leaders, he had his share of triumphs and failures.

Ronald Reagan's irrepressible spirit and his conception of America as a ''shining city on the hill'' engendered a sense of renewal in America. Indeed, his optimism in our Nation

and her people was as genuine as the man himself. Simply put, Ronald Reagan was a great American and a President who honored the office and considered it a privilege to serve.

Without question, President Reagan represented the best of civility in American politics and the finest traditions of standing up for what you believe in. Even during the most intense political showdowns, he and former House Speaker Tip O'Neill could always sit down together after the day was done, as friends and fellow Americans. It was an era of bipartisan cooperation that seems, unfortunately, to have waned in recent years.

President Reagan's legacy will forever be his vision which played a role in bringing about an ultimate end to the Cold War, as well as his drive to foster liberty and democracy where previously only tyranny had thrived. Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev says he believes his dialogue with President Reagan ''kick-started the process which ultimately put an end to the Cold War.''

President Reagan also understood the art of political compromise. He followed his 1981 tax cut with two large tax increases. In fact, no peacetime President raised taxes so much on so many people. This is not a criticism: The lesson of those increases tells you a lot about what was just with President Reagan's leadership. President Reagan, confronted with evidence that his tax cuts were fiscally irresponsible, changed course. His actions in this area contrast dramatically with today's Washington.

Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, one of Ronald Reagan's greatest legacies is focusing attention on the disease that took his life—Alzheimer's. People are now receiving earlier diagnoses and better treatments for the incurable brain-wasting disease partly because he supported Alzheimer's research as President, and more importantly, because he went public with his diagnosis in 1994, increasing awareness of the need for more research.

As her husband's health declined, former First Lady Nancy Reagan spearheaded public awareness campaigns and described what it was like to be a caretaker for an Alzheimer's patient, which she referred to as ''the long goodbye.'' She continued to publicly advocate for stem cell research as a way to help others with the disease.

Doctors now are better able to diagnose the disease early, and provide patients with drugs and other measures to delay its progression. I pledge to do everything possible to help fight the plight of Alzheimer's disease. I challenge every member of this body to respond to Mrs. Reagan's plea to do more for life-saving research.

Ronald Reagan was of a kind and gracious mind, and at the same time, a man of grit, determination and leadership. He served his country the way he lived his life.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his extraordinary wife Nancy and his children, Patti Davis, Ron Prescott Reagan, and Michael Reagan. I hope it is a consolation to the entire Reagan family that so many people grieve their loss and are thinking of them during this difficult time.

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, President Ronald Reagan will be remembered in the annals of history as one of the greatest leaders of the United States. His deeds and words will echo in time as the foundation for a smaller, more efficient government, a fairer tax system and the liberation of millions of oppressed people throughout the world.

Ronald Reagan was known as the Great Communicator. His words brought hope to those in need, comfort to those who suffered and optimism to an entire Nation trampled by economic and governmental insecurity. Yet President Reagan's ability to communicate went beyond the words that he spoke. He reached out to the nation and the world using not only his voice, but his strength of spirit and supreme character.

President Reagan's passing is mourned by each of us. But his legacy will continue through the ideals he aspired for America. A grateful Nation thanks Ronald Reagan, a true American Hero.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and the people of the 10th Congressional District of Florida who I have the privilege to represent here in the United States Congress, I rise in support of this resolution to pay tribute to the life of President Ronald Reagan and to express condolences to his family.

President Reagan was a true American patriot who always kept life's priorities—God, country, and family—in order. He assumed the Presidency at a time when Americans were being held hostage in Iran, our fighting forces were fraying around the edges, and raging inflation and interest rates were stifling our economy, sending our Nation into the turmoil of recession, and driving our government deeper and deeper into debt.

Beginning with his swearing-in as the 40th President of the United States, President Reagan restored in the American people a feeling of pride and patriotism that had been lost in the late 1970s. The hostages were brought home, the morale of our fighting forces rose, and the economy began to rebound.

People flew the American flag with pride again. The United States resumed its leadership role in protecting freedom and peace around the world and at the pinnacle of the world economy. He stared down communist leaders throughout the world and set the stage for its fall in the Soviet Union and throughout Eastern Europe. He reduced the world's supply of nuclear weapons and allowed democracy to flourish again in our hemisphere and eventually in the former Soviet states.

He battled Congress to reduce taxes to allow the American people to keep more of their hard earned money and to reduce the size and scope of the government programs and bureaucracy. He also ensured the long term security of the social security trust fund by leading a bipartisan legislative effort to preserve and protect the retirement benefits of workers long into the 21st century.

President Reagan was our Nation's leading cheerleader and consoler. He used his wit and humor to entertain and to drive home an important point. He led a Nation in mourning when we lost the Challenger crew and our Marines in Lebanon. Throughout his eight years in office we laughed together and we cried together. In the end though, we all gained a renewed sense of pride in being Americans.

He taught us the value of the simple phrases of ''peace through strength'' and ''trust but verify'' and he shared with all of us his simple vision of a nation where we would be the ''shining city on the hill.''

The United States and the world are better places today because of Ronald Reagan's service not only as President of our great country, but as a true patriot. He was a good man whose love and commitment to his wife Nancy was an inspiration to us all.

Perhaps the greatest testament to his strength of personality, of character, and of leadership is the fact that even in death he can make us feel good about ourselves as individuals and as a Nation. You can feel the pride of our Nation surge yet again as we reflect on his life and times.

Mr. Speaker, we all will recall that President Reagan would end his conversations with America by saying ''God Bless America.'' This week, Mr. Speaker, our Nation and the world say ''God Bless Ronald Reagan.'' Thank you for your lifetime of reminding us to always take pride in living in the greatest Nation in the world.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today as this House honors the life of the Fortieth President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, we remember both the man and the public servant. As President Reagan lies in state under the dome of this Capitol, the American people reflect on a man of optimism, a leader committed to freedom and a citizen who personified the American spirit of boundless ambition and achievement.

President Reagan lived a life unlike any other American president. A sports broadcaster, a movie star and a television personality, President Reagan entertained Americans with his charm, smile and warmth. He combined the skills of an actor with the determination of a pioneer to transform public life as he entered the political realm in California and finally was elected by the American people to the White House.

As President of the United States, Ronald Reagan won two large election victories in 1980 and 1984 to set this Nation on a course to transform our economy and confront communism. The outcomes and consequences of his policies will be interpreted by historians for years to come, but there is no doubt President Reagan motivated a new generation of conservatives to join his crusade as well as a generation of progressives to unite in pursuit of an alternative path of action.

Our State of Minnesota had a unique relationship with President Reagan. Minnesota was the only State in the Union to never give President Reagan an electoral victory. Minnesotans stood twice with our homegrown son, but we respected the President, his skills as a communicator and his determination to elevate the American spirit.

President Reagan lived a truly American life and, in his final years, stood hand in hand with Mrs. Reagan to encounter Alzheimer's with dignity and grace. The life of President Reagan the leader and Ronald Reagan the man will be remembered, honored and celebrated this week by Congress, the American people and people in nations around the world.

On behalf of the families of Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District, we extend our prayers and sincerest condolences to Mrs. Nancy Reagan, her children and all of the family and friends of President Reagan.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, Ronald Wilson Reagan first entered into our national consciousness in 1964, asking Americans to make a choice in the face of the growing

threat of socialism both at home and abroad. We know him as the eternal optimist, the ''Great Communicator'', and the man who maintained that Communism would surely fall aside onto the ''ash heap of history.''

I had the personal privilege of knowing President Reagan when my father, Judge William S. Sessions, served as Director of the FBI during his administration. Like many of my generation, I was inspired by the optimism of Ronald Reagan, a leader who never lacked the courage and the principle to do what he felt was right even in the face of great obstacles. President Reagan saw the world in black and white, whether it was confronting the programs of the ''Great Society'' as the beginnings of a new ''undemocratic socialism'' or chiding the actions of the ''Evil Empire'' in Eastern Europe.

This moral clarity was the hallmark of his Presidency. Ronald Reagan came in to office with three core principles and an agenda by which to implement them. He believed that the government was too big, that it taxed too much, and that the Soviet Union was an evil empire, getting away with atrocities across the world. From the first day of his Presidency, Reagan began to move systematically towards enacting his campaign promises, and, in so doing, he rejuvenated the American spirit.

America is forever indebted to this President whose resolve and determination to pursue ''peace through strength'' helped to end the Cold War and ensured that, as the President himself said, ''America's best days are yet to come. Our proudest moments are yet to be. Our most glorious achievements are just ahead.'' Thank you, President Reagan. May God bless you as you enter your rest in that shining city.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 664 honoring the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan. I was proud to add my name as an original cosponsor of this resolution.

The former president was devoted to his country and will long be remembered for his service to America. My heart goes out to his family during this time of loss.

President Reagan was also a long time member of our Santa Barbara community. Santa Barbara County was home to the spectacular mountaintop ranch the former president and first lady affectionately referred to as the ''Western White House''.

President Reagan carried with him traits characteristic of California's Central Coast—a sunny disposition and optimistic outlook—to Washington and to the world. His ''morning in America'' slogan changed the tone of politics in our Nation's capital and enabled him to work in a constructive bipartisan manner on a number of important issues.

The Reagans should also be commended for the strength and honesty they demonstrated during their long struggle with Alzheimer's. Their example brought much needed attention to the challenges facing millions of American families that deal with this affliction every day.

And their ongoing commitment to this disease is demonstrated at the various Alzheimer's research, awareness, and prevention efforts around the country. On the Central Coast, for example, The Ronald and Nancy Reagan Family Fund provides grants for respite care services for Alzheimer's patients in Santa Barbara County.

Today I join my colleagues in celebrating the service of the late President Ronald Reagan. The best honor we can bestow upon him is to carry on his optimistic spirit and faith in the American people for generations to come. That is what Ronald Reagan—a great American and great Californian—would have wanted.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of President Ronald Wilson Reagan and to extend my condolences to the entire Reagan family.

Regardless of political affiliation, I think we can all agree that President Reagan was a tireless public servant who cared a great deal about this country. Leading our country during a difficult period President Reagan earned the respect of many throughout the world—a respect that has become all the more evident since his passing on Saturday.

As this body and our Nation remembers the late President throughout the week, we would be remiss not to reflect upon the disease with which he was afflicted—Alzheimer's.

President Reagan's leadership extended to the fight against Alzheimer's beginning in 1983, when he designated November as National Alzheimer's Disease Month, and continuing in 1994 when he announced that he was affected by the disease. In 1995 he and his wife Nancy lent their name to create the Alzheimer's Association's Ronald and Nancy Reagan Research Institute.

As was evident in President Reagan's battle with the disease, Alzheimer's does not discriminate: It afflicts the rich and the poor, the famous and the regular hardworking citizen alike. Four and a half million Americans live with Alzheimer's, and it is the fourth leading killer of older Americans. It is a progressive disease that robs many of precious memories and beautiful relationships.

With an aging baby boom generation, our country will soon see a sharp increase in those affected by Alzheimer's. The time to act is now. As a member of the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease, I urge my colleagues to renew our efforts to battle this disease. I can think of no better tribute to President Reagan than to join together to fight the disease that afflicted him in his later years.

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of President Ronald Wilson Reagan. As we mourn this great loss we reflect on the many ways our country is stronger, freer and more prosperous as a result of President Reagan's fearless leadership.

A firm believer in lower taxes, sound fiscal policies and reduced regulation, President Reagan launched the boldest economic plan since Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. As a result of his leadership and tenacity, the federal tax code was greatly simplified and taxes were reduced, ushering in the restoration of prosperity. He encouraged people to have confidence in their nation and trust that things really were getting better—a sentiment that economic and social indicators would eventually confirm. In fact, President Reagan's reforms led to the longest period of peacetime growth in U.S. history.

President Reagan's leadership also sparked a nation, movement against drugs which resulted in dramatic declines in illicit drug use in America and around the world. President Reagan was committed to reversing the permissive attitudes of the 1960s and 1970s that illegal drug use was glamorous, harmless and victimless. President Reagan inspired and convinced the nation that the drug problem was not hopeless and could be solved. As a result of his leadership, the nation spoke with one voice in denouncing drug sue. Largely due to his efforts, illicit drug use was cut in half and crime, drug related hospital admissions and highway deaths declines.

President Reagan restored America's sense of optimism and patriotism. A true believer in the American Dream, he proclaimed America as a place where ''everyone can raise as high and as far as his ability will take him,'' and referred to his own humble beginnings as proof. He taught all Americans and newly liberated people across the globe that hard work and faith in God could result in prosperity and a better outlook for tomorrow.

President Reagan will perhaps be most remembered for his efforts to stomp out communism world wide and end the Cold War. President Reagan simply refused to accept Communism's claim to moral superiority. From the beginning of his presidency, Reagan realized that America could not afford passiveness or weakness in the face of Soviet defiance and escalating nuclear threats. President Reagan recognized that peace could only be achieved through strength and diligently worked to restore faith in our military and a sense of American pride in the efforts of our servicemen and women. Efforts to restore our military superiority were coupled with a willingness to dialogue and a sincere desire to negotiate an end to the nuclear arms race. President Reagan was able to negotiate a treaty with the Soviet Union to launch the process of real arms reduction. His efforts eventually led to the destruction of the Berlin Wall, the fall of communism and the end of the Cold War. President Reagan's leadership ushered in a new era of freedom and democracy, not only in the Soviet Union, but throughout the world.

President Reagan planted democracy in regions of the world that have never tasted the joys of freedom. He swept up a downtrodden America with little response to or respect for leadership and reenergized their faith in freedom, the Presidency, and our military. President Reagan's vision and convictions brought ALL Americans together, raised our morale and once again made us the proudest citizens in the world. He will be remembered not only in the minds of Americans, but in our hearts as well.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, June 8, 2004, the resolution is considered read for amendment and the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 375, nays 0, not voting 60, as follows:

[Roll No. 231]

YEAS—375

Abercrombie
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Andrews
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bass
Beauprez
Becerra
Bell
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Bradley (NH)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Burns
Burr
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capuano
Cardin
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Chandler
Chocola
Clyburn
Coble
Cole
Collins
Cooper
Costello
Cox
Cramer
Crane
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Doggett
Dooley (CA)
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gephardt
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall
Harman
Harris
Hart
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley (OR)
Hostettler
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
Kingston
Kirk
Kleczka
Kline
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaHood
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Maloney
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Mica
Michaud
Millender-McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Nethercutt
Neugebauer
Northup
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Otter
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rehberg
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sandlin
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrock
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Sullivan
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Toomey
Turner (OH)
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—60

Ackerman
Baca
Ballance
Bilirakis
Brady (PA)
Capps
Carson (OK)
Case
Clay
Conyers
DeMint
Deutsch
Dingell
Dunn
Evans
Fossella
Gonzalez
Goss
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hastings (FL)
Houghton
Kaptur
King (NY)
Lampson
Larson (CT)
Leach
Lee
Lofgren
Lynch
Majette
McCarthy (MO)
McInnis
Miller, Gary
Ney
Ose
Oxley
Payne
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ros-Lehtinen
Rush
Sanders
Shadegg
Skelton
Smith (MI)
Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stark
Tauzin
Tiahrt
Towns
Turner (TX)
Waters
Wexler
Woolsey

□ 1456

Mr. ISTOOK changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 231 on mourning the passing of President Reagan I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea.''

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 231, because I was in California to attend my daughter's graduation, I was unable to be in the chamber when the time elapsed on the vote. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted ''yea'' for the vote.

Ms. McCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 231 (H. Res. 664—Honoring the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan), I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea.''

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, on June 9, I was unavoidably detained in France for the D-Day ceremonies and missed rollcall vote No. 231. Rollcall No. 231 was on agreeing to the resolution for H. Res. 664, mourning the passing of President Ronald Reagan and celebrating his service to the people of the United States and his leadership in promoting the cause of freedom for all the people of the world. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on H. Res. 664.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote Nos. 229, 230, and 231, had I been present, I would have voted ''yea''. I went on the CODEL to Normandy to honor the 60th Anniversary of D-Day and the sacrifices of those who liberated Europe from Nazi control. Unfortunately, our Air Force plane had mechanical difficulties over the past 2 days that prohibited our travel back to the United States to participate in these votes. I regret the fact that I was not here to honor President Reagan and his legacy, but am honored to be present at tonight's state funeral.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURGESS) laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 8, 2004.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House,
Captiol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER HASTERT: Please accept this letter as official notification of my intention to resign my position as United States Representative of the First Congressional District of North Carolina due to my current health condition. The effective date of my resignation will be Friday, June 11, 2004.

Although I appreciate the honor, privilege and opportunity to have served the citizens of the First Congressional District of North Carolina during the 108th Congress, at this juncture, I feel that I am no longer able to carry out my requisite duties effectively.

Enclosed herewith please find a copy of the letter that I have tendered to North Carolina's Governor, Mike Easley providing him with notice of my decision to resign.

Respectfully,

FRANK W. BALLANCE, Jr.,
Member of Congress.

Enclosure.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 8, 2004.

Hon. MIKE EASLEY
Governor—North Carolina, Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC.

DEAR GOVERNOR EASLEY: Please accept this letter as official notification of my intention to resign my position as United States Representative of the First Congressional District of North Carolina due to my current health condition. The effective date of my resignation will be Friday, June 11, 2004.

Although I appreciate the honor, privilege and opportunity to have served the citizens of the First Congressional District of North Carolina during the 108th Congress, at this juncture, I feel that I am no longer able to carry out my requisite duties effectively.

Respectfully,

FRANK W. BALLANCE, Jr.,
Member of Congress.

PROVIDING FOR CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following privileged Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 116) providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 116

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate recesses or adjourns on Wednesday, June 9, 2004, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, June 14, 2004, or at such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Wednesday, June 9, 2004, it stand adjourned until 12:30 p.m. on Monday, June 14, 2004, for morning-hour debate, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 or this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Senate concurrent resolution is concurred in.

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 664.

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

There was no objection.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to inquire of the majority leader the schedule for the week to come.

I will say at the beginning when the majority leader got up to ask unanimous consent, I thought maybe something had happened and he was going to ask unanimous consent to have me give him the schedule. But hope springs eternal.

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

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman for yielding to me and dreaming.

Mr. Speaker, the House will convene on Monday at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. We will consider several measures under suspension of the rules. A final list of those bills will be sent to the Members' office by the end of this week. Any votes called on these measures will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.

On Tuesday and the balance of the week, we plan to consider several bills under a rule: H.R. 4513, the Renewable Energy Project Siting Improvement Act; H.R. 4503, the Energy Policy Act; H.R. 4517, the U.S. Refinery Revitalization Act; and H.R. 4529, the Arctic Coastal Plain Domestic Energy Security and Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Reform Act.

In addition, we expect to consider H.R. 4520, the American Jobs Creation Act, the fiscal year 2005 Department of Interior appropriations bill, and the fiscal year 2005 Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill as well.

And, finally, I would like to make all Members aware that we will have votes next Friday perhaps well into the afternoon.

I thank the gentleman for yielding to me and would be happy to answer any questions he may have.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman and tell him that we simply refer to it as the ANWR bill. It is so much easier.

Mr. Speaker, the majority leader has listed several pieces of energy legislation for consideration next week. Can he tell us the procedures that he anticipates these bills will be considered; specifically will amendments and/or substitutes be allowed, and will the rule bundle the bills to send them over to the other body, or will we pass them seriatim one at a time to the other body?

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

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

□ 1500

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding. I can say that substitutes would certainly be allowed, I would assume. I do not want to preempt what the Committee on Rules might do. As far as amendments to these bills, I would have to refer to the Committee on Rules, as we do not know what they might rule.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman. I would hope that perhaps we could, particularly in light of the fact that these bills, although they are component parts, as I understand, of the larger energy bill that passed the House, but because they are not going to be considered in committee, that there would be some more flexibility as to the possibility of amendments in that regard.

The gentleman did not answer, because perhaps he does not know at this point in time. Is it our expectation that the energy bills the gentleman referenced would be sent to the Senate separately as individual bills, or would the rule bundle them at the end? I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding. No decision has been made, but I think the gentleman can assume that these bills will be sent separately to the Senate.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, with respect to the appropriation bills, two are listed for next week, Interior and Homeland Security. Does the gentleman think it is possible that we will get to the Defense bill next week, or not?

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I cannot foresee that we could get to the Department of Defense appropriations bill next week with all of the bills that we are trying to get to the floor, but I do anticipate the Department of Defense appropriations bill being one of the first bills we would do the following week.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information.

With respect to the two appropriation bills that the gentleman has listed, the Homeland Security and the Interior, does the gentleman expect them to come on an open rule to the floor?

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I would assume, without preempting what the Committee on Rules might do, that both appropriation bills would come under the normal, traditional rules that we have had in the past on appropriations bills, which is pretty open rules.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. The FSC bill is also listed for the floor next week. Again, I think that bill will clearly not go to committee; but let me ask the gentleman first, is it the gentleman's expectation that the FSC bill will be marked up in committee?

Mr. DELAY. If the gentleman will yield, yes, the Committee on Ways and Means will mark up the Americans Jobs Creation Act on Monday, which would give us time, if the markup went well, we could see that bill on the floor either Thursday or Friday.

Mr. HOYER. And again, reclaiming my time, would it be the gentleman's expectation either that the substitute would be made in order, amendments may not be as a Committee on Ways and Means tax bill, but what we are reading, of course, is that there will be many extraneous or some extraneous provisions in the bill unrelated to direct tax consequences of FSC; can the gentleman tell us whether he is expecting at this point in time to provide for either amendments and/or a substitute?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman knows, the bill was introduced last Friday. Members should be aware of that for those who are interested to see what is in the bill.

It is very difficult to answer the gentleman's question, not having the bill marked up and looking at what the ultimate outcome of the bill might be. And again, I do not want to preempt what the Committee on Rules does. As the gentleman knows, a bill coming from the Committee on Ways and Means, particularly a bill like this which has so many issues in it, amendments are traditionally not allowed, but substitutes are considered. And we

will just have to work through that as we work through next week to decide one way or another whether a substitute or a number of substitutes would be offered, or allowed to be offered.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, it is not our intention to go into further discussions at this time with reference to the schedule. The substance of the legislation, that will be left for weeks to come. But this week is set aside to honor our former President, Ronald Reagan, and certainly we intend to participate with the majority in doing just that.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 857

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 857.

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

There was no objection.

ADJOURNING AS FURTHER MARK OF RESPECT TO THE MEMORY OF THE LATE HONORABLE RONALD WILSON REAGAN, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 116, it do so as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, the former President of the United States.

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

There was no objection.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BACA (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. EVANS (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for June 8 and 9 on account of official business.

Mr. KING of New York (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of being detained on official business.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1086. An act to encourage the development and promulgation of voluntary consensus standards by providing relief under the antitrust laws to standards development organizations with respect to conduct engaged in for the purpose of developing voluntary consensus standards, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1233. An act to authorize assistance for the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Accordingly, pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 116, the 108th Congress, the House stands adjourned until 12:30 p.m. on Monday, June 14, 2004, for morning hour debates; and pursuant to the order of the House of today, it does so as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, the former President of the United States.

Thereupon (at 3 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 116, the House adjourned until Monday, June 14, 2004, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates, and pursuant to the order of the House of today as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, former President of the United States.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8451. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Malcolm I. Fages, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8452. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Garry L. Parks, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8453. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8454. A letter from the Secretary to the Council, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of Council Resolution 15-519, ''Transfer of Jurisdiction of the New York Avenue Animal Shelter Expansion Site Resolution of 2004,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8455. A letter from the Executive Director, National Capital Planning Commission, transmitting the Commission's report on FY 2003 Competitive Sourcing Efforts as required by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, Pub. L. 108-199; to the Committee on Government Reform.

8456. A letter from the Chairman, National Science Board, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2003 through March 31, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8457. A letter from the Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled ''Audit of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8D for FY 2000 Through 2003, as of March 31, 2003''; to the Committee on Government Reform.

8458. A letter from the Chairman, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the semiannual report on activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2003, through March 31, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(d); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8459. A letter from the Chairman, U.S. Postal Service, transmitting the semiannual report on activities of the Inspector General for the period ending March 31, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 8G(h)(2); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8460. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment to Class E Airspace; Yakima, WA [Docket FAA-2003-16266; Airspace Docket 01-ANM-11] received June 3, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8461. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revision of Class E Airspace; Kalispell, MT. [Docket FAA 2003-16214; Airspace Docket 02-ANM-11] received June 3, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8462. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia [Docket No. FAA-2004-17295; Airspace Docket No. 04-AEA-02] received June 3, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8463. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and E4 Airspace; Homestead, FL [Docket No. FAA-2004-16861; Airspace Docket No. 04-ASO-1] received June 3, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8464. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Akhiok, AK [Docket No. FAA-2004-16914; Airspace Docket No. 04-AAl-01] received June 3, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8465. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class E Airspace; Parsons, KS. [Docket No. FAA-2004-16986; Airspace Docket No. 04-ACE-4] received June 3, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8466. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class E Airspace; Clinton, MO. [Docket No. FAA-2004-16984; Airspace Docket No. 04-ACE-2] received June 3, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8467. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule —

Establishment of Class E2 Airspace; and Modification of Class E5 Airspace; Muscatine, IA. [Docket No. FAA-2004-16985; Airspace Docket No. 04-ACE-3] received June 3, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8468. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class D and E Airspace, Amendment of Class E Airspace; New Smyrna Bech, FL [Docket No. FAA-2004-16919; Airspace Docket No. 04-ASO-3] received June 3, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8469. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E5 Airspace; Jamestown, KY; Correction [Docket No. FAA-2004-16904; Airspace Docket No. 04-ASO-2] received June 3, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8470. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Veterans' Appeals, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting a copy of the Report of the Chairman for FY 2003; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia: Committee on Government Reform. H.R. 4259. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to improve the financial accountability requirements applicable to the Department of Homeland Security, to establish requirements for the Future Years Homeland Security Program of the Department, and for other purposes (Rept. 108–533, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 4248. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to expand or modify existing comprehensive service programs for homeless veterans, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 108–534). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. POMBO: Committee on Resources. H.R. 4115. A bill to amend the Act of November 2, 1966 (80 Stat. 1112), to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting the land within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Reservation (Rept. 108–535). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 3754. A bill to provide additional civil and criminal remedies for domain name fraud; with an amendment (Rept. 108–536). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. POMBO: Committee on Resources. H.R. 4158. A bill to provide for the conveyance to the Government of Mexico of a decommissioned National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ship, and for other purposes (Rept. 108–537). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 4231. A bill to provide for a pilot program in the Department of Veterans Affairs to improve recruitment and retention of nurses, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 108–538). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII the Select Committee on Homeland Security discharged from further consideration. H.R. 4259 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 4259. Referral to the Select Committee on Homeland Security extended for a period ending not later than June 9, 2004.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. HAYWORTH:

H.R. 4528. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to redesign the face of $10 Federal reserve notes so as to include a likeness of President Ronald Wilson Reagan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. POMBO:

H.R. 4529. A bill to provide for exploration, development, and production of oil and gas resources on the Arctic Coastal Plain of Alaska, to resolve outstanding issues relating to the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, to benefit the coal miners of America, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HYDE:

H.R. 4530. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require any individual who desires to register or re-register to vote in an election for Federal office to provide the appropriate State election official with proof that the individual is a citizen of the United States to prevent fraud in Federal elections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 4531. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct and support research using human pluripotent stem cells; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA:

H.R. 4532. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to allow nationals of the United States to attend military service academies and receive Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) scholarships on the condition that the individual naturalize before graduation; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself and Mr. SHADEGG):

H.R. 4533. A bill to require the temporary reinstatement of contracts for large air tankers that were canceled on May 10, 2004, by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 4534. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Pigment Red 176; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 4535. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Pigment Red 208; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 4536. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Pigment Yellow 175; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 4537. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Pigment Yellow 154; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 4538. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Pigment Yellow 180; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 4539. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Pigment Yellow 214; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 4540. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Acid Blue 80; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 4541. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Pigment Red 185; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 4542. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Pigment Red 187; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PITTS (for himself and Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia):

H.R. 4543. A bill to provide for research on, and services for individuals with, post-abortion depression and psychosis; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ROHRABACHER:

H.R. 4544. A bill to provide for a Near-Earth Object Survey program to detect, track, catalogue, and characterize certain near-earth asteroids and comets; to the Committee on Science.

By Mr. WALSH:

H. Con. Res. 446. Concurrent resolution honoring the LeMoyne College men's lacrosse team on winning the NCAA Division II National Championship; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. WALSH:

H. Con. Res. 447. Concurrent resolution congratulating the Syracuse University men's lacrosse team on winning the NCAA Division I National Championship; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H. Con. Res. 448. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that an artistic tribute to commemorate the speech given by President Ronald Reagan at the Brandenburg Gate on June 12, 1987, should be placed within the United States Capitol; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. COX (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida):

H. Res. 667. A resolution expressing support for freedom in Hong Kong; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. DAVIS of Florida (for himself, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. SHAW, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, and Mr. YOUNG of Florida):

H. Res. 668. A resolution congratulating the Tampa Bay Lightning for winning the 2004 National Hockey League Stanley Cup championship and for their outstanding performance during the entire 2003-2004 season; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. DEAL of Georgia:

H. Res. 669. A resolution expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the need to

provide prostate cancer patients with meaningful access to information on treatment options, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 138: Mr. EDWARDS.
H.R. 296: Mr. POMEROY.
H.R. 583: Mr. BURR.
H.R. 976: Mr. EMANUEL.
H.R. 1165: Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 1228: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 1268: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 1294: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 1563: Mr. NADLER and Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 1746: Mr. RAMSTAD and Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida.
H.R. 1811: Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. HOYER, Mr. FILNER, Mr. OSBORNE, and Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 1818: Mr. INSLEE, Mr. POMBO, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. KIRK, Mr. EMANUEL, and Mrs. BONO.
H.R. 1863: Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. MCNULTY, and Mr. LAMPSON.
H.R. 1916: Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 2071: Mr. GONZALEZ.
H.R. 2217: Mrs. LOWEY.
H.R. 2519: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.
H.R. 1807: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 2823: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 2832: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 2900: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 2933: Mr. RENZI.
H.R. 3035: Mr. EMANUEL.
H.R. 3148: Mr. WEINER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. WELLER, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 3193: Mr. BOYD, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mr. BURR, and Mr. SHIMKUS.
H.R. 3266: Mr. MARKEY and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 3292: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 3293: Ms. ESHOO and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 3323: Mrs. MALONEY.
H.R. 3438: Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. LAMPSON, and Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida.
H.R. 3474: Mr. OTTER and Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri.
H.R. 3483: Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. BELL, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 3574: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona and Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 3579: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 3593: Mr. OLVER.
H.R. 3684: Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3938: Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 3953: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan and Mr. EHLERS.
H.R. 3980: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia.
H.R. 4064: Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. HERGER, and Mr. SHAYS.
H.R. 4104: Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. EMANUEL, and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 4116: Mr. SAXTON, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. KELLER, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. PAUL, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. PITTS, Mr. THORNBERRY, and Mr. OSBORNE.
H.R. 4128: Mr. CRANE, Mr. PITTS, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mr. SOUDER, and Mr. OTTER.
H.R. 4149: Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 4151: Mr. NORWOOD and Mr. GORDON.
H.R. 4156: Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 4217: Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois and Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 4261: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 4268: Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 4284: Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 4290: Mr. GREEN of Texas and Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 4334: Mr. WOLF and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 4341: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 4343: Mr. BRADY of Texas.
H.R. 4348: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 4363: Mr. GORDON, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 4373: Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 4380: Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. KELLER, and Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida.
H.R. 4391: Mr. KELLER, Mr. COLLINS, and Mr. WAXMAN.
H.R. 4399: Mrs. LOWEY.
H.R. 4445: Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. FROST, and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
H.R. 4448: Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. STARK, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. WYNN.
H.R. 4449: Mr. OLVER.
H.R. 4475: Mr. KING of Iowa.
H.R. 4498: Mr. WU.
H.R. 4499: Mr. NORWOOD and Mr. BRADY of Texas.
H.R. 4520: Mr. FEENEY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BURR, Ms. HARRIS, and Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.J. Res. 22: Mr. HOYER.
H.J. Res. 94: Mr. KINGSTON.
H. Con. Res. 99: Mr. EMANUEL.
H. Con. Res. 213: Mr. MCDERMOTT and Mr. GUTIERREZ.
H. Con. Res. 247: Mrs. CAPITO.
H. Con. Res. 261: Mr. GONZALEZ.
H. Con. Res. 375: Mr. SIMMONS.
H. Con. Res. 405: Mr. DREIER, Mr. PLATTS, and Mr. PORTER.
H. Con. Res. 435: Mr. FILNER and Mr. COSTELLO.
H. Con. Res. 443: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas and Mr. CULBERSON.
H. Res. 66: Mr. MCINTYRE.
H. Res. 647: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, and Mr. HOEKSTRA.
H. Res. 664: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 857: Mr. GRAVES.

DISCHARGE PETITIONS—ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

The following Members added their names to the following discharge petitions:

Petition 2, by Mr. MARSHALL on House Resolution 251: Stephanie Herseth.

Petition 8, by Mr. EDWARDS on House Resolution 584: Stephanie Herseth.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 150 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2004 No. 80

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore, Mr. STEVENS.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, author of true freedom and shelter from life's storms, as our Nation pays its final respects to former President Ronald Reagan, we look again to You, the source of our hope for years to come.

In a world of change and decay, You remain the same yesterday, today, and forever. Undergird this land with a foundation of right living that exalts a nation. Deliver us from the evils that bring national decline. Surround our military with the shield of Your presence and give wisdom to all warriors for freedom. Guide our lawmakers as they seek to keep America strong. Strengthen them with Your spirit and inspire them with Your precepts.

In these challenging days, we place our confidence in You, for Your steadfast love and faithfulness sustains us.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning the Senate has convened again to allow Members to pay tribute to the life of Ronald Wilson Reagan, our 40th President. Later this morning, at 11:30, the Senate will honor that life by voting on a memorial resolution regarding President Reagan. I expect that to be the only vote of the day.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

I ask unanimous consent that the final 10 minutes prior to the vote be equally divided and reserved for the two leaders.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, we will conclude our business by 3 p.m. today in order to allow the Capitol to prepare for this evening's services. The Rotunda service will begin at 7 p.m. tonight, and all Senators are asked to be in the Senate Chamber at 6:15 p.m. in order to depart at 6:25 p.m. to take our place in the Rotunda for the ceremony. Each Senator's office has received a fairly extensive memo outlining today's and the rest of the week's events, including plans for the Friday service, and that memo provides details for the Senators.

A final note. In looking ahead to next week, when we finish today, we will adjourn until Monday. On Monday, we will resume consideration of the Defense authorization bill, and it is my expectation to have multiple votes on Monday, probably stacked in the afternoon. We will need to make considerable progress on Monday on the Defense authorization bill in order to finish the bill as early as possible next week.

I thank my colleagues who have come to the floor in the last several days to give eloquent remarks regarding the life and legacy of Ronald Reagan.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

VOTES ON MONDAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if I can, through the Chair, does the majority leader think those Monday votes will start around 5 o'clock, or has he made a decision?

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, we will be in discussion with the Democratic leadership, but I think around 5 o'clock or not before 5 o'clock. I think it is important we make substantial progress Monday. We set aside, very appropriately, this entire week in honor of President Reagan, and it means that if we are to finish the business before us, we will need to start fairly early Monday and work hard through the day and the week.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER PRESIDENT RONALD WILSON REAGAN

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I wish to make a few remarks regarding President Ronald Reagan. It was in January 1977, as Jimmy Carter prepared to take the oath of office as President, that Ronald Reagan met with the man who would become his chief foreign policy adviser for the next several years, Richard Allen.

The two spent several hours together discussing in detail the vast array of issues. As Allen recalls—and some people have heard this on the news—as he has recounted it, Reagan said a whole range of memorable things, but none was more profound than this:

My idea of American policy toward the Soviet Union is simple and some would say simplistic. It is this: We win and they lose. What do you think of that?

Ronald Reagan's words would have been shocking to the trained ears of any foreign policy expert of that day. The consensus was the cold war simply could not be won. We could not defeat communism. That is what people thought. That is what they felt. All we could do was to hope to contain the Soviet Union and chip away at the fringes of its influence.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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After his meeting with Ronald Reagan, Richard Allen never looked at the world in the same way. When Ronald Reagan entered the White House and laid out his vision for winning the cold war, America never looked at the world the same way. And when Ronald Reagan left the White House and events he helped put in motion came to pass, the world, indeed, would never be the same.

What were the reasons for Ronald Reagan's historic foreign policy success? How did he come to leave a more indelible mark on the world than any American President since Franklin Delano Roosevelt?

First, Ronald Reagan believed in a strong military to defend our Nation and to protect peace. He marshaled the resources from this body for a remarkable 35-percent increase in defense spending during his Presidency. Critics accused Reagan of unnecessarily provoking the Soviet Union and putting America on a path to nuclear war. But for Ronald Reagan, a strong national defense was an instrument for peace. It was Government's first and foremost duty to its people. He knew the Soviet Union could not match our capacity to fund our national defense, and should the Soviets attempt to keep pace, as they did, the Communist state would be unable to sustain itself.

Second, Ronald Reagan believed that America, our allies, and our common values were on that winning side of history. The destiny of mankind was not to live in the shadow of tyranny, dictatorship, but to be guided by the light of liberty, by the light of democracy. That was the destiny.

As Reagan said in his watershed Westminster speech:

> The march of freedom and democracy . . . will leave Marxism-Leninism on the ashheap of history as it has left other tyrannies which stifle the freedom and muzzle the self-expression of the people.

Third, Ronald Reagan viewed the world through a lens of moral clarity. He believed there was right and wrong and good and evil, strength and weakness, but, most importantly, he was not afraid to talk about the world as he saw it or use his words to help shape the world in that vision.

He called the Soviet Union the ''evil empire.'' Why? Because the Soviet regime was repressive and godless and imperialist.

In 1987, he stood before the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin and challenged the Soviet leadership:

> Mr. Gorbachev, if you seek peace, if you seek prosperity for the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, if you seek liberalization, come here to this gate. Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate. Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.

Within months, the wall was torn down. The cold war was won, and the new and lengthy era of peace for America and among the major powers of the world was born.

In this week of tribute to the life of Ronald Reagan, let us remember the simple ideas upon which his foreign policy was based: a strong military as an instrument of peace; liberty and democracy as the destiny of mankind; and the moral clarity to see the world as it was and what it should be.

Let us also remember that without the courage and the character of Ronald Reagan, his ideas would have remained just ideas, and the world would have remained the same.

As Reagan once wrote of his determination to stand up for what he believed:

> But bearing what we cannot change and going on with what God has given us, confident there is a destiny, somehow seems to bring a reward we wouldn't exchange for any other. It takes a lot of fire and heat to make a piece of steel.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be a period for the transaction of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Massachusetts.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER PRESIDENT RONALD WILSON REAGAN

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I join my colleagues on both sides of the aisle in paying tribute to Ronald Reagan. As all of us who had the privilege of working with him know, he brought a special grace to the White House and the country in everything he did. We often disagreed on specific issues, but he had an undeniably unique capacity to inspire and move the Nation.

The warmth of his personality always shone through, and his infectious optimism made us all feel that it really was ''morning in America.'' It was impossible not to respect and admire the way he revived the spirit of the Nation in that era, restored the power and vitality of the Presidency, and made it a vigorous and purposeful place of effective national and international leadership.

It was no coincidence that he opened his 1984 re-election campaign year by citing two Democratic Presidents, John F. Kennedy and Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his State of the Union address. Nor was it a coincidence that at the Republican Convention that year, not the Democratic Convention, the band played ''Happy Days Are Here Again.''

He governed as a conservative Republican, often very conservative. But he had a special genius for reaching out to all Americans. Somehow, the hard edges of his policies always seemed smoother when he discussed and defended them. He was willing to step back from them when necessary, such as when it proved impossible to cut taxes, increasing spending for defense, and balance the budget at the same time.

He was an intense competitor who wanted to win, not just for himself but for his beliefs. But his goal was to defeat his opponents, not destroy them. He taught us that even though the battle would inevitably resume the next morning, at the end of each day we could put aside the divisions and debates. We could sit down together and laugh together, especially at his endless stream of stories. He took issues seriously, but he had a sense of perspective that never let him or us take ourselves too seriously. As a leader, he was a President of large principles, not small details. Some criticized him for that, but it was often the source of his strength.

On foreign policy, he will be honored as the President who won the cold war, and his famous words ''Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall'' will be linked in history with President Kennedy's ''Ich bin ein Berliner.'' He came to office convinced that we could not trust the Communists, or perhaps even negotiate with them, and his commitment to a strong national defense was never doubted by Soviet leaders.

But he also understood the importance of working with our allies to protect our security, and he also understood the madness of ''mutually assured destruction.'' He had an instinct that Michail Gorbachev might be different, and was quick to respond when I learned on a visit to Moscow in 1986 that President Gorbachev was prepared to negotiate a separate arms control treaty on the critical issue of nuclear missiles, in Europe. The Intermediate-Range Nuclear-Force Treaty they negotiated the following year eased tensions in Europe, and became the needed breakthrough in U.S.-Soviet relations that made it possible to see light at the end of the long dangerous tunnel of the cold war.

President Reagan was never afraid to be controversial, to confront when he had to, and lead where he believed. There were intense disagreements with many of his policies, then and now. But beyond all that was a defining reality. He came to power at a time of self-fulfilling pessimism, a pervasive belief that public policy could barely move molehills, let alone mountains. The true achievement of the Reagan Revolution was the renewal of America's faith in itself.

It was more than the fact that he was a superb communicator. Some attributed at least part of his success to the fact that he had been an actor. But his deepest convictions were matters of heart and mind and spirit, and on them, he was no actor at all.

He was very generous to the Kennedy family on many public and private occasions. Caroline and John went to see him in the White Hose early in 1985 to ask if he might be willing to participate in some way in a dinner we were

planning at my home in support of my brother's presidential library. He was delighted to attend. ''Of course I'll help you,'' he said. ''You don't have a father to help.''

At the dinner a few weeks later, he stood with us in the receiving line and shook the hand of every guest. He was quick to mention that he had not supported President Kennedy in 1960. ''I was for the other fellow,'' he told us. ''But you know, it's true, when the battle's over and the ground cooled, well, it's then that you see the opposing general's valor.''

He proceeded to give one of the finest tributes that my brother ever received. As he said of Jack, ''He seemed to grasp from the beginning that life is one fast-moving train, and you have to jump aboard and hold on to your hat and relish the sweep of the winds as it rushes by.''

He summed it up by saying of my brother, ''You have to enjoy the journey. . . . I think that's how his country remembers him, in his joy, and it was a joy he knew how to communicate.'' That's how America remembers Ronald Reagan, too.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the memory of our 40th President, Ronald Wilson Reagan.

Mary and I have deep sadness today and we send out our heartfelt condolences to Nancy and the rest of the Reagan family.

I didn't personally meet Ronald Reagan until 1983, but I wish I had known him before.

I will never forget how even though we hardly knew each other, he was there when I needed him.

This first happened when I was running for Governor of Kentucky in 1983. To be honest, not many people were helping me. I entered the race late to try to help the Republican party because we didn't have a candidate. Most people either weren't very interested or weren't giving me much of a chance. But I called President Reagan and he helped me and even came out to campaign for me. I'm sure some of his advisers told him not to, and told him there was nothing in it for him. But he came anyway.

At a time when not many other people believed in me, Ronald Reagan did. That was very special to me personally.

I didn't win that race, but President Reagan's faith in me and his support transformed me from someone who had merely watched him from afar to an appreciative admirer.

He had no reason to come and assist me other than to help because of the goodness in his heart.

I asked, and that was enough for him.

Later I was at the 1984 Republican Convention in Dallas when he gave the great speech about believing in America and how our Nation symbolized hope to the world as a shining city on the hill.

It was spellbinding and uplifting. Even though it was a political convention, I think his message of optimism and his belief in the goodness of America touched all Americans.

President Reagan believed in me again when I ran for Congress in 1986. To be honest, I wasn't really interested at first in coming to Washington. But when Ronald Reagan and his White House turned on the power of persuasion, it was almost impossible to say ''no.'' And with Ronald Reagan's support, I was fortunate enough to win and to come join him as a Member of Congress for his last 2 years in office. Again, he believed in me and I've never forgotten it.

I attended his last two State of the Union speeches as a Member of the House and they were spectacular performances.

I remember during his last State of the Union when he dropped a copy of the enormous continuing resolution spending bill Congress had passed in late 1987 and warned us that we'd better get our work done on time because he wouldn't sign another bill like that.

We knew he meant it and Congress listened and the next year we did get our work done on time.

I believe the secret to Ronald Reagan's appeal was that he had such strong and profound fundamental beliefs about the role of Government and he was so confident in his ability to communicate those beliefs in simple, but powerful ways that average Americans could understand.

People sensed that he was sincere in his own beliefs. They knew he was comfortable in his own skin and had a clear idea of the direction where he wanted to lead the country. Because he was confident in himself and believed in America and its people, the American people returned that faith. They believed in him and they listened to him. When he led, they followed.

They followed Ronald Reagan when it came to his staunch opposition to taxes.

They listened to him when he warned us about the evils of communism and asserted our moral superiority in the struggle between the East and the West.

Many in Washington criticized him when he warned that the old Soviet Union was an evil empire.

But Ronald Reagan understood that the Soviets were a moral threat to our way of life, and that we were engaged in a struggle that we had to win.

The naysayers said Ronald Reagan was dangerous, but the American people knew he was fundamentally right, and history will show him to be a visionary who probably saved our Nation and the world.

Like every other President, Ronald Reagan had his critics. And he made mistakes. But there is no doubt that the strong consensus among the American people is that Ronald Reagan was a great President.

He was an unusually strong and optimistic leader that we all want to emulate. That's why his passing has hit so many of us so hard.

Even his strongest critics will tell you that they liked Ronald Reagan the man and human being. They knew that even though he might disagree with their policies that he still liked them as people and that he would treat them with respect.

That was a hallmark of Reagan and another strength of his administration—he was always a gentleman and treated others with respect. He might not have won every policy and political argument, but he fought cleanly and conducted himself with civility and grace.

In the end, I believe that few of us will see another leader the likes of Ronald Reagan during our lifetime.

I believe that when he took office he set out to change not only the Nation but the face of the world. That is exactly what he did.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Utah is recognized.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, on the passing of former President Reagan, my mind, like everyone else's, goes back to a personal experience—not one that I had with Ronald Reagan himself because I did not know him that well, but in 1976, I was being interviewed for a job in the Reagan campaign for President. The individual, the former President's campaign manager at the time, who was conducting the interview, went through all of the specifics of the job he wanted me to take. The interview went very well. I seemed to have the credentials they wanted, and it was clear that a job offer was sitting there on the table. But I was a little troubled, even though things were going well, because I wanted to make something very clear.

I did not know Ronald Reagan. I had met him, but I did not know him. I only knew the caricature of Reagan which was out there in the media, which was that he was a rigid, ideological, hard-line conservative who would never, ever budge from an ideological position. So I said, in the spirit of full disclosure in this job interview, I want to make one thing clear. I said: I am not a true believer.

The individual conducting the interview smiled a little and he said: That's all right, neither is the Governor.

That was my first glimpse into what made Ronald Reagan a truly successful politician. He was a politician of absolutely firm resolve, there is no question about that. There were things he believed and he believed with such passion that he would never, ever deviate from them. But there were also some things he realized could be compromised that did not require an absolute, hard-line ideological stance, and the great genius of the man is that he had the wisdom to be able to discern which issue fell into which category, which issue was one in which there must be no compromise, and which issue was one where he could, in the

words of former Senator DOLE, take 80 percent of the deal and be happy with it. That requires a degree of wisdom and sensitivity that very few of us possess. Ronald Reagan possessed it, and that was the core of his genius.

In the words of the country music song, he knew when to hold them and when to fold them.

On the issue of the evil empire, that was a time when he would hold them. On the issue of the evil empire, he would give no quarter, and he was criticized firmly for that, even within his own administration. The story is told of a meeting where members of the administration were discussing how they would deal with the Soviet Union in a certain situation, and after one point of view was presented President Reagan turned to the individual and said: If you believe that, what are you doing in this administration? He was that firm in his determination that the Soviet Union was, indeed, an evil empire and had to be confronted as such.

But when the confrontation truly came and the Soviet Union found they were up against an immovable object in Ronald Reagan and they began to maneuver, then he could see the areas in which 80 percent was good enough. He could discern the difference between where he had to stand absolutely firm and where he had to negotiate. He skillfully exploited all of those differences in such a way that the ''evil empire'' first ceased to be evil and then ultimately ceased to be an empire.

I find one of the great ironies of history the fact that upon his passing, on the pages of the New York Times, Mikhail Gorbachev is quoted in praise of Ronald Reagan. The man whom Reagan outmaneuvered, outnegotiated, and ultimately forced from office was singing his praises at his passing. That is an indication of how good Ronald Reagan was at the job of being President of the United States.

We have all talked about how optimistic he was, how filled with hope he was, what a congenial fellow he was, what a great communicator he was. And all of that is true and all of that is right and proper in this eulogy. But we should not allow ourselves to forget in these discussions of his wonderful qualities how effective a President he was. We live in Ronald Reagan's America. Indeed, we live in Ronald Reagan's world. He is more responsible for the kind of America we have today than any other man. He is more responsible for the kind of world in which we live than any other man.

That does not mean he is solely responsible, by any means, because there are many people who have affected America and have affected the world for good and ill, and no one man can be solely responsible for what happened. But he is more responsible than any other individual for the kind of country we have and for the kind of world in which we live—and both are substantially better than that which he found when he became President.

Let us look back for a minute at what America was like when Ronald Reagan became President.

We think of the Great Depression and how devastating that was as an economic event in our lives. When Ronald Reagan came to the Presidency, we were in the midst of the great inflation. I remember it very clearly. I was delighted in that period—absolutely delighted—to be able to get a bank loan, so I could meet payroll in the business I was running, at an interest rate of 21 1/5 percent. I remember talking to my banker who said to me, Today the Treasury auction has sold 30-year Government securities at 15 percent. It was absolutely stunning. The great inflation was destroying value, destroying confidence, and created what is the most serious recession we have had since the Great Depression—the double digits of the 1980s which occurred in Reagan's Presidency but were the consequence of the great inflation that went before. This President stood absolutely firm on his economic policy that was being ridiculed, that was being castigated, that was being sneered at; and his message to the country was stay the course. We did stay the course. His party lost a lot of seats in that next election, but he stood firm. Along with Paul Volcker at the Federal Reserve, they squeezed inflation out of the economy, created an economic situation where today as the heirs of that enormously difficult but significant effort we find the time when interest rates are at their lowest in 20, 30, or 40 years.

I remind people who derided Ronald Reagan as the playboy, lifeguard, football player with no intellectual base that he was the only President of the United States who had a degree in economics—classic economics, Keynesian economics—and he viewed the world in Keynesian terms and set an economic course that produced the base of prosperity we live in today. Yes, he was an optimist. Yes, he was a politician of joy. Yes, he was a pleasant fellow. But he was an enormously successful President in his domestic policies.

During his Presidency, the American economy grew as measured in terms of gross domestic product as much as if it had acquired the entire economy of Germany. We added as much gross domestic product—that is as much output in the American economy—during the time he was President as the entire economy of Germany.

Let us not forget that contribution as we remember and properly celebrate his sterling personal qualities.

Internationally, of course, we have talked about that. Other Senators have talked about that. But let us remember once again at the time his policies were very controversial, at the time his policies were derided by the wise men, at the time they said he was a cowboy who was going to set off all kinds of danger internationally, and at the end of his Presidency, as I say, the ''evil empire'' was no longer evil and very quickly it was no longer an empire. And instead of setting off dangerous international consequences, what he did by standing firm on his resolve was transform the world by ridding it of its greatest threat. That was not bad for a B actor who presumably didn't know anything beyond what was on those 3-by-5 cards.

The best summary comes from one of his staffers who wrote a book. The staffer was named Dinesh D'Souza. He wrote a book called ''Reagan,'' and the first chapter of that book is entitled, ''The Wise Men and The Dummy.''

In that chapter, D'Souza said when Reagan came to the Presidency, it was widely assumed among all the liberal wise men in the country that he was a dummy. The untold secret is the conservative wise men felt the same way. The conservative wise men thought he won the Presidency because he was a great actor: He looks good on television, but we can't allow him to make any of the decisions. He is a front, and we will put together the conservative agenda. Then we will have him as our puppet to go out and sell it to the American people, and we will have the best of all possible worlds.

Well, as D'Souza records, at the end of the day, on every major issue that came before the Reagan Presidency, it turned out the wise men were wrong and the dummy was right. And the dummy, because he was President of the United States and because he understood the proper use of power and he exercised it with tremendous skill, had views that prevailed, and we are the beneficiaries of his wisdom.

At this time of his passing, I do not mourn because Ronald Reagan has been released by death from a tremendously debilitating, frustrating, and ultimately tragic situation. Ronald Reagan is now in a better place that does not require us to mourn but to rejoice. This time is a time to celebrate, a time to be grateful, and a time to thank Providence for giving America at this time in its history this particular statesman, the one who knew when to stand with absolute resolve, when to be willing to make the deal, and possess the innate wisdom to know the difference.

We live in Ronald Reagan's America. Indeed, we live in Ronald Reagan's world, and we are all better off for that fact.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The journal clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, it is a great honor for me to be a Member of this body at this point in history and to be able to have the privilege of making a few comments on the life and career of Ronald Reagan.

My words are inadequate to the task. Many have spoken more eloquently than I. Many have written beautifully about his life and the meaning of his Presidency.

I will just say that I do remember being personally inspired by him. As a young high school student, I came to believe Barry Goldwater would be a good President. I believed that from the values he was articulating. I did what I could. I put a bumper sticker on my daddy's pickup truck. Although he had never been involved in politics in any way, he allowed me to do that.

Of course, things did not go well in that election. Things were going poorly. But on the eve of that election, the Nation and many of the people who shared those basic values about classical America, what we as a nation represent—limited government, individual responsibility, personal freedom, a strong national defense—were electrified by a speech by Ronald Reagan. I think they call it ''Rendezvous With Destiny.'' Some just call it ''The Speech.'' I remember it to this day.

After the Goldwater campaign ended—and it certainly was a major defeat for him—Ronald Reagan sort of inherited the flame of classical American values and made them the basis of his personal beliefs and his campaign for the Presidency.

I was also later honored to be President Reagan's U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. It was a Presidential appointment, confirmed by the Senate. I was a U.S. attorney, and I served in that job as one of his lieutenants in the war on crime for the entire two terms of his Presidency, and, indeed, for 4 more years under former President Bush. That was a great honor for me.

As we talk about what President Reagan accomplished, I do want to take a moment to talk about crime and drugs. Crime and drugs had been surging for 20 years when President Reagan took office. The elites in this country actually believed that prison was noneffective, that it did not work, that it was counterproductive, that you should not put people in prison, that we ought to ask how they committed the crime, what the root causes of criminal behavior were, and what we could do to help the criminal.

We lost sight of the victim. We lost sight of accountability. We lost sight of righting wrong. And it resulted in crime rates that doubled and tripled in the 20 years prior to President Reagan taking office.

Drug use had surged during the 1960s and 1970s. By the time President Reagan took office, one-half of high school seniors in America admitted to having used an illegal drug in their life. That is a stunning number. That is according to a University of Michigan study.

Nancy Reagan began her ''Just Say No'' program. President Reagan passed mandatory sentencing policies. He eliminated parole and passed through the Congress the Federal Sentencing Guidelines that eliminated parole, had guaranteed sentences for incarceration, with many substantial sentences for serious violations of the law. I believe the sentencing guidelines were probably the biggest change in law enforcement in the history of this country since its founding.

The result was that drug use went down. It went down every year President Reagan was President. For 12 years it declined steadfastly. We now have less than half of high school seniors who say they have used an illegal drug in their life. The crime rate began to fall. We are still seeing declines in crime. That is because we went back to the fundamental precepts of crime and punishment, and how you do it. Some people are just dangerous. They need to be incarcerated. They need to be removed from society for the protection of society.

States picked up on this. Most crimes are prosecuted in the States, but that leadership of the bully pulpit by the President led to State reforms and crackdowns and improved capacity in prisons to deal with repeat offenders. It has been a key element in the reduction of crime and why Americans are safer today than they were in 1980. It is something that I think we have not heard much about in the discussion of the accomplishments of President Reagan.

I was also honored to have been his nominee for a Federal judgeship. It turned into a very unpleasant experience for me and my nomination did not clear the Senate Judiciary Committee, of which I am now a member and on which I am honored to serve. But he stood steadfastly for me. The fact he believed in my ability to be a Federal judge was something I cherish. And I cherish the letter he wrote me when I asked that my name be withdrawn from that appointment. It is something I will always cherish. It was personal and meaningful to me.

Ronald Reagan had a deep and fully formed philosophy about America and American ideals when he came to office at age 69. This is something that did not come to him lightly. It was over a lifetime of evaluation. Even in the face of the most fierce opposition, he never wavered in those beliefs. Indeed, his very life seemed to embody the highest and best of American values. His very life, the way he carried himself, embodied American values. His courage to remain true to the highest of these ideals was his greatest strength, I believe.

His goal was to free the greatness of individual Americans, assured that their goodness and industry would lift the Nation and inspire the world to freedom and progress. He believed in the individual American citizen. He believed that government should allow their creativity and industry to flourish, and as they flourished, and as they worked hard, and as they were creative, the world and America would benefit from it.

His courage to be true to those ideals, I believe, was his secret strength. He understood that intuitively, and he remained true to it. He called us, in his very special way, to the natural optimistic spirit of America.

His record of achievement was extraordinary. He led us with courage and steadfastness to defeat the evil empire. He cut our taxes. He called on us to renew our spiritual, moral, and family values. He said criminals should be punished. He not only communicated these values with words, but his actions and policies and life were dedicated to that.

As a result of his constancy and courage to fight for these values, a serious period of pessimism abounding in our land at that time ended. The Soviet Union collapsed. The economy began its 20 years of remarkable growth. Matters of faith, morality, and family were lifted up. The crime rate fell, and drug use fell.

The success of the Reagan Presidency was stunning in its scope, and it could not have come at a better time for the country. Like President Washington, President Reagan's life was given over to the country. He loved his country and he was selfless in his commitment to it. His selflessness and the purity of his principles inspired those who worked for him.

I remember—and I will close; I know there are others who would like to speak—but I do remember how, as a U.S. attorney, we did not need to be told in detail what the President wanted. We heard his philosophy. We heard his campaign. We knew he wanted us to be more productive. We knew he wanted us to take charge of our governmental office and make it work for the people and produce as high an output as it could possibly achieve. We also knew he expected us to crack down on criminals and crime.

I think that was good leadership because all the departments of the Government understood where Reagan came from, what administration they were a part of. They did not have to be instructed in detail on how to accomplish the goals of his administration. That was one of his great strengths. The impact of it was incalculable in many ways around the world.

I will just close with this story. In 1993, several years after President Reagan left office, I had the opportunity to go with a church group to Russia. It was a Methodist group. We went and stayed in a town 5 hours from Moscow, about 40,000 people, many of whom had not seen Americans before. We had a very nice time there. I stayed for a number of days with a Russian family.

The first day we got there, the Russian host's daughter was to be baptized. Father Gannati was the Russian orthodox priest. He came and he did a nice service, and it took some time. Then we had dinner after the baptism. Father Gannati explained that just 2

years before, he was not able to wear his robes in public. The state caused him to be moved from town to town every year so that he could not build bonds and roots in a given community. He could not meet the governmental leaders. They would not meet with him because they were atheists and they would not meet with believers. So it was a very interesting time.

He described how since then he could wear his robe, the mayor had him down to meet with him the day before this event, and that he was able to stay and rebuild the church there that had been damaged ever since the Russian revolution had occurred.

At the conclusion of those remarks, our host jumped up and said: I propose a toast to Ronald Reagan, who allowed us to believe in God again. Right in the center of the evil empire, the impact Ronald Reagan had to change the nature of the world in which we lived was felt in a very real way.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I rise to join other colleagues in talking about President Ronald Reagan, the Great Communicator, the great humanitarian.

> I will lie down and bleed awhile, and then I will rise and fight again.

Ronald Reagan quoted Sir Andrew Barton's words after returning home from campaigning against Gerald Ford. Poignant words for a man who just 4 years later was elected the 40th President of the United States.

The Nation and the world have lost a great treasure. Ronald Reagan was a master wordsmith, an international diplomat, a man whose genuine humanity gave Americans and people around the world a new sense of self-worth. He loved America first and foremost, so we stood behind our leader, our captain, our coach—to win one for the Gipper.

Ronald Reagan held a deep devotion to principle, sought peace through strength, and encouraged everyone to believe in their convictions. He had a keen intellect, but he was underestimated by his critics. He disarmed many naysayers with his quick wit, crooked smile, thoughtful words, and a jar of jelly beans.

He will forever be remembered by ending the cold war. His words ''Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall'' echo in our mind's eye. Known as the Great Communicator, his philosophies changed the political direction this country was taking. His domestic policies gave us a smaller government rather than a larger one. These are just a handful of changes that will be the legacy left by Ronald Reagan. Certainly, we can all be very proud of the leadership he has given and follow the example he left behind.

Beneath the steely smile, Ronald Reagan was a cowboy. Westerners remember Reagan for his love of horses, his Wrangler jeans, his cowboy hats, something we all appreciated out West. In fact, in 1968, Ronald Reagan came to Wyoming to speak to the Wyoming Republican State Convention in Cheyenne. Clarence Brimmer, now a U.S. district judge in Cheyenne, remembered the cowpoke from California who delivered a motivating speech. He said recently:

> He was really outstanding, not just as a speaker, but in a cowboy suit he was really sharp. He wowed all the ladies.

The passing of Ronald Reagan has brought about a great deal of grief for all of us in the country and throughout the world. But through his dignified leadership, universal diplomatic skills, and his energetic persona, Ronald Reagan established a legacy that will live for generations to come. We should take pride in his life, in his accomplishments, and recognize what he left us—the great dawning of a new America.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I, too, rise to join my colleagues in honoring our Nation's 40th President, Ronald Reagan. It is most fitting and I know that I have watched, as have Americans across the country, as we see the stories of Ronald Reagan and his life and his contributions to this country, stories coming from not only those of us standing on the Senate floor but from other countries, from small communities. People are focusing on the man that was Ronald Reagan, a great leader for this country. The stories that have been told have been wide-ranging, covering President Reagan's role in the cold war, his truly undying sense of optimism for the country, the discussions about Reaganomics, and, of course, all those personal stories that make President Reagan so unforgettable.

Alaska certainly has its stories to add and to share as well. President Reagan's impact on Alaska began before he even entered the office of the Presidency. In 1980, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, putting over 100 million acres of land under Federal control, was pending before the Congress. With Reagan's election that year, leaders in the House and Senate—at the time, both were under Democratic control—knew that if they were going to get a bill signed into law, it would have to be then, before President Reagan was sworn in, and the Act, for better or for worse, was signed into law on December 2, 1980. But President Reagan understood Alaska and Alaskans.

In his book, entitled ''Reagan, In His Own Hand,'' the President asked this very important question:

> Will Alaska wind up as our biggest state, or will it be our smallest state surrounded by our biggest national park?

He tried to ease the impact these land withdrawals had on Alaskans living in and around the new parks and refuges. He fought for access to these lands to provide for economic development, and it was his administration that determined that oil drilling should be allowed in a small section of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, a debate that continues today.

Alaskans remembered all that President Reagan did for us in both Presidential elections by giving him wide and broad-based support throughout the State.

President Reagan had the opportunity to visit Alaska several times. He liked to talk about his ties to the State. He was a big fan of Robert Service, and one of his favorites was a poem entitled ''The Shooting of Dan McGrew.'' It is a poem about a particular barroom brawl, and most people may remember the beginning of it:

> A bunch of the boys were whooping it up at the Malamute Saloon.

It is a wonderful, kind of down-and-dirty, rough-and-tumble poem that personified what many wanted to believe about Alaska and the last Frontier.

But President Reagan was quite fond of that. I had an opportunity last night to pull out ''The Shooting Of Dan McGrew'' and read it yet one more time, and it brought good smiles to my face.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the full contents of ''The Shooting Of Dan McGrew.''

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE SHOOTING OF DAN MCGREW

A bunch of the boys were whooping it up in the Malamute saloon;
The kid that handles the music-box was hitting a jag-time tune;
Back of the bar, in a solo game, sat Dangerous Dan McGrew,
And watching his luck was his light-o'-love, the lady that's known as Lou.

When out of the night, which was fifty below, and into the din and glare,
There stumbled a miner fresh from the creeks, dog-dirty, and loaded for bear.
He looked like a man with a foot in the grave and scarcely the strength of a louse,
Yet he tilted a poke of dust on the bar, and he called for drinks for the house.
There was none could place the stranger's face, though we searched ourselves for a clue;
But we drank his health, and the last to drink was Dangerous Dan McGrew.

There's men that somehow just grip your eyes, and hold them hard like a spell;
And such was he, and he looked to me like a man who had lived in hell;
With a face most hair, and the dreary stare of a dog whose day is done,
As he watered the green stuff in his glass, and the drops fell one by one.
Then I got to figgering who he was, and wondering what he'd to,
And I turned my head—and there watching him was the lady that's known as Lou.

His eyes went rubbering round the room, and he seemed in a kind of daze,
Till at last that old piano fell in the way of his wandering gaze.
The rag-time kid was having a drink; there was no one else on the stool,
So the stranger stumbles across the room, and flops down there like a fool.
In a buckskin shirt that was glazed with dirt he sat, and I saw him sway,

Then he clutched the keys with his talon hands—my God! but that man could play.
Were you ever out in the Great Alone, when the moon was awful clear,
And the icy mountains hemmed you in with a silence you most could hear;
With only the howl of a timber wolf, and you camped there in the cold,
A half-dead thing in a stark, dead world, clean mad with the muck called gold;
While high overhead, green, yellow, and red, the North Lights swept in bars?—
Then you've a hunch what the music meant . . . hunger and might and the stars.
And hunger not of the belly kind, that's banished with bacon and beans,
But the gnawing hunger of lonely men for a home and all that it means;
For a fireside far from the cares that are, four walls and a roof above;
But oh! so cramful of cosy joy, and crowded with a woman's love—
A woman dearer than all the world, and true as Heaven is true—
(God! how ghastly she looks through her rouge,—the lady that's known as Lou.)
Then on a sudden the music changed, so soft that you scarce could hear;
But you felt that your life had been looted clean of all that it once held dear;
That someone had stolen the woman you loved; that her love was a devil's lie;
That your guts were gone, and the best for you was to crawl away and die.
'Twas the crowning cry of a heart's despair, and it thrilled you through and through—
''I guess I'll make it a spread misere,'' said Dangerous Dan McGrew.
The music almost dies away . . . then it burst like a pent-up flood;
And it seemed to say, ''Repay, repay,'' and my eyes were blind with blood.
The thought came back of an ancient wrong, and it stung like a frozen lash,
And the lust awoke to kill, to kill . . . then the music stopped with a crash,
And the stranger turned, and his eyes they burned in a most peculiar way;
In a buckskin shirt that was glazed with dirt he sat, and I saw him sway;
Then his lips went in in a kind of grin, and he spoke, and his voice was calm,
And ''Boys,'' says he, ''you don't know me, and none of you care a damn;
But I want to state, and my words are straight, and I'll bet my poke they're true,
That one of you is a hound of hell . . . and that one is Dangerous Dan McGrew.''
Then I ducked my head and the lights went out, and two guns blazed in the dark;
And a woman screamed, and the light went up, and two men lay stiff and stark.
Pitched on his head, and pumped full of lead, was Dangerous Dan McGrew.
While the man from the creeks lay clutched to the breast of the lady that's known as Lou.
These are the simple facts of the case, and I guess I ought to know.
They say that the stranger was crazed with ''hooch,'' and I'm not denying it's so.
I'm not so wise as the lawyer guys, but strictly between us two—
The woman that kissed him and—pinched his poke—was the lady known as Lou.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I have a wonderful personal anecdote about President Reagan. He visited Fairbanks, Alaska, in 1984. It was a monumental visit because he joined Pope John Paul II in Fairbanks for a summit there. The President and Nancy Reagan arrived in Fairbanks on their way back from China. The following day, the Pope was arriving on his way to Korea. As we do in Alaska, we can facilitate great unions because of our strategic location at the top of the globe. So they were able to meet at the Fairbanks International Airport.

During his stopover in Fairbanks, the President spent his time at my parent's home out on the Chena River. They were there for a couple of days. It would not be much of a story except that the home was brand spanking new. It had not yet been furnished. So in an effort to make sure the President and Mrs. Reagan were comfortable, the community literally furnished the home, complete with very fine Alaskan artwork. It was perhaps a showcase home for a couple of days. Everything from the city's artwork to the china ultimately had to be returned to wherever it came from. The community went all out for the President and Mrs. Reagan.

Because this was a new house, there were some kinks that still needed to be worked out, specifically the water. It didn't have hot water. Apparently, after a long flight, it is quite nice to stop and take a shower, or perhaps Mrs. Reagan needed a warm bath. But there was no hot water. A call was made to then-Senator Murkowski at about 3 a.m. asking how come there was no hot water. As the story goes, the President and my father were wandering around outside trying to figure out how to make the hot water come on. They learned you had to keep the water running for a while. That was the way President Reagan was. He was willing to go out and try to be helpful and fix the problem. He was a man who wanted to make things work, to cut through the redtape and bureaucracy, reduce the size of Government, and a man who was not afraid to stand up and promote his vision for America, but also knowing when it was time to compromise on issues. He was an individual who truly made America feel good about itself again.

I will close by reading a quote from Ronald Reagan during his speech at the 1992 National Republican Convention. I feel it is truly a fitting reminder of this great man's legacy. I read as follows:

My fellow citizens—those of you here in this hall and those of you at home—I want you to know that I have always had the highest respect for you, for your common sense and intelligence, and for your decency. I have always believed in you and in what you could accomplish for yourselves and for others.

And whatever else history may say about me when I'm gone, I hope it will record that I appealed to your best hopes, not your worst fears, to your confidence rather than your doubts. My dream is that you will travel the road ahead with liberty's lamp guiding your steps and opportunity's arms steadying your way.

My fondest hope for each one of you—and especially for the young people here—is that you will love your country, not for her power or wealth, but for her selflessness and her idealism. May each of you have the heart to conceive, the understanding to direct, and the hand to execute works that will make the world a little better for your having been here.

May all of you as Americans never forget your heroic origins, never fail to seek divine guidance, and never lose your natural, God-given optimism.

And finally, my fellow Americans, may every dawn be a great new beginning for America and every evening bring us closer to that shining city upon a hill.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. RES. 374

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent that following the scheduled vote, the Senate proceed to a second resolution, which is at the desk, and further that the resolution and preamble be agreed to, with the motion to reconsider laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, it is an honor for me to join the Senate in honoring the memory and celebrating the life of Ronald Reagan. I want to say, first of all, how much I have appreciated the eloquence and the personal memories that have been offered on the Senate floor and in public by those who knew and remembered President Reagan. I, of course, remember him. I didn't know him personally.

I also want to say how much especially I have appreciated the grace and the charity shown to the former President by those here who were, when he was in office, his political opponents. I think it is a great testimony to their charity of spirit that they have done so and also a comment on how our system operates in times such as this. We can remember and appreciate a person for his good qualities without necessarily having to retreat from any disagreements we may have had with that person over political issues.

I am reminded of what Winston Churchill said on a similar occasion when he was offering remembrances of a colleague who had died, with whom he had had many differences. He said:

The fierce and bitter controversies which hung around him in recent times were hushed by the news of his illness and are silenced by his death. In paying a tribute of respect and of regard to an eminent man who has been taken from us, no one is obliged to alter the opinions which he has formed or expressed upon issues which have become a part of history; but at the Lychgate, we may all pass our own conduct and our own judgments under a searching review. It's not given to human beings, happily for them for otherwise life would be intolerable, to foresee or to predict to any large extent the unfolding course of events. In one phase men seem to have been right, in another they seem to have been wrong. Then again, a few years later, when the perspective of time has lengthened, all stands in a different setting. There is a new proportion. There is another scale of values. History with its flickering lamp stumbles along the trail of the past, trying to reconstruct its scenes, to revive its echoes, and kindle with pale gleams the passion of former days. What is the worth of all

this? The only guide to a man is his conscience; the only shield to his memory is the rectitude and sincerity of his actions. It is very imprudent to walk through life without this shield, because we are so often mocked by the failure of our hopes and the upsetting of our calculations; but with this shield, however the fates may play, we march always in the ranks of honour.

I stand here for a few minutes to remember a man who always marched in the ranks of honor and whose shield was the sincerity and rectitude of his actions at all times. He was not a mentor, because I did not know him personally, but he was a hero of mine.

Much has been said in the last few days about his humor and amiability. I agree that was a very important part of Ronald Reagan, of who he was and of his success. When I think of him, when I visualize him, I visualize him smiling, telling a joke, or offering some witticism or some piece of humor. I think that was a big part of his success.

It is important not to take yourself too seriously. That is a quality that often is lacking in this town. I think I can say that without being deemed uncharitable. But it was not a quality that was lacking in Ronald Reagan. He thought deeply about issues. He thought deeply about the country. I think people underestimated, to some extent, how deeply he thought and understood what was going on. He never pretended to know everything. I think that helped him a lot in his Presidency.

We should also remember President Reagan, however, not just for his qualities and his personality, but also for what he believed. He thought ideas were important, and he was right. I remember George Will said a few years ago—and I am paraphrasing him; he probably said it more eloquently than this—but the gist of his remarks was, the collapse of the Soviet Union proves that ideas not only have consequences, but that maybe only ideas have consequences.

President Reagan's friends and opponents have sometimes characterized his political philosophy as being an anti-Government philosophy or a simplistic belief in making Government smaller whatever the circumstances the country was confronting. I do not think that is correct. I think at best it is oversimplistic.

President Reagan understood that the issue of our time during his Presidency and the issue of our time now, I suggest, is not whether Government is going to be big or small, certainly in an absolute sense and often in a relative sense as well, but whether the Government, in doing whatever functions we believe it ought to do, will consistently respect the values and institutions of private life.

It is not a question of whether Government is important, because it is; it is a question of whether the Government believes it is more important than the private society and culture and people it is governing. That is where President Reagan drew the consistent line of his philosophy in his public life. His faith was in what the American people had built and have built and are continuing to build on their own, and in the associations and networks of private life that give life meaning, that give people a chance for happiness and opportunity. He believed in what people build in their families, in their small businesses, in their local schools, in their voluntary associations and organizations, in their churches, synagogues, and temples. He believed in the great traditions of American culture. He knew those traditions and the institutions that represent them grow and evolve organically over time and that they represent the wisdom of many generations of people about how we ought to live in our society so that we can have the maximum amount of justice and freedom and opportunity for all of our people.

What he wanted was for the Government to be vigorous in the areas it was supposed to operate but to respect those institutions rather than trying to overthrow them.

He said once in 1970:

> It is not my intention to do away with government. It is rather to make it work—work with us, not over us; stand by our side, not ride on our back. Government can and must provide opportunity, not smother it; foster productivity, not stifle it.

I remember a few years ago when we were debating welfare reform in the Congress—and I was in the House at the time—a key point in that debate was when the Congress decided collectively that we were not talking about whether we were going to try in some sense to get rid of the welfare system. We were not going to retreat from the impulse of the 1960s to help people who were in poverty get out of poverty.

What we wanted, however, was a system that tried to do that in a way that respected and upheld the values that generations and generations of Americans have relied on to move up the economic ladder. We wanted a system that instead of punishing work, encouraged and required it. We wanted a system that instead of providing incentives against marriage, encouraged marriage and talked about its importance. We wanted a system that did not uproot neighborhoods and neighborhood institutions, that did not sweep them aside in the name of an all powerful and prescriptive government, but rather a system that helped build up again the vital parts of neighborhoods.

The reason that bill has been so successful, the reason it was supported by a vast majority in both Houses, and why it has been successful all over the country is not because it represented, I submit, a retreat by the Government from its commitment to helping people achieve the American dream, but rather because it represented a conscious commitment by the Government to work with the values of Americans, to respect those values and not to uproot them.

There is no question where President Reagan would have been in that fight, where he was in that fight, because the seeds of welfare reform were planted during his administration.

I am not going to go on. There are others who wish to speak. I thank the Senator from Florida for allowing me to go out of order because we try to go back and forth on both sides of the aisle.

Let me close with one of my favorite quotes from President Reagan. We are all doing that. It is from his second Inaugural Address in January 1985, and many have commented on President Reagan's optimism about America, how he was optimistic about America because he not only believed in those values and the institutions that represented them, but he had a tremendous faith in their power. I think he knew we were going to triumph over the Soviet Union in the cold war because he knew what we believed in was right, was powerful, and was good, and he was not afraid to state it in those terms.

Here is an example of his optimism from his second Inaugural Address:

> Now we hear again the echoes of our past: a general falls to his knees in the hard snow of Valley Forge; a lonely president paces the darkened halls, and ponders his struggle to preserve the Union; the men of the Alamo call out encouragement to each other; a settler pushes west and sings a song, and the song echoes out forever and fills the unknowing air.
>
> It is the American sound. It is hopeful, big-hearted, idealistic, daring, decent, and fair. That's our heritage; that is our song. We sing it still. For all our problems, our differences, we are together as of old, as we raise our voices to the God who is the Author of this most tender music. And may he continue to hold us close as we fill the world with our sound—sound in unity, affection, and love—one people, under God, dedicated to the dream of freedom that he has placed in the human heart, called upon now to pass that dream on to a waiting and hopeful world.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. Mr. President, later today, the body of President Ronald Reagan will be brought into this Capitol so that all Americans can pay their final respects.

Much has been said, much has been written about our 40th President and the impact he had on our Nation and the world. In at least one respect, I believe part of his legacy has been mischaracterized, and I rise today, as has my friend and colleague from Missouri, to set the record straight.

The issue that I would like to address is Ronald Reagan's view of the size of Government. It is true that President Reagan believed the Federal Government was too large and too costly, but he did not believe that was true of all governments.

As a former Governor of California, he believed governments closer to the people, governments at the State and local level, had the primary responsibility for essential public service and, thus, they should have the resources to respond to public needs.

The people would serve as the control of whether the State and local officials had fulfilled the voters' expectation of the role of their State, their county, or their city. I know this firsthand.

My tenure as Governor of Florida overlapped with President Reagan's administration for 6 years. During that time, President Reagan and key members of his administration, even as they attempted to eliminate the U.S. Department of Education and shrink Federal spending on education, helped me pass a tax increase in Florida that led to great improvements in our State education system.

An education reform movement swept the country in 1983 and 1984 with the issuance in April of 1983 by the National Commission on Excellence in Education of a landmark report entitled ''Nation at Risk: The Imperative for Educational Reform.''

At the time that report was issued, President Reagan made this statement:

> Parental authority is not a right conveyed by the state; rather, parents delegate to their elected school board representatives and state legislators the responsibility for their children's schooling.

During a meeting of the National Governors Association in 1983 President Reagan told the Governors they would be responsible for implementing reforms, including how to cover the costs of those reforms. He was not interested in having the Federal Government play a larger role; in fact, he was intent on cutting the Federal role in education.

I recalled those words when back in Tallahassee I began to push a major educational reform package through the legislature. I was not alone. For instance, our colleague, the then-Governor of Tennessee, Lamar Alexander, was instrumental in the development and adoption of a similar reform package in Tennessee, and we had the opportunity to work together during that process with then-Governor Alexander talking to Republican members of the Florida legislature as I reciprocated in conversations with Democratic members of the Tennessee legislature.

The Florida package had a goal. The goal was we would raise the level of education in Florida as judged by student performance on standardized tests and other measurements and also per-student funding of education to among the top 25 percent of the States in America. We increased student performance standards at all levels and had the most challenging standards for graduation from high school of any State in the Nation.

The package included basic things such as smaller class sizes, more class and curriculum opportunities for students, and a career ladder with pay increases which recognized our best teachers. But all of those reforms depended upon additional State financing. I proposed several steps to raise the necessary revenue, including a revision of our corporate profits tax. I advocated the plan with the assurance that better schools would improve our State's economic climate. We even printed up buttons which read: ''Education Means Business.''

I was therefore very disturbed that the success of the educational reform program was threatened by the lack of support by Republicans in the State Senate and the State House of Representatives. I called President Reagan's Education Secretary, Dr. Terrell Bell from Utah. I reported that I was attempting to do exactly what the President had said States should be doing, but could not get any Republican support.

After consulting with the White House and gaining the President's personal permission, Secretary Bell called me back and asked: What can I do to help?

I gave him the names of a half dozen or more Republican legislators. Secretary Bell called them on behalf of the President to ask them to support the reform package. I am pleased to say that with strong bipartisan support, the education reform program in Florida passed in 1983, and then by 1986 Florida had moved to 13th in the Nation in our per-pupil spending, and our test scores had the greatest rate of increase in 1986 of any State in the Nation.

This program showed that greater gains in student performance can be achieved through the right set of educational reform. This would not have happened without the support of President Ronald Reagan.

My point is Ronald Reagan was a more nuanced political leader in terms of his view of the role of Government than he is generally given credit for by both his critics and his fans. On behalf of all Floridians, I express my appreciation for his support of improved education in Florida, and on behalf of all Floridians I express my condolences to President Reagan's family, especially his beloved Nancy.

Thank you.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I would feel really bad if I didn't take a few moments to speak about my friend, Ron Reagan. I, as much as anybody in this body, revered him, respected him, and loved him.

When I was running back in 1976, I filed literally on the last day, May 10. I had zero name recognition except among the legal community and among my initial church community. But it was zero in the public polls. I ran through the preconvention, the convention, and came out second in the convention, which enabled me to force a primary, and through the primary on $35,000, $18,000 of which was my own, which was a lot of money then back in 1976. I was about 9 points ahead and pulling away at that time against the favored in the race—the Republican Party favorite and the favorite of most of the delegates of the State convention. But he had spent about $150,000, and he was starting to slip. I was starting to pull ahead by about 9 points, according to the polls.

Since I was the first to come out for Ronald Reagan in that race at that particular time in Utah as a candidate, we decided to ask Ronald Reagan if he would pre-primary endorse me in my race for the U.S. Senate.

I have to say when I called it didn't take them long, recognizing my friendship and my support for the first time in his political career, as far as I know—at least that is what I was told by those who were running his campaign, that he was going to pre-primary endorse me, and he did. By that time I was probably known by about 60 to 65 percent of the people in Utah.

After the endorsement, I won the primary. I probably would have won the primary between 10 or 15 percentage points. But after his endorsement, I won the primary 2 to 1, and I was known by, I believe, well over 95 percent of my fellow constituents in Utah.

I went to 36 States for Ronald Reagan as one of his major surrogates. I went to New Hampshire, and I was Nancy Reagan's date that night as I spoke for Ronald Reagan in the cattle call. That is what it was called in New Hampshire.

In 1980, I gave the keynote address at Plains High School, Jimmy Carter's own high school in Plains, GA, before 2,000 people.

I did everything in my power to elect Ronald Reagan. We had a friendship that transcended the usual friendships that are lovely and wonderful around here but nevertheless usually don't rise to the level that his friendship for me and mine for him really rose to.

I truly love Ronald Reagan. I know what a great President he was. I know he did bring down the Iron Curtain, that he was the primary mover and articulator of the themes that actually ended the cold war.

Most scholars will now say there are four reasons why Reagan was able to win the cold war: No. 1, his military buildup; he put too much pressure on the Soviets; No. 2, the placing of the Pershing II missiles in Europe, which was a very gutsy thing to do at the time, and highly criticized; No. 3 was the threat to build SDI, the Space Defense Initiative, and the Soviets knew we could do it; and, No. 4 was a placing of the Stinger missiles Afghanistan. I was here through all of those times.

I honor this great President, and I honor his dear wife who has been a wonderful wife and supporter, who I know deeply, who has been an advocate for so many things that are right, and especially in later times. Embryonic stem cell research—she is right on that

issue, and I support her. I honor both of them this day.

I join my colleagues, millions of Americans, and indeed countless more around the world in mourning the loss of the greatest American President of the 20th century, President Ronald Wilson Reagan.

After suffering nearly a decade, our beloved President died this weekend. I join those in this body here today in sending our condolences to Mrs. Reagan and their entire family.

It is hard to imagine any American alive who has not been touched by the legacy of Ronald Reagan. Even those born after he left office in 1989 have benefited from his selfless service, as they grew up in an era of unprecedented global freedom, a result of the end of the cold war brought on by President Reagan's bold vision of this country and our faithful mission in the world.

Certainly, I was touched by the life of President Reagan.

Perhaps I might not be here today were it not for the invigorating support of this great leader, whose endorsement of my candidacy in my first Senate run was certainly instrumental in my service to the people of Utah.

I was pleased and honored to return the favor at every opportunity—and, in 1980 and 1984, I campaigned for Ronald Reagan in almost every State of the Union.

Let no one believe that this repaid my debt, political or personal, to this great man—because I believe I will remain in his debt as long as I live, and so will our country.

President Reagan was both political mentor and inspiration to me as a young Senator.

We both started as Democrats.

We were inspired by our country's bold international leadership and sacrifice during World War II, under a Democratic president.

Yet we both saw the political landscape shift early in our adult lives.

We both grew dismayed at our country's direction, as citizens lost faith, lost optimism and lost the dynamism that once made this land great.

At the same time, we both grew to appreciate the principles of the Republican Party, where individual initiative and personal freedom are enshrined, and where the fight against international communism took a backseat to no other foreign policy.

When I came to the Senate in 1977, our country was still fresh from the defeat symbolized by communist tanks crashing into Saigon in 1975.

By the time Ronald Reagan became President, the defeat in 1975 had been interpreted by our global nemesis, the Soviet Union, as a weakness in American resolve; it inspired the Soviets to proxy adventures in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

As the liberal elites of the 1970s denounced and disparaged our international sacrifices of the past decade, as it became commonplace to equate the use of American force with the encroachments of communist tyranny, America became uncertain of itself and turned inward.

It was not our finest moment.

Our late colleague, Senator Moynihan, once remarked, ''the central conservative truth is that it is culture, not politics, that determines the success of a society. The central liberal truth is that politics can change a culture and save it from itself.''

In the 1970s, liberal culture had brought this country to a period of social decline and international withdrawal.

As communist tyranny gained around the world, drug use here reached an all-time high.

The economy of the most productive nation in the world was unraveling with high taxes and higher inflation.

Our sense of mission was gone; our belief in our natural strengths and goodness receded.

One of the things I loved the most about Ronald Reagan was that he recognized his duty to lead a conservative movement back into the political majority; by so doing he declared that we would never concede to cultural decline.

Reagan's victory in 1980 put an end to this malaise and changed our country forever.

Originally from the Midwest, Reagan moved to California and found his talent in the industry of American dreams, showing our country that an American everyman could be a star.

Many scorned Reagan the actor for seeking political office.

But, once again, he showed them wrong. He won our hearts as a President—as he had as an actor—showing us all that a man well-practiced in the arts of both heart and mind could be a perfect leader for a nation which had lost its sense of imagination.

Only in America could a man from the middle class, from the middle of the country, rise to become the greatest American leader of the 20th century.

Ronald Wilson Reagan achieved this by appealing to the essential American values in all of us—the values of individualism and enterprise, initiative and optimism, charity and sacrifice. And he restored those values in our country's policies.

Many misjudged Reagan. Many underestimated him. Many confused a man of simple beliefs with a simple man.

Those of us who knew him well recognized Reagan as a man of deep convictions. Deft of wit, he always deflected a tough moment with humor. But, under it all, a gravity of purpose shone through.

What I came to admire in Ronald Reagan was his core belief that government could lead society, but not build society. He recognized that government's most important economic role was to foster American innovation and industry. And his policies followed that principle.

In foreign policy, he knew that communism was an abominable scourge on the face of the planet. He eagerly tackled that challenge as he had most obstacles in his life, and in so doing left a legacy unparalleled by any American leader.

Who can forget his momentous call, ''Mr. Gorbachev, tear down that Wall?''

And who can forget watching as the wall fell just 2 years later?

In the most fundamental way, President Ronald Reagan inspired us all to believe in our great nation, and what it could do to help its people lead better lives.

As a junior Senator, I watched President Reagan take office, facing his first challenge: an economy misfiring on all cylinders, mired in the mud of inflation, high taxes and bureaucracy.

With a strong voice of optimism, President Reagan unfurled an ambitious plan to rejuvenate the economy and lead the nation to economic recovery.

I remember how excited we were to see his bold plan, the change in direction that our new President charted.

He led us to pass the landmark Economic Recovery and Tax Act, including the Kemp-Roth personal income tax cuts of 25 percent over three years.

This major initiative stimulated the economy by providing for accelerated depreciation deductions and an investment credit.

It also enhanced the retirement of millions of Americans by introducing Individual Retirement Accounts.

And perhaps most significantly, it indexed income tax brackets to inflation, limiting this punishing form of spending growth.

The result? The economic boom in the 1980s.

Inflation dropped from 13.5 percent in 1980 to 3.2 percent in 1983.

By 1986, the fourth year of the tax cuts, economic growth had increased a cumulative 18 percent.

And, when Ronald Reagan left office in January 1989, more than 18 million jobs had been created.

Some have criticized the Reagan era as years of profligate spending and an irresponsible increase in the federal deficit.

However, only in 1 year, 1983, did either personal income tax collections or total receipts go down from the previous year. It is true that the budget deficit did increase during the Reagan presidency, but this was clearly due to large increases in spending, not because of the Reagan tax cuts, without which we would not likely have had the increase in prosperity most Americans enjoyed.

President Reagan also led the way for Congress to approve the landmark 1986 Tax Reform Act.

Despite the naysaying of critics, President Reagan did it again. The 1986 Act lowered the top marginal income tax rate from 50 percent to just 28 percent. Also, it reduced the number of tax brackets from 14 to just 2.

While I did not support some of the provision in the final product of the 1986 Act, particularly some of the drastic changes in depreciation, which I believed would help contribute to a crisis in real estate and the savings and loan industry, the Act itself with its simplification and lower tax rates was a major accomplishment.

The fact that subsequent presidents and Congresses have reversed the gains made in terms of simplicity does not take away from the monumental victory that President Reagan scored by his leadership of the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

Throughout the Reagan era, I had the privilege of serving on the Labor and Human Resources Committee, much of it as chairman. I worked closely with the President and his staff on issues related to public health and welfare issues showcasing the President' compassion and dedication to improving the quality of life of all Americans.

The country was still in a major recession, and we worked to pass the Job Training Partnership Act. This legislation changed the emphasis of job assistance from providing government jobs to unemployed workers to providing them job training which would help unemployed find jobs in the private sector.

The President's initiatives often focused on releasing decision-making initiatives from an old federal bureaucracy, as with the innovative health block grants that returned decision-making to the states, providing them with the resources and flexibility to deliver preventive services, maternal and child health care, and mental health services in a totally new model.

As chairman of the committee, I was criticized for putting this legislation through. But we are vindicated when the General Accounting Office reviewed these initiatives several years after their creation, it included that they were successful, and provided a more efficient way to address the health needs of America's diverse population.

I also remember how strongly the Reagan administration supported biomedical research, a love for and appreciation of the power of scientific inquiry Mrs. Reagan carries forward to this day.

Other key accomplishments under President Reagan's tenure were significant Food and Drug Administration legislation, such as the Orphan Drug Act, the Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Resolution Act, the National Organ Transplantation Act, pediatric emergency medical services, vaccine compensation, tobacco warning labels, and the national practitioner data bank.

How well I remember the battle President Reagan waged to seat C. Everett Koop as the Surgeon General.

Again recognizing that the country needed inspired leadership more than bureaucracy, President Reagan informed us that he wanted to nominate C. Everette Koop to be the Surgeon General.

Many balked, citing Dr. Koop's age—65—as a barrier. The Public Health Service Act limited the age of PHS Commission Corps officers to 64½.

But our President, himself past that age, recognized the superior leadership skills of Dr. Koop.

It was a long battle, but one which one which had to be fought. Dr. Koop defined the modern-day role of Surgeon General, and today is revered by all, Democrats and Republicans alike, for his independent minded advocacy of public health, from AIDS awareness and prevention to anti-tobacco initiatives.

I would be remiss if I didn't highlight President Reagan's other significant healthcare accomplishment.

As we know, the use of illegal drugs had hit a historic high in the late 1970s.

Again, President Reagan recognized that government needed to find new ways to address this social blight. He proposed and we legislated the creation of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, which has taken the leadership role in anti-drug policy ever since.

Once again, however, the President recognized that leadership was as much in the message as in the bureaucracy.

His beloved First Lady introduced the ''Just Say No'' campaign, a flat rebuttal to an ingrown acceptance of drug use in our society.

Derided by some elites, this program of declaring unequivocally the unacceptable use of illegal drugs has become a foundation of all subsequent drug use.

No one suggests—then or now—that the problem of drug use is simple, and that prevention and treatment policies can be cauterized from interdiction policies.

But no one suggests, after years of confirming studies, that a drug policy can be effective absent a strong component of social rhetoric.

I loved President Reagan, and I loved his personal style of leadership.

But I loved even more his undying love and affection for one of the classiest first ladies this country has come to know.

Nancy Reagan's quiet support of her husband, so evident in all his successes, is often overlooked, as is her courage in leading the ''Just Say No'' campaign.

I remember as if it were today when President Reagan signed the 1986 drug law, the one that created the Office of the drug Czar and gave added resources to prevention and treatment.

I was standing behind the President when he signed the bill. He said with that special twinkle in his eye, ''I am going to give this pen to the women who has crusaded to end drug use in this country.''

With that, he walked past expectant advocates and lawmakers straight to his wife Nancy, and presented her with the pen.

Some focus on President Reagan's talents as an actor and image-maker. Yet I have never known a more authentic man.

And when he concluded that AIDS was a challenge to the public health that was reaching emergency proportions, he declared this as national policy.

At the time, some criticized his administration. They wanted him to act sooner. They wanted more money. They wanted more research.

But what I remember was a compassionate man, who recognized that we needed to build the research infrastructure to make effective use of new funding.

While the HIV virus was not identified until 1983, the Reagan administration invested close to $6 billion in fighting the disease by the end of his term in 1989. Once the President recognized the challenge, he radically increased the response of the government, and the breakthroughs with retroviral medicines in the 1990s would simply have not occurred were it not for those investments.

We all know that one of a President's greatest legacies is his nominations to the third branch of government.

In appointing more judges than any president in American history, President Reagan's judicial legacy can be seen on two levels.

First, he described, in both principled and practical terms, the kind of judge America needs.

We had seen decades of judicial activism, through which judges took more and more control over the policies governing the country and the culture in which Americans lived.

President Reagan came into office not just saying judges were going too far, but explaining why. He refocused Americans on the principles America's founders laid down at the dawn of the Republic: the people, through their elected representatives, decide how they wish to be governed and make the law to do so. Judges can only interpret and apply that law, they cannot make or change it.

Implementing those basic principles, President Reagan shaped the judiciary by the individuals he nominated and appointed. He appointed some of the legal academy's best minds to the U.S. Court of Appeals—such as Ralph Winter to the Second Circuit, Frank Easterbrook and Richard Posner to the Seventh Circuit, and of course Robert Bork to the District of Columbia Circuit.

I served on the Judiciary Committee during those years, seeing first hand the depth and breadth and quality of President Reagan's nominees.

America's founders insisted that this separation of powers, this restriction on judicial power, was absolutely critical for the freedom that self-government under a written constitution makes possible.

For some whose agenda the people do not favor, however, a judiciary that won't make law means their preferred law just won't get made. And they

fought President Reagan's nominees with increasingly intensity.

The first cloture vote ever taken on an appeals court nominee, for example, occurred during President Reagan's first term, and the confirmation process changed entirely in his second.

The seeds sown then have borne fruit today in the filibusters being used against President Bush's nominees. But the issue remains the same, whether unelected federal judges may take over from the people the business of making law and defining the culture.

President Reagan's record of judicial appointments is certainly a profound legacy. He truly blazed a trail on this issue and, through his leadership, Americans now know more about how appointing the right kind of judge is so important to protect their freedom.

Many believe that President Reagan's lasting legacy will be his successful leadership during the last stage of the cold war.

Ronald Reagan's tenure began at what was our lowest point in the cold war. The loss in Vietnam and the Watergate debacle led to a withdrawal from our global policy of containment. The Soviets filled the gap, and their proxies gained around the globe.

Emboldened, the Soviet Union engaged in its most extensive military expansion in that dictatorships history; during the 1970s, the Soviets expanded their nuclear missile arsenals as well as their conventional arsenals in virtually every armament category. At the end of the 1970s, the previous president as left shame-faced, following the invasion of Afghanistan, declaring his ''surprise'' at Soviet behavior.

President Reagan came to office dedicated to redressing the military balance and engaging the Cold War.

His administration saw the largest peace-time growth of military spending in modern American history. That escalation combined American resolve with American ingenuity, and this was no more evident than in President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative.

The President rejected conventional deterrence doctrine when he stated, ''We must seek other means of deterring war. It is both militarily and morally necessary . . . I propose to channel our technological prowess toward building a more secure and stable world . . . Our only purpose is to search for ways to reduce the danger of nuclear war.''

What President Reagan imagined, when he stated this back in 1984, is slowly coming to be, 20 years later. We have moved too slowly, but not because we lacked in vision.

President Reagan was willing to challenge the Soviets diplomatically, militarily and by proxy. He was unabashed in declaring that regime an ''evil empire''. Who today denies the inherent evil of the gulag?

He was bold in responding to the emplacement of Soviet SS–20s in occupied Europe with Pershing's in Germany. Who today denies that this didn't signal to the Soviets our new-found resolution to combat them geopolitically?

Ronald Reagan rejected the so-called ''Vietnam syndrome'' long before our victory in the first Gulf War allowed Americans to believe in the justice of our use of force. He knew that the U.S. had a role in the world, that the use of American force was not immoral and that the U.S. could do good for the world.

This military escalation challenged the Soviet leadership and ultimately bankrupted its coffers. The decision to roll-back directly challenged and refuted the fundamental ideological tenet of communism, that it would prevail as an inexorable law of history.

This perverted notion was based, of course, on the acceptance that the highest stage of history would be rest on imprisoning nations and extinguishing history.

Reagan knew in his heart that this was the greatest falsehood perpetrated on modern history and he built his foreign policy—the Reagan Doctrine—on the idea of rolling back this ideology, this tyrannical power, and tearing down the walls that kept its citizens imprisoned.

Ronald Reagan did not accept the status quo.

He did not accept a static geopolitical division of the world between the free nations and the captive nations of the evil empire.

He and his allies—and I will be proud to my dying day to have considered myself one of his allies—believed that we could roll back communism, on the ground, and in the minds of people.

Ronald Reagan went to England in 1983, before the leftist Oxford Union, and announced the creation of what would become the National Endowment for Democracy, which would support programs around the world fostering democratic principles and practices.

Last year, on the 20th anniversary of this bold initiative, President Bush announced a major push by the NED into the Arab world.

Democracy remains relevant after it has triumphed over communist tyranny.

But for democracy to succeed, people striving to break the yoke of tyranny had to have a friend in the United States. Ronald Reagan did not limit his friendship to diplomacy and military posturing.

A key aspect of the Reagan legacy was the Reagan Doctrine's policy of support for anti-communist movements around the world. We supported Solidarity in Poland, using the International Labor Organization.

We supported the resistance in Nicaragua—and the wars over that policy were sometimes almost as intense here on Capitol Hill.

And we supported the Afghan resistance.

We've had democracy in Poland for over a decade, and Poland is the shining example of the New Europe, a country whose government and soldiers have bravely and proudly served besides ours in Iraq.

Nicaragua has also had democratic elections over the past decade.

And while the Iran-Contra episode was a policy debacle, I remain proud of my service in this Senate during that investigation, as I remain unflinching in my belief that it was right to help Nicaraguans resist the tyranny and thuggery of the Sandinistas.

And our support for the Afghan resistance led to the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, dealing the Soviet Union a military, financial and psychological blow from which it would never recuperate. This blow created a major fissure in the notion of communist inevitability that, many of us believe, would lead to the crumbling of the Soviet empire.

Many are quick to disparage that policy, because of what arose from the tumult of the Afghan resistance and the rise of the Taliban. We made mistakes in implementing the policy, we now see, primarily having to do with recruiting Saudi participation and relying on Pakistani management of arms flows.

But our biggest mistake was abandoning Afghanistan after the collapse of the Soviet puppet regime, leaving that poor country an orphan child of the cold war. But we made no mistake in contributing to a devastating Soviet defeat, a defeat that brought about the end of the cold war.

When Ronald Reagan left office, this country had been transformed.

Malaise was not associated with the American economy, nor the American spirit.

Optimism, that personal trait of Ronald Reagan, was what characterized our standing in the world, our economy, and our belief in ourselves.

Reagan, a child of the Midwest who understood mythically the role of the western frontier in the American psyche, left us looking to the horizon, to the future.

Ronald Reagan was a humble man, who left office gladly, having served his term, but who never stopped loving the American people.

It was such love that led to one of the most moving letters to the American public ever written in our history, the letter he wrote on November 5, 1994, announcing that he was slowly succumbing to Alzheimer's Disease.

This is a horrible disease, as so many American families know.

My colleagues in the Senate know that, after much soul-searching and study, I have become a strong proponent of embryonic stem cell research, because of the promise it offers for treatment of some of the most wrenching illnesses Americans face today, such as Alzheimer's, Parkinsons and juvenile diabetes.

President Reagan's widow, my dear friend Nancy, knows that I will remain dedicated to supporting this research through all my days in the Senate.

Even though retired and enjoying the privacy that was always important for

him and his family, President Reagan wrote on November 5, 1994 one of the bravest and most moving letters in American history.

He said:

Upon learning this news, Nancy and I had to decide whether as private citizens we would keep this a private matter or whether we would make this news known in a public way. So now, we feel it is important to share it with you. In opening our hearts, we hope this might promote greater awareness of this condition. Perhaps it will encourage a clearer understanding of the individuals and families who are affected by it.

After speaking of the burdens he knew his long illness had in store—not for him, but for his beloved Nancy, he thanked his fellow Americans. He said:

Let me thank you, the American people, for giving me the great honor of allowing me to serve as your President. When the Lord calls me home, whenever that may be, I will leave with the greatest love for this country of ours and eternal optimism for its future.

I now begin the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life. I know that for America there will always be a bright dawn ahead.

These are the virtuous and loving words of a patriot, of a brave and humble man, of a man who lived every day in the belief that our best days lie ahead. It is America that pauses this week, and I thank God for the gift of the greatest American president of the twentieth century, Ronald Reagan.

We have lost a great American.

I think it is fitting to quote another great American, Daniel Webster who spoke so eloquently about the passing of two other Presidents, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams. Webster's words were never more true than today:

A superior and commanding human intellect, a truly great man, when Heaven vouchsafes so rare a gift, is not a temporary flame, burning brightly for a while, and then giving place to returning darkness. It is rather a spark of fervent heat, as well as radiant light, with power to enkindle the common mass of human kind; so that when it glimmers in its own decay, and finally goes out in death, no night follows, but it leaves the world all light, all on fire from the potent contact of its own spirit.

I pray that America will always be alight with the spirit of Ronald Reagan.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the remarks of our former colleague, Senator Connie Mack, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RONALD W. REAGAN

1911–2004

(A tribute by former U.S. Senator Connie Mack (R–FL))

RONALD REAGAN WAS MORE THAN THE PRESIDENT, HE WAS AN INSPIRATION, HE WAS MY FRIEND

As America mourns the passing of former President Ronald Reagan, one of the most loved American Presidents in history, it is appropriate that our nation take a moment to reflect on the life of this remarkable man. He will not only be remembered for his vision and leadership, but also for his conviction to principles, his sense of pride and love of country.

President Reagan made a difference in my life both personally and politically. When he was elected in 1980, I remember vividly saying to my wife Priscilla ''this is such an important election for our nation that I have to become involved. I had no idea his election would one day lead me to seek elective office and eventually to represent Florida in the United State Senate.

Knowing Ronald Reagan and serving in the U.S. Congress when he was President of the United States has been one of the greatest honors of my life. I remember when he came to Florida in 1988 to campaign for me in my race for the United States Senate. I introduced him saying: ''Mr. President, we will never forget that you gave us back a belief in ourselves and our nation. You restarted our economy giving people hope and opportunity. You rebuilt America's military and led the fight for freedom around the world.'' Ronald Reagan was more than the president, he was an inspiration . . . he was a friend.

Each year, the magnitude of President Reagan's accomplishments at home and abroad become increasing apparent. As recognition of his achievements and their impacts on our lives today grows so does the nation's gratitude toward him. He embodied the American Spirit that helped lift the morale of our country.

American Presidents affect history in their own way, but fewer have made more of an impact or shaped the history of their times than Ronald Reagan.

In the election of 1980, Americans were faced with one of the most simple, yet defining questions in American politics: ''Are you better off now than you were four years ago?'' Were we as Americans willing to accept that the once proud land of the free and the home of the brave was now worn and tired and lacked direction? America said: ''No!''

Ronald Reagan reaffirmed my philosophy as well as that of a whole generation which believed that wealth and prosperity emerge from the spirit of creativity that resides in individuals not government, and to the belief in the principles of less taxing, less spending, less government and more freedom. Freedom deeply mattered to Ronald Reagan, and freedom deeply matters to me.

With Ronald Reagan's election came a renewed vitality in America. He brought a belief that freedom must ring from the bells of this great nation and that opportunity should not be limited. He reminded us of the America that was there all along. A freedom loving country waiting to be unshackled from a Government that had grown too big and cost too much which dictated what was best for us. No, we wanted better and Ronald Reagan led us there.

Under President Reagan's leadership, the spirit of America was rekindled and the flame of freedom burned bright free markets, free ideas, free trade and freedom as the centerpiece of our foreign policy. The Reagan Revolution had no boundaries. The winds of freedom swept across America and gained momentum throughout the world. Freedom's ring was heard in Latin America, where nations turned back communism and accepted the free will of the people. In Eastern Europe, freedom broke the rusted chains of totalitarianism and caused the Berlin Wall to fall.

Ronald Reagan never lost faith in the freedom, dignity and liberty of mankind. He understood that freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. He never doubted that freedom was more than a virtue. It was a right given to each of us by a sovereign God.

Rondald Reagan did not invent freedom. He defined it. For through his wit and humility, he carried his role in history as the man who gave freedom a face. And through his undying faith in those who entrusted him the role as their leader, Ronald Reagan achieved greatness.

Even though President Reagan has now completed the journey he began so many years ago, our nation has not yet completed the path we began under his leadership. Ronald Reagan made America stronger, more prosperous and more confident. We still need to do more to make our country and the world a better and safer place to live, work and raise a family. We must continue his legacy so as to ensure that America remains that shinning city on the hill that President Reagan described to us.

To Nancy and the Reagan family, our nation is forever in your debt for sharing this unique and special individual with us, the American People.

President Reagan, we say goodbye for now. You have touched our lives deeply. You have indeed lived the words of sacred scripture: ''You have fought the good fight, you have finished the race, you have kept the faith.''

Godspeed Mr. President.

RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF RONALD WILSON REAGAN

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The hour of 11:30 having arrived, the Senate will proceed to consideration of a resolution honoring the former President Ronald Wilson Reagan, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 373) relative to the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, a former President of the United States.

S. RES. 373

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, a former President of the United States, and a former Governor of the State of California.

Resolved, That in recognition of his illustrious statesmanship, his leadership in national and world affairs, his distinguished public service to his State and his Nation, and as a mark of respect to one who has held such eminent public station in life, the Presiding Officer of the Senate appoint a committee to consist of all the Members of the Senate to attend the funeral of the former President.

Resolved, That the Senate hereby tender its deep sympathy to the members of the family of the former President in their sad bereavement.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the former President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. By request, Senators are asked to vote from their desks.

The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, these past few days we have seen an extraordinary outpouring of affection for our 40th President, Ronald Wilson Reagan. In a few short hours, he will lie in state under the Capitol dome where dignitaries from around the world and citizens from across the country will pay their respects to the man from Dixon.

In his 1982 State of the Union address, President Reagan told the Nation: We don't have to turn to our history books for heroes; they are all around us. In life, Ronald Reagan was a hero to millions. To the freedom fighters in the Soviet Union, to his fellow citizens striving toward that American dream, Ronald Reagan told the world that we are meant to be free.

He was a man of faith and deeply held convictions. Like James Madison, Ronald Reagan believed that in the creation of our Republic was the hand of God. He believed our freedoms flow not from the State but from the Almighty. Our task was and remains to awaken in the people this essential truth.

I close with a story I believe captures Ronald Reagan's remarkable character, his courage, and his vision. It was 1997. From a news report was a story of an emigre.

> Walking in Arm and Hammer Park near his home, Reagan was approached by an elderly tourist and his 12-year-old grandson, Ukranian emigres now living near Toledo, OH. They spoke with him for a moment and the grandfather snapped a picture of the boy sitting with the former president. An article about the encounter and the picture appeared first in the Toledo Blade and then in newspapers around the country. The other day, the grandfather recalled their meeting. We went to the park for a picnic with our friends, he said, and then he saw President Reagan. And we began to cheer him and said, Mr. President, thank you for everything you did for the Jewish people, for Soviet people, to destroy the Communist empire. And he said, yes, that is my job.

Ronald Wilson Reagan was raised in a small town. Part of him remained a small town citizen all of his life. Not in the self conscious way one thinks of a politician stumping on the campaign trail. Ronald Reagan's small town roots informed the way he viewed the body politic—what he believed people wanted from life, from each other and from government.

As he explained, when a person grows up in a small town,

> You get to know people as individuals, not as blocs or members of special interest groups. You discover that, despite their differences, most people have a lot in common . . . [W]e all want freedom and liberty, peace, love and security, a good home, and a chance to worship God in our own way; we all want the chance to get ahead and make our children's lives better than our own. We all want the chance to work at a job of our own choosing and to be fairly rewarded for it.

Ronald Reagan believed that the government should serve the people. He believed that the strength of our economy came from the creativity, ingenuity and productivity of the individual, not from the plans and schemes of government bureaucrats or intellectual elites.

This view of America's economic success guided his economic policies here at home, and, in no small way, shaped his political policies abroad.

When Ronald Reagan became President, the American economy was in a shambles. Inflation was in the double digits. Interest rates were soaring. Americans had to wait in endless lines to pump overpriced gas. Real incomes had stagnated and the American worker was demoralized. In his 1989 ''Speaking My Mind'' collection of essays and speeches, Ronald Reagan reflected that:

> Here we were, a country bursting with economic promise, and yet our political leadership had gone out of its way to frustrate America's natural economic strength. It made no sense. My attitude had always been—let the people flourish.

So, he set about slashing Federal income taxes and cutting burdensome regulations. It was his mission to free the American worker and unleash the American entrepreneur. When he came to office, the top marginal tax rate was 70 percent. By the time he left, it was a mere 28 percent. His sweeping tax reforms overhauled the tax code and removed 6 million taxpayers from the tax rolls.

At the same time, President Reagan gave Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker free reign to tighten the money supply and bring down inflation.

Together, these policies worked.

True to the President's forecast, as the economy grew, so, too, did tax revenues. Tax revenues increased faster than GDP. By 1990, the economy had grown by a third—or as the Wall Street Journal put it, ''roughly the size of Germany.'' Over the course of his presidency, the economy created 19 million jobs and the stock market hit a record high. America enjoyed the longest economic expansion up to that time.

Throughout, President Reagan was assailed for the growing deficit. In typical Washington fashion, he got the blame for adverse economic numbers, but never the credit for economic success. Contrary to his critics, however, the Federal deficit fell from 6.3 percent of GNP in fiscal year 1983 to 2.3 percent in 1988. The deficit actually shrank as a percentage of Gross National Product.

At the time, his policies were dubbed, ''Reaganomics.'' Now, they're considered common sense. President Reagan's guiding principle was simple, yet profound: government policies should grow the economy, not manage [or redistribute?] it. The impact of this idea was so great that, now, even the other side of the aisle speaks of targeted tax cuts and tax credits, and no longer openly campaigns to raise our taxes.

Indeed, President Clinton crystallized the Reagan Revolution when he declared, ''The era of big government is over.''

President Reagan believed in the dreams and dignity of the individual. As he said in his second inaugural address, ''There are no limits to growth and human progress, when men and women are free to follow their dreams.''

Ronald Reagan reminded the American people that economic liberty and human freedom are two sides of the same coin.

Some call it the Reagan Revolution. Others call it the Reagan Restoration. I prefer the latter term. The man from Dixon—lifeguard, radio announcer, actor, governor, father, adoring husband, and President of the United States—restored not only our confidence, but our fundamental understanding of the source of America's greatness: the American people.

Indeed, America was blessed to have such a President. Now he will enter the history books as one of our greatest. God bless Ronald Wilson Reagan. God bless America.

Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 111 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Akaka	Dole	Lott
Alexander	Domenici	Lugar
Allard	Dorgan	McCain
Allen	Durbin	McConnell
Bayh	Edwards	Mikulski
Bennett	Ensign	Miller
Biden	Enzi	Murkowski
Bingaman	Feingold	Murray
Bond	Feinstein	Nelson (FL)
Boxer	Fitzgerald	Nelson (NE)
Breaux	Frist	Nickles
Brownback	Graham (FL)	Pryor
Bunning	Graham (SC)	Reed
Burns	Grassley	Reid
Byrd	Gregg	Roberts
Campbell	Hagel	Rockefeller
Cantwell	Harkin	Santorum
Carper	Hatch	Sarbanes
Chafee	Hollings	Schumer
Chambliss	Hutchison	Sessions
Clinton	Inhofe	Shelby
Cochran	Inouye	Smith
Coleman	Jeffords	Snowe
Collins	Johnson	Specter
Conrad	Kennedy	Stabenow
Cornyn	Kohl	Stevens
Corzine	Kyl	Sununu
Craig	Landrieu	Talent
Crapo	Lautenberg	Thomas
Daschle	Leahy	Voinovich
Dayton	Levin	Warner
DeWine	Lieberman	Wyden
Dodd	Lincoln	

NOT VOTING—2

Baucus	Kerry

The resolution (S. Res. 373) was agreed to.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. WARNER. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

HONORING PRESIDENT RONALD WILSON REAGAN

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MURKOWSKI). Under the previous order, S. Res. 374 is considered and agreed to,

the preamble is agreed to, and the motion to reconsider is laid upon the table.

The resolution (S. Res. 374) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 374

Whereas Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, was born on February 6, 1911, in Tampico, Illinois, to Nelle and John Reagan and raised in Dixon, Illinois;

Whereas as a lifeguard at Rock River in Lowell, Illinois, a young Ronald Reagan saved the lives of 77 swimmers;

Whereas Ronald Reagan enrolled in Eureka College where he played football, acted in amateur theater, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics and sociology;

Whereas Ronald Reagan landed his first job as a radio announcer for WOC in Davenport, Iowa, and went on to become a popular sports announcer;

Whereas Ronald Reagan launched a movie career that spanned 50 movies, including his most famous role as the football legend, ''The Gipper'';

Whereas Ronald Reagan, who received more fan mail than any other actor at Warner Brothers Studios except Errol Flynn, served as president of the Screen Actors Guild from 1947 to 1960;

Whereas on March 4, 1952, Ronald Reagan married his great love, Nancy Davis, who was to become his lifelong confidante and companion;

Whereas Ronald Reagan was the father of 4 children: Maureen, Michael, Patti, and Ronald Prescott;

Whereas Ronald Reagan hosted the popular television series ''GE Theater'' from 1954 to 1962;

Whereas in 1962, Ronald Reagan switched his party affiliation from Democrat to Republican and 2 years later delivered a major televised speech in support of Presidential candidate Barry Goldwater;

Whereas in 1966, Ronald Reagan won the governorship of California and in 1970 was reelected to a second term;

Whereas Governor Reagan campaigned for the Republican nomination in 1968, and again in 1976;

Whereas on July 16, 1980, the former Governor won the Republican nomination and on November 4, 1980, won the United States Presidency in a landslide vote;

Whereas President Reagan appointed the first woman to the United States Supreme Court, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor;

Whereas on March 30, 1981, only 2 months into his Presidency, Ronald Reagan survived an assassination attempt and upon meeting Nancy in the hospital, quipped with characteristic good humor, ''Honey, I forgot to duck'';

Whereas President Reagan delivered on his promise to cut taxes for American workers in 1981, and achieved the historic tax cuts of 1986 which overhauled the Federal tax code and reduced tax rates for almost all taxpayers, including removing 6,000,000 Americans from the tax rolls;

Whereas under President Reagan's leadership, inflation fell, interest rates declined, and by the seventh year of his Presidency, the stock market hit an all-time high;

Whereas President Reagan presided over the longest economic expansion in the history of the United States until that time and rebuilt the national defenses of the United States;

Whereas President Reagan won reelection in 1984 carrying 49 out of 50 States—one of the biggest electoral victories in the political history of the United States;

Whereas during summit meetings with Soviet Union President Mikhail Gorbachev in December 1987, President Reagan signed a treaty to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear forces;

Whereas President Reagan's steadfast opposition to communism, his unshakeable resolve to defeat the ''Evil Empire'', and his secure belief in government for and by the people, led to the collapse of the Berlin Wall and victory in the Cold War;

Whereas President Reagan's belief in freedom as a God-given right of all peoples led to a democratic revolution across Central America; and

Whereas Ronald Wilson Reagan, father, husband, actor, and dedicated public servant, restored the pride, optimism and strength of the United States and earned the deep respect and affection of his fellow citizens: Now, therefore, be it:

Resolved, That the Senate notes with deep sorrow and solemn mourning the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan.

Resolved, That the Senate extends its heartfelt sympathy to the wife and family of President Reagan.

Resolved, That the Senate commends the former President for his Presidency and its many accomplishments.

Resolved, That the Senate calls on all the people of the United States to reflect on the record of the 40th President of the United States during this national period of remembrance.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the former President

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today because a mighty oak has fallen. Ronald Reagan has left his life here on Earth, but oh what a life it was. Born in the middle of our great Republic in the beginning of the last century, his was an American tale from start to finish.

Jack and Nelle Reagan brought a son into the world in Tampico, IL, in 1911. Jack was a shoe salesman with an Irishman's flare for storytelling. Nelle was a devout Christian who made ends meet by doing other people's sewing out of their home. When Jack first saw their healthy baby in his crib, he looked at this little baby and said he looked like a ''little fat Dutchman.'' And the nickname stuck, ''Dutch.''

Times were hard for the Reagans. He commented years later that:

> Our family didn't exactly come from the wrong side of the tracks, but we were certainly within sound of the train whistles.

Even then, it was in Ronald Reagan's character to look for the Sun behind the clouds. Growing up, he lived a typical American boy's life. He was a lifeguard in the summer and a football player in the fall. In the fading years, when Alzheimer's robbed him of most of his memory, he could still summon up his youth in Illinois, proudly recalling the 77 lives he saved as a lifeguard from the teeming Rock River, notching each one on a log on the shore.

In Illinois, he discovered there was more to life than just football and lifeguarding. There was also acting. Connecting with an audience plugged him into a broader world. As he later said:

> For a kid suffering childhood pangs of insecurity, the applause was music.

Ambition led him westward out of Illinois; Hollywood, to be exact. There, as we all know, he started his successful acting career and, more importantly, met a young actress from Chicago named Nancy Davis. She became the love of his life. Nancy was focused, smart, and loved her Ronnie. Jimmy Stewart once remarked:

> If Ronnie had married Nancy the first time, he would have won an Academy Award.

But gradually his time in front of an audience changed from the stage and screen to the assembly hall. Time constraints prevent me from following his ascent to the highest office in the land. Let me simply comment that for most of us being a successful actor and pitchman, union president, two-term Governor of our Nation's largest State, and a national figure to boot would have been enough of a career, especially at the age of 69. But Ronald Reagan had other thoughts, and so began his run against President Jimmy Carter for the Presidency in 1980.

Neck and neck until the debate a week before the election, Reagan broke it wide open when he closed by asking Americans a simple question: Are you better off than you were 4 years ago?

On election day, Reagan won a smashing victory, winning 44 of 50 States. He would top that mark in 1984, winning 49 out of 50 States.

I have listened to and read countless people reflecting on what President Reagan meant to them and to America. Were there enough time, I would fill up the rest of the afternoon with my thoughts about this great man. But I will limit my observations to what I think will be, in addition to restoring America's faith in itself, the way history will remember Ronald Reagan, the peacemaker.

I want to address the question, What does it mean to have won the cold war? Revisionists suggest that Ronald Reagan had little to do with the Soviet Union's fall which they now claim was just inevitable. I can tell you no one thought that in 1979. Communism was on the rise and freedom was in retreat. The United States was the toothless tiger with the uncertain future. Energy shortages crippled us, and rampant crime hunted us down. Interest rates for homes, cars, and businesses were sky high. Our economy was wrenched back and forth between bouts of recession and inflation, both at the same time. America's decline was marked by new, unfamiliar words. We learned stagflation, ''taxflation,'' and, of course, we learned malaise.

America's economy was not the only thing in decline. So, too, was our foreign policy. Still suffering from a Vietnam syndrome, we watched and did

nothing as Afghanistan was invaded by the Soviets, as hostages in Iran were seized, and as Cuban puppets invaded Africa and Central America. Our Navy was weak. Our planes couldn't fly. Our Army lacked volunteers and morale. The nuclear balance was tipping, and our intelligence services were ravaged by firings and mismanagement.

We were declining and the Soviet Union was rising. Some people were ready to give up. Others suggested the Presidency was too big and complicated a job for any single person. It seemed as if we had lost our nerve. But not Ronald Reagan. You see, he had a vision.

In 1982, he explained his ''sick bear'' theory:

> The Soviet Empire is faltering because rigid centralized control has destroyed innovation, efficiency and individual achievement. . . . The Soviet dictatorship has forged the largest armed force in the world . . . by preempting the human needs of its people and, in the end, this course will undermine the foundations of the Soviet system.

With his customary humor, he had a memorable way of explaining this. He talked of a Soviet citizen who went to a Soviet bureau of transportation to buy a car. After paying and filling out all the forms, he is told by the seller of the car: Come back in 10 years to get your car.

The man asks: In the morning or the afternoon?

The official responds: Well, we are talking about 10 years from now; what difference does it make whether it is the morning or afternoon?

The man replies: Well, the plumber is coming in the morning.

Beneath the humor, President Reagan knew the serious truth. The Soviet Union was as inherently weak as the U.S. economy was inherently strong, a fact too few recognized. So when President Reagan's policies began to revitalize our economy, the confidence restored here was matched by new uncertainty over in the Soviet Union.

Others have and will talk about the Reagan revolution here at home, but in terms of our victory in the cold war, the Reagan economic recovery was the first body-blow that eventually exorcized the demon of communism from the Soviet Union.

The real trouble for the Soviet Union was not Reagan's policies, but Reagan's values, his courage, and his willpower. Before he was ever elected, President Reagan recognized that the Soviet Union was an ''arsenal of anarchy'' throughout the world. It was a sickness of the human condition, he said. And President Reagan was never afraid to do that which so many leaders lack the courage to do: look at evil and call it by its name. In this regard, Reagan was like Churchill. Reagan was the nemesis of communism, just as Churchill was of nazism. He understood the evil that communism represented and what it would do if unchecked.

Interestingly, Reagan's understanding of this evil did not begin with the fate of millions, but of just one. In May of 1975, a 5-year-old boy fell into the Spree River, which divided then-Communist East Berlin from free West Berlin. As firemen from West Berlin—firemen, not soldiers—started to go to the boy's rescue, an East German patrol boat barred their entry into East German waters. The boy drowned.

The mayor of West Berlin described that refused rescue as ''an incomprehensible and frightful act, placing political considerations before the saving of a human life.'' But for Reagan, it was the sad personification of a harsh and enduring reality: Communism is a system where every human life is sublimated to the ruthless needs of the state.

Focused on the value of a single human life, Ronald Reagan looked across the globe and saw 600 million people living like slaves under the Communist lash. He did not mince words or deeds. He dubbed the Soviet Union the ''evil empire,'' a description brutally accurate, yet offensive to the tender sensibilities of most of the media and intelligentsia here at home. He called for a massive defense increase—''peace through strength,'' he called it—and some even in his own Cabinet opposed it.

In the face of criticism, Reagan strengthened our defense. He quoted Demosthenes in dismissing the Soviets' empty assurances of their good intentions on arms control:

> What sane man would let another man's word rather than his deeds tell him who is at war and who is at peace with him?

He then translated that demand into a Russian saying of no uncertain words—doveryai, no proveryai. In Russian, that means ''trust but verify.''

Ronald Reagan did not have timid dreams. He wasn't interested in slowing the decline of freedom or just holding its position steady; he wanted freedom to ring across the globe and communism to be relegated to the ash heap of history. So he went to the Berlin Wall to call out in front of that colossal affront to freedom: ''Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.''

He left Reykjavik when it was clear that Mr. Gorbachev was only bargaining for the end of the Strategic Defense Initiative, which matching, the Soviets knew, would spend them into oblivion. Margaret Thatcher notes that Reykjavik, deplored as a loss by Reagan's critics, particularly by the European and American intelligentsia, marked the beginning of the end of the Soviet Union.

Of course, all the significant arms control reductions came after Reagan walked away from Reykjavik. But today, President Reagan is vindicated by some 600 million people who breathe freely because of the collapse of the Soviet empire.

So what does it mean to liberate almost 600 million from fear and terror? It means 49 million Ukrainians will never again worry about a class purge.

It means 17 million former East Germans will never be grabbed in the night by the STASI, the secret police of Eric Honneker.

It means 38 million Poles will never fear General Jaruzelski attempting to crush the Solidarity free labor movement.

It means 22 million Romanians will never know the tortured madness and human experimentation of Nicolae Ceausescu.

It means 16 million in the Czech Republic and Slovakia will never hear tanks rumbling through their city streets to crush self-rule.

It means tens of millions of former West Germans lead lives oblivious to the cosmic nervousness that gripped their mother's and father's generation.

It means that 5 million in Finland no longer look across the Gulf of Finland with dread at 7.2 million people in Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania, who lived in slavery as a warning to any neighbors who would dare dissent from the Soviet world view.

In all, 600 million lives were emancipated by the victory in the cold war—the greatest liberation in the history of mankind, and hopefully for all time.

Now, having said all of that, let me just mention how much I miss that sweet-hearted man, especially his sense of humor. I have been reminded from all the replayed speeches just how wonderful he was. For example, during an exchange with the press one day, he said:

> I have given my aides instructions that if trouble breaks out in any of the world's hot spots, they should wake me up immediately—even if I am in a cabinet meeting.

It makes you wonder what President Reagan said to Saint Peter. Something witty, no doubt, and delivered with a warm smile.

So now the long goodbye that Mrs. Reagan, his rock and strength and the love of his life, has spoken of so movingly is nearly complete. So I will close with President Reagan's own words in his courageous letter to the American people upon discovery of the disease that would ultimately bring about his fall. President Reagan said 10 years ago:

> When the Lord calls me home, whenever that may be, I will leave the greatest love for this country of ours and eternal optimism for its future. I now begin the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life. I know that for America there will always be a bright dawn ahead.

God bless Ronald Reagan, an American hero.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, our Nation has come together this week to mourn the passing of former President Ronald Reagan. However anticipated his death may have been, it is still a profound loss for the Reagan family. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all and especially with former First Lady Nancy Reagan.

However, knowing the kind of man Ronald Reagan was, knowing his relentless optimism and his sunny disposition, something tells me he would

prefer that Americans spend this week remembering and celebrating his unique character and quality. ''America in mourning'' just does not seem Reaganesque because Ronald Reagan was always about ''morning in America.'' He always looked at the bright side of every situation or circumstance. I remember the story he told about the little boy who walked into a barn and encountered a huge pile of manure. The boy, who was not the least bit disappointed, broke into a big smile and said: I just know there is a pony in here somewhere. That was the Ronald Reagan we remember and admire.

Iowans relate strongly to Ronald Reagan because his roots were our roots. He grew up next door in smalltown Illinois and spent 5 formative years in Iowa. In fact, this was where the young Ronald Reagan found his voice as the Great Communicator—first as a radio announcer at WOC Radio in Davenport and later at WHO Radio in Des Moines where he became one of the most popular sports broadcasters in the region. That was at the height of the Great Depression.

He remembered this period with obvious fondness. In his autobiography, ''An American Life,'' he wrote:

> I spent four years at station WHO in Des Moines and they were among the most pleasant of my life. At 22, I'd achieved my dream; I was a sports announcer. If I had stopped there, I believe I would have been happy the rest of my life.

During his two terms in the White House, I met President Reagan on many occasions, and just about every time he would eagerly tell me he had been an announcer at WHO Radio. He regaled me with stories of how, sitting in his studio in Des Moines, he faked the play by play of the Chicago Cubs baseball game based upon wire reports as they came through. He seemed to have this fixed in his mind, that when he would see me, it was TOM HARKIN and WHO. If this is HARKIN, I am going to tell him about my time at WHO. It sort of became a thing that every time we met, he, again, would tell me some story about his time at WHO Radio. So that was my experience with the Reagan charm.

We disagreed on many important issues, but you could not come into contact with this man and not feel his personal warmth and charm. In fact, I have been struck this week by the bipartisan affection for this former President. He was the genuine article, a man who embodied so many of the traits we hold dear as Americans. We remember his conviction, his courage, his lack of pretentiousness, and, yes, his optimism.

On a personal note, I will always be grateful to President Reagan for signing into law my bill to establish the National Institute on Deafness and Communication Disorders at the National Institutes of Health in 1988. Quite frankly, his advisers urged him to veto the bill, but the President, who himself suffered from hearing loss, vetoed his advisers. He signed the bill into law. As a result, we have had a series of medical breakthroughs that are helping millions of Americans cope with hearing loss and communication disorders.

Lastly, he and Nancy fought a heroic battle with Alzheimer's disease, and they did a great deal to raise the level of awareness and understanding of this terrible disease. I am especially proud of the courageous leadership Nancy Reagan has displayed in our efforts to find a cure for this deadly disease by her advocating a more expanded stem cell research program in America.

As I said, the most fitting way to pay tribute to President Reagan is not so much to mourn his death as to celebrate his life and to honor his service to our country. As he lies in state at the Capitol this week, a thankful American nation will say farewell to a truly unique American.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to an American legend, President Ronald Reagan. Like all Americans, I was saddened to learn of his passing over the weekend. I had left our Republican State convention at a time when it was moving across the floor that he might be in his final hours. Of course, all of us started reminiscing. It was a moment of great loss, but yet a recollection of his humor, his contagious optimism, and the historic accomplishments he made for our country really were comforting and engendered so many wonderful moments.

Although I was not a Member of this body while he was in office, I have lived and served under his conservative principles and ideologies. He was in his political prime when I was just beginning in politics. During his first campaign, my husband Ray was chairman of the Texas Republican Party and spent many hours traveling with him across Texas. In 1992, I was honored to be temporary chair of the Republican National Convention in Houston, TX, when he delivered his very important message that turned out to be his goodbye to America. It was there that he left us with these final thoughts:

> Whatever else history may say about me when I'm gone, I hope it will record that I appealed to your best hopes, not your worst fears, to your confidence rather than your doubts. My dream is that you will travel the road ahead with liberty's lamp guiding your steps and opportunity's arm steadying your way. . . . May each of you have the heart to conceive, the understanding to direct, and the hand to execute works that will make the world a little better for your having been here. . . . My fellow Americans, may every dawn be a great new beginning for America and every evening bring us closer to that shining city upon a hill.

At a time of great despair in our Nation, Ronald Reagan came into office and restored hope. He was an unequaled champion of freedom, smaller Government, and market-oriented principles. His philosophies guided our Nation to become the economic and military superpower it is today. Of course, he was often called the Great Communicator for his ability to give a rousing speech that could both rally the troops and yet make an individual in the crowd of thousands feel as if they were having a heart-to-heart talk.

Beyond his optimism, his confidence, and graceful charm was a man of action who implemented great change in the United States of America. Under his leadership, our Nation sowed seeds of prosperity and reduced regulatory burdens on small business. He lowered taxes for all Americans, including reducing the top marginal rate from an oppressive 70 percent to approximately half that, offering new incentives to create wealth and jobs and rebuild America.

He encouraged Americans to embrace their own destiny and realized that Government was not the answer to social ills; people were. Good people working in concert to better their communities and their fellow man could accomplish far more than bureaucracy, from his vantage point.

Perhaps most important, President Reagan took the steps to ultimately win the cold war. He pursued peace through strength and achieved an overwhelming victory that was inconceivable to a generation that was raised with fallout drills and backyard bunkers.

Who can forget the famous challenge he laid down when he cried, ''Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall''? They were indeed great, dramatic words but more importantly words of action. Two and a half years later, what once seemed a permanent divider through the heart of Berlin was torn down piece by piece, section by section, until it was reduced to a pile of rubble.

Visitors to the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC, can view a section of that wall donated by the people of Berlin in honor of the President and in recognition of his leadership. The segment, which is over 9 feet high and weighs almost 3 tons, is from a section of the wall near the Brandenburg Gate where President Reagan issued that challenge. It stands as a stark reminder of the great shift in global politics that spread freedom in Europe and encouraged new generations to pursue democracy.

Today, we again find ourselves in a fight for freedom. This generation, like their World War II grandparents and cold war parents, has been called to stand and fight for freedom. Today, we are grappling with a new threat: global terrorism, an enemy with no borders, no uniforms, no respect for traditional rules of war, and more importantly no respect for human life.

World War II took bitter years of fighting and sacrifice. The cold war took decades of dedication and patience. This battle against terrorism

requires all that and more. The question is: Will our generation meet the test? Will we have what it takes to win the peace? I believe we do. I believe the strength, perseverance, and patriotism that Ronald Reagan embodied will help see us through.

In 1987, he addressed a joint session of Congress saying:

> Let it never be said of this generation of Americans that we became so obsessed with failure that we refused to take risks that could further the cause of peace and freedom in the world.

Since learning of his passing last weekend, elected officials, former Cabinet members, and newspapers across the world have been penning eulogies, remembrances, and tributes to the beloved President.

James Baker, his former Chief of Staff and Treasury Secretary:

> President Reagan restored America's source of pride and confidence in itself. He was a wonderful person to work for and a truly great President. His willingness to stick to his principles changed the world.

Former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher:

> He will be missed not only by those who knew him, and not only by the nation that he served so proudly and loved so deeply, but also by the millions of men and women who live in freedom today because of the policies he pursued. To have achieved so much against so many odds and with such humor and humanity made Ronald Reagan a truly great American hero.

Secretary of State Colin Powell, who served as his National Security Adviser, said:

> President Reagan fueled the spirit of America. His smile, his optimism, his total belief in the ultimate triumph of democracy and freedom, and his willingness to act on that belief, helped end the Cold War and usher in a new and brighter phase of history.

Mikhail Gorbachev, once Reagan's adversary, called him:

> A true leader, a man of his word and an optimist . . . He has earned a place in history and in people's hearts.

Finally, his Vice President, later our President, George H.W. Bush, has been giving interviews about how much fun he was and how they had lunch every week together and sometimes they would talk substance, sometimes they would talk policy, and sometimes they would just have a good time. They were very close, and yet he never lost that laser beam focus on the big issues, the things that really mattered that would move us one step toward the peace through strength that was his guiding principle.

Indeed, his lasting place in the hearts of all Americans has been evidenced by the outpouring of love and admiration that we have seen across the Nation and around the world. Ronald Reagan was a leader who touched people with his words, inspired them with his actions, and led by his example.

On November 5, 1994, nearly a decade ago, President Reagan announced to the world that he had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, the illness that would ultimately take his life. His poise and hopeful spirit, even in the face of the heartbreaking years ahead, were remarkable. He said:

> . . . Let me thank you, the American people, for giving me the great honor of allowing me to serve as your president. When the Lord calls me home, whenever that day may be, I will leave with the greatest love for this country of ours and eternal optimism for its future. I now begin the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life. I know that for America there will always be a bright dawn ahead. Thank you, my friends. May God always bless you.

Standing by his side through good times and bad, his beloved wife Nancy, a beautiful woman, very slight in stature but strong as steel. Theirs was a partnership in every respect and one of the great love stories of our time. Ronald Wilson Reagan was a great President. He left an indelible impression on our country. As we say farewell, our thoughts and prayers are with Nancy and his family. We thank them and we thank the Lord that he gave us Ronald Reagan at a time when our country needed him the most.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SUNUNU. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. SUNUNU. Madam President, as Americans gather in our Capitol and across the country to remember and pay tribute to President Ronald Reagan, we have been provided a very special opportunity to reflect on his great achievements as our Commander in Chief, as well as the tremendous personal strength which he brought to the Oval Office.

But as we salute President Reagan for his leadership, his integrity, and his vision, I am struck by the very personal nature of so many of these memories and stories. Whether here in Washington or out across the country, whether it is a U.S. Senator or a teacher in a small school, it seems that so many of these recollections begin with phrases such as, ''I remember seeing him during his first visit to our State,'' or ''I shook his hand when he visited our factory,'' or ''I recall a story that President Reagan loved to tell,'' or even ''because of Ronald Reagan, I chose to run for office.''

These recollections are enormously personal, but I think they are a testament to the way he touched people in a very deep and unique way. He affected the lives of millions of people in America and around the world in countless encounters. Many of these encounters may have been for only a moment or two in a life that spanned decades, but his gift was in his ability to make a strong connection that had real power, the power to bridge generations, the power to last a lifetime, and the power to change a life as well.

We remember his touch, his smile, and his encouragement, not simply because when he walked into a room Ronald Reagan conveyed a great personal warmth. That was certainly special in and of itself, and something that anyone who had the chance to meet him or see him in person would always remember, but it was because this personal connection conveyed a sense of purpose, a sense of kindness, and an enormous love for public service. That was the power of the Great Communicator, the power of the personal connection that he made.

I consider this the greatest tribute of all. Despite the myriad and extraordinary legislative and foreign policy victories of President Reagan such as cutting taxes and reforming the code, rebuilding our Nation's defenses, turning back the Soviets in Afghanistan, or leading the West to a lasting victory in the cold war—despite the enormous substance of these achievements, Ronald Reagan, in the end, is not remembered first and foremost as a clever politician with great machinations of political strategy or hardball political tactics. Instead, the descriptive words that we heard here and across the country over and over again are integrity, character, courage, and leadership. These are qualities that transcend politics and qualities that transcend time. They are qualities that inspire the young and comfort the aged. They are the qualities of heroes.

Ronald Reagan was fond of describing the heroes he saw in audiences at every speech he made or heroes he would see as he traveled across the country in every corner of America and coming from every walk of life. He saw in these men and women the very strength of character, courage, integrity, and leadership that he knew made our country unique and which kept our country prosperous and free. But by bringing these very same qualities to the Oval Office and drawing on them time and time again to guide our Nation through demanding and even dark times, he left a legacy that shined like the city on a hill which he knew America could be and would again become. It is a heroic legacy, and it is the legacy of a great American.

Thank you, Madam President.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGEL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I join with my colleagues in paying profound respects to our late President Ronald Reagan, and I do so with a deep, deep sense of humility.

It is interesting, I walked into my reception room just the other day. No

matter how long one is around here, I think you sort of have to go back and refresh your recollection as to what you put up in your reception room, and I found six different photographs of myself with the good fortune to be in the presence of our former great President.

I think back over my 26 years in the Senate, having had the privilege of working with all the Presidents in that period of time and, prior thereto, those Presidents when I was in the Department of Defense. Again, I say with a deep sense of respect and humility, I believe it is clear in my mind that I had the greatest opportunity to work with President Reagan, and probably had more opportunities to be with him in a professional capacity than any other President.

I was ranking for a period of time on the Armed Services Committee and in every way supported him in his remarkable vision to build and restore the Armed Forces of the United States, which buildup, in my judgment, was a major contributor, if not the major contributor, to the eventual demise of the Soviet Union.

There are several pictures of when he visited my home, which was a farm in Virginia, a farm in an area where I grew up in the summers as a very young man. He loved coming down to the farm. My farm was adjacent to the home of former President Kennedy, and the owner at that time was Bill Clements, who was a former Deputy Secretary of Defense. I served under him as Secretary of the Navy. He and I were very close friends. I introduced him to that countryside, and he bought the Kennedy home, which is a very small, modest home, reconstructed, so to speak, and enlarged by President Kennedy and Jacqueline Kennedy, his lovely, dear wife.

President Ronald Reagan and Bill Clements set it up so he could come down there and spend some quiet downtime. And he loved to ride horses. In those days, I had a pretty good collection of horses, and I was happy to share them with him on occasion. He rode around on my farm. I certainly enjoyed being with him on several occasions. I have one of the pictures of the two of us riding together.

I mention that because in that informal setting when there was just the two of us riding horses—I remember one time Mrs. Reagan was with us—this particular time I remember very well. We rode high up on the hill on the back of the farm. The hill has a vista down into the valley of Virginia. We checked the horses and began to talk about his great admiration for Stonewall Jackson and the various campaigns Jackson had up and down that valley during the Civil War.

I was so impressed with his remarkable knowledge of the facts of that period of history, and in later years, in other discussions with him, again he would frequently make reference to the history of the United States. His knowledge was really second to none. He had a magnificent command of American history.

But on this particular day, he reflected on a little self-deprecating humor, which he was very good at. He told me when Pearl Harbor occurred, he was a lieutenant in the Army Reserve Cavalry, again because he loved horses, he loved to ride. He promptly went down, Pearl Harbor Day or the day after, whatever the case may be, and said: I want to be activated. And sure enough, he was eventually activated. He wanted to take, as we say in the horse world, the bit in his teeth and charge—''Send me right away out to the front.''

I remember he gestured with his hand. But, no, they sent him to an old cavalry post, which was down in one of the Indian territories, and he laughed and joked and said: When we put those posts out there, the primary thing was to secure the settlers and to hopefully strike a peaceful balance with the Indians and make life such that those territories could be developed.

But he said: I did a little homework—as he always did—before I went to this cavalry post and studied who the commanding officer and the other officers were.

Well, in those days, the custom in the military, particularly the Army, was that when a soldier reported, perhaps with his wife, whatever the case may be, the commanding officer would have them over to pay their respects, to get to know each other as soon as they arrived on the post. In the old days with the covered wagons, it was a long journey. By the time they reached their destination, they were pretty well exhausted—food and otherwise. So this was a chance to introduce them.

Reagan described the evening with great humor. He said: I walked in and there was the little colonel. He was a rather short fellow. He was all dressed in his uniform, with his riding boots, his Sam Browne belt. I was there in my lieutenant's uniform. He greeted me very warmly. He looked at me.

And President Reagan had a remarkable way of cocking his head. His body language was extraordinary. His walk, his mannerism, it was a great part of his character that I admired, how he conveyed so much feeling with just the way he would use his hands and his head, his stride. It emulated such tremendous confidence he had in himself.

But anyway, the colonel said: Now, Reagan, where have I seen you? Do I know you?

Lieutenant Reagan said: No, sir, we have never met.

The colonel failed to guess. He circled back again and said: Look here, young man, I know somehow I have seen you. Let's figure out where that was. What do you do?

And Lieutenant Reagan said: Well, sir, I am involved in making movies.

Suddenly this colonel became silent. Then he said: That is where I have seen you. You were in that movie called ''Brother Rat,'' which was about the Virginia Military Institute, and that movie didn't exactly, in my judgment, properly characterize the magnificence of that institute. As a matter of fact, I think it reflected dishonor upon that institute. And I remember you were in that movie. Lieutenant, your duty on this post is over. I will transfer you.

In due course the President said he was transferred off the post, but I mention that because those of us who had the opportunity to be with him, particularly in informal settings, remember so well the magnificence of this man, the lessons he taught each of us.

Again, going back to those days in the buildup of the Soviet Union, he was very conscious of the fact that the Soviet Union was on pretty shaky financial status at that stage and that the cold war posed a threat to the United States—intercontinental missiles, the threat to the standard forces of NATO, the Warsaw Pact nations, all of which are now, save one, members of NATO.

Those of us who worked in the Senate—I remember John Stennis and Barry Goldwater, Scoop Jackson, John Tower, to name but a few—formed a group to work with the President in a bipartisan way on trying to strengthen America such that we could send a strong signal to the world, particularly the Soviet Union, that we mean business. Don't ever entertain the idea of striking out against the free world, be it the United States or our NATO allies.

And the rest is history. ''Tear down that wall, Mr. Gorbachev.'' And that wall did come down. Those were extraordinary days I was able to share with him, and I say that with the deepest sense of humility. But I don't want to prolong my remarks.

I do want to tell one other chapter. Just a few days ago I was a part of a delegation that went over to the Normandy 60th anniversary. Senator AKAKA was with me and the distinguished Senator from New Jersey and his lovely new bride were with me. So there were three of us who had some experience in World War II, of the six here in the Senate. We spent a wonderful day at the ceremonies. But the next day we took time to go out to Pointe du Hoc. It was fascinating.

There on June 6, 2004, I had been on that same spot of land 20 years before with Ronald Reagan. I remember the delegation. Strom Thurmond led it. Three of us went with him. Of course, Senator Thurmond had made a landing on the beaches on D-day. Other Senators, the Senator from Nevada, and Howard Cannon had likewise participated in the D-day landings. Of course, I was at that time the youngster, 17 years old, in that group back in the United States getting prepared to take our training and become replacements someday. That is all history. There I stood on that ground, and he had passed away within that 24-hour period.

So I thought today I would read some of the remarks he made.

I ask unanimous consent to print the entire speech, a very short speech, in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S SPEECH IN NORMANDY ON D-DAY 40TH ANNIVERSARY

JUNE 6, 2004

We're here to mark that day in history when the Allied peoples joined in battle to reclaim this continent to liberty. For four long years, much of Europe had been under a terrible shadow. Free nations had fallen, Jews cried out in the camps, millions cried out for liberation. Europe was enslaved, and the world prayed for its rescue. Here in Normandy the rescue began. Here the Allies stood and fought against tyranny in a giant undertaking unparalleled in human history.

We stand on a lonely, windswept point on the northern shore of France. The air is soft, but forty years ago at this moment, the air was dense with smoke and the cries of men, and the air was filled with the crack of rifle fire and the roar of cannon. At dawn, on the morning of the 6th of June 1944, 225 Rangers jumped off the British landing craft and ran to the bottom of these cliffs. Their mission was one of the most difficult and daring of the invasion: to climb these sheer and desolate cliffs and take out the enemy guns. The Allies had been told that some of the mightiest of these guns were here and they would be trained on the beaches to stop the Allied advance.

The Rangers looked up and saw the enemy soldiers—at the edge of the cliffs shooting down at them with machine-guns and throwing grenades. And the American Rangers began to climb. They shot rope ladders over the face of these cliffs and began to pull themselves up. When one Ranger fell, another would take his place. When one rope was cut, a Ranger would grab another and begin his climb again. They climbed, shot back, and held their footing. Soon, one by one, the Rangers pulled themselves over the top, and in seizing the firm land at the top of these cliffs, they began to seize back the continent of Europe. Two hundred and twenty-five came here. After two days of fighting only ninety could still bear arms.

Behind me is a memorial that symbolizes the Ranger daggers that were thrust into the top of these cliffs. And before me are the men who put them there.

These are the boys of Pointe du Hoc. These are the men who took the cliffs. These are the champions who helped free a continent. These are the heroes who helped end a war.

Gentlemen, I look at you and I think of the words of Stephen Spender's poem. You are men who in your ''lives fought for life . . . and left the vivid air signed with your honor''. . .

Forty summers have passed since the battle that you fought here. You were young the day you took these cliffs; some of you were hardly more than boys, with the deepest joys of life before you. Yet you risked everything here. Why? Why did you do it? What impelled you to put aside the instinct for self-preservation and risk your lives to take these cliffs? What inspired all the men of the armies that met here? We look at you, and somehow we know the answer. It was faith, and belief; it was loyalty and love.

The men of Normandy had faith that what they were doing was right, faith that they fought for all humanity, faith that a just God would grant them mercy on this beachhead or on the next. It was the deep knowledge—and pray God we have not lost it—that there is a profound moral difference between the use of force for liberation and the use of force for conquest. You were here to liberate, not to conquer, and so you and those others did not doubt your cause. And you were right not to doubt.

You all knew that some things are worth dying for. One's country is worth dying for, and democracy is worth dying for, because it's the most deeply honorable form of government ever devised by man. All of you loved liberty. All of you were willing to fight tyranny, and you knew the people of your countries were behind you.

Mr. WARNER. I thought I would read part of this very moving speech. It starts midway in the speech and lays out the history of the brave men who participated in D-day landings, and in particular the Rangers.

Behind me is a memorial that symbolizes the Ranger daggers that were first thrust into the top of these cliffs. And before me are the men who put them there.

These are the boys of Pointe du Hoc. These are the men who took the cliffs. These are the champions who helped free a continent. These are the heroes who helped end a war.

Gentlemen, I look at you and I think of the words of Stephen Spender's poem. You are men who in your ''lives fought for life . . . and left a vivid air signed with your honor.''

Forty summers have passed since the battle that you fought here. You were young the day you took these cliffs; some of you were hardly more than boys, with the deepest joys of life before you. Yet you risked everything here. Why? Why did you do it? What compelled you to put aside the instinct for self-preservation and risk your lives to take these cliffs? What inspired all the men of the armies that met here? We look at you, and somehow we know the answer. It was faith and belief; it was loyalty and love.

The men of Normandy had faith that they were doing what was right, faith that they fought for all humanity, faith that a just God would grant them mercy on this beachhead or on the next. It was the deep knowledge—and pray God we have not lost it—that there is a profound moral difference between the use of force for liberation and the use of force for conquest. You were there to liberate, not to conquer, and so you and those others did not doubt your cause. And you were right not to doubt.

You all knew that some things are worth dying for. One's country is worth dying for, and democracy is worth dying for, because it's the most deeply honorable form of government ever devised by man. All of you loved liberty. All of you were willing to fight tyranny, and you knew the people of your countries were behind you.

The Presiding Officer, with his distinguished military service, understands, as do I, those words. The vision that he had not only for America but the free world, the strength of his convictions, the strength of his actions—it reestablished the strength of the Armed Forces which today have carried on, since that speech, with missions in the Balkans, Afghanistan, Iraq, and other areas of the world.

It takes time to restructure and build up a military. I find this President is doing just that, President Bush. I am happy and privileged to be a part of the team that is working in the Senate to achieve that. As a matter of fact, the bill for the Armed Forces in 2005 is the current business before the Senate.

Before I leave the speech, I was privileged, because of Senator Thurmond and the other Senators with me, we were not more than 15, 20 yards from the President when he gave the speech, right on this little spit of land that I visited 2 days ago.

And suddenly you saw the Secret Service men sort of break and go off and quickly perform the duties they have to protect the President. There was this figure which came up the cliff unexpectedly, unannounced, because there had been a reenactment with men of the Armed Forces currently on duty to scale the cliffs for all to see. So that part was over. Yet suddenly there appeared another individual who had scaled the cliffs and the Secret Service tackled him. I remember the President, always composed, stood there and looked at this scene. Suddenly, an aide went over and whispered in his ear and the President went over and grasped this man and gave him a hug. He was one of the original rangers who scaled that cliff. He wanted to show the President and the world that he was still able to do it. He had bits and pieces of his own uniform on.

Last, what are the ways in which we can honor this great President? Our hearts are so filled with gratitude and a sense of deep remorse at his loss. But it was his wisdom and foresight that strengthened America's military, and I think that requires some special recognition. I don't have all the answers now. I will be happy to work with others.

I am not trying to be the sole author of anything, but some thought has been given to the Department of Defense—and I went back last night and did a little research, and this morning I called the former Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird, a very dear and valued friend, under whom I served as Secretary of the Navy, and we reminisced about our days and some of the initiatives he took. He mentioned one specifically. There was some thought about naming the Department of Defense building for President Eisenhower. After some very considerable thought, the decision was made not to do that. One of the main reasons—and I remember this very well—is that that building stands as a symbol of the bipartisanship that must be present as we work with the men and women in the Armed Forces. I strive to achieve that, as does the Presiding Officer and many others.

I am proud of the committee on which I have served—Armed Services—for 26 years, under a series of chairmen and ranking members. We have always tried to put partisanship aside and we have been successful. But it is important that the building be viewed as bipartisan.

Therefore, I remember Secretary Laird saying the naming of the building was not, in his judgment, what we should do. He confirmed that this morning, and I shared that feeling. He said he conceived the idea of naming a corridor for General Eisenhower. There is a technical thing there. The corridor

is named after him as a general of the Armed Forces, a five-star general. His picture in uniform and many other pieces of memorabilia are along the corridor by the office of the Secretary of Defense. Previous Secretaries of Defense have honored the commanders in chief, the Presidents. So there is a corridor set aside for the commanders in chief, with portraits of every President since George Washington. Five living Presidents are there. You have Ford, Carter, George Herbert Walker Bush, President Clinton, and our current President Bush. All of their portraits are there. The way the Department of Defense has handled this in the past is to treat with equality the Presidents and their portraits, the recognition being bipartisan in nature in that building.

We will have to put our minds together to see how best to do it. There is no question that Ronald Reagan gave a tremendous impetus to the concept of defending this Nation against missiles—missiles fired in anger or accidentally. Those things happen. He had the star wars concept. I was on the committee and we looked at this program. We began to do the initial work in the Congress to give support to the President's program. But eventually, from the standpoint of technology and costs, we looked at different ways to achieve our defense against missiles. It started way back under President Reagan when we put emphasis on this situation. Some of the thinking preceded President Reagan on how to defend this country against missiles. Today, we don't have a thing to interdict an intercontinental ballistic missile that would be fired in the direction of our 50 States. That is a separate matter.

Therefore, I think we have to give a lot of careful thought and be ever mindful of how we recognize our commanders, with five still living, in terms of their contributions to the defense of this country. We will come up with an idea. I hope we can, in some way, appropriately recognize this great President for his extraordinary accomplishments in strengthening America.

I conclude my remarks with the deepest sense of humility and gratitude toward the recollection, modest friendship, and the teachings I received from this great President.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The distinguished Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today and this week, as we pause to reflect on the life of Ronald Reagan and his role in leading our Nation and the State in which I lived when I was in the Navy, I was thinking back and talking with my children this week about my first recollection of Ronald Reagan.

My first recollection was when I was about their age, early in my teenage years, seeing him on television. I may have seen him earlier than that as a kid in the movies, but I do not remember. I remember fully—and the Presiding Officer is probably too young to remember this—a television show called ''Death Valley Days'' and watched later, I remember, a television show called ''GE Theater.'' He was the host and introduced each week's segment. My family would watch those shows, not religiously, but regularly. I enjoyed them as a kid growing up in Danville, VA.

At the time, Ronald Reagan, who, I guess, was maybe in his fifties at that time, or maybe forties, had a reasonably successful career in motion pictures, certainly a lot more successful than any of us, except for former Senator Fred Thompson. But he had a reasonably successful career. We were in this in-between place where television was coming of age and playing a role with respect to ''Death Valley Days'' and ''GE Theater.''

I remember my first thoughts of him were that he was a nice-looking guy, a handsome kind of rugged fellow. He seemed to be amiable. He came across as amiable and exuded a certain warmth and also a sense of sincerity that came across clearly on that small television screen that we owned back in those days.

I remember being surprised in 1964. I think I was 17 years old. I was about to enroll in Ohio State University. I was going to be a Navy ROTC midshipman. I was at the age of 17 a young Republican for Barry Goldwater. I do not know how I ended up on this side of the aisle. Churchill said: If you are young and not liberal, you don't have a heart; if you are old and not conservative, you don't have a brain. Somehow I ended up as a 17-year-old supporting Barry Goldwater.

I remember watching the convention which was in San Francisco at the Cow Palace. Ironically, another one of our colleagues was there as a Goldwater supporter, too. She was there as a ''golden girl.'' Her seat is right behind me. It is ironic we both ended up where we are in the U.S. Senate. I remember watching on television the 1964 Republican Convention and actually watching the Democratic Convention that year.

I remember being surprised to see Ronald Reagan speak and address the convention. I knew he had been a film star. I knew he played a role on these two television shows I watched as a kid growing up, but I had no idea. I heard he had been involved in the Actors Guild, sort of a labor union for actors, but I had no idea he was involved in politics to any extent and that he would end up with a major role at that convention speaking on behalf of Barry Goldwater.

He came across in this speech a bit differently than he did in his other roles on television, but he did project a great deal of sincerity, a lot of conviction.

He also suggested a good-naturedness and a certain warmth I have always found refreshing and enduring about him.

We learned that evening, as we watched that speech, that this was a man who had some strong convictions and gave a powerful speech and one who got a lot of people to think about him as a future leader. Not long after that, he was elected Governor of California, served there for the most part with distinction and then ran against Gerald Ford for President, lost and came back a couple of years later, ran against Jimmy Carter and won.

It is interesting, conventions were different then. The first convention I ever remember paying much attention to was in 1964. It was a convention with serious questions about who was going to be the President.

We had the Republicans. Conservatives were supporting Barry Goldwater and we had the Rockefeller Republicans. There was a lot of give and take, and real primaries. It was hard fought right up until the convention.

I remember in 1968 I was a supporter for Eugene McCarthy who was running for President. I respected both McCarthy and Goldwater because they were standup guys. They were willing to take tough positions and not mince their words. I respected them both for that. Conventions were different than they are today.

Although I was impressed by the speech that then-citizen Ronald Reagan gave, I never imagined he would be Governor of California, and I certainly never imagined he would be President of the United States. I never imagined I would be a Congressman, Governor, or Senator, either. I am probably more surprised by that than I am about him ending up as Governor and President.

As luck would have it, he ended up as President of the United States and I ended up here serving with our Presiding Officer, and that is something I enjoy very much.

Before I was Governor, I served in the House of Representatives for 10 years. Ronald Reagan was elected President in 1980; I was elected to the House in 1982. I had a chance to interact with him from time to time during limited opportunities as a Democratic Congressman. He had qualities I admired all those years ago when he was hosting those television shows. His warmth, his sincerity, his good humor, those were qualities he possessed in the real world off the TV screen.

Sometimes the folks we see or admire on television and film or other venues do not turn out to be quite the same when we meet them in person. He was very much the same.

While I did not always see eye to eye with him on environmental issues, for

example, and I had concerns about the budget deficits we were starting to rack up, and questions about deploying space weapons, star wars, and the way we conducted our business in Central America, there was a lot he wanted to do and sought to do with which I did agree. He was an early proponent of welfare reform. He was a guy who believed work should pay more than welfare. We have all heard of the earned income tax credit. He was a major proponent of the earned income tax credit because he felt people who worked ought to be better off than folks who were on welfare.

He presided over big tax cuts in the early 1980s, 1981, and later on, faced with ever-growing tax deficits, he presided over some of the largest tax increases that were adopted in our Nation's history.

He was a staunch opponent of communism, but a fellow who could reach out not just across the aisle but across the world to Gorbachev to become friends, and they embraced one another at the end of their tenures as they together helped to change the world in a better way.

I find in Ronald Reagan that he was someone who would stake out a position; he would adhere to that position with his convictions for as long as he could, and at the end, if he had to change, he would. He was willing to do that, but he did not back off easily or readily. He was willing in the end to compromise.

In reacting to folks in my own State in Delaware this week who asked me for my reaction to what he was like, I said, well, whether or not you liked the man's policies, it was hard not to like the man.

Since his death, there has been a fair amount of conjecture about what we should do to pay tribute to him and his memory. Some people have suggested we ought to rework Mount Rushmore and find a way to put his image on Mount Rushmore. We have had a few people suggest maybe Ronald Reagan's picture should be on the $10 bill instead of Alexander Hamilton. I heard our Republican leader suggest yesterday that maybe we should rename the Pentagon in honor of Ronald Reagan. I do not know that those are good or bad ideas. I have not given those a lot of thought.

I ask we consider a couple of other legacies that might even be more important and more enduring. One of those deals with the disease that dogged him for the last years of his life, Alzheimer's disease, a disease my mom also suffers from. She lives in Kentucky. I visited her over the weekend. She does not remember much. Actually, she remembers a few things that happened a long time ago, but she does not have any recollection of Ronald Reagan and all of those years we watched him on television when I was a kid growing up.

My mom is going to be 82 years this August and my hope is she will live to be as old as Ronald Reagan. I do not think that is likely, but that would be wonderful if it happened. My mom is one of 4 million people in the world today who suffers from Alzheimer's disease. It was something we saw the first signs of 5, 6, 7 years ago, and we knew where it was leading. Her mom suffered the same fate. Her grandmother had suffered the same fate as well.

While there are roughly 4 million Americans today who suffer from Alzheimer's disease, by the year 2020 we are told there could be as many as 14 million Americans who suffer from Alzheimer's disease. It is a tough disease not so much for the person who suffers from it but certainly for their families and those who love them and who are unable to have the kind of relationship we once did.

I know Senator MIKULSKI is going to be leading the effort, I think with Senator BOND, for us to focus anew as a Congress, as a Senate, on providing meaningful increases in funding to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease; not simply a way to treat the symptoms, but a way to stop it dead in its tracks. I commend them for their actions and I stand fully ready to support them. I hope others will as well.

The other legacy I suggest that may be as important or we may be inspired to address and do something about other than dealing with Alzheimer's disease is civility. I am not the first person who has noticed this of late, but there has been a huge loss of civility not only in Washington, DC, but shortly after I heard of President Reagan's death I was flipping through the radio channels in my car and I came across one of these right-wing talk shows. There was pure vitriol coming out of the speaker on my radio. I find it hard to listen to that stuff so I turned it off. I find it hard to watch the television shows anymore because it seems there is no meaningful discourse; they are really shouting matches.

Ronald Reagan, for whatever faults he may have had, was a civil person, he was a gentleman, and at a time when that kind of behavior characterizes too little of what not only goes on here but what takes place in politics throughout our country, he is a good role model in that the way he treated people was the way he would like to have been treated. It is a lesson that was good and meaningful then and it is one we can certainly take again today.

I have heard our own leader, TOM DASCHLE, begin to speak of late of a new civility, and we need a new civility. We need some civility, not going through the formalities, but treating one another the way we would want to be treated; not just in this Chamber, not just in this Capitol, but throughout this country, even in a Presidential election year.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. President, as one of the two Senators from Illinois, I am very proud of Ronald Reagan and his contributions to this country. Ronald Reagan is the only American President who was, in fact, born in Illinois. Many people think of Abraham Lincoln as having been born in Illinois, but he was actually born in Kentucky and later moved there. Of course, I think there is no question that Ronald Reagan will join Abraham Lincoln as one of our Nation's greatest Presidents. I only want to say a few words about him.

I didn't actually serve in the Senate when he was President. I didn't ever have the opportunity to get to know him. I did, however, get the opportunity to meet him once as a very young man, when I was about 20 years old or so and he was campaigning for President in 1980.

But my first real recollection of him came from watching his address on television in 1976 at the Republican National Convention. He had lost the primaries to incumbent President Gerald Ford but had nonetheless had a very strong showing. He gave a speech at that 1976 convention that literally brought down the house and fired up the delegates. I remember watching that at home and thinking, What an outstanding leader. You could see that this man certainly still had a great contribution to make.

He won against all the odds. All the pundits and many of the commentators dismissed Ronald Reagan. They thought he was too old. They thought he was too conservative to run and be elected President in 1980. But he proved them all wrong.

I think a pivotal moment came in 1980 during his primary elections. At that time he lost the Iowa caucuses and he had a lot of pressure on him to win the New Hampshire primary. Many of us will recall that New Hampshire primary debate where he grabbed the microphone as they tried to shut it off. He grabbed the microphone and said: ''Mr. Green, I paid for this microphone.'' He wanted his other opponents to be allowed the opportunity to speak at that debate, as opposed to just having a one-on-one debate with George Bush, who later became his Vice President and succeeded him as President.

I remember watching that Nashua, NH, debate in 1980 from the basement television room of my fraternity house in Hanover, NH, at Dartmouth College. I was very much paying attention to that primary because it was happening in New Hampshire where I was attending college. I will never forget seeing Ronald Reagan in that debate and his remarkable performance.

Later, in 1980, I had the opportunity to meet him when he came to Illinois to campaign for a U.S. Senate candidate in October of 1980, about a month before Reagan was elected President. I was actually an intern on the campaign of a fellow by the name of Dave O'Neal who was running for the Senate in Illinois. He actually lost. But as an intern on that campaign, I had the opportunity to meet Ronald

Reagan and to welcome him into the back room before we had the dinner in honor of Dave O'Neal.

I will never forget Ronald Reagan. Everybody called him Governor at that time. That was the most recent office he had. They didn't call him President Reagan yet. But when he walked into the holding room, the bartender immediately told him: Governor Reagan, we have squeezed some fresh oranges for you. We have some freshly squeezed orange juice for you. Would you like some of this?

Governor Reagan looked at him and said: I'll take it if you put a little vodka in that.

I was struck immediately at the time by his charm and his sense of humor and his relaxed nature, even though he was just a few weeks out from the election day in what everyone thought would be a very close election with President Carter. But, of course, as we know, Ronald Reagan went on to win in a landslide.

He had a remarkable career. He was an enormous source of inspiration to me as I was finishing college and going on to law school. I was very proud at the time to be a Republican and to have him as the leader of our party, but also to be an American and have him lead our country and represent us in the world. I thought he handled himself with incredible poise and dignity.

His achievements are monumental. You will recall that he had few allies in Congress. The other party controlled both Houses of Congress while he was President. Yet he was able to work his will through Congress by calling upon the American people to lobby Congress for some of his important initiatives, such as lowering taxes. President Reagan succeeded in lowering the highest tax rates, which at that time were up to 70 percent. He dramatically lowered the tax rates and unleashed a flurry of economic activity that is with us today.

He went on to achieve major arms control agreements, and also, with the threat of his willingness to spend whatever it took to defend our country—his will in that regard, his sheer will to succeed in defeating what he saw as an evil ideology, communism—in ending the cold war with the Soviet Union, he ultimately succeeded in doing that. No one has a greater claim on ending the cold war than Ronald Reagan and, as Margaret Thatcher has said, he did so without firing a single shot.

I think one of his greatest accomplishments occurred in his second term, and that was the simplifying of the Tax Code. If you recall, we went for a time where we got rid of a lot of the Swiss cheese loopholes and deductions that are in our Tax Code. We dramatically simplified the Tax Code, collapsed the rates, and it held for a few years. We have gone back now and allowed all the special interests to fill up the Tax Code with all sorts of special interest loopholes and giveaways to politically connected interests. Sometimes I wish we were rereading what Ronald Reagan said at the time about the necessity of cleaning up that Tax Code.

One of the most cherished treasures in the State of Illinois is the boyhood home in which Ronald Reagan grew up in the 1920s, in Dixon, IL. That home has been purchased and lovingly restored by a foundation and by members of the Dixon, IL, community. It is a wonderful place for Americans who want to pay their respects to Ronald Reagan and his legacy, to go by and visit on Interstate 88 in Dixon, IL, just off Interstate 88. I certainly hope a lot more Americans who are interested in the history of Ronald Reagan will visit that home.

Ronald Reagan himself went back to visit it, I believe, after he left the White House even. He has recounted many tales of his growing up there.

He was actually born in Tampico, IL, in an apartment above a commercial building in downtown Tampico, and later moved to Dixon, IL. Some of his fondest memories are of growing up in Dixon, along the Rock River.

Of course, many people will remember Ronald Reagan talking about one of his proudest accomplishments in life was actually saving 77 people from drowning over the 7 years that he was a lifeguard along the Rock River in Dixon, IL.

If you go to Dixon, IL, you can see this wonderful small town that shaped Ronald Reagan, his character, his values, his common sense, his Midwestern way of thinking, of looking at the world. I don't think that ever left him.

There is also an interesting story not many people are aware of, but President Reagan wrote about this in his biography. He graduated from Eureka College, about 130 miles south of Dixon, in Illinois. After graduating from college, he went back to Dixon and he applied for a job in the sporting goods department, I believe, at a Montgomery Ward store in Dixon, IL.

Guess what happened. Montgomery Ward turned down Ronald Reagan for that job. That set him off in different pursuits, and he ultimately went to Iowa and became an announcer, did Cubs games from a regional radio station there. But he wrote in his biography he wonders what would have happened had he actually gotten that job at the Montgomery Ward store in Dixon, IL. He suspected he might never have left Dixon, IL.

We need to thank somebody who failed to hire Ronald Reagan at Montgomery Ward in 1932, I think, because it was that little twist, that little turn in his life that turned out for the better, not only for him but certainly for our entire Nation and the world.

I ask that we not forget the example of Ronald Reagan and his cheerful optimism about our country and our future. No one could communicate their thoughts as well as Ronald Reagan, in my judgment. I know of no equal he had in public service in terms of communicating with people. He was an inspiring leader.

Ronald Reagan came to the presidency of a self-doubting nation, a nation more suspicious of its power than inspired by its possibilities. And he understood—as magnificently as any American leader—the restorative force of faith, of conviction, of pride. He was the Great Communicator, not because he mastered the sound bite, but because this midwestern man of 10,000 handwritten letters knew that words matter—words with simple, self-evident integrity, words that reach into the vagueness of a volatile democracy and perfectly describe the essential goodness of our character.

Ronald Reagan returned us to ourselves. He did not work miracles. But he emboldened us to see the grace of God in the destiny of our great Nation. He enabled us to hear the still, small voice in the clamor of great historical conflicts. He reminded us to treasure the simple miracles of life, laughter and love.

This man, who survived into the 21st century, embodied as perhaps none other the panoramic sweep of America's 10th century. Reagan was born in the small town of Tampico, IL. It was 1911, the year of the first coast-to-coast airplane flight, a 49-day ordeal with 69 stops and 16 crash landings. It was also the year of the first aircraft landing—crude though it was—on a ship anchored in San Francisco Bay. A series of ropes stopped the aircraft. Ninety years later, on March 4, 2001, the United States christened the Navy's newest Nimitz-class aircraft carrier, the USS *Ronald Reagan*, a 90,000-ton nuclear-powered fighting ship, and the pride of the most powerful navy in the world.

Ronald Reagan fundamentally changed the face of American politics—and profusely contributed his name to the new political lexicon. What American before or since Ronald Reagan has become the popular namesake for a theory of economics, a political and electoral sea change, and a decisive partisan crossover? I speak of Reaganomics, the Reagan Revolution, and Reagan Democrats.

The man was that large. He had strong and distinct views which he was able to communicate with remarkable effectiveness. He had a irresistibly winning personality and was irrepressibly optimistic. Though the establishment of both political parties often ridiculed his beliefs, the people somehow always seemed to have faith and confidence in him. In fact, they loved as perhaps they have loved no other President in modern history.

Conventional intellects and comfortable pundits were aghast when President Reagan spoke so freely of ''evil'' in the world. In a world where ''evil'' is neatly banished because it is too judgmental, the moral declarations of Ronald Reagan were inevitably revolutionary. The Great Communicator

understood perfectly well that communication without a moral compass becomes all talk. And so we are the heirs of a more civilized and less menacing world because Ronald Reagan had the courage to maintain firm beliefs and to stand up for those beliefs.

As a Senator from Illinois, I am proud to remark briefly and comparatively about another great son of Illinois, the only President to be elected from Illinois, Kentucky-born but Illinois-settled Abraham Lincoln, whom our history honors as few others. Lincoln and Reagan both grew up humbly and gained a natural comfort with people from all walks of life. They were both frequently underestimated by opponents who imagined themselves intellectually, culturally or socially superior. They both possessed an equanimity and fortitude that kept them serene while navigating treacherous waters. They both loved the United States of America. And they both cherished American freedom and staked their public lives on the resolute promotion of it—for Lincoln, against the forces of disunity and enslavement at home, and for Reagan, against a godless imperial tyranny abroad. I am proud to hail from the State of Illinois.

When we finally measure the worth of a statesman, the words of political or ideological adversaries can speak volumes. And here Ronald Reagan—a statesman with many more converts than implacable enemies—is a shining beacon in his own shining city. When President Clinton announced in 1996 that ''the era of big government is over,'' it was homage to the durable influence—across the political landscape—of Ronald Reagan's faith in the American people. When Mikhail Gorbachev recently said of Ronald Reagan, ''he was sincere,'' he captured with fitting simplicity the worldwide power of the American dream in the hands of America's finest dreamer.

Ronald Reagan stayed the course, throughout and after his presidency, until a progressive illness consumed him. Indeed, sliding irretrievably into forgetfulness a decade ago, Ronald Reagan remembered to say goodbye to his beloved American people. ''When the Lord calls me home, whenever that may be, I will leave with the greatest love for this country of ours and eternal optimism for its future,'' Reagan wrote. ''I now begin the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life. I know that for America there will always be a bright dawn ahead. Thank you my friends. May God always bless you.''

May God rest his soul, and may God bless Nancy Reagan, who is also from Illinois, and all the Reagan children and their families.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SUNUNU). The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I join my colleague from Illinois in paying tribute to the late President Ronald Reagan.

Today the Senate passed by an overwhelming vote a resolution commemorating Ronald Reagan for his service to America and recalling his legacy.

There has been a lot said on the floor about President Reagan. I come to this task with a little different perspective than some. Were it not for Ronald Reagan, I wouldn't be in the Senate today. I say that because I made three vain and futile attempts to be elected to public office. In 1982, I ran for the House of Representatives against an incumbent Republican Congressman. Were it not for the sorry state of the economy in Illinois after the first 2 years of President Reagan's Presidency, I would have lost. But because of the economy and the troubles faced at that moment in time, I was successful in my campaign against a long-time Republican incumbent Congressman.

I will not mislead anyone before making these remarks. I will tell you that while a Member of the House of Representatives during the 6 remaining years of President Reagan's Presidency, there were very few things I agreed with in reference to him. In fact, over 90 percent of the time we didn't see eye to eye. I had some very strong philosophical differences with President Reagan on economic policy, foreign policy, and many other things. But I will tell you this: He was an extraordinary person, and I think even those of us who disagreed with him politically respected him very much.

I recall when I was elected in one of the largest new classes of Congressmen since Watergate, in 1982, that President Reagan and Mrs. Reagan invited all of the new Members of the House of Representatives and their spouses to come for a dinner at the White House. It was an amazingly heady experience to walk in as Congressmen-elect with our wives and shake hands with the President and Mrs. Reagan, realizing full well that most of the people in the room were new Democratic Congressmen who had been running against President Reagan and his policies. But he was gracious to a fault and could not have been more cordial to all of us who gathered that evening. One of my great memories of that period of time between the election and being sworn in was sitting there in the White House at this dinner hosted by President Reagan and Mrs. Reagan. At the same table was my Senate colleague, then-Congressman MIKE DEWINE, and his wife Fran, who had made the trip from Ohio for that special dinner with the Reagans and new Members of Congress days after she had given birth to a little baby girl, whom she brought to the same dinner in a basket which she had right next to the table. We have laughed about it all the time, because obviously after 23 years that little girl has grown up to be a remarkable young woman.

But those are some of the memories I have of President Reagan opening the door and welcoming in some new Congressmen who had spent months running against him and his policies.

The same thing held true when it came to his State of the Union Addresses. I can remember so many different times when I marched to the House of Representatives' Chamber for the State of the Union Address by President Reagan. After a while I came to understand what the rules were. The rules were these: You didn't have a chance as a Democrat to say anything critical and be successful the night of President Reagan's speech. He had such a magical style and was so affable and friendly and approachable that after he concluded his State of the Union Address, the best for the loyal opposition was to wave and leave the stage because he was so good. He was one of the best. We did learn that after 24 or 48 hours had passed, perhaps a closer look at what he said could lead to some constructive criticism. But we knew right off the bat when President Reagan took to the floor of the House of Representatives for the State of the Union Address and walked up those stairs, the best thing the loyal opposition could do was to be quiet.

There was another aspect of Ronald Reagan which I miss so much. It is part of the political life which unfortunately we don't have enough of. He was President in an era of some great people—Tip O'Neill, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Bob Michel, Republican minority leader from Illinois. They brought to this business of politics a certain humanity and civility which we have lost almost completely.

I can recall the bitter battles we had on the floor of the House of Representatives with President Reagan over very contentious issues and the debates going on for days. Ultimately, someone would prevail, and many times it would be President Reagan and his position. Without fail, when it came to those critical votes, Tip O'Neill, then Speaker of the House, the leading Democrat, would pick up the phone, call the President and congratulate him. It was a gesture, but it was an important gesture to say that, frankly, we have both given it a good fight; the decision has been made; now let us move on to the people's business.

President Ronald Reagan understood that, Tip O'Neill understood that, and Bob Michel understood that. I wish our generation of leaders could understand that more, that even though we disagree, and disagree with a great deal of conviction, we should try to look for that human side we can all share. I think time and again President Reagan did that. I commend him for it.

Even though you have disagreed with him during the course of the debate, when it was all over, you knew you would be treated with respect.

Time and again, my wife Loretta and I would go down to the White House for the Christmas party, the barbeques and picnics. It was always a warm welcome and greeting, even though the President was of a different party where there were very serious differences.

I would like to reflect, too, for a moment on the former First Lady, Nancy Reagan. She has been a pillar of strength since it was announced that the late President was suffering from Alzheimer's; 10 years watching the man she loved the most of any in the world slip into darkness. She said in a few interviews since President Reagan passed away, the worst part was the advancing years and not being able to share memories anymore because President Reagan was inflicted with Alzheimer's disease. That takes a toll.

We have had friends who have gone through it. It takes a special commitment and sacrifice to make it through that terrible illness. My heart goes out to Nancy Reagan and her family, all of them, for what they have endured for 10 years, standing by the former President while he was afflicted with this disease.

My colleague Senator CARPER mentioned earlier that many people are now talking about tributes to President Reagan, and he is deserving. Despite my differences with him politically, I voted for the renaming of the Washington National Airport in his memory. I thought that was appropriate for someone who had served our Nation as President of the United States. Now people are trying to think of other things they can do. They are kind of upping the ante: Well, you know, not the 50-cent piece, maybe the $10 bill; no, maybe Mount Rushmore. I would like to suggest to them the most enduring legacy for this President would be to help others in his name. I can't think of anything more important to ask for when the time comes for those to consider what to do in his memory than the contribution suggested by our colleagues Senators MIKULSKI and BOND, one which I think is worthy of our immediate consideration. They called for the establishment of the Ronald Reagan Alzheimer's Breakthrough Act of 2004. They believe we are near a breakthrough in treating Alzheimer's and they want us to put special attention and special resources and special efforts in that regard. That not only will serve the memory of President Reagan and his courageous family who stood by him, but it will also serve to help 4⅕ million Americans inflicted with Alzheimer's disease today, and their husbands, wives, children, and their loved ones who stand by helplessly at their side as they drift into the darkness of this dreaded disease. That would be such a great tribute to President Reagan. I hope we can do it on a bipartisan basis with the civility and humanity which President Reagan demonstrated during the course of his life.

I might also add that the First Lady's commitment to stem cell research is an exceptional statement on her part. She has broken with some members of the Republican Party on this issue. I know her position is controversial, even within this administration, but she understands, as many do, that unless we are committed to medical research, including stem cell research, the chances that we can successfully deal with Alzheimer's, diabetes, spinal cord injuries, and other terrible afflictions will be diminished. I salute the First Lady and I hope we will, in recognition of her commitment and in memory of President Reagan, also decide we will step forward in this critical area of medical research involving stem cells.

I am honored that President Reagan was a friend, at least in passing, on a political basis. I am happy he came from Illinois and happened to believe that perhaps his Midwestern roots might have helped him in his various careers. It certainly helped him serving this country as President.

He had an amazing record of victories. I know because I was on the losing end of a lot of those campaigns. I campaigned for his opponents with little or no success. He carried 44 States in the first election and 49 States in the second. Probably few Presidents in history have had a mandate that substantial when they were reelected. It is a tribute to the fact that America loved that President, America wanted Ronald Reagan to serve, and he served our Nation so well.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, over the past few days, more than 100,000 Americans have stood in line in California for 12 hours or even more to pay their respects to President Ronald Reagan. This great show of respect and affection will be repeated during the coming days in Washington.

This overwhelming outpouring cannot be explained by merely citing the traits for which he was so well-known—his likability, his wit and optimism, his courage when attacked by a would-be assassin's bullet or, at the end of his life, by a devastating disease, or even his skills as the Great Communicator. Americans are standing in line because of President Reagan's ideas and the principles and convictions that gave those ideas their power: The God-given right to freedom, responsibility for one's own actions, and charity toward others—the very ideas that are the foundation of this great Nation were the foundation of President Reagan's character.

President Reagan became President at a time when the world had begun to question the strength of that foundation. It was a time when freedom, balanced by personal responsibility and justified by charity, was in danger of becoming just one of the many ways in which human society could be organized. Rather than appease or accommodate communism, he confronted it and exposed its moral bankruptcy.

President Reagan emboldened freedom-loving people everywhere—those behind the Iron Curtain and those in danger of being enveloped by it—and gave them faith and strength. He believed, as he said in his first inaugural address, that no weapon in the arsenals of the world is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women. He was right.

President Reagan became President at a time when America had begun to question its place in the world and the values upon which this great Nation was built. He opened the gate of the American spirit. He tore down the wall of doubt.

Ronald Reagan was a great communicator because he had something great to communicate. He was the right man for his time; and now he belongs to all time.

He will be missed, but President Reagan's ideas will always be part of the American experience.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I have, for the last day, listened to a good number of my colleagues reminisce about the late President Ronald Reagan, many of them quoting from his speeches, many of them quoting from books written about him, about his phenomenal life, and his phenomenal presence in this city as one of our Presidents. So I would guess that by this moment nearly everything that can be said about Ronald Reagan has been said but, then again, not everyone has said it.

I find myself in that situation in these moments just prior to the adjournment of the Senate and hours before a coffin bearing President Ronald Reagan will arrive at the Rotunda of our great Capitol.

What I might do for just a moment is reminisce about a couple of personal experiences I had the privilege of having with the late President that, to me, speaks volumes about the gentleman's personalty, his style of Presidency, and what he meant to my State of Idaho.

Idaho, by its conservative character and its independence, was always a strong Reagan State. It spoke out loudly for the President. It voted in large numbers for the President. There was never a question where Idahoans would be when it came to supporting Ronald Reagan for his Presidency.

My relationship with him began at the very time he came to Washington. I was a freshman in the House of Representatives in the winter of 1981. Both

President Reagan and I were elected at the same time. I was one of those of the large class of 54 Republican freshmen who entered the U.S. House, many of them because of the strength of Ronald Reagan, and we all became known as ''Reagan babies.'' I suspect that is a title that at the age of 58 I still bear with some pride. Because we came at a time when we had a President who was speaking of change; and the American people were wanting it, demanding it, and his Presidency embodied it.

The situation I want to relate for the record this afternoon occurred during the first budget process of the Reagan administration. David Stockman, a Congressman, had just been appointed Director of OMB. Of course, the major tax cut that our President was so well known for—that began to stimulate the economy and turn the American people back into entrepreneurialism—was all at hand. But there were deficits. So David Stockman came up with the idea that we should sell off our strategic minerals stockpile.

Well, that is something you do not hear talked about hardly at all today, but following World War II, Congress had passed legislation saying that we should stockpile silver and magnesium and titanium and zinc and a variety of other metals in case we got in another war, so we would have these supplies of metals available for industrial purposes.

By 1981, it was largely determined on the part of the Reagan administration and David Stockman that they were just not necessary any longer. It was probably true that some Members of Congress believed the same thing. So when the announcement of the sale of these stockpiles became public—and the money then from their sale was to return to the Treasury, and that money would offset some of the deficits that might occur as a result of the tax cuts—the silver market plummeted. The price of silver on the world market dropped because the large supply of silver being held by our Government was going to enter the market at some point. So the market out there was beginning to adjust and prices fell.

Because Idaho at that time was a primary silver producer, not only did prices fall in Idaho, but when they fell, many of our mines closed. There were 400 or 500 miners—men and women—out of work in the Silver Valley of Idaho, known as the Coeur d'Alene mining district, that was in part a direct result of this announcement.

I was a freshman Congressman. That was my congressional district. I had people out of work. This was largely still an old line labor Democrat stronghold in north Idaho, and the hue and cry was very loud. These men and women were out of work because of President Ronald Reagan.

I had thought that if Ronald Reagan really understood the impact of what he was doing, he might change his approach. But because it was a directive from OMB, because it was a part of the budgetary policy of this administration, my small voice simply was not getting heard.

I appealed one evening in a conversation to the then-Secretary of the Interior, Jim Watt. I said: Secretary Watt, how do I get to the President? How do I tell my story, our story, Idaho's story, about this particular problem?

He said: Well, Larry, you have to get to the President directly. Obviously, David Stockman is not interested in hearing your story. The sale of the strategic metals, the sale of the stockpiles, is his idea. He's not going to be your champion. So if you're ever down at the White House, see if you can get the President's ear.

Well, freshmen Congressmen do not often go to the White House. But because of the key tax votes that were coming up, I got invited to the White House to visit with Ronald Reagan. I had presented on one, small sheet of paper, on one side, a very brief, clear explanation of the impact of the sale of the silver stockpile out of the strategic metals stockpile on the people of Idaho. I put it in an envelope, and wrote across it ''To President Ronald Reagan,'' and stuck it in my pocket.

Now I am down at the White House and conversations go forward. At the end of the conversation, I say: Mr. President, here is a note I would like to have you read. It's important to my people in Idaho. By your actions, you have put 500 Idahoans out of work.

He said: Really?

I said: Yes, selling off the strategic metals.

He smiled and said: We are?

Well, that did not surprise me. The longer I am here in Washington, I know not everybody knows every detail about everything. That is why you hire and have around you competent people, and Presidents are certainly no different than many of us.

He kept the note. I saw it go into the breast pocket of his suit coat. A day and a half or two later, I got a call from the White House saying: Congressman CRAIG, can you come down and visit with the President about your problem in north Idaho and the sale of the silver stockpile?

My, I was impressed. I went to the White House. There in the Oval Office was the President and David Stockman, the Director of OMB, the man who had established the policy of selling off the stockpiles to bring money to the Treasury. We discussed it at length. In fact, David Stockman and I had a small debate in front of the President about the pros and cons of doing so.

What I said at that time was: Mr. President, I am not opposed to you selling off the stockpile of silver, but it's how you are approaching it, and how you are approaching it has had a dramatic impact on the market. As a result of that, it has dropped the price of silver worldwide, and men and women in Idaho are now out of work.

He said: Well—in his inevitable way—let me think about that.

A week later, there was a very small but very important announcement that no longer would there be any more sale of the silver stockpile, and, of course, the prices came back and the men and women in north Idaho went to work.

What is the message? The message is that when this President, Ronald Reagan, understood the impact of an action—if it was hurting people or impacting them adversely, or if it was doing something that was against his market ideas and his philosophical belief in limited government and that government should not be the arbiter nor should government infringe upon the well-being of citizens—he would make changes. And he did. And of course, I have told that story many times in Idaho. It was very clear to Idahoans that the market changed because Ronald Reagan saw what he was doing or saw what his administration was doing and was willing to make a very important change to impact people's lives.

Lastly, I remember coming to the U.S. Senate in 1990, certainly after President Reagan had left this city. The first office I took in the Hart Building had on a conference wall a very large map of the world. It filled the whole wall, and it still had the Socialist Republics of the Soviet Union written across that map. That will tell you how old it was in 1990. I remember at the time looking at that map and saying: Thank you, Ronald Reagan. You have made that map of the world obsolete. You as the President—not single-handedly but certainly by the force of your beliefs and by the force of your efforts—have made the Soviet Union obsolete in such a way that it simply withered and died, almost without a whimper. And that, of course, is one of the great legacies of our President, and many of our colleagues have spoken about that.

We are not going to let revisionist historians suggest that the Soviet Union would have crumbled anyway. There was a reality they had to face. The reality was Ronald Reagan and the national resolve of this country in the cold war, built on the strength and the beliefs of a great President by the name of Ronald Reagan, that we not only could overcome communism but we would, in essence, arm ourselves and build a military ready and capable of defeating the Soviet Union. That combination of efforts, put together with his willingness to deal with Gorbachev and others, obviously changed the dynamics of world politics and the environment I grew up in as a child, known as the cold war.

I will attend the ceremony in the Chamber tonight, and I will mourn the loss of Ronald Reagan. But more importantly, I will celebrate. I will celebrate a great President, a President who came to our country's call at the right time in our history, to lead us with optimism and enthusiasm and vision in a way few Presidents have. So while I will certainly miss the presence

of the man, I celebrate his record and the history that will be written about him.

I send my prayers and the prayers of my wife Suzanne to Nancy Reagan and all of the Reagans. They stand with a great legacy they are obviously very proud of, as we all are as Americans.

To Ronald Reagan I say: Thank you, you built a place in history that is well deserving of the actions you took as President of the United States.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I wanted to be sure to have an opportunity to make some comments about President Reagan before we went out of session tonight. I will take the opportunity to do so right now.

I join with my colleagues, so many of whom have already spoken, in tribute to our Nation's 40th President, Ronald Reagan. My first term in the Senate coincided with the last 6 years of his Presidency. I had the opportunity to work with him on several occasions. As someone who came from modest beginnings and a working-class family, I understood the fact that he rose from his humble beginnings to become one of the crucial world leaders. He was respected greatly. I had a chance to work with him on several occasions, not the least of which was something as simple as raising the drinking age to 21 across the country, thereby saving thousands of families a year from having to mourn the loss of a young person in their household. The bill was signed in the morning at the White House, and I was pleased I was able to return from a convention in San Francisco in time to be there and share those good moments with President Reagan and then-Secretary of Transportation ELIZABETH DOLE.

We did a lot of good for families across America with that legislation, and also offered support to say to those who would pollute our environment, ''If you pollute, you must pay to clean it up,'' and that was Superfund. It had a very important beginning in those days.

President Reagan is appropriately being remembered for his overpowering sense of optimism and rock-solid faith in the fundamental goodness of America. Many of his actions stand as examples of ideas that we ought to consider as we carry out our responsibilities in Government. There was no doubt that he was the Great Communicator, and his ideas and his words will long be remembered.

I just returned yesterday from the D-day celebration and commemoration in Normandy. No one will ever forget President Reagan's speech 20 years ago at Normandy commemorating the 40th anniversary of the D-day invasion; it will be permanently etched in our memories. Or his poignant remarks when the Space Shuttle *Challenger* exploded, and how he helped America recover from that terrible national tragedy. Or who can forget his insistence that helped break the iron grip of the Soviet Union on millions of people around the globe?

President Reagan was known for his ideological zeal. But the interesting thing about him at the same time was that he ultimately was a pragmatist. Perhaps the clearest example of his pragmatic side is what happened after he pushed through a massive tax cut in Congress in 1981. One thing that President Reagan disliked enormously was Federal budget deficits. He thought the idea of borrowing from future generations was truly repugnant.

On the campaign trail in 1980, he promised he would work to balance the budget. When he took office, he argued that a tax cut was necessary to stimulate the economy. He believed the Federal Government would end up with more, not fewer, revenues. But when the revenues didn't materialize as predicted, and the Federal Government began running huge annual budget deficits, his pragmatism took over and he followed his 1981 tax cuts with tax increases that were necessary in 1982 and 1984, determined to reduce the burgeoning budget deficits. His tax increases were a tacit admission that the plan wasn't working as expected. He was pragmatic enough to change the course.

His personality was so unique for someone in that high office. As Mikhail Gorbachev wrote in Monday's New York Times op-ed page, President Reagan was ultimately someone with whom you could negotiate. His suggestion was that he was human enough, he was collegial, funny, and gracious, and you could discuss serious issues with him and accomplish goals.

One of President Reagan's last great acts of public service was to acknowledge 10 years ago to the American people and to the people of the world that he was suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

He handled his affliction with his customary grace, saying that he was sharing the news with the public in the hope that it might ''promote a greater awareness of this condition.'' That was a courageous thing to do. He went on further to say that he hoped it might encourage a clearer understanding of the individuals and families who are affected by it. He really brought a focus on the disease that ultimately consumed his remaining years.

One truly meaningful way that we can honor President Reagan is to pursue the kind of research that might produce a treatment, or even a cure, for Alzheimer's disease and a host of other illnesses, something his beloved wife Nancy has called for. Since we witnessed the pain of the deterioration of this great individual, we have to be mindful of that for the future.

His life yielded so many more things, besides those obvious ones, during his service as President of the United States.

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I pay tribute to President Ronald Reagan, a man for whom I had the utmost respect.

A strong, principled leader, President Reagan used his optimism and humor to help the Nation feel better in a post-Vietnam, post-Watergate country coping with an energy crisis and high inflation.

He brought strong leadership and could relate to people from all walks of life very, very easily. Democrats controlled the House during both of his terms, and the Senate during his last 2 years in office. In order to advance his priorities, he had to bridge the partisan divide and work with members of the other party. He was also very proud of his good personal relations with Tip O'Neill and other Democratic leaders. The proof of his good personal relations with Tip O'Neill and other Democratic leaders. The proof of his appeal was his ability to carry a Democrat stronghold like my state of Rhode Island in the 1984 election. He was the last Republican Presidential candidate to do so.

With tremendous vision and dignity, President Reagan will ultimately be remembered for ending the cold war and promoting freedom and democracy throughout the world in a peaceful way.

In closing, I recall a large color photograph on my father's office wall. It is a picture of merriment, Senator Robert Dole having just cracked a joke, with President Reagan, Alan Simpson and John Chafee standing by, smiling from ear-to-ear.

Later, my father obtained a copy of the photo and at a later meeting with the President, slid it down the table towards him and asked if he would sign it. Without hesitation, Reagan penned a line and slid it back.

It read simply, ''John—some times it is fun, isn't it?''

Some times it is fun, isn't it? Ronald Reagan, with unfailing good humor and optimism, made Americans feel good about their country again. I believe that is his lasting legacy.

The Chafee family offers our sincere condolences to Nancy, and the Reagan family.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to offer words in memory of America's 40th president, Ronald Wilson Reagan.

Ronald Reagan was elected President on the same day that I was first elected to the United States Senate. I was somewhat of an anomaly that year, being one of only two freshman Democrats elected to the Senate, compared with 16 Republicans.

Over the years, there is no question that when it came to matters of policy, Ronald Reagan and I disagreed, in a

very fundamental way, on a great many occasions.

But in today's very partisan atmosphere, it is easy to forget that personality can be much more important than agreements and disagreements. Many of the qualities that distinguished Ronald Reagan—as a president, as a leader, as an individual—went beyond policies and politics.

Ronald Reagan was one of our Nation's most personable presidents. His congeniality, wit and trademark sense of humor could bring a smile to the face of even the most ardent political opponent. And he had the uncanny ability to communicate his thoughts to the American people.

As a Member of the opposite side of the political aisle, I had a particular appreciation for Ronald Reagan's openness. As we all know, President Reagan was a man of great conviction. It wasn't easy to change his mind. But he was willing to sit down and talk. He was open to listening to views that were different from his own, even if he ultimately chose to disagree with them. Ronald Reagan was able, as the saying goes, to disagree without being disagreeable.

Though we had our differences on many issues, I would never doubt for a minute Ronald Reagan's commitment to this Nation, just as I don't believe he doubted the patriotism of his political adversaries. Ronald Reagan believed deeply in our country and in its values, and in its place in the history of humankind. He correctly saw the former Soviet Union, with its regime of repression, imprisonment, and stifling of the individual spirit, as antithetical to everything in which we believe. He presided over a historic time period during which we witnessed the beginnings of a dramatic, global political sea change.

Ronald Reagan was a leader who reflected the optimism and spirit of this great Nation. At the time he was elected president, our country was experiencing a crisis of confidence. Many wondered if America's best days were behind it. Ronald Reagan had an unflagging belief in America, and he helped restore a sense of possibility in our land.

As a society, we often elevate our public figures to practically mythological proportions, and our presidents are no exception. Towards the end of Ronald Reagan's life, though, we were reminded of his humanity. All of us, particularly those of us who have watched a loved one struggle late in life, were inspired by the dignity, grace, and courage with which he and his family battled a terrible and devastating disease—a disease that ultimately took Ronald Reagan, in the words of his wife Nancy, to a place where she could no longer reach him.

Many tributes have been and will be paid to President Reagan's memory. But I can't think of a greater tribute than to commit our Nation to fully researching the causes of, and cures for, diseases like Alzheimer's that cause such great suffering for such great numbers of people.

At this difficult time, my heart goes out to Nancy and the entire Reagan family. America celebrated with you on so many happy occasions. This week, we all join you in your sorrow.

I yield the floor.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I join my colleagues in remembering our Nation's 40th President, Ronald Reagan, who passed away last weekend at his home in Bel-Air, CA.

Of course, much has already been said, both in this Chamber and in the media, about the legend of his large life. His career in movies, his entry into politics and, of course, his two terms as President during a most tumultuous time have been well documented in the past several days.

By all of these accounts, Ronald Reagan was a most admired politician, and while he and I had our policy differences, I have always shared in that admiration.

Ronald Reagan held true to a strong conservative philosophy, which often made it hard for the two of us to find common ground. I was a Member of the House of Representatives during his 8 years as President, and you might say I was often a thorn in his side. We were on opposing sides when it came to many issues, most notably tax cuts and funding for the arts.

But through all of our sometimes heated discussions and debates, it was so evident to me that President Reagan held a deep and abiding passion for his country, and an equally deep conviction for what he believed was right.

As Americans take time this week to honor the life of President Reagan, it is that passion and conviction that they will remember and reflect upon. I believe, that those memories of our Nation's 40th President will inspire our future leaders.

I extend my condolences to his wife Nancy, and to the entire Reagan family on the passing of President Ronald Reagan. May the memories of his life's accomplishments sustain them in their time of grief, and may the Nation's prayers bring them comfort.

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to former President Ronald Wilson Reagan, our Nation's 40th President.

Like many Americans, I admired President Reagan's eternal optimism and his belief in America and her people.

I am struck by the numbers of mourners who have paid their respects to our former President. The outpouring of respect and grief is a testament to the great impact that he had on so many Americans. I am sure that one of the reasons so many have taken time to honor President Reagan is because of the great optimism and purpose that he showed. His trust in the fundamental decency and goodness of the American people is a guide and inspiration to us all.

I admired his sense of civility and his ability to disagree with his opponents without being disagreeable. He fought hard for the policies in which he believed, but after the fight, he shook hands and moved on. We need more of that kind of statesmanship in Washington today. And I hope my colleagues will join me in trying to follow his example.

During one of our Nation's greatest challenges—the cold war—President Reagan was a strong voice against the enemies of freedom. His leadership and vision helped us to overcome our enemies.

In the final years of his life, he and Mrs. Reagan were an example of the kind of sacrifice and love that we should all seek to emulate. Mrs. Reagan's quiet dignity and support for her husband during the most difficult of times should be an inspiration to us all.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Nancy, his sons, Michael and Ronald, Jr., and his daughter, Patty.

Ronald Reagan lived a full life and was a great American. His contributions to the American political system and to our way of life will not soon be forgotten.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Ronald Reagan, our Nation's 40th President. First, my condolences and prayers go out to Nancy Reagan, the Reagan family, and all of those who are mourning his passing.

Ronald Reagan was an optimist. He was the best kind of optimist—a living example of the fulfillment of the American dream. From a small Midwestern town, he rose to become leader of the free world and was respected around the world by both our allies and our Soviet bloc opponents alike.

President Reagan was called the Great Communicator for a reason. Many of his speeches touched the heartstrings of all Americans. Whether it was his speech at the Berlin Wall or his 1984 tribute to those who died on D-Day, President Reagan always conveyed a positive, optimistic sense of our shared destiny. His words will long be remembered.

President Reagan loved America, and this love for our country shaded every word he spoke to the Nation as President. He always wanted our country to be the ''shining city'' on a hill.

I also pay tribute and convey my genuine respect to our former First Lady Nancy Reagan, a woman whose unwavering commitment to her husband not only provided a testament to their love but also extended hope and empathy to countless Americans who share in the role of caregiver.

As we begin now to consider ways to pay proper tribute to our admired former President, let us go beyond the erecting of a monument or the etching of a portrait. Instead let us act to help the many Americans who needlessly suffer from the debilitating effects of Alzheimer's disease.

We should increase research funding for Alzheimer's and expand stem cell research, which Nancy Reagan supports.

I am pleased to be a cosponsor of a Mikulski-Bond bill that will double our investment in Alzheimer's research and refocus our efforts to find a cure. This bipartisan measure, if passed, would leave a lasting legacy to President Reagan.

Earlier this month, I joined with 57 other Members of this body, both Republican and Democrat alike, to urge President Bush to broaden the current Federal policy regarding stem cell research. By expanding stem cell research beyond those stem cells derived by August 9, 2001, we will take the necessary first step of helping millions of Americans who are plagued by Alzheimer's—Americans, who like President Reagan, live out their daily lives traveling an unknowable journey of solitude.

If we allow the medical experts to do stem cell research, we can begin the work Mrs. Reagan so steadfastly promotes: finding a cure to this devastating disease.

To find a cure of Alzheimer's would indeed be the greatest tribute we could ever give to President Reagan.

In this time of grief, let us evoke President Reagan's gentlemanly service, swift wit, jovial candor, and unconditional patriotism. With differences in philosophy and politics aside, let's all praise a man whose decorum and distinguished character exemplified the office for which he held.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I want to take a few moments today to join my colleagues in celebrating the life of our 40th President, Ronald Wilson Reagan.

In many ways, Ronald Reagan embodied the American dream. He was born in the small town of Tampico, IL, and grew up 30 miles down the road in Dixon, another small town. His was a normal, middle class American family, and he was the all-American boy-next-door: Good-looking, popular, an actor, and an athlete. And from that modest background he fulfilled the American democratic ideal that anybody can grow up to become President of the United States.

That ideal—that anyone can grow up to become President—captures America's optimism, so it is fitting that the word that comes most to mind when remembering President Reagan is exactly that: optimism. President Reagan was an incurable and infectious optimist when it came to America. By insisting that, as he said, it was morning again in America, he connected with Americans, lifted their spirits, and restored their confidence in our future.

This power to communicate and connect with Americans from all walks of life was central to his success as President. He could sway skeptics and charm supporters with his simple eloquence and self-deprecating wit. People came to know him and feel comfortable with him; and they were moved by his simple, clear messages. President Reagan perfected the art of selling his policies to the American people and using that ability to pressure Congress to work his will. Not surprisingly, the Great Communicator, as he came to be known, left office with the highest approval rating of any recent President.

President Reagan was one of the truly larger than life figures of the post World War II era. He brought a new conservative philosophy to the White House, and he championed freedom at home and abroad. One of the reasons for his success, I believe, was his willingness to compromise, to put aside partisan politics and ideological purity to do what was right for the country. When his 1981 tax cuts caused deficits to skyrocket, President Reagan supported tax increases in 1982 and 1983 to contain the damage. After tagging the Soviet Union as the Evil Empire, he negotiated historic arms control treaties with the Soviets, coining the famous phrase ''trust, but verify'' in the process. He had, as his chief of staff Howard Baker once put it, ''a capacity to surprise.''

And throughout it all, he was a wonderful man, someone who you couldn't help but enjoy being with. I met with president Reagan several times during the last years of his presidency. The last time I was with him, President Reagan was telling two or three of us in the White House an Irish story full of warmth and wit. I believe that best describes President Reagan himself—a man of endearing wit and great personal warmth.

As America mourns his passing, my thoughts and prayers are with Nancy and the rest of President Reagan's family and many, many friends. It is my hope that their memories of his life, laughter, and legacy will be of some small comfort in these days and weeks ahead.

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, on Saturday, June 5, 2004, President Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, passed away after a decade-long battle with Alzheimer's disease. I extend my deepest sympathies to the members of his family, who have suffered a terrible loss, and I want them to know that Americans throughout our Nation, regardless of their political party or ideology, share in their loss and mourn with them.

Ronald Reagan was an exceptional national leader who loved this country and its people. He will long be remembered for his infectious optimism and his faith in America's future. To President Reagan, America was always a shining city on a hill—a beacon of hope for all mankind. He understood just what a great country America is, and always remained a committed advocate for the ideal of freedom that helps define us as Americans.

President Reagan was known as the Great Communicator, and he richly deserved the accolade. Few politicians, if any, have had his ability not just to connect with the American people but to inspire them. His speeches didn't just make a point, they touched a chord. He talked to Americans in a powerful and personal way.

As is widely understood, Ronald Reagan had strongly held views about public policy, from his support for lower taxes to his strong anticommunism. But as is less widely appreciated, President Reagan was not inflexible or dogmatic. He actually was a practical and pragmatic leader who was willing to adjust his approach, sometimes dramatically, when circumstances called for change.

For example, after pushing through a large tax cut at the start of his Presidency, he reversed course and increased taxes when the deficit started to explode. Perhaps most importantly, after denouncing the Soviets as an ''evil empire,'' he was willing to work closely and cooperatively with Mikhail Gorbachev, helping not only to end the cold war but to liberate millions of people and change the course of world history. In doing so, he was not following his party. He was not following the polls. He was following his conscience. And the entire world community owes him a deep debt of gratitude for his vision and his leadership.

There were many issues about which I strongly disagreed with President Reagan. But I always had great respect for him personally and for the way he conducted himself while in office. President Reagan knew how to disagree without being disagreeable. He knew that those in the other party were not enemies. He knew that, at the end of the day, we are all Americans and, though we may disagree about particular policies, we all share a love of our country and a commitment to its future.

President Reagan's life was marked by his fundamental personal decency and his sense of dignity. That was never more evident than when he announced to the world his struggle with Alzheimer's disease in 1994. His and Nancy Reagan's courageous fight against this debilitating disease brought a new awareness to the devastation that accompanies this illness. I hope it also will bring a new commitment to do what it takes to find a cure for this horrible affliction.

In conclusion, Americans throughout our Nation are saddened at the passing of President Reagan, and our hearts go out to his family. Ronald Reagan was an extraordinary man whose impact on our Nation, and our world, will be felt for generations to come. Today, we join together to honor his memory and to give thanks for his historic service on behalf of the country he loved so deeply.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, Robert Robb is one of the great columnists in American journalism today, and his tribute to Ronald Reagan is among his best work. I ask unanimous consent to have the following article printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Arizona Republic, June 9, 2004]

MY FIRST FAN LETTER WAS SIGNED ''REAGAN''

(By Robert Robb)

Ronald Reagan wrote my first fan letter.

When he announced for president in 1976, I was editor of the student newspaper at Occidental College in Los Angeles.

The Los Angeles Times had developed an obsessive dislike for Reagan. And it pounded on his announcement speech, denouncing it and him for superficiality and a lack of specifics.

Of course, it's standard fare for announcement speeches to enunciate broad themes. And the only thing that would have unhinged the Times more than a lack of specifics form Reagan would have been if he had been specific.

And so I wrote a column for the student newspaper having a bit of sport with the Times' hypocrisy and disequilibrium.

Not much later, I was astonished to receive a letter from Reagan. Apparently being defended in a student newspaper was an unusual enough event to catch the attention of his campaign.

Reagan thanked me for my ''generous words,'' and allowed that ''a great part of my pleasure was your masterful handling of the Times.

That purposeful understatement was characteristic of Reagan in political combat. He was far more inclined to give his opponents a gentle and humorous poke in the ribs, rather than a rhetorical knife in the stomach—a restraint he maintained even as the invective and bile against him mounted.

Bill Buckley invented modern American conservatism—a sometimes uneasy blend of anti-communism, free-market economics and traditional cultural values inspired and informed by religious faith. Barry Goldwater launched it as a political movement.

But Ronald Reagan embodied the conservative movement. He was the glue that held its factions and strands together long enough, for a time, to be politically triumphant.

This was no small feat. American conservatism is more naturally a dissenting movement than a governing one.

Yet Reagan not only governed, he transformed the country, indeed the world.

What began as Reagan Democrats are now simply Republicans, and the Republican Party now competes with the Democratic Party for majority status, rather than the semi-permanent minority role the party seemed consigned to before Reagan.

To complete with Reaganism, Democrats had to overcome their legacy from the 1960s and 1970s, a belief that there was as much wrong as right about America. Democrats reconciled themselves to America's essential goodness, as well as its defining institutions and values: free markets, enterprise, faith and family.

Bill Clinton was a reaction to Reaganism, and today's Republican Party, unfortunately, is as much a reaction to Clintonism as it is a legitimate heir to Reaganism.

Winston Churchill believed that history was the story of great men altering its course. In his History of the English Speaking Peoples, writing about Alfred the Great, who united much of modern-day England in the ninth century, Churchill described his ''sublime power to rise above the whole force of circumstances.''

As much as Reagan dominated and transformed the domestic political landscape, his greatness—his sublime power to rise above the whole force of circumstances—was in the way he managed the Soviet Union and communism.

Early in his presidency, Reagan described the Soviet Union as an evil empire and said it and Marxism-Leninism would be deposited on the ''ash heap of history.''

This was denounced by foreign policy sophisticates at the time as naive and dangerously provocative.

Yet he quickly embraced Mikhail Gorbachev, who gained power in 1985, and his perestoika reforms. This made conservatives highly nervous, and they openly wondered whether Reagan was being had.

But Reagan, having lived through the Hungarian and Polish rebellions, intuited that the Soviet Union could not both liberalize and remain intact.

Reagan also knew the moment to apply pressure, as in 1987, when he stood before the Berlin Wall and, against the advice of his entire foreign policy team, famously called upon Gorbachev to tear it down.

A few years later, I was in Berlin, after the wall had been torn down figuratively, but not yet physically. You could travel freely in eastern Berlin, but it was like Dorothy stepping from black-and-white into the colorful land of Oz, only in reverse—from the vibrant feel of a free people into the still-stale desolation of the repression of the human soul.

You could visit the wall and even take a blow against it yourself. So, I clawed loose a few chunks and brought them home.

They're mounted now, pieces of history's sadness and joy. I can never look at those chunks of concrete without thinking about Ronald Reagan, a champion of freedom for our time.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the late President Ronald Reagan.

We were of different parties and very different political philosophies but I respected him as a strong leader—a man of principle and dignity. He was also good-natured and affable, never letting political differences drag him down into bitter partisanship.

I was always impressed with President Reagan's ability to communicate and persuade and his talent for soothing our Nation in difficult times. In good times and bad, he sought to appeal to the best in all of us, to our hopes and better instincts, not our doubts and fears. And while he enjoyed a good political fight, he never demonized his opponents or accused those who differed with him of being unpatriotic. Ronald Reagan seemed to understand that we could disagree without being disagreeable and that we all love our country, even as we debate the best way to move toward a more perfect Union. All of us can learn from his example.

As we pay tribute to our 40th President, this man who rose from humble beginnings to the greatest heights, I offer my condolences to Nancy Reagan and the Reagan family. I join my colleagues in saying farewell to Ronald Reagan, a modest man who was larger than life.

Thank you, President Reagan, for your service to our Nation and for the important example you set for us all.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, on Saturday, our Nation lost a good man and a great American, the 40th President of the United States, Ronald Wilson Reagan.

A former sports announcer, actor, television performer, and Governor, this man from a small mid-western town was eventually elected to our Nation's highest office, not once, but twice, in landslide victories. His was a success story, an American success story. He demonstrated that the key to the American dream is still determination, hard work, and perseverance. He did it by appealing to our ''best hopes,'' not ''our worst fears.''

Historians will study and evaluate the impact of the Reagan administration—his role in ending the cold war and the results of his domestic policies.

What is beyond debate was his uncanny ability to connect with the American people. He knew where he wanted to take the country and attempted to do it with remarkable determination and charm. He restored a much needed sense of optimism in America, and he did it with a cheerfulness that was absolutely contagious.

His optimism was prevalent and penetrating and inspiring even during the darkest moments of his administration. With the *Challenger* explosion, we grieved and despaired, but when President Reagan spoke of how those courageous astronauts reached out and ''touched the face of God,'' suddenly all of us realized that we, as a country, would make it through this grievous hour, and the American adventure into space would go on. He was truly the Great Communicator.

I came to know and work with Mr. Reagan from a unique and important perspective. I was the leader of the opposition party in the U.S. Senate during both of President Reagan's terms.

From this position, I came to understand and appreciate, probably even more than his strongest supporters, his hold on the American people, and the importance of the leadership that he provided.

In fact, I found him to be as charming in person as he was when speaking to an audience or appearing on television.

Never once did I hear him engage in personal attacks on his challengers.

When we disagreed, which was more often than not, it was always in civil tones. He was always smiling, patting you on the back, asking you about your family, and wishing you the best. You simply could not help but like him. He seemed not to confuse differences of opinion with differences of ideals or values. After all, he liked to point out, ''we are all Americans.''

That is the way American politics is supposed to be. That was the decency of Ronald Wilson Reagan. He might consider me a political opponent, but never a personal enemy. Just as I understood his difficulties as the leader of the free world during 8 years of trial and turmoil, he understood my role as the loyal opposition

As much as I admired and respected him when he was President, never was

my appreciation for him and his wife Nancy stronger than in their dealing with his last and greatest struggle—the struggle he eloquently and heartbreakingly called the ''journey'' that would lead him ''into the sunset'' of his life—his battle with Alzheimer's disease. He and Nancy confronted this cruel, crippling disease with an openness and dignity that inspired a Nation.

Mr. President, my wife Erma and I extend our most heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Reagan. She has been an inspiration to America, gracefully fulfilling the role of loyal, loving spouse even as she has watched her greatest love drift away into the fog of Alzheimer's. In the years when they should have been able to enjoy the warm memories of their storybook life together, she endured personal emotional tortures that are difficult to imagine. In these last years, the vigilance and caring she displayed throughout their marriage led her to become an outspoken advocate for medical research, a role for which she has earned the immense respect and gratitude of the Nation.

A SUNSET FANCY

(A poem by an unknown author)

I saw the sun sink in the golden west
No angry cloud obscured its latest ray;
Around the couch on which it sank to rest
Shone all the splendors of a summer day,
And long—though lost of view—its radiant light
Reflected from the skies, delayed the night.
Thus when a good man's life comes to a close,
No doubts arise to cloud his soul with gloom;
But faith triumphant on each feature glows
And benedictions fill the sacred room;
And long do men his virtues wide proclaim,
And generations rise to bless his name.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, for the information of Senators, we are going to do our wrap-up business, have a couple of closing statements, and then we will adjourn for the ceremony tonight.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

JUDGE RICHARD MILLS DELIVERS MEMORIAL DAY ADDRESS

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, one of the most articulate and literate members of our Federal judiciary, U.S. District Judge Richard Mills, recently delivered an extraordinary Memorial Day address in my hometown of Springfield IL. I share it with my colleagues because I believe it is not only insightful but because it comes from a person uniquely suited to speak to the historical impact of World War II.

Judge Mills is a major general in the Illinois State Militia and a retired colonel in the U.S. Army. He served for 14 months in Korea with the 3rd Infantry Division and headed counterintelligence for the 65th Infantry Regiment and the Greek and Belgian Battalions attached to the 3rd Division. Among his decoration are the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Korean Service Medal with battle star, and both the U.S. and Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citations. General Mills retired after 33 years in the military, Active and Reserve.

I am honored to count Judge Mills as a friend and hope you will value his remarks as much as I do.

I ask that the remarks of Judge Mills be printed in the RECORD.

The address follows:

ADDRESS OF MAJOR GENERAL RICHARD MILLS

In 1935, when the Italian fascist military machine invaded the undeveloped and primitive nation of Ethiopia on the African continent, Emperor Haille Selassie issued this mobilization order to his people: ''Everyone will now be mobilized and all boys old enough to carry a spear will be sent to Addis Ababa. Married men will take their wives to carry food and cook. Those without wives will take any woman without a husband. Women with small babies need not go. The blind, those who cannot walk, or for any reason cannot carry a spear are exempted. Anyone found at home after the receipt of this order will be hanged.''

The imperial edict of the Conquering Lion of Judah, although admittedly harsh, was unquestionably effective. And its very tenor reflects the ultimate hopelessness of a nation invaded by a far superior force and struggling to survive in military conflict. The conscription laws of this country, of course, have never been so elementary, desperate or severe, yet they shared an identical purpose—to provide immediate manpower to defend the nation!

Since July 1, 1973, not a single person has been drafted into the armed forces of the United States. Since then, the Selective Service System has operated in its prescribed standy role. And since then we have been an all-volunteer military force in a peacetime capacity, and the role of the Selective Service System is, and will continue to be, one of simply assuring that necessary military manpower will be available in case of an emergency.

The Selective Service System, more commonly referred to across the country as ''the draft'', is nothing new because men have been drafted since Biblical time. It is related the Book of Numbers in the Old Testament that God ordered Moses to take a census of men 20 years of age and older. When he and Aaron had accomplished this, they found an army of over 600,000 men. Under Julius Caesar in the Roman Empire, men were drafted for military service for 10 years and had to supply their own equipment. The Greek City States required military service of all male citizens, regardless of age, and thereby maintained their independence. But the first really modern draft was instituted by Napoleon, and when he told his generals, ''I need up to 25,000 men a month'', universal military training established itself in France. As a matter of fact, this very policy was adopted after the Napoleonic wars by most European countries, with the exception of Great Britain.

During World War 1 and before the end of the war in 1918, nearly 3,000,000 men had been inducted and 24,000,000 had been registered. And in World War II, more than 50,000,000 men were registered and 10,000,000 of those were inducted into the armed forces. I am confident that many of you present today answered the call in this manner.

The veterans of America, what kind of people are they?

General of the Army Douglas MacArthur answered this question in his famous speech before the U.S. Military Academy's corps of cadets in May 1962: ''Yours is the profession of arms, the will to win, the sure knowledge that in war there is no substitute for victory, that if you lose, the nation will be destroyed, that the very obsession of your public service must be duty, honor, country.''

The May 22, 1941 edition of Army Field Manual (FM) 100–5, Field Service Regulations: Operations, which was republished in 1997 by the U.S. Government Printing Office in Washington, DC, spells out the battlefield doctrines used to fight and win World War II. Here is what it says: ''Man is the fundamental instrument of war; other instruments may change but he remains relatively constant. In spite of the advances in technology, the worth of the individual man is still decisive.''

World War II was the most important and far reaching event of the 20th century.

The total number of people killed, wounded or missing can never be calculated. More than 10 million Allied servicemen and nearly 6 million military men from the Axis countries lost their lives. More than 50 countries took part in the war and the whole world felt its effects.

America suffered nearly 300,000 U.S. forces and merchant seamen killed and almost 700,000 wounded. We had 157 navy ships and submarines sunk and 866 merchant ships sent to the bottom.

At Pearl Harbor, the heart of the U.S. fleet—18 ships—was destroyed in about 100 minutes. As historian John Keegan wrote, ''It killed 50 million human beings, left hundreds of millions of others wounded in mind or body, and materially devastated much of the heartland of civilization.''

World War II became a war of liberation after three decisive turning points: Midway, North Africa and Stalingrad.

By autumn 1942, the Allies also were on the offensive in the European theater, successfully landing in North Africa and beginning the trek toward Rome. ''Now this is not the end,'' Winston Churchill said as 1942 closed. ''It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.''

The Allies invaded Sicily. Then came Anzio Beach and the terrible bloody battle for Monte Cassino, and on up through Italy. The greatest naval armada of all time was assembled for the invasion of Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944, where we suffered 14,000 killed in action and 63,000 wounded.

In the Pacific, it was a bloody invasion, island by island, ''leapfrogging'' toward Japan. Iwo Jima and Okinawa took heavy tolls. General MacArthur did return to the Philippines as he had promised, but 14,000 were killed and 62,000 were wounded in the battle of Luzon.

The crucial year was 1945. For Nazi Germany and the 1,000-year German Reich, it was the end.

In Italy, communist partisans captured ''Il Duce''—Benito Mussolini—and his mistress. They were executed and hung by their feet at a Milan gas station on April 28th. The very day Mussolini died, Adolph Hitler married his longtime mistress, Eva Braun, in his bunker. Within hours the same day, Hitler shot himself with the same pistol he carried when he first tried to seize power in a Munich beer hall years before.

Also in 1945, America took its final giant steps across the Pacific to victory. Submarines strangled the home islands of Japan.

American B–29 bombers incinerated Japan's major cities, reducing industrial production by a third and leaving 14 million homeless. Admiral of the Fleet Chester Nimitz, Pacific commander, convinced Pentagon planners to create airfields even closer than Formosa by capturing Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

Kamikaze suicide planes sank 38 ships, damaged 368, and killed over 5,000 sailors. Soldiers of the U.S. 10th Army and the Marines suffered almost 72,000 killed and wounded.

But on August 6, 1945, a Boeing B–29 Superfortress named Enola Gay lifted from the runway at Tinian in the Marianas and headed for Japan, nearly 1,500 miles across the open Pacific. Six and a half hours later the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. It detonated above the city with the force of 20,000 pounds of TNT. Several thousand members of the Second Japanese Army, then outside doing calisthenics, were wiped out in a millisecond and the city was flattened.

Three days later Nagasaki suffered the same fate. On August 14 the Japanese emperor finally overruled his military chiefs and accepted Allied surrender terms.

Americans of World War II understood that to bring down a form of tyranny, it was necessary to sacrifice lives. In liberty and in prosperity, the world after 1945 became a far, far better place than it had been in 1939. World War II was worth fighting, after all. To have lost would have brought unimaginable sorrow and slavery.

To the veterans here today that we honor—particularly from World War II—I salute you. You stood tall, you did your duty, you survived, you returned. And we remember with heavy hearts those of our comrades that paid the supreme sacrifice, that were wounded, that were prisoners of war. We who are here are the fortunate ones. It has been truly said: ''In war there are no victors, only survivors.''

My fellow veterans, I salute you.

God Bless America.●

CONGRATULATING EASTER SEALS GOODWILL INDUSTRIES REHABILITATION CENTER

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise to honor the 35th anniversary of the merger between Easter Seals of New Haven, CT, Goodwill Industries of South Central Connecticut, and the New Haven Area Rehabilitation Center. The celebration of this historic occasion will occur on Monday, June 14, 2004.

For 35 years, Easter Seals Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center has made remarkable achievements in its mission to enhance employment opportunities and the quality of life for people with disabilities and other special needs.

1930 marked the initial formation of Goodwill Industries of Central Connecticut. The New Haven Area Rehabilitation Center and the New Haven Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults were created in 1954. Eventually, the leaders of these three organizations recognized that they could accomplish far more working together than they could as separate entities. They made the decision to put aside any feelings of personal or institutional pride, and to come together for the benefit of those they served. The merger in 1969 was the first in our Nation's history that involved two major American non profit organizations.

The results speak for themselves. In the 35 years since the merger, the Easter Seals Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center has served approximately 50,000 individuals with disabilities and special needs throughout the New Haven area.

Today, Easter Seals Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center continues to provide valuable assistance in career exploration and job placement, work skill development and training, and various other employment support services to individuals with disabilities and special needs. The center also offers vital social assistance to individuals with disabilities, enabling them to connect with others and to become active participants in their local communities. Finally, Easter Seals Goodwill Industries works throughout Connecticut to help our State's residents find proper housing, transportation, and education.

I especially congratulate my good friend Malcolm Gill, who has contributed 20 years of dedication and leadership as President of the Easter Seals Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center. I also recognize the hard work of the Board of Directors, the staff, and community volunteers who selflessly continue to serve the New Haven community.

On behalf of the State of Connecticut, and the United States Senate, I congratulate Easter Seals Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center on 35 outstanding years of service. I wish them continued success for many years to come.●

A TRIBUTE TO BETTY STRONG, THE GRANDE-DAME OF IOWA POLITICS

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, in the early 1950s, at a time when political backrooms were still smoke-filled and the sound of a woman's voice was still a cause for heads to turn, Betty Strong involved herself in politics in her home State of Iowa and did not hesitate to speak her mind. She turned many heads and made folks in Iowa listen in those days and folks have been listening to what she has had to say ever since.

A strong and rare woman, she had a deep and abiding commitment to the rough-and-tumble of the political process and will long stand as an inspiration to all of us, to every American who believes in the great idea of representative democracy, to all those whose values and dreams are represented by a political party and by the process through which we elect our representatives.

She held firm her deep beliefs. She was, first and foremost, a Democrat. In fact, Betty Strong was the grande-dame of Democrats in Iowa. She was an organizer who knew how to bring people together for a cause, a woman who understood the issues, knew the process better than almost anyone, and felt with every fiber of her being that she had not only the right but the duty as a citizen to fight for what she believed was right and fair and just. She fought on behalf of organized Labor and through the Central Labor Council for the basic dignity of the American worker, and for a host of causes in her community, and did not hesitate to make her opinion known, did not waver when it came to bringing about the changes necessary to elect those who agreed with her. But partisanship was not what we should remember when we remember Betty Strong today.

To watch her in action was to understand what America is all about. To see her build a coalition, to rally support, to bring out the best in her community to rise to an issue, to support a candidate, to lay out a platform, to build consensus, was truly a lesson in the best of the American political dynamic. And, every four years without fail, she was in the vanguard of the unique process we have come to understand as the Iowa Caucuses.

I first met her in 1987 when I entered the Iowa Caucuses, and I can say without hesitation or equivocation: I will never forget Betty Strong. She was with me then and her memory will remain with me always. I wrote her a letter in 1988 thanking her for her help and for her lifelong service, and I am honored to know that the letter hung on her living room wall all these years. I will long be beholden to Betty for her commitment, for her support, for her help, for the extraordinary grace she showed me and the dignity with which she lived her life and fought for the causes to which she was so committed.

Iowa has lost a great woman and I would ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the lasting contribution that Betty Strong made to that fundamental Tip O'Neill-notion that all politics is local. Today we mourn her loss and offer to her family and all of her friends in Iowa and across America, the thanks of a grateful Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT EDWARD PARRISH, PRESIDENT OF WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to pay tribute to the distinguished president of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Edward Parrish, as he nears his retirement this year.

Ed Parrish came to WPI as president in 1995 after an impressive career in engineering at NASA and in teaching and academic research. From the University of Virginia to Vanderbilt and finally to WPI, he was widely recognized for his skill and dedication in engineering and engineering education. He has led regional and national efforts to expand the recruitment of students and the scope of engineering programs, and he has demonstrated his commitment

to the future in these fields by joining in the management of a magnet school for the sciences with the Worcester public schools.

He has been a pioneer in improving the quality of education, and expanded the program at WPI to include more integrated projects, cross-science working groups, and problem-solving education. He has created new opportunities for faculty and students to participate in research and international study. By modernizing the infrastructure of the university, he made it one of the earliest and best-wired campuses in the Nation.

Since its founding in 1865, WPI has been a unique institution widely recognized as a pioneer in technology and higher education. Ed Parrish has led a world-class university into the 21st century, expanding both the number and the knowledge of undergraduate and graduate students by offering opportunities to work with professionals in real situations on campus, in Massachusetts, and around the world, solving real problems that have an immediate impact on society.

Fortunately, Ed has agreed to serve on the Goldwater commission to provide a continuing source of scientists by awarding scholarships to college students, so that his experience and talent will continue to benefit the lives of students and the life of the Nation in the years ahead. His 9 years at WPI have been a time of growth and expansion for the university, and all of us in Massachusetts have much to thank him for as he enters this next chapter of his outstanding career. Ed and his family have my best wishes for the future, and I look forward to many opportunities to work with him and learn from him in the future.●

TRIBUTE TO HENRY D. MOODY, A DEDICATED ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVANT

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Henry Moody, a dedicated civil servant from Alabama, who passed on April 26, 2004.

Born on April 1, 1932, in Jemison, AL, to Henry and Mattie Moody, Henry was one of 13 children. He was raised on the Moody Farm in Jemison, attended Jemison High School and Auburn University. Upon graduating from college, he enlisted in the military and went on to receive many honors.

Following Henry's military service, he began work at the Department of Veterans Affairs in Montgomery, AL, where he dedicated 36 years of his life. He served in a number of capacities including loan examiner and appraiser and chief appraiser with the Construction and Valuation Service. In 1976, he was appointed to assistant loan guaranty officer, and in 1982, he became loan guaranty officer. Henry served this position with dedication and commitment, and was regarded as a top loan guaranty officer in the country.

There are few people in this world who dedicate so much of themselves to their work. Everyday, Henry Moody remembered the mission of his job—to provide quality housing for all veterans. Despite his numerous accomplishments, Henry retained a humble spirit. He always banked a person's character and not just their worth, and wanted every person who came into his office to leave with a good experience. He never allowed his office staff to use the excuse, ''the computers are not working.'' If that was the case, Henry would find the files himself since many families had driven for miles to see him. His favorite part of working at the VA was that every day was different, providing him with new challenges, and with new people to meet. Everyone who came in contact with him was encouraged by his smile and his helpful spirit.

Henry was recognized for his dedication and devotion to his job with many honors including induction into Home Builders Association of Alabama's, HBAA, prestigious Alabama Building Industry Hall of Fame in 1990. Additionally, former Alabama Governor Fob James proclaimed July 3, 1995, as ''Henry Moody Day.'' Both awards were a fitting tribute for Henry's commitment to providing quality housing to our country's veterans.

Henry Moody will be remembered as a pioneer who served as an example for others. He made an impact on all who had the pleasure of meeting and knowing him. He lived by two important phrases, ''This too shall pass,'' and ''God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.'' Alabama is certainly a better place for having Henry Moody as one of our own. He will be greatly missed.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to House Resolution 663, expressing the profound regret and sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, former President of the United States of America.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 3:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1233. An Act to authorize assistance for the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center.

H.R. 1086. An Act to encourage the development and promulgation of voluntary consensus standards by providing relief under the antitrust laws to standards development organizations with respect to conduct engaged in for the purpose of developing voluntary consensus standards, and for other purposes.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

At 3:26 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution:

S. Con. Res. 115. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the lying in state of the remains of the late Ronald Wilson Reagan, 40th President of the United States.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–7847. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Tire Safety Information, Response to Petitions for Reconsideration'' (RIN2127–AJ36) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7848. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: Gulfstream Model G–IV Airplanes Doc. No. 2000–NM–101'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7849. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: McDonnell Douglas Model MD–11 and MD–11F Airplanes; Doc. No. 2002–NM–292'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7850. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: Cessna Model 500, 501, and 551 Airplanes; Doc. No. 2000–NM–65'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation .

EC–7851. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: HPH s.r.o. Models Glasflugel 304CZ, 304CZ–17, and 304C Sailplanes; Doc. No. 2003–CE–63'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7852. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Model BAE 146–100A and 200A Series Airplanes Doc. No. 2001–NM–272'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7853. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: Boeing Model 767–300 Series Airplanes Doc. No. 2003–NM–125'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7854. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: Airbus Model A300 B2 and B4 Series Airplanes Model A300 B4–600 B4–600R and F4–600R (Collectively Called A300 and 600) Airplanes Model A310 Airplanes; Doc. No. 2001–NM–216'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7855. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: Boeing Model 737–200C Series Airplanes Doc. No. 2003–NM–208'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7856. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: Boeing Model 767–200, 300, and 300F Airplanes Doc. No. 2002–NM–198'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7857. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: Airbus Model A319, A320, and A321 Series Airplanes Doc. No. 2002–NM–163'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7858. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: Airbus Model A300 B4–600, 600R, F4–600R, and C4–605R Variant F (Collectively Called A300–600) Airplanes and A310 Series Airplanes Doc. No. 2001–NM–111'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7859. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: Saab Model SAAB SF340A and SAAB 340B Airplanes Doc. No. 2003–NM–130'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation .

EC–7860. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives: Boeing Model 747 Series Airplanes Doc. No. 2002–NM–341'' (RIN2120–AA64) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7861. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Correction to Modification of the Houston Class B Airspace Area; TX Doc. No. 04–AWA–04'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7862. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Modification of Class E Airspace; Parsons, KS Doc. No. 04–ACE–4'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7863. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Modification of Class E Airspace; Clinton, MO Doc. No. 04–ACE–2'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7864. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class E2 Airspace and Modification of Class E5 Airspace; Farmington, MO Doc. No. 04–ACE01'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7865. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Washington, D.C. Doc. No. 04–AEA–01'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7866. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment to Class E Airspace; Yakima, WA Doc. No. 01–NM–11'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7867. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revision of Class E Airspace; Kalispell, MT Doc. No. 02–ANM–11'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7868. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia Doc. No. 04–AEA–2'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7869. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class D Airspace, Greenville Donaldson Center, SC Doc. No. 04–ASO–04'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7870. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class E5 Airspace Jamestown, KY Correction Doc. No. 04–ASO–02'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7871. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class D and E Airspace, Amendment of Class E Airspace; New Smyrna Beach, FL Doc. No. 04–ASO–03'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7872. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class E2 Airspace; and Modification of Class E5 Airspace; Muscatine, IA Doc. No. 04–ACE–3'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7873. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class D and E4 Airspace; Homestead, FL Doc. No. 04–ASO–01'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7874. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revocation of Restricted Area 2938, Horseshoe Beach, FL Doc. No. 04–ASO–4'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7875. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class E Airspace; Akhiok, AK Doc. No. 04–AAL–01'' (RIN2120–AA66) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7876. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Standard'' (RIN2127–AI46) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7877. A communication from the Senior Attorney, Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Applicability of the Hazardous Materials Regulations to Loading, Unloading, and Storage; Delay of Effective Date'' (RIN2137–AC68) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7878. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Commonwealth of Virginia; VOC Emission Standards for Solvent Metal Cleaning Operations in the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Ozone Nonattainment Area'' (FRL#7671–6) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7879. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Revisions to Regulations for General Compliance Activities and Source Surveillance; Correction'' (FRL#7670–8) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7880. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; VOC Emission Standards for Portable Fuel Containers in the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Ozone Nonattainment Area'' (FRL#7671–1) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7881. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation

Plans; Nevada—Las Vegas PM 10 Nonattainment Area; Serious Plan for Attainment of the Annual and 24 hour PM–10 Standards'' (FRL#7663–4) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7882. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Minnesota'' (FRL#7670–5) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7883. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Capacity Building for Morocco NGOs and the Department of Environment'' received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7884. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Delegation of National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Source Categories; State of Nevada; Nevada Division of Environmental Protection—Bureau of Air Pollution Control'' (FRL#7670–1) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7885. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District and Ventura County Air Pollution Control District'' (FRL#7670–1) received on June 7, 2004; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 2513. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Authority for the planning, design, and construction of the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. 2514. A resolution to authorize the transfer of funds for foreign countries to participate in international peacekeeping or peace enforcement operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 2515. A bill to establish the Inspector General for Intelligence, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. Res. 373. A resolution relative to the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, a former President of the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FRIST:

S. Res. 374. A resolution honoring President Ronald Wilson Reagan; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. Res. 375. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding initiatives for Greater Middle East reform and modernization including a Twenty-First Century Trust; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. SANTORUM):

S. Con. Res. 117. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the President should posthumously award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Harry W. Colmery; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ALLARD:

S. Con. Res. 118. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that an artistic tribute to commemorate the speech given by President Ronald Reagan at the Brandenburg Gate on June 12, 1987, should be placed within the United States Capitol; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 847

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 847, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit States the option to provide medicaid coverage for low income individuals infected with HIV.

S. 1379

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) were added as cosponsors of S. 1379, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of veterans who became disabled for life while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

S. 1411

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1411, a bill to establish a National Housing Trust Fund in the Treasury of the United States to provide for the development of decent, safe, and affordable housing for low-income families, and for other purposes.

S. 1414

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1414, a bill to restore second amendment rights in the District of Columbia.

S. 1477

At the request of Mr. CORZINE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1477, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional gold medal to Celia Cruz.

S. 1630

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1630, a bill to facilitate nationwide availability of 2-1-1 telephone service for information and referral services, and for other purposes.

S. 1963

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1963, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to protect the privacy right of subscribers to wireless communication services.

S. 2138

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 2138, a bill to protect the rights of American consumers to diagnose, service, and repair motor vehicles purchased in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2158

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2158, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the supply of pancreatic islet cells for research, and to provide for better coordination of Federal efforts and information on islet cell transplantation.

S. 2302

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2302, a bill to improve access to physicians in medically underserved areas.

S. 2328

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2328, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the importation of prescription drugs, and for other purposes.

S. 2364

At the request of Mr. CORZINE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2364, a bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Irish American Cultural Institute.

S. 2461

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2461, a bill to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products.

S. 2467

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2467, a bill to clarify the calculation of per-unit costs payable under expiring annual contributions contracts for tenant-based rental assistance that are renewed in fiscal year 2004.

S. RES. 221

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr.

NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 221, a resolution recognizing National Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the importance and accomplishments of historically Black colleges and universities.

S. RES. 335

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 335, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Major League Baseball clubs and their players should take immediate action to adopt a drug-testing policy that effectively deters Major League Baseball players from using anabolic steroids and any other performance-enhancing substances that create a competitive advantage for, and pose a serious health risk to, such players and the children and teenagers who emulate them.

AMENDMENT NO. 3366

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3366 intended to be proposed to S. 2400, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3400

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3400 intended to be proposed to S. 2400, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 2513. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Authority for the planning, design, and construction of the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce a bill that authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to help communities in eastern New Mexico develop the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System (ENMRWS). The water supply to be made available by this project is absolutely critical to the region's future. I look forward to working with my colleagues here in the Senate to help make this project a reality.

The source of water for the ENMRWS is Ute Reservoir, a facility constructed by the State of New Mexico in the early 1960s. In 1966, Congress authorized Reclamation to study the feasibility of a project that would utilize Ute Reservoir to supply water to communities in eastern New Mexico (Pub. L. 89–561). Numerous studies were subsequently completed, but it was not until the late 1990s that several communities, concerned about their reliance on declining and degraded groundwater supplies in the area, began to plan seriously for the development of a regional water system that would make use of the renewable supply available from Ute Reservoir.

As part of that process, the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Authority was formed to carryout the development of the ENMRWS. The Authority consists of nine communities and three counties in eastern New Mexicop and has been very effective in finalizing the studies and planning necessary to move forward with the project.

This is a very important bill to the citizens of New Mexico. It has the broad support of the communities in the region, as well as financial support from the State of New Mexico. There is no question that completion of the ENMRWS will provide communities in Quay, Roosevelt, and Curry counties with a long-term renewable source of water that is needed to sustain current economic activity and support future growth and development in the region. I hope my colleagues will support this legislation, thereby helping to address water needs in the rural West.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2513

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System Act of 2004''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the Entrada Aquifer and the Southern High Plains (Ogallala) Aquifer—

(A) provide 100 percent of the municipal and industrial water supplies for communities in East Central New Mexico; and

(B) serve a large majority of the agricultural water users in East Central New Mexico;

(2) the Entrada and Southern High Plains Aquifers are declining in quantity and deteriorating in quality;

(3) despite voluntary conservation efforts and improvements in agricultural water use efficiencies, current estimates indicate that present levels of groundwater use in some areas of eastern New Mexico are not sustainable beyond 12 to 25 years after the date of enactment of this Act;

(4) in 1959, the State of New Mexico began construction of the Ute Dam and Reservoir on the Canadian River to develop a long-term sustainable water supply for eastern New Mexico;

(5) section 2 of Public Law 89–561 (80 Stat. 711) authorized the development of a feasibility study for a water supply project in eastern New Mexico;

(6) since the feasibility study was authorized, a number of studies have been completed as part of the feasibility study process, including a 1994 study by the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission estimating the firm annual yield of water from Ute Reservoir at 24,000 acre-feet per year;

(7) in March 1997, the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission and the Ute Water Commission entered into an agreement for the purchase of 24,000 acre-feet of water per year for beneficial consumptive use in eastern New Mexico;

(8) the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Authority was established to plan, finance, develop, and operate the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System;

(9) the conceptual design report for the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System—

(A) was finalized in August 2003;

(B) incorporates a Bureau of Reclamation willingness and ability to pay report prepared in August 2002; and

(C) was subject to a peer review process that resulted in a supplement to the conceptual design report, the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System Conceptual Design Peer Review Final Report (December 2003);

(10) the State of New Mexico—

(A) strongly supports the development of the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System; and

(B) has appropriated amounts to the New Mexico Water Trust Fund to assist communities in eastern New Mexico in securing the financial resources necessary to provide an acceptable cost share for development of the system; and

(11) completion of the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System would provide Quay, Roosevelt, and Curry Counties in the State of New Mexico with a long-term reliable and renewable source of water that would—

(A) sustain current economic activity; and

(B) support future economic development and growth in the region.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial and technical assistance to the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Authority to plan, design, and construct the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System to provide a long-term reliable and renewable source of water to communities in eastern New Mexico.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) AUTHORITY.—The term ''Authority'' means the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Authority, an entity formed under State law for the purposes of planning, financing, developing, and operating the System.

(2) CONCEPTUAL DESIGN REPORT.—The term ''Conceptual Design Report'' means the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System final report dated August, 2003, as supplemented by the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System Conceptual Design Peer Review Final Report (December 2003).

(3) LOGAN SEWER PROJECT.—The term ''Logan sewer project'' means the project to improve the water quality in Ute Reservoir, as described in the Village of Logan Wastewater System Preliminary Engineering Report (November 2003).

(4) PLAN.—The term ''plan'' means the operation, maintenance, and replacement plan required by section 5(b)(1).

(5) PORTALES ENERGY RECOVERY SYSTEM.—The term ''Portales energy recovery system'' means the infrastructure to reduce pressure in the water system and generate useable power, as described in the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System Conceptual Design Peer Review Final Report (December 2003).

(6) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(7) STATE.—The term ''State'' means the State of New Mexico.

(8) SYSTEM.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''System'' means the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System, a water delivery project designed to deliver approximately 24,000 acre-feet of water per year from the Ute Reservoir to communities located in Quay, Roosevelt, and Curry Counties in eastern New Mexico, as described in the Conceptual Design Report.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term ''System'' includes—

(i) the Logan sewer project;

(ii) the Tucumcari advanced wastewater treatment facility; and

(iii) the Portales energy recovery system.

(9) TUCUMCARI ADVANCED WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY.—The term ''Tucumcari advanced wastewater treatment facility'' means the project to improve the water quality in the Ute Reservoir, as described in the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System Conceptual Design Peer Review Final Report (December 2003).

(10) UTE RESERVOIR.—The term ''Ute Reservoir'' means the impoundment of water created in 1962 by the construction of the Ute Dam on the Canadian River, located approximately 32 miles upstream of the border between New Mexico and Texas.

SEC. 4. EASTERN NEW MEXICO RURAL WATER SYSTEM.

(a) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide financial assistance to the Authority to assist in planning, designing, conducting related preconstruction activities for, and constructing the System.

(2) USE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any financial assistance provided under paragraph (1) shall be obligated and expended only in accordance with a cooperative agreement entered into under section 6(a)(2).

(B) LIMITATIONS.—Financial assistance provided under paragraph (1) shall not be used—

(i) for any activity that is inconsistent with developing the facilities described in the Conceptual Design Report, including development of the Logan sewer project; and

(ii) to plan or construct facilities used to supply water to supply irrigation for agricultural purposes.

(b) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the total cost of any activity or construction carried out using amounts made available under this Act shall be 80 percent of the total cost of the System

(2) SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT COSTS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the total cost of the System shall include any costs incurred by the Authority on or after October 1, 2003, for the development of the System.

(c) LIMITATION.—No amounts made available under this Act may be used for the construction of the System until—

(1) a plan is developed under section 5(b); and

(2) the Secretary and the Authority have complied with any requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) applicable to the System.

(d) TITLE TO PROJECT WORKS.—Title to the infrastructure of the System shall be held by the Authority, the Town of Logan, New Mexico, the City of Tucumcari, New Mexico, or as may otherwise be specified under State law.

SEC. 5. OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND REPLACEMENT COSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall be responsible for the annual operation, maintenance, and replacement costs associated with the System.

(b) OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND REPLACEMENT PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Authority, in consultation with the Secretary, shall develop an operation, maintenance, and replacement plan that establishes the rates and fees for beneficiaries of the System in the amount necessary to ensure that the System is properly maintained and capable of delivering the quantities of water described in the Conceptual Design Report.

(2) MODIFICATIONS.—The allocation of water to the communities specified in the Conceptual Design Report may be modified to adjust the rates and fees in a manner that ensures that the purposes of the plan are addressed.

SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

(a) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter into any contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or other agreement that is necessary to carry out this Act.

(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR PROVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter into a cooperative agreement with the Authority to provide financial assistance or any other assistance requested by the Authority for planning, design, related preconstruction activities, and construction of the System.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The cooperative agreement entered into under subparagraph (A) shall, at a minimum, specify the responsibilities of the Secretary and the Authority with respect to—

(i) ensuring that the cost-share requirements established by section 4(b) are met;

(ii) completing the planning and final design of the System;

(iii) any environmental and cultural resource compliance activities required for the System; and

(iv) the construction of the System.

(b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—At the request of the Authority, the Secretary may provide to the Authority any technical assistance that is necessary to assist the Authority in planning, designing, constructing, and operating the System.

(c) EFFECT.—Nothing in this Act—

(1) affects or preempts—

(A) State water law; or

(B) an interstate compact relating to the allocation of water; or

(2) confers on any non-Federal entity the ability to exercise any Federal rights to—

(A) the water of a stream; or

(B) any groundwater resource.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this Act $250,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2005 through 2016.

(b) ADJUSTMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount authorized under subsection (a) shall be adjusted as necessary to account for increases in development costs after the date of enactment of this Act, as determined using appropriate engineering cost indices (as determined by the Secretary).

(2) ALLOCATION.—The Federal share and non-Federal share of the cost increases determined under paragraph (1) shall be allocated in accordance with the cost-sharing requirements established by section 4(b).

(c) NONREIMBURSABLE AMOUNTS.—Amounts made available to the Authority in accordance with the cost-sharing requirement under section 4(b) shall be nonreimbursable and nonreturnable to the United States.

(d) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—At the end of each fiscal year, any unexpended funds appropriated pursuant to this Act shall be retained for use in future fiscal years consistent with the purposes of this Act.

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. 2514. A resolution to authorize the transfer of funds for foreign countries to participate in international peacekeeping or peace enforcement operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, this legislation supports the President's Global Peace Operations Initiative. That initiative contemplates a multi-year program to enhance global peacekeeping capacity by training and equipping military and security forces to facilitate the deployment of trained forces to international peace support operations.

The initiative stems from recognition of the concerns that have been identified in dealing with peace support operations. Specifically it has become clear that many countries have the political will to participate in peace support operations, but lack the capabilities and resources required to deploy and sustain themselves in the field. Similarly, some countries have the capacity to conduct traditional peacekeeping, but many missions, such as in Liberia, require combat-like peace enforcement tasks.

The Group of Eight, meeting this week, has endorsed the President's idea that the Group should pursue the goal of training at least 75,000 international peacekeepers over the next several years and develop a plan to provide logistical support around the world. The Group of Eight has had a longstanding interest, expressed at both the Kananaskis and Evian summits, in providing technical and financial assistance to sustain and strengthen peacekeeping capacity worldwide, particularly in Africa.

This bill supports that goal by authorizing a transfer of funding from the Department of Defense to the State Department for these activities. The administration has made clear to me that the Department of Defense believes that the costs for this program would be more than offset by the savings realized by not having to deploy U.S. military units to international peace operations.

The President's leadership and initiative demonstrates the strong U.S. interest in peace and prosperity worldwide and is an expression of U.S. confidence in growing African attention to and capacity in addressing security problems on and beyond the continent.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 2515. A bill to establish the Inspector General for Intelligence, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation that will address what I believe are fundamental deficiencies in the Intelligence Community's organization and methods of accountability.

For some time, we have been engaged in an ongoing national debate about the scope, methods, organization and

mission of our intelligence agencies. Since the creation of our modern Intelligence Community as part of the National Security Act of 1947 there have been numerous recommendations to strengthen the Intelligence Community leadership and mission to foster better communications and better serve the national security of the nation. Events over the last decade have highlighted some disturbing intelligence failures—we have all spoken sadly of the 1993 World Trade Center Bombing, the Khobar Towers tragedy, the attack on the USS Cole, the bombs at our embassies in East Africa and of course, September 11. As a Congress we have an obligation to address these incidents and work to better our intelligence gathering and disseminating capabilities to ensure this list is not added to.

As a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence—and a former member of committees on international relations and armed services in both this body and the other—I have participated in this national debate on many fronts and for many years. Irrespective of the events surrounding Director Tenet's recent resignation, I have believed strongly in the need for reform of the Intelligence Community for some time.

There is no question that the Intelligence Community requires systemic changes. Specifically, increases in human intelligence, better information sharing and greater accountability are all issues that desperately need to be addressed, and more importantly, acted on. It is my hope that the Intelligence Committee aggressively pursue specific recommendations based on a Committee-authored report to make substantive changes that will address the flaws that have been tragically revealed.

Americans need to know that their intelligence services are doing the best job possible in protecting their security. I say this even while I must recognize the dedication and professionalism of the thousands of Americans who make up our Intelligence Community. Each day across this country and around the world, they labor, mostly without recognition, to keep this country safe from harm. Our intelligence employees work under very demanding conditions and in environments that are extremely dangerous and can often shift without notice. They operate in a dizzing world of ''what ifs'' where the rules change daily. It is their vigilance upon which we rely to give us the forewarning necessary to counter the many dangers present in our world. Although it is impossible to directly express our deep appreciation for their efforts, I charge this body to relay our eternal gratitude to those who serve America so well.

But too often, breakdowns can occur that put Americans' lives at risk. There are many of us in Congress who believe that we have gone too long without making any real efforts to reform the Intelligence Community.

However appreciative we are of the service done by those who work in the fifteen agencies that make up our nation's Intelligence Community, we as a Congress have a responsibility to continue to work to find ways to help them do an even better job, and more importantly, to ensure that any failures are not repeated and that we learn from past mistakes. And at the same time, we have an obligation to the people of this country to ensure that both pride and comfort in our intelligence services exist. The people of this nation, and those of us elected to represent them, have a right to know that when mistakes are made, corrections soon follow.

A major focus of mine for many years now has been accountability—ensuring, for example, that government employees who issue travel visas to known terrorists are accountable to the American public for their actions. In this same vein, I'd like to see greater accountability brought to the Intelligence Community.

The bill I am introducing today—the ''Intelligence Community Accountability Act of 2004''—creates an independent Inspector General for Intelligence. This IG is not housed within any one agency, rather, it is an Inspector General for the entire Intelligence Community—all fifteen agencies and department members.

We must recognize that fifteen government agencies with fifteen different heads, fifteen different missions, fifteen chains of command and fifteen institutional paradigms are often handicapped in promulgating national intelligence. This in turn can lead to disconnects. And sadly in this business, such failures can lead to loss of life as we have been so graphically reminded over and over.

Intelligence comes from a variety of sources and in a wide array of forms. The fifteen members of the Intelligence Community must adequately interpret what they see, hear and find and then communicate that to policy-makers who decide best how to use it in the defense of our homeland and interests abroad. The often used but highly appropriate cliche, ''connecting the dots'' requires extensive inter-agency cooperation for this to happen. And if that doesn't happen and failures occur as a result . . . who do we hold accountable? How do we ensure it doesn't happen again?

Let me be clear, the Inspector General for Intelligence, or IGI, that this legislation creates will not diminish the power of the IG's that already exist within each of the Intelligence Community member agencies. Rather, it will enhance their powers, giving them an overarching body to turn to when their own institutional limits are reached—when their investigations or complaints involve other Intelligence Community members who may be unwilling to cooperate or unable to provide answers or where roadblocks caused by inter-agency ''turf wars'' are reached. It helps to fill a void in the accountability and oversight responsibilities of the Director of Central Intelligence in his role as head of the entire Intelligence Community.

In the recent committee report to accompany the FY 2005 Intelligence Authorization bill, the committee acknowledged the need for changes in the Intelligence Community and stated that it believes the process of reform ''must begin.'' Therefore, I submit that we begin as soon as possible—I know that the Chairman of our committee is committed to this effort and I hope that by bringing my legislation forward at this time, my colleagues can see that I too am eager for progress and momentum.

Make no mistake—this effort is intended to be part of a larger push to overhaul the entire intelligence community's organizational structure. I welcome such a push and as we move forward in that endeavor, I will work to ensure my legislation is included in the deliberations. But until that happens, I implore my colleagues to study the issue, read my legislation and work with me to create this office.

In looking at the Intelligence Community, we need to recognize that we are dealing with an amorphous entity made up of fifteen agencies, parts of departments, and independent bodies all spread out within our federal government. They each have their own mission, chain of command, procedures, history and institutional paradigms.

By law, and specifically according to Executive Order 12333 issued by President Reagan in 1981, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency wears a ''double hat'' by serving as the Director of the entire Intelligence Community.

Within the structure created, he often does the best he can. But as head of one of the agencies in the Community, his hands are often tied when it comes to exercising his authority over the other 14 members of a community over which he has jurisdiction.

Currently the Director of Central Intelligence has limited budget authority over the Pentagon's intelligence budget—which represents approximately 85 percent of the total intelligence community budget. According to Executive Order 12333, which also defines the responsibilities of the Director of Central Intelligence, the DCI is charged with working with the Secretary of Defense to ensure that there is no unnecessary overlap between national foreign intelligence programs and Department of Defense intelligence programs. This provides him with limited authority over the DoD intelligence budget, although historically this authority has not been exercised.

My legislation will essentially preserve the powers and role that the Director of Central Intelligence currently enjoys as adivsor to the President and head of the Intelligence Community, but it would make his office a separate

entity and a member of the President's Cabinet.

I saw firsthand the consequences of serious inadequacies in coordination and communication during my twelve years as ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs International Operations Subcommittee and chair of the International Operations Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. It was this lack of coordination that permitted the radical Egyptian Sheik Rahman, the mastermind of the first World Trade Center bombing in 1993, to enter and exit the U.S. five times unimpeded even after he was put on the State Department's Lookout List in 1987, and allowed him to get permanent residence status by the INS even after the State Department issued a certification of visa revocation.

And after the attacks of 9–11, I worked hard to point out the importance of the ''Three C's'' that has been lacking among federal agencies that are integral to preventing terrorism: coordination, communication, and cooperation.

This legislation that I am introducing today, is an extension of my efforts then.

The bottom line is, if knowledge is power, we are only as strong as the weakest link in our information network—therefore, we must ensure that the only ''turf war'' will be the one to protect American turf. In our fight against terrorism, we can do no less.

We must move heaven and earth to remove the impediments that keep us from maximizing our defense against terrorism, and that means changing the prevailing system and culture by re-focusing on the ''Three C's'': coordination, communication and cooperation.

Many of our greatest victories—those won by the men and women in our intelligence services—will be measured by the attacks that never happen . . . in battles we win before they ever have a name . . . in conflicts we prevent before they ever claim one American life. I hope we will pass and enact legislation that will help make that possible.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 373—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF RONALD WILSON REAGAN, A FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 373

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, a former President of the United States, and a former Governor of the State of California.

Resolved, That in recognition of his illustrious statesmanship, his leadership in national and world affairs, his distinguished public service to his State and his Nation, and as a mark of respect to one who has held such eminent public station in life, the Presiding Officer of the Senate appoint a committee to consist of all the Members of the Senate to attend the funeral of the former President.

Resolved, That the Senate hereby tender its deep sympathy to the members of the family of the former President in their sad bereavement.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the former President.

SENATE RESOLUTION 374—HONORING PRESIDENT RONALD WILSON REAGAN

Mr. FRIST submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

Whereas Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, was born on February 6, 1911, in Tampico, Illinois, to Nelle and John Reagan and raised in Dixon, Illinois;

Whereas as a lifeguard at Rock River in Lowell, Illinois, a young Ronald Reagan saved the lives of 77 swimmers;

Whereas Ronald Reagan enrolled in Eureka College where he played football, acted in amateur theater, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics and sociology;

Whereas Ronald Reagan landed his first job as a radio announcer for WOC in Davenport, Iowa, and went on to become a popular sports announcer;

Whereas Ronald Reagan launched a movie career that spanned 50 movies, including his most famous role as the football legend, ''The Gipper'';

Whereas Ronald Reagan, who received more fan mail than any other actor at Warner Brothers Studios except Errol Flynn, served as president of the Screen Actors Guild from 1947 to 1960;

Whereas on March 4, 1952, Ronald Reagan married his great love, Nancy Davis, who was to become his lifelong confidante and companion;

Whereas Ronald Reagan was the father of 4 children: Maureen, Michael, Patti, and Ronald Prescott;

Whereas Ronald Reagan hosted the popular television series ''GE Theater'' from 1954 to 1962;

Whereas in 1962, Ronald Reagan switched his party affiliation from Democrat to Republican and 2 years later delivered a major televised speech in support of Presidential candidate Barry Goldwater;

Whereas in 1966, Ronald Reagan won the governorship of California and in 1970 was reelected to a second term;

Whereas Governor Reagan campaigned for the Republican nomination in 1968, and again in 1976;

Whereas on July 16, 1980, the former Governor won the Republican nomination and on November 4, 1980, won the United States Presidency in a landslide vote;

Whereas President Reagan appointed the first woman to the United States Supreme Court, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor;

Whereas on March 30, 1981, only 2 months into his Presidency, Ronald Reagan survived an assassination attempt and upon meeting Nancy in the hospital, quipped with characteristic good humor, ''Honey, I forgot to duck'';

Whereas President Reagan delivered on his promise to cut taxes for American workers in 1981, and achieved the historic tax cuts of 1986 which overhauled the Federal tax code and reduced tax rates for almost all taxpayers, including removing 6,000,000 Americans from the tax rolls;

Whereas under President Reagan's leadership, inflation fell, interest rates declined, and by the seventh year of his Presidency, the stock market hit an all-time high;

Whereas President Reagan presided over the longest economic expansion in the history of the United States until that time and rebuilt the national defenses of the United States;

Whereas President Reagan won reelection in 1984 carrying 49 out of 50 States–one of the biggest electoral victories in the political history of the United States;

Whereas during summit meetings with Soviet Union President Mikhail Gorbachev in December 1987, President Reagan signed a treaty to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear forces;

Whereas President Reagan's steadfast opposition to communism, his unshakeable resolve to defeat the ''Evil Empire'', and his secure belief in government for and by the people, led to the collapse of the Berlin Wall and victory in the Cold War;

Whereas President Reagan's belief in freedom as a God-given right of all peoples led to a democratic revolution across Central America; and

Whereas Ronald Wilson Reagan, father, husband, actor, and dedicated public servant, restored the pride, optimism and strength of the United States and earned the deep respect and affection of his fellow citizens: Now, therefore, be it:

Resolved, That the Senate notes with deep sorrow and solemn mourning the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan.

Resolved, That the Senate extends its heartfelt sympathy to the wife and family of President Reagan.

Resolved, That the Senate commends the former President for his Presidency and its many accomplishments.

Resolved, That the Senate calls on all the people of the United States to reflect on the record of the 40th President of the United States during this national period of remembrance.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the former President.

SENATE RESOLUTION 375—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING INITIATIVES FOR GREATER MIDDLE EAST REFORM AND MODERNIZATION INCLUDING A TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY TRUST

Mr. LUGAR submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 375

Whereas one of the greatest threats in the 21st century is the nexus between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, which is fueled by failed states and instability that arises in large part from extremist organizations from the Greater Middle East region including nations of the Middle East, North Africa, and Central and South Asia;

Whereas the United States must promote security and stability in this troubled region where demographics, religious extremism, autocratic governments, isolation, stagnant economic systems and war have often overwhelmed the talents of the people and the wealth of the region's natural resources;

Whereas poverty and economic underdevelopment do not cause terrorism, but, by

promoting economic prosperity, political reform, peace and security in the Greater Middle East, the United States and the international community can help reduce the potential that such countries become a source of international terrorism;

Whereas advancements in communications, transportation, health and educational opportunities have yet to reach large percentages of the people of the Greater Middle East;

Whereas reform and modernization must come from the people and nations within the Greater Middle East and cannot be imposed from countries or individuals outside;

Whereas the best way to achieve these goals is to cooperate with our traditional partners and with other countries, specifically in the Greater Middle East on a new paradigm of reform and development;

Whereas the Arab Human Development Report of 2003 commissioned by the United Nations Development Programme identified the lack of knowledge, freedom, and the empowerment of women as the most serious challenges to development;

Whereas the United States launched the Middle East Partnership Initiative in 2002 to support economic, political, educational reform and the empowerment of women in the Middle East and has undertaken similar programs in North Africa and Central and South Asia that are creating educational and economic opportunity, fostering private sector development, and strengthening civil society;

Whereas other members of the Group of Eight (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, and the United Kingdom), and the European Union have established and supported similar programs and objectives; and the European Union, in particular, established the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in Barcelona in 1995 which includes development of economic and financial cooperation and greater emphasis on social, cultural, and political issues;

Whereas many nations of the Greater Middle East have individually and multilaterally expressed their interest and intentions to move towards implementing governmental and civil society modernization and reform, and many such countries have declared their commitment to support universal principles of democracy, human rights, and individual freedoms, including freedom for women;

Whereas the Alexandria Library in Egypt hosted a conference in March 2004 entitled Critical Reforms in the Arab World: From Rhetoric to Reality to bring together members of civil society in the Middle East including intellectuals, business people, and academics and the conference participants made a statement declaring that they ''are fully convinced that reform is a necessary and urgent matter,'' and that they embraced ''without ambiguity, genuine democracy'';

Whereas the Arab League Summit in May 2004 resulted in an assertion of the firm resolve of these nations to reaffirm human rights and freedoms and to carry on reform and modernization, including consolidation of democratic practice, broadening participation of all components of civil society and widening women's participation in the political, economic, social, cultural and educational fields; and

Whereas the members of the Group of Eight met in Sea Island, Georgia in June 2004 and committed to cooperate with the countries of the ''Broader Middle East and North Africa'' to assist in advancing their aspirations for political, economic and social reforms: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON GREATER MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVES FOR REFORM AND MODERNIZATION, INCLUDING A TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY TRUST.

It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) in June 2004, the President encouraged the Group of Eight (the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, and the United Kingdom) to outline a plan to engage with the countries of the ''Broader Middle East and North Africa'' in a way that allows such countries to establish priorities for reform and modernization in the new millennium;

(2) reforms in the countries of the Greater Middle East, including nations of the Middle East, North Africa, and Central and South Asia, must be generated from within by the people and governments of such countries, and can only be effective if undertaken in the context of people taking charge of their own futures;

(3) the President should seek to build on the initiatives of the Group of Eight and establish specific mechanisms for accomplishing the goals of reform and modernization of the Greater Middle East such as establishment of a Greater Middle East Twenty-First Century Trust, as described in section 2; the two-way nature of the functions of such a Trust confers ''ownership'' of the processes of reform in the countries of the Greater Middle East and will invite renewed dialog;

(4) the members of the Group of Eight and the nations of the Greater Middle East region should follow-up the G–8 Summit with official and private meetings, conferences, and other events to further explore and implement initiatives, including establishing terms of reference for a Greater Middle East Twenty-First Century Trust;

(5) the members of the Group of Eight can help effect long-term political and economic change in the Greater Middle East by leveraging financial contributions from Europe, Asia, and the wealthy countries of the region, and by providing the imprimatur of the broad international community;

(6) the President should use his considerable leverage with allies inside and outside the region to assist in the promotion of democratic reforms and political freedom; and

(7) recognizing that social and political change would be more difficult in an atmosphere of violence, the President should work with other industrialized democracies and with the countries of the Greater Middle East to promote peace and maintain a stable environment for long-term progress.

SEC. 2. MODEL FOR ESTABLISHING A GREATER MIDDLE EAST TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY TRUST.

The Senate urges the President to consider generating support for a Greater Middle East Twenty-First Century Trust (hereinafter referred to as the ''Trust'') in coordination and partnership with the members of the Group of Eight and the countries of the Greater Middle East in a quest for political, economic, and educational reform and for modernization in such countries. The Trust could be organized with the following guidelines:

(1) Donors to the Trust could pool resources to deliver grants and work together to define the funding criteria for the Trust based on high priority needs identified by the recipients of such grants.

(2) The contributors to the Trust could include wealthy countries of the Greater Middle East, such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and others willing to invest in their own futures and take a stake in the Trust's success.

(3) The Trust could be sensitive to cultural concerns of the people and governments of the countries of the Greater Middle East and could respect Islamic financial principles to ensure that the Trust will be accepted in the region.

(4) The Trust could reflect advances in understanding of international development and be based on the models of the Africa Action Plan of the Group of Eight, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation, which represent a new form of social compact between governments and donors that does not superimpose a plan from donors but, instead, works with the recipient countries to plan and set priorities for assistance.

(5) Contributors to the Trust could use independent indicators to judge if a candidate country is making strides to promote the rule of law, political and civil rights, combat corruption, and modernize economic and education systems.

(6) The Trust could be a vehicle for action that would set broad goals and criteria and should include specific programs developed and offered by the countries that will receive assistance from the Trust.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 117—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD POSTHUMOUSLY AWARD THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM TO HARRY W. COLMERY

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. SANTORUM) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 117

Whereas the life of Harry W. Colmery of Topeka, Kansas, was marked by service to his country and its citizens;

Whereas Harry Colmery earned a degree in law in 1916 from the University of Pittsburgh and, through his practice of law, contributed to the Nation, notably by successfully arguing 2 significant cases before the United States Supreme Court, 1 criminal, the other an environmental legal dispute;

Whereas during World War I, Harry Colmery joined the Army Air Service, serving as a first lieutenant at a time when military aviation was in its infancy;

Whereas after World War I, Harry Colmery actively contributed to the growth of the newly formed American Legion and went on to hold several offices in the Legion and was elected National Commander in 1936;

Whereas in 1943, the United States faced the return from World War II of what was to become an active duty force of 15,000,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines;

Whereas Harry Colmery, recognizing the potential effect of the return of such a large number of veterans to civilian life, spearheaded the efforts of the American Legion to develop legislation seeking to ensure that these Americans who had fought for the democratic ideals of the Nation and to preserve freedom would be able to fully participate in all of the opportunities the Nation provided;

Whereas in December 1943, during an emergency meeting of the American Legion leadership, Harry Colmery crafted the initial draft of the legislation that became the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, also known as the GI Bill of Rights;

Whereas the GI Bill of Rights is credited by veterans' service organizations, economists, and historians as the engine that transformed postwar America into a more egalitarian, prosperous, and enlightened Nation poised to lead the world into the 21st century;

Whereas since its enactment, the GI Bill of Rights has provided education or training for approximately 7,800,000 men and women, including 2,200,000 in college, 3,400,000 in other schools, 1,400,000 in vocational education, and 690,000 in farm training and, in addition, 2,100,000 World War II veterans purchased homes through the GI Bill;

Whereas as a result of the benefits available to veterans through the initial GI Bill, the Nation gained over 800,000 professionals as the GI Bill transformed these veterans into 450,000 engineers, 238,000 teachers, 91,000 scientists, 67,000 doctors, and 22,000 dentists;

Whereas President Truman established the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1945 to recognize notable service during war and in 1963, President Kennedy reinstated the medal to honor the achievement of civilians during peacetime;

Whereas pursuant to Executive Order No. 11085, the Medal of Freedom may be awarded to any person who has made an especially meritorious contribution to ''(1) the security or national interest of the United States, or (2) world peace, or (3) other significant public or private endeavors''; and

Whereas Harry Colmery, noted for his service in the military, in the legal sector, and on behalf of the Nation's veterans, clearly meets the criteria established for the Presidential Medal of Freedom; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the President should posthumously award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Harry W. Colmery of Topeka, Kansas.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution honoring the life of Harry W. Colmery of Topeka, KS, and expressing the sense of Congress that the President should award Mr. Colmery the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously.

As my colleagues know, the Presidential Medal of Freedom is this Nation's highest civilian honor. Thus, my colleagues may ask, ''What in particular makes the life of Harry Colmery stand out?'' I would answer that just two weekends ago, we in Washington saw the answer to this question when thousands of veterans gathered on the National Mall for the dedication of the World War II Memorial. These individuals and millions of their fellow soldiers benefited from the work of Harry Colmery, the author of the initial draft of the Servicemen's Readjustment act of 1944, also known as the GI Bill of Rights.

The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 was aimed to aid military veterans as they transitioned back into civilian life following the conclusion of World War II by providing certain useful benefits. Among the historic benefits of this bill was a new educational benefit that would revolutionize America's higher education system. More than 2 million eligible men and women went to college using these educational benefits in the decade following World War II. The result was an American workforce enriched by 450,000 engineers, 238,000 teachers, 91,000 scientists, 67,000 doctors, 22,000 dentists, and another million college-educated men and women. An estimated 5 million additional men and women received other schooling or job training under the provisions of the GI Bill.

The success of the GI Bill of Rights was unmistakable. A Veterans Administration study in 1965 showed that the increased earning power of GI Bill college graduates led to Federal income tax revenues rising by more than a billion dollars annually. In less than 20 years, the $14 billion cost of the original program had been recovered. Americans like programs that work and, in the decades following World War II, Congress built on the success of the original GI Bill. The most recent Montgomery GI Bill, approved in 1985, was designed not only to help veterans make a transition into the workforce through additional education and training benefits, but also to help support the concept of an all-volunteer military. As my colleagues know, the promise of educational benefits has been one of the most successful tools given to our Nation's military recruiters.

Harry Colmery's dedicated service to the veterans of this Nation and the long reach of his work into the lives of millions of Americans certainly make him an individual worthy of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I call on my fellow Senators to support this resolution so that Harry Colmery, even posthumously, may receive the honor he is due.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 118—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT AN ARTISTIC TRIBUTE TO COMMEMORATE THE SPEECH GIVEN BY PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN AT THE BRANDENBURG GATE ON JUNE 12, 1987, SHOULD BE PLACED WITHIN THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL

Mr. ALLARD submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. CON. RES. 118

Whereas the people of the United States successfully defended freedom and democracy for over 40 years in a global Cold War against an aggressive Communist tyranny;

Whereas President Ronald Wilson Reagan's demonstration of unwavering personal conviction during this conflict served to inspire millions of people throughout the United States and around the world to seek democracy, freedom, and greater individual liberty; and

Whereas Ronald Wilson Reagan's determined stand against the Soviet empire during his eight years as President served as the catalyst for the end of that regime: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that an artistic tribute to commemorate the speech given by President Ronald Reagan at the Brandenburg Gate on June 12, 1987, during which he uttered the immortal lines ''Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!'', should be placed within the United States Capitol.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3448. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3200 submitted by Mr. INHOFE and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3448. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3200 submitted by Mr. INHOFE and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. 1055. ASSISTANCE FOR FOREIGN COUNTRIES TO ENGAGE IN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, may transfer funds to the Secretary of State to provide assistance during fiscal year 2005 to military or security forces in a foreign country to enhance the capability of such country to participate in an international peacekeeping or peace enforcement operation.

(b) TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—Assistance provided under subsection (a) may be used to provide equipment, supplies, training, or funding.

(c) FUNDING LIMITATION.—Assistance provided under subsection (a) may not exceed $100,000,000 in fiscal year 2005 from funds made available to the Department of Defense.

(d) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.—The authority to provide assistance under this section is in addition to any other authority to provide assistance to a foreign country or the military or security forces of such country.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the following hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Thursday June 17th, at 2:30 p.m. in Room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 2513, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Authority for the planning, design, and

construction of the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Systems and for other purposes; S. 2511, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study of a Chimayo water supply system, to provide for the planning design, and construction of a water supply, reclamation, and filtration facility for Espanola, NM, and for other purposes; S. 2508, a bill to redesignate the Ridges Basin Reservoir, CO, as Lake Nighthorse; S. 2460, a bill to provide assistance to the State of New Mexico for the development of comprehensive State water plans, and for other purposes; and S. 1211, a bill to further the purposes of title XVI of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992, the ''Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act'', by directing the Secretary of the Interior to undertake a demonstration program for water reclamation in the Tularosa Basin of New Mexico, and for other purposes.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, SD–364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510–6150.

For further information, please contact Nate Gentry at 202–224–2179 or Shane Perkins at 202–224–7555.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 9, 2004, at 9:30 a.m. on digital TV.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 9, 2004, at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on Evaluating International Intellectual Property Piracy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 9, 2004, at 10 a.m. for a hearing titled ''Going Nowhere: DOD Wastes Millions of Dollars on Unused Airline Tickets.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, June 9, 2004, at 10 a.m. on ''DHS Oversight: Terrorism and Other Topics'' in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226. The Honorable Tom Ridge, Secretary of Department of Homeland Defense, will testify.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 9, 2004, at 10 a.m. to hold a closed business meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that John Kennedy of my staff be granted floor privileges.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ELI BROAD

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 38 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 38) providing for the appointment of Eli Broad as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 38) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 38

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 43), the vacancy on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, in the class other than Members of Congress, resulting from the death of Barber B. Conable, Jr., is filled by the appointment of Eli Broad of California. The appointment is for a term of 6 years, beginning upon the date of enactment of this joint resolution.

RESOLUTION OF CLAIMS RELATING TO CONFISCATION OF CERTAIN PROPERTY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 341, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 341) to urge the resolution of claims related to the confiscation of certain property by the Government of Italy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the consideration of the resolution?

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I want the RECORD spread with my appreciation for the work done by the chairman, Senator LUGAR, and the ranking member, Senator BIDEN. This is an issue that goes back to the days when the Italian Government was confiscating property and not in any way compensating those whose property was taken. This is an effort to rectify that situation. I cannot adequately express my appreciation to the committee that worked so hard on this issue and to the leadership of that committee. This is very important.

This involves a prominent family from Nevada. They owned property in Italy. The Italian Government wrongfully confiscated the property decades ago, but to date, they have yet to provide compensation to the family.

Adequate compensation is required under treaties we have entered into with Italy. This resolution simply calls upon the Italian Government to make an effort to satisfy this claim and encourages our State Department to work with the Italian Government to see that the claim is resolved. It is noncontroversial and does not cost one penny.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 341) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 341

Whereas the Government of the Italian Republic confiscated the property of Mr. Pier Talenti, a citizen of the United States, and has failed to compensate Mr. Talenti for that property;

Whereas the Government of Italy has an obligation under the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation, signed at Rome February 2, 1948 (63 Stat. 2255) between the United States and the Italian Republic to provide compensation to Mr. Talenti for the confiscated property;

Whereas the failure of the Government of Italy to compensate Mr. Talenti runs counter to such Government's treaty obligations and to accepted international standards;

Whereas section 1611 of H.R. 1757, 105th Congress, as passed by the Senate on June 17, 1997, expressed the sense of Congress that the ''Italian Republic must honor its Treaty obligations with regard to the confiscated property of Mr. Pier Talenti by negotiating a prompt resolution of Mr. Talenti's case, and that the Department of State should continue to press the Italian government to resolve Mr. Talenti's claim.'';

Whereas the Government of Italy has not responded to Diplomatic Note 674 issued in 1996, urging such Government to negotiate a settlement with Mr. Talenti; and

Whereas Mr. Talenti has exhausted all legal remedies available to him under the Italian judicial system and has not received ''just and effective compensation'' for the confiscated property from the Government of Italy as required under the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Government of Italy should—

(A) fulfill the requirements of the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation signed at Rome February 2, 1948 (63 Stat. 2255) between the United States and the Italian Republic with respect to the property of Mr. Pier Talenti that was confiscated by such Government; and

(B) make reasonable efforts to effect a prompt resolution of Mr. Talenti's claims under such Treaty; and

(2) the Secretary of State should—

(A) continue to press the Government of Italy to resolve Mr. Talenti's claims; and

(B) take any further measures, including all appropriate diplomatic initiatives, that the Secretary determines could assist Mr. Talenti in receiving such compensation from the Government of Italy.

THE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration Calendar Nos. 546 through 571, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding en bloc? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bills be read a third time and passed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, en bloc, and any statements relating to the bills be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LUIS A. FERRE UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE AND POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (S. 2017) to designate the United States courthouse and post office building located at 93 Atocha Street in Ponce, Puerto Rico, as the ''Luis A. Ferre United States Courthouse and Post Office Building,'' was considered, order to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2017

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LUIS A. FERRÉ UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE AND POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The United States courthouse and post office building located at 93 Atocha Street in Ponce, Puerto Rico, shall be known and designated as the ''Luis A. Ferré United States Courthouse and Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper or other record of the United States to the courthouse and post office building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Luis A. Ferré United States Courthouse and Post Office Building.

MIKE MANSFIELD POST OFFICE

The bill (S. 2214) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3150 Great Northern Avenue in Missoula, Montana, as the ''Mike Mansfield Post Office,'' was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2214

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MIKE MANSFIELD POST OFFICE, MISSOULA, MONTANA.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3150 Great Northern Avenue in Missoula, Montana, shall be known and designated as the ''Mike Mansfield Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Mike Mansfield Post Office''.

ROBERT J. OPINSKY POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (S. 2415) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4141 Postmark Drive, Anchorage, Alaska, as the ''Robert J. Opinsky Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2415

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ROBERT J. OPINSKY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4141 Postmark Drive, in Anchorage, Alaska, shall be known and designated as the ''Robert J. Opinsky Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Robert J. Opinsky Post Office Building''.

DOSAN AHN CHANG HO POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 1822) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3751 West 6th Street in Los Angeles, California, as the ''Dosan Ahn Chang Ho Post Office,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

NEW BRIDGE LANDING POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 2130) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 121 Kinderkamack Road in River Edge, New Jersey, as the ''New Bridge Landing Post Office,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MAJOR HENRY A. COMMISKEY, SR. POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 2438) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 West Pine Street in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, as the ''Major Henry A. Commiskey, Sr. Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

S. TRUETT CATHY POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3029) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 255 North Main Street in Jonesboro, Georgia, as the ''S. Truett Cathy Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

LLOYD L. BURKE POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3059), to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 304 West Michigan Street in Stuttgart, Arkansas, as the ''Lloyd L. Burke Post Office,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

BRIGADIER GENERAL (AUS-RET.) JOHN H. McLAIN POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3068) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2055 Siesta Drive in Sarasota, Florida, as the ''Brigadier General (AUS-Ret.) John H. McLain Post Office,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

BEN R. GEROW POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3234) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Chestnut Street in Liberty, New York, as the ''Ben R. Gerow Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

WALTER F. EHRNFELT, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3300) to designate the facility of the United States Postal

Service located at 15500 Pearl Road in Strongsville, Ohio, as the ''Walter F. Ehrnfelt, Jr. Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

GEORGE HENRY WHITE POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3353) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 525 Main Street in Tarboro, North Carolina, as the ''George Henry White Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ARMY STAFF SGT. LINCOLN HOLLINSAID MALDEN POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3536) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 210 Main Street in Malden, Illinois, as the ''Army Staff Sgt. Lincoln Hollinsaid Malden Post Office,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ARMY PVT. SHAWN PAHNKE MANHATTAN POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3537) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 185 State Street in Manhattan, Illinois, as the ''Army Pvt. Shawn Pahnke Manhattan Post Office,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MARINE CAPTAIN RYAN BEAUPRE SAINT ANNE POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3538) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 South Chicago Avenue in Saint Anne, Illinois, as the ''Marine Capt. Ryan Beaupre Saint Anne Post Office,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

BARBER CONABLE POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3690) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 West Main Street in Batavia, New York, as the ''Barber Conable Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MYRON V. GEORGE POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3733) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 Huston Street in Altamont, Kansas, as the ''Myron V. George Post Office,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

OSCAR SCOTT WOODY POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3740) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 223 Main Street in Roxboro, North Carolina, as the ''Oscar Scott Woody Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

BEN ATCHLEY POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3769) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 137 East Young High Pike in Knoxville, Tennessee, as the ''Ben Atchley Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

GENERAL JOHN J. PERSHING POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3855) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 607 Pershing Drive in Laclede, Missouri, as the ''General John J. Pershing Post Office,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MAXINE S. POSTAL UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3917) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 695 Marconi Boulevard in Copiague, New York, as the ''Maxine S. Postal United States Post Office,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MARY ANN COLLURA POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3939) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14–24 Abbott Road in Fair Lawn, New Jersey, as the ''Mary Ann Collura Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read a third time, and passed.

RHODE ISLAND VETERANS POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3942) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7 Commercial Boulevard in Middletown, Rhode Island, as the ''Rhode Island Veterans Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

RICHARD G. WILSON PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITY

The bill (H.R. 4037) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 475 Kell Farm Drive in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, as the ''Richard G. Wilson Processing and Distribution Facility'', was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

BOBBY MARSHALL GENTRY POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 4176) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 West Elwood Avenue in Raeford, North Carolina, as the ''Bobby Marshall Gentry Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

DR. MIGUEL A. NEVAREZ POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 4299) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 South Jackson Road in Edinburg, Texas, as the ''Dr. Miguel A. Nevarez Post Office Building,'' was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I am honored to have the opportunity to rise today to join my colleagues and, indeed, my country men and women in paying tribute to our departed and, I would say, sincerely beloved former President Ronald Reagan. We mourn his loss and we give our condolences, of course, to Mrs. Reagan and their family.

I cannot claim, as some can in this Chamber, to have known President Reagan personally and well. In fact, we met a few times while he was serving in the White House. I was attorney general of Connecticut and visited with attorneys general. We did have one remarkable rendezvous.

Our paths crossed, figuratively speaking, as President Reagan was departing Washington, having completed his second term as President. I was arriving as a freshman Senator from Connecticut. It was January 14, 1989, and the outgoing President was set to give his final weekly radio address Saturday morning.

As always, he gave a masterful and moving performance, engaging the Nation with his wisdom and his wit. Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, the new Senate majority leader, asked me to give the Democratic response to President Reagan that Saturday morning in January. It was a high honor, of course, for me as a freshman Senator to be asked to give the weekly radio address but it was, needless to say, a tough act to follow.

I looked back to my remarks and in them I see I praised President Reagan

for his love of country, his fervent devotion to freedom, and his commitment to the values of faith, flag, and family. I said I was ''inspired and encouraged by his sense of patriotism,'' and I urged all Americans to work together on our unfinished business with ''the spirit of purpose and confidence that is the legacy of the Reagan years.''

Today, 15 years later, I am very proud I was able to speak those words, and proud of their truthfulness. My admiration and respect for President Reagan has only grown with time. The optimism, the idealism, the patriotism, and confidence he radiated infected us all and are exactly what we need today.

President Reagan won the trust of the American people and used that trust to lead. I believe he won the trust of the American people because he reflected their values and they knew he was the real thing, that he stuck to what he believed was right, whether it was popular or not. His leadership was classic democratic leadership, with a small ''d.'' His moral conviction, combined with his pragmatism, enabled him to do an awful lot for our country and the world. He understood what America was about, which was freedom and opportunity, and extended both in America and throughout the world.

After all, he led our country and the free world to victory in the final battle of the cold war against communism.

Ronald Reagan's message of optimism and purpose was carried by one of the most effective messengers ever to occupy the Oval Office. His rhetoric, after all, made us swell with pride, sometimes harden with indignation, often resonate with emotion. He also made us laugh.

I loved President Reagan's jokes and borrowed them often, sometimes with attribution, sometimes not. One of my favorites was the one that said a lot about him and about what he believed, what he was for, and what he was against. It was about the commissar who visited the Communist collective farm in Russia. He greeted the farmer, who was the head of the farm, on an inspection tour and asked the farmer how the potato crop had been that year.

The farmer said: Oh, commissar, the potato crop has been excellent. As a matter of fact, if we took all the potatoes we grew on this farm this year and put them one on top of the other, they would reach all the way up to the feet of God.

Troubled, the commissar from Moscow said, comrade farmer, I am glad to hear you did so well raising potatoes, but what do you mean about reaching up to the feet of God? This is a Soviet Communist collective farm. There is no God.

The comrade said, that is okay, because there are no potatoes, either. So it was.

I heard someone in the last few days since President Reagan's death repeat a one-liner of his where the press was getting on him because they said he was not working hard enough as President. At some public gathering, President Reagan said he was aware of these criticisms and he was also aware of the old line that hard work never killed anybody, but, President Reagan said, I figure why should I run the risk? And so it was.

His sense of humor and exuberance served him and the country well. Yes, he was a cold warrior, our leader in the final battle of the cold war, but he was also a happy warrior. In this and in so many other ways, Ronald Reagan reflected the personality and values of the American people. You could disagree with his policies, but you could never find his personality or his sincerity disagreeable.

He treated Democrats and Republicans alike, which is to say with respect. That attitude was contagious and even infected both Chambers of Congress. President Reagan once urged an audience of young people to live lives ''that were a statement, not an apology.''

This week we remember a true American giant, whose life was a statement, not an apology—a statement of America's values and its transcendent spirit of our faith in God and our love of country, of our national purpose, which is to uphold and extend the reality of freedom and opportunity in the world.

I yield the floor.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask the record to reflect my appreciation for the courtesy of Senator FRIST. He has a very busy schedule. He has people waiting in his office and it would have been very easy for him to go out without giving Senator LIEBERMAN the opportunity to speak. So we appreciate very much his courtesy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I appreciate the comments of my colleague.

Indeed, it has been a different week, a very solemn week, and a week that has required all of us to work together from an organizational standpoint and to pull together what has been almost a celebration of this legacy of Ronald Reagan.

This evening members will gather in the Senate Chamber and right around that period of time a number of people will be proceeding to the arrival ceremony. It will indeed be a historic moment for the Senate, for this body, but indeed for the American people. Over 150,000 well-wishers are expected to line the streets as President Reagan's flag-draped caisson is drawn up to this building, the Capitol, by a single riderless horse.

In the past 5 days, we have witnessed a remarkable unity in the country, a fraternity of spirit in many ways. Partisanship has fallen away, and old political foes have set aside disagreements. Americans have come together to celebrate the remarkable achievements of a truly remarkable man. Lifeguard—the pictures are imprinted in everybody's mind—radio announcer, actor, Governor, father, husband, and finally President of the United States. Ronald Wilson Reagan achieved extraordinary heights.

But he would tell you, I suspect—and it was reflected in so many of the comments among his friends and colleagues over the last several days—that he was simply being an American, fulfilling the American dream. He described the American dream once as ''a song of hope that rings through the night air; vivid, tender music that warms our heart when the least among us aspires to the greatest things.''

Ronald Reagan brought that song back to our hearts. He believed we could achieve great things, that America could achieve great things, and because of his unshakeable belief in freedom and liberty and democracy and his ironclad faith in progress, his love and respect for his fellow citizen, we did. We triumphed over the Soviet empire. We created one of the longest economic expansions in American history. We regained our strength and our optimism. We remembered the special privilege it is to be an American.

But we also remembered that freedom is not for us alone. It is the right of every man and woman across the globe, in every age, in every civilization.

In 1964, two decades before he would be reelected in a landslide victory carrying 49 of the 50 United States, Ronald Reagan told the Nation:

> You and I have the ability and the dignity and the right to make our own decisions and determine our own destiny.

As we would learn later, it was our destiny to choose Ronald Reagan to be our leader, our standard bearer, and our hero. The history books will record Ronald Reagan as one of our greatest Presidents. Of this I have no doubt. And the American people will remember him with love and with affection for generations to come.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2004

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 1 p.m. on Monday, June 14. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate

then begin a period of morning business for 60 minutes, equally divided between the two leaders or their designees; provided that following morning business the Senate resume consideration of Calendar No. 503, S. 2400, the Department of Defense authorization bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. On Monday, following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the Defense authorization bill. Chairman WARNER and Senator LEVIN have been reviewing the submitted amendments and will be here on Monday to resume work on that bill. I expect Members to come to the floor to offer amendments on Monday. We anticipate setting votes on amendments for Monday afternoon.

On Monday, we will order any votes to begin at 5:30 on those amendments to be disposed of. Again, I encourage Members to work with the chairman and the ranking member to schedule consideration of their amendments. There were a large number of amendments filed, and I hope that most of those amendments will not be offered.

It will be a busy week next week as we return to regular business. We need to proceed expeditiously toward completing our work on the Defense authorization bill by the conclusion of next week.

With that said, I again thank all of my colleagues who have participated during these past several days in honoring our former President.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2004, AT 1 P.M.

Mr. FRIST. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment under the provisions of S. Res. 371 as a mark of further respect for President Ronald Wilson Reagan.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:15 p.m., adjourned until Monday, June 14, 2004, at 1 p.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO WEST GENESEE'S HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' LACROSSE TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the West Genesee High School Boys' Lacrosse Team, which won the Class A state championship title.

The team won the Section Three championship in order to move on and become one of only 8 teams from around New York State to play in the state playoffs. In the state playoffs, they won their quarterfinal and semifinal games, placing them in the state final. The West Genesee team then traveled to Long Island, where they captured their third straight Class A championship title and ended their season with a record of 23 wins and only one loss.

Team captains Brian Stanton, Andrew Hanover, Tom Donahue, and Mike Malone led the state champion West Genesee Boys' Lacrosse Team made up of players Brian Griffin, Dave Osier, Joel Derrigo, Brian Cost, Jake Moulton, Mark Cometti, Josh Begley, Jeff Ryan, Alex Bily, Ben Mercado, Steve Prosonic, P.J. Motondo, Tim Spillett, Dan Balestra, Tim Griffin, Andrew Vecchio, Kevin Joy, Marc Cizenski, Tim Gearhart, Jaren Woeppel, Matt Pompo, Kevin Simon, Tom Collins, Chris Duffy, Sean Leahy, Shane McConnell, Jon Keuchler, Mark Keida, Jeff Cleland, Tom Geiss, and Dan McKeon. Head coach Mike Messere, and assistant coaches Bob Deegan and Dave Metz guided the team in their outstanding accomplishments.

I would like to express my congratulations to the team for such an outstanding achievement and wish them luck in their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF AMBASSADOR C.J. CHEN

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I join my colleagues in honoring a unique man and a graceful diplomat.

Ambassador Chen is returning to Taiwan after four years of exemplary service as the representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative office, the quasi embassy of the Republic of China. In fact, since joining his country's foreign service 37 years ago, Ambassador Chen has always been involved with the U.S.-Taiwan relations in his many job assignments both in Taiwan and in the United States. His diplomatic career mirrors very much the ups and downs of U.S.-Taiwan relations.

The nadir of U.S.-Taiwan relations came in 1979 when the Carter Administration severed diplomatic ties with Taipei and recognized Beijing. C.J. Chen was then working in Taiwan's embassy in Washington. He spent days and nights negotiating and communicating with U.S. government officials and lawmakers in drafting the Taiwan Relations Act which became U.S. law on April 10, 1979. The TRA has enabled Taiwan to grow economically and politically in the last quarter of century.

In the subsequent years, in his many key roles in Taiwan's foreign ministry, C.J. made sure that the U.S. would play a role as balancer, stabilizer and facilitator in handling its relations with both Taiwan and the mainland. In addition, C.J. and other leaders in Taiwan have been successful in urging the U.S. to continue to provide Taiwan with the military sales necessary for Taiwan's self defense.

In the last 4 years, C.J., in his capacity as Taiwan's top diplomat in Washington, has further strengthened U.S.-Taiwan relations. U.S. confidence in Taiwan continues to rise and U.S.-Taiwan relations are now at its best since 1979. While there have been no major changes in the U.S. policy towards the two sides of the Taiwan Straits, U.S. tone towards Taiwan has markedly improved, since Taiwan is a democracy and democracies count for something.

In addition to the Bush administration's goodwill towards Taiwan, congressional support and friendship continues to grow, especially in the last 4 years. Since the inception of the 108th Congress, both the Senate and the House have introduced or passed a number of pro-Taiwan bills and resolutions such as Taiwan's participation in the WHO, a U.S.-Taiwan Free Trade Agreement, security in the Taiwan Strait, welcome for transits by Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian etc. All these achievements are directly attributable to the efforts of Ambassador C.J. Chen.

Mr. Speaker, C.J. and his wife Yolanda will be missed in Washington. I wish C.J. and Yolanda all the best and hope they will keep in touch with their many friends in Washington.

HONORING DR. CHARLOTTE GROFF

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the inspiring career of Dr. Charlotte Groff, of Berrien Springs, Michigan. A dedicated and selfless individual, Charlotte has enthusiastically educated students of St. Joseph and Coloma schools over the past 50 years.

Since 1954, Charlotte's contributions to our community have been tremendous. Over this time she has played a role in the development and success of countless students, and watched as these students grew into pillars of the communities of southwest Michigan and beyond.

Throughout her vast career, Charlotte has held many teaching positions and has taught in diverse teaching capacities—all with great distinction. Charlotte has taught every summer in the Coloma migrant program since its inception in 1968—except for the 2 years she worked on a doctoral degree. Also, since 1975 she has been a reading specialist for children from disadvantaged homes.

As Charlotte retires this summer, she closes one chapter of her inspiring and remarkable legacy of educating our youth. I am confident that this retirement is far from being the end to Charlotte's teaching. The numerous lives that will be educated and touched by Charlotte will no doubt continue for many years to come. The passion that she has for teaching is everlasting and I wish her all the best in retirement. Charlotte will be truly missed in Coloma Community School and throughout southwest Michigan.

HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4060, the Health, Safety, and Security of Peace Corps Volunteers Act of 2004.

The Peace Corps represents our nation's enduring commitment to progress, opportunity, and expanded development—beginning at the grassroots level.

Since 1961, more than 170,000 Peace Corps Volunteers have served in 137 countries to promote the Peace Corps' mission of world peace and friendship.

Volunteers offer skills in education, healthcare, business, agriculture and the environment. They respond to the world's most challenging crises like poverty, hunger and HIV/AIDS. They are to be commended for their sacrifice, their hard work and their commitment to improving the lives of others.

Today, more than 7,500 Peace Corps Volunteers—young and old—serve in 71 countries around the world, including 25 volunteers from my Congressional District.

With an increase in volunteers comes a greater challenge for the Peace Corps to ensure the safety and security of all Volunteers. Expanding the Peace Corps' missions in Africa, the Middle East and other volatile regions increases the chance of criminal activities and requires the dedication of greater time, energy and resources toward safety issues.

H.R. 4060 takes a good step toward strengthening the Peace Corps and making sure all Volunteers are safe. The bill creates a Peace Corps Ombudsman to receive and inquire into complaints, questions, or concerns raised by current or former volunteers or employees of the Peace Corps. This legislation also establishes an Office of Safety and Security within the Peace Corps to help coordinate

all security activities. These are important steps which I support.

I believe a Volunteer's safety is both the responsibility of the Peace Corps and the Volunteers themselves. Weeks of safety training and country background preclude any Volunteer's departure overseas and Volunteers are advised of the precautions necessary before integrating into some of the poorest and disparaged communities in the world. As Ambassador and Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Tony Hall said, "You have to go into the service with your eyes open". Nonetheless, it is appropriate that the House International Relations Committee worked with the Peace Corps to address the needed improvements to security for Volunteers and the Peace Corps has begun implementing these changes.

As a member of the House International Relations Committee and a strong supporter of the Peace Corps, I urge passage of this legislation. We must do everything we can to ensure the mission of the Peace Corps is carried on and our Volunteers are protected.

SET A GOOD EXAMPLE CONTEST

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the community of Harlingen, Texas, where area children are recognized for doing good deeds in their homes, schools, and communities.

With school resources so overtaxed, our community has partnered with the Concerned Businessmen's Association of America to sponsor the Harlingen area's Set A Good Example Contest, offered to all children from the surrounding communities.

The original school contest was launched in 1982 to recognize schools supporting student-oriented programs that positively influence other students by promoting moral values such as honesty, trustworthiness, responsibility, competence, and fairness.

The Concerned Businessmen's Association of America is a non-profit educational organization incorporating successful business strategies to combat the social ills and problems that face young people.

We watch our children with new eyes every day, wondering what is going on inside their minds and what motivates them. The Harlingen community's parents, business people, educators, counselors—and most importantly, children themselves—are working together to ward off problems that are plaguing society today.

The best messenger for young people is other young people. There will never be one single answer to preparing our children to withstand the complex social issues they encounter each day. But future behavior, future understanding, will be based on the foundation our communities provide now.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the people of Harlingen, Former Mayor Connie De La Garza, and Mayor Rick Rodriguez for their efforts to be part of the solution to a problem that affects all of us in America. I thank them for leading the way to a better world for us all.

TRIBUTE TO ST. ELIAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church of Syracuse which celebrates its 75th anniversary this year.

The Church's history begins a hundred years ago when St. Raphael, who is considered the father of the Archdiocese St. Elias belongs to, was the first Orthodox bishop consecrated in the New World. At this time, immigrants from Middle Eastern countries such as Syria, Lebanon and Palestine settled in Syracuse and formed the nucleus of the Antiochian Orthodox community there. Until the formal formation of St. Elias, visiting clergymen came to the community to administer the various sacraments to the faithful settlers.

St. Elias Syrian Orthodox Church of Syracuse, the forerunner of St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church, was born November 10, 1929. First incorrectly incorporated as an Episcopal Church in 1930, this was corrected and reincorporated in 1960 and again reincorporated in 1988 when the Archdiocese changed its official name. The first home of the church was at 241 West Lafayette Street and the first permanently assigned Pastor was the Reverend John Khoury.

In 1939, a gathering which would become the social event of the year for the Arabic speaking community of Central New York and a tremendous fund-raiser was instituted. This event has turned into a successful Middle Eastern Festival bringing hundreds of people of Arabic and other backgrounds together to enjoy each other's company while becoming a large part of the St. Elias Parish Annual Budget when combined with the souvenir journal of the festival.

Over time the Church has evolved to include a Church School Program (1945), an English Liturgical Choir (1945), a Youth organization (1953), and the St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women group (1966). In 1963, land was purchased on Onondaga Hill and the new St. Elias Church was consecrated on August 17, 1969 by Metropolitan Philip Saliba.

The founders of this parish established an ethnic church in the inception, in that most of the parishioners were of Arabic speaking background. However, St. Elias has become an American church made up of the melting pot that has made America. I congratulate the St. Elias parish on its 75th anniversary and wish the church continuing success.

HONORING THE 43RD ANNUAL YMCA YOUTH GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 43rd Annual YMCA Youth Governor's Conference scheduled to be held in Washington next week. I am pleased to once again have the honor of being the Congressional sponsor for the Youth Governor's breakfast with my fellow colleagues in the House.

The YMCA Youth Governor's Conference brings together some of the most outstanding youth leaders in America. YMCA Youth and Government is a nation-wide program that allows thousands of teenagers to simulate state and national government.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to personally recognize each of this year's YMCA Youth Governors for their dedication and service to America's youth.

Grant Reid of Texas; Jason Hill of South Carolina; William Bloom of Alabama; Cori Trazwell of Arizona; Xavier Lopez-Ayala of California; Elizabeth Brittenham of Connecticut; Angelyn Tinsman of Delaware; Nithya Krishnam of Florida; Jess Morgan of Georgia; James Hess of Idaho; Dustin Herr of Illinois; Lisa Wanninger of Indiana; R.T. Lowry and David Padron of Kentucky; Patrick Coco of Louisiana; Ben Crockett of Maine; Allison Korycki of Maryland; Emily Sheehan of Massachusetts; Brandon Laventure and Shaundra Crittenden of Michigan; Zachary Skalko of Minnesota; Robert Goggins of Mississippi; Alex Ricke of Missouri; David Earl of New Jersey; Jackie Burns of Model United Nations; Jamie Brooks of New Mexico; Alex Bowerman of New York; Rob Stephens of North Carolina; Joshua Watkins of Oklahoma; Jakob Wilson of Oregon; Sara Gellatly of Pennsylvania; George Richardson and Patrick Fox of Tennessee; Matthew Sundquist of Virginia; Joseph Jenkins of Washington; Nathaniel Cole of the District of Columbia; and Loren Balhorn of Wisconsin.

I wish all of the 2004 Youth Governors a very successful conference here in Washington, and I encourage them to continue their sincere devotion to leadership and public service in this and their future endeavors.

HONORING MONSIGNOR SEARS

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the inspiring and passionate career of Monsignor Sears, of St. Joseph Parish of Michigan. For the past 20 years, Monsignor Sears has devotedly served the community of St. Joseph and beyond.

Since being assigned to St. Joseph Parish in 1984, Monsignor's contributions to our community have been remarkable. Monsignor has brought guidance, knowledge, and inspiration to all who had the blessed opportunity of meeting with or hearing one of his famous homilies. It is well-known that Monsignor always used story-telling and anecdotes as a way of teaching and inspiring his congregation. His ability to reach and move all those fortunate enough to cross his path has been well-known throughout Southwest Michigan for sometime now.

Highlights of Monsignor Sears' wonderful career include meeting with Mother Teresa in 1979, and speaking with Pope John Paul II during a visit to Rome. Locally, Monsignor was instrumental in starting the church's tithing in

1985—the church tithes about $100,000 a year to various local and national needs. Although these accomplishments are extraordinary, Monsignor's greatest achievements may lie in his daily work and prayers with the parish staff and parishioners, as well as implementing influential local programs over the years.

There is no doubt that Monsignor Sears will be greatly missed as the pastor of St. Joseph Parish. However, knowing his passion for the community and devoutness to charity, Monsignor will continue his service to God and will continue to impact the communities of Southwest Michigan.

HONORING CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN, SYMBOLIZED BY ''ROSIE THE RIVETER,'' WHO SERVED ON THE HOMEFRONT DURING WORLD WAR II

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 413 honoring the contributions of the more than 6 million American women, symbolized by ''Rosie the Riveter,'' who served our country on the homefront during World War II and the changes to our society that came about because of them. I am extremely proud to join all 62 women Members of Congress as cosponsor on this legislation as well.

Today, we recognize the contributions to those who may not have faced enemy fire but were no less a part of our decisive victory in those dark times: the millions of Americans who across the Nation heeded a call to serve when their country needed them.

During World War II, this remarkable band of women picked up the rivet guns left on factory floors and shipyard docks by their departing husbands, boyfriends, sons and dads and those women started building the tanks, airplanes, and ships that America needed to win the war.

The legacy of Rosie the Riveter is the creation of opportunities to all Americans. For the first time in America, during World War II, women and minorities gained access to high-paying jobs in industry. Employee-sponsored health care and services such as child care for children of workers were developed during this time. I am proud to join my colleagues today in applauding the improvements in the workplace and our society during the Rosie the Riveter Era and in honoring these women for stepping forward when their country needed them.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCISCO SALDIVAR

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a unique American patriot, Francisco Saldivar, a man who, after having spent over 40 years with the Brownsville Independent School District, has recently retired as principal of Yturria Elementary School.

Mr. Saldivar comes from an educator's background. His mother, a teacher from Mexico, helped make an early impression on his life-long desire to educate and give back to the community. To this end, Mr. Saldivar has served in a number of roles and duties within the school district, from teacher to administrator.

Mr. Saldivar spent over 12 years teaching fourth grade before becoming an assistant principal at Victoria Heights Elementary. Since then, he has also served as an assistant director of adult education as well as the principal of several elementary schools, most recently with Yturria.

With each new role he took on, Mr. Saldivar invariably displayed his selfless dedication to providing a well-rounded and worthwhile education. Indeed, as principal of Yturria Elementary, Mr. Saldivar still managed to take the time to help ease the transition of transfer students.

And after 6 years as principal of Yturria, Mr. Saldivar is finally retiring; and while he will certainly miss his old position, we will miss his commitment to our children's education even more.

There is no question that the education of our young people constitutes an important priority in our society. Education does more than simply impart knowledge; it prepares our children for the challenges they will meet in adulthood. Mr. Saldivar has worked with children for nearly half a century; he knows the problems they face, and has actively worked to alleviate them.

Our Nation is strengthened by dedication of educators like Mr. Saldivar in our school systems. The origins for our Nation's future will always lie within our youngest generations.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Principal Francisco Saldivar, for his indelible influence over the young minds in the Valley. His legacy is in the bright young minds he touched and shaped. We wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE LOCKHEED MARTIN PLANT IN SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the men and women of Lockheed Martin Plant in Syracuse, New York, which was recognized as one of the top ten plants in the United States by Industry Week magazine.

IndustryWeek looks to reward plants that are leading the nation in their efforts to develop competitiveness, increased customer satisfaction and an outstanding work environment. The 2,039 men and women employed at this Lockheed Martin plant were recognized for their accomplishments of $650 million in sales and $1.0 billion in backlog. Among these employees are 1,250 scientists and engineers and 350 manufacturing and support staff. The payroll for this honored Lockheed Martin plant in Syracuse is greater than $108 million per year and has been in operation since 1948.

I would like to express my congratulations to the employees of the Lockheed Martin plant in Syracuse for receiving such an outstanding honor. They work very hard and deserve such recognition. I offer them my sincere congratulations.

IN HONOR OF BILL B. PASSMORE, THE FATHER OF LAKE HIGHLANDS EDUCATION

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the father of Lake Highlands Education, Bill B. Passmore. I am proud to represent the Lake Highlands community in the 32nd Congressional District of Texas, and Mr. Passmore's commitment to education in the community has been long and distinguished. Mr. Passmore is being honored this Sunday afternoon, June 13, 2004 for his career achievements, and I congratulate him and his family on a lifetime of accomplishments.

After graduating from The University of Texas at Austin with a BBA degree in 1949, he taught for two years in Angleton High School before moving to Dallas. Mr. Passmore resumed his teaching career at Richardson High School in the fall of 1952. He taught business subjects for two years before being named the Business Manager and assistant to Superintendent J.J. Pearce for the 1954–55 school year.

Mr. Passmore was selected in 1955 as the principal to open the first school in the Lake Highlands area: Lake Highlands Elementary School. He was later named as the third principal to serve the school in 1976. Named principal of Richardson High School in 1956, he remained in that capacity for nine years.

When the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD) opened El Centro College as its first campus, Passmore was hired as the first of eight counselors for the college. During six years at El Centro, he left the counseling department to serve as Dean of the Evening School and later as the Associate Dean of Instruction. When the Richland College opened in 1972, he moved to the new campus to serve as Association Dean of Instruction until 1976 when he returned to the RISD as principal of Lake Highlands Elementary School.

In 1979, Mr. Passmore was again asked to serve as principal of a new school in the Lake Highlands area: Merriman Park Elementary. He retired from Merriman Park Elementary in 1989, and since that time has worked ten years for the University of North Texas on a part-time basis as a University Supervisor of Student Teachers.

During his professional career, Mr. Passmore earned his Master's Degree from the University of North Texas and some 36 hours of post-graduate credit from the University of Texas at Austin. He was a member of the Richardson Kiwanis Club for 12 years and served for one year as its president. He was a staff member or an administrator during the opening of seven new campuses in Angleton, Richardson, and DCCCD. Mr. Passmore's personal commitment to education and the Lake Highland's community have been exceptional

for several decades, and I congratulate him for his lifetime of public service.

TRIBUTE TO MR. KENNETH WENTS

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute today to a man who served his country with dignity, and lived his life with honor. Mr. Kenneth Wents of Hacienda Heights, California, will always be remembered for his courage and heart.

Mr. Wents led a full and exciting life. Even as a prisoner of war during World War II for forty-two months, he faced extraordinary challenges with determination and optimism.

Mr. Wents touched the lives of many, especially the generous volunteers of the Greater La Puente Valley Meals on Wheels, who valued him and appreciated his warm spirit.

Mr. Speaker, the life of Mr. Kenneth Wents has greatly impacted the lives of many in a positive way. It is my honor to join his family and friends in commemorating his legacy.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FLOWER MOUND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, heralded as the first Presbyterian church in Denton County, Flower Mound Presbyterian Church is celebrating its 150th Anniversary. I am proud to congratulate Flower Mound Presbyterian on this great accomplishment.

Flower Mound Presbyterian Church's main priority is to foster a sense of "family" within its membership and, at the same time, open its doors wide to welcome the community. They continue the church's rich legacy of religious service to Flower Mound residents.

The church has lovingly preserved its original furnishings and all of the cherished memories that go with them. Each Sunday, the sanctuary is flooded with music from an old-style piano donated years ago. The original pews still sit in their initial circular arrangement around the lectern which also dates back to the church's beginnings in 1854.

The church remembers its past with numerous photo albums depicting the congregation as it has grown in number and traditions through the years. Images of the church's steeple being constructed provide a visual representation of the changes the church has undergone over time.

The church's white clapboard building, located in the area formerly known as "the Long Prairie," witnessed Flower Mound's growth from a sleepy rural hamlet to a vibrant suburban community. Flower Mound Presbyterian Church will commemorate its 150 years by erecting a historical marker in its cemetery.

Congratulations to the congregation at Flower Mound Presbyterian Church on their anniversary. One hundred and fifty years of worship is a milestone to be celebrated.

HONORING THE MARIPOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE ON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mariposa County Courthouse on its 150 years of service to the needs of the community of Mariposa. The courthouse is holding numerous anniversary events throughout 2004 leading up to the actual anniversary.

Founded on September 8, 1850, the courthouse was built on land donated by Mr. John C. Fremont and cost a mere $9,300 to construct. Throughout the last century and a half, the courthouse underwent several additions, including a clock tower in 1866, its first telephone in 1895, and electric lights in 1907. In 1958, the courthouse was officially recognized as a California State Landmark and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

The court has operated continuously ever since it's opening in 1850, making it the oldest, active courthouse west of the Rocky Mountains. Today, the original clock keeps the residents of Mariposa on time, just as it had done for the last 100 years. In addition, the services of the court have expanded into seven departments, including criminal, family law, small claims and traffic.

Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere pleasure to congratulate and honor the residents of Mariposa for their preservation and dedication to the Mariposa County Courthouse for the last 150 years. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Mariposa County Courthouse many more years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, on June 8, 2004, during Rollcall votes 229 and 230 I was unavoidably detained. If I had been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall votes 229 and 230.

MR. ROBERT ERVIN TAYLOR, IN HONOR OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Robert Ervin Taylor in honor of his retirement as City Manager of Colonial Heights, Virginia for serving 20 years of dedicated service from 1984 to 2004.

In 1968, Mr. Taylor received his Bachelor of Science in History and Political Science from Appalachian State University. Upon the completion of his Master of Public Administration from the University of Tennessee in 1972, he became the Senior Administrative Analyst in the Budget Office of the Finance Department for the City of Nashville-Davidson County. From 1973 to 1979, Mr. Taylor served as Assistant to the City Manager and Director of Personnel and Budget for the City of Suffolk, Virginia. He later served five years as City Manager for the City of Red Bank, Tennessee.

As City Manager for Colonial Heights, Mr. Robert Ervin Taylor has been responsible for the implementation of policies adopted by the City Council under the direction of five mayors and 22 council members. In addition, he has been in charge of enforcing all city laws and ordinances, the appointment and supervision of heads of 12 departments, and the preparation and execution of an annual $38 million operating and $3.5 million capital improvements budget.

With a penchant for community service and natural leadership, Mr. Taylor has served on several state, local and regional organizations. He has served as chairman of the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority and the South Central Wastewater Authority. Moreover, he was the Treasurer/Secretary of the Appomattox River Water Authority, and was on the Board of Directors for the Crater Planning District Commission and the Colonial Heights Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, he served as the President of the Colonial Heights Kiwanis Club.

Mr. Taylor has worked closely with the community to ensure the best quality of care for the citizens of Colonial Heights. He has been instrumental in carrying out the vision that has been set forth for the community; as such, the people have been able to rely on the dedicated and dependable service of Mr. Taylor.

Because of Mr. Taylor's resounding success, and his dedicated years of service the Colonial Heights community has benefited immensely from his leadership. He has consistently demonstrated a remarkable spirit of unity in his relations with other leaders in the community and an equal level of enthusiasm for serving the Colonial Heights area.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Mr. Robert Ervin Taylor for his loyal and dedicated service and the many contributions he has made to his community.

A TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR CHIEN-JEN CHEN

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity to join my many colleagues in offering best wishes to our great friend, Ambassador Chien-Jen Chen of Taiwan as he finishes his tour of duty here in the United States and returns home.

C.J. Chen has a long and distinguished career in public service. A highly-respected academic, he still holds the position of Associate Professor at the Graduate School of Diplomacy at National Chengchi University.

Prior to his appointment as his nation's representative to the United States, Ambassador Chen served in the Legislative Yuan of the Republic of China, rising to the position as Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee. Immediately preceding his current assignment, he served as Taiwan's Foreign Affairs Minister.

I had the opportunity to attend a farewell reception for Ambassador Chen yesterday evening here in the Capitol—an event sponsored by the Majority and Minority Leaders of both the House and Senate. The bipartisan participation in the fond farewell was a great illustration of the wonderful friendships C.J. has nurtured while serving his country here in Washington.

As C.J. prepares to return to Taiwan, I want to offer my thanks to him for his professionalism and his friendship. The people of Taiwan should know that they have been ably served by an outstanding diplomat.

We will miss him and we wish him well.

HONORING THE 29TH ANNUAL CAPITAL PRIDE FESTIVAL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the 29th Annual Capital Pride Festival, a celebration of the National Capital Area's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) communities, their families and friends.

Since its beginning in 1975, the Capital Pride Festival has grown from a small block party to a seven-day series of events. This year, the Pride Parade will be held on June 12th and will culminate in a Street Festival on Pennsylvania Avenue, attended by people of all backgrounds from the District and the region. To emphasize the universality of human rights and the importance of enacting congressional bills addressed to the human rights of the GLBT community, I have marched in the Pride parades since coming to Congress. I have seen the festival and parade grow bigger and better each year and with it the spread of support of equal rights for this community.

This year's theme of "Pride + Vote = Power" holds special meaning for the citizens of the District of Columbia and its GLBT community in particular. It has been nine years since the District of Columbia lost the first vote we ever won on the floor of the House of Representatives, the delegate vote in the Committee of the Whole. That vote was retracted when the Republicans assumed control of the House. Our city of nearly 600,000 residents, the only jurisdiction in the United States subject to "Taxation Without Representation," is entitled to that vote now and to the full voting representation that has always been our birthright.

American citizens who live in our nation's capital, have fought in every American war, including the present war in Iraq and Afghanistan, are taxed without full representation in the House and do not have any representatives in the Senate. The joy of the Capital Pride Festival contrasts with the lot of GLBT soldiers who have volunteered to protect our country with their lives and must serve in silence and without the open support of their chosen families and communities, neither asking nor telling.

Neither here nor elsewhere has Congress protected sexual orientation from discrimination in our country. Despite increasing reports of violence and physical abuse against Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Americans, Congress has not enacted protections against hate crimes. Congress must pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act. Congress must pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). Congress must pass the Permanent Partners Immigration Act. And Congress must pass the No Taxation Without Representation Act.

In June we will rejoice in the accomplishments of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community. We will also remember those who live on only in our hearts and prayers. As we gather to celebrate and reflect, we must continue the fight for full democracy in the District of Columbia and full civil rights for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender people in the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in saluting the 29th Annual Capital Pride Festival, its presenter, Whitman-Walker Clinic, and the sponsors and volunteers whose dedicated and creative energy make the Capital Pride Festival possible.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WESTMINSTER CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Westminster Christian Academy in St. Louis, Missouri for winning the "Foundations of Democracy" unit award in the "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" 2004 program. The "We the People" program is a competition on the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights in which students are challenged to apply their knowledge of constitutional principles and understanding of historical facts to contemporary situations. The program is designed to promote an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizens in our constitutional democracy.

Westminster Christian Academy is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory school serving grades 7–12 located in St. Louis County. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate the individual members of Westminster's team for their outstanding performance in this year's competition: Britney Bennett, Chris Collum, Ryan Dabler, Jessica Degnan, J.D. Gustafson, Gerrod Heise, Nina Hiles, Rebecca Keffler, Angela Ludwinski, Lindsay McClure, Joeana Middleton, Neil Peterson, Katie Poland, Jennifer Reinwart, Amanda Rill, Jennifer Schaffner, Elizabeth Simon, Lily Strand, Steve Vitale, and their teacher, Ken Boesch.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 8, 2004, I was unavoidably detained and thus missed Rollcall No. 229 and No. 230. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall No. 229, expressing the profound regret and sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, former President of the United States of America, and "nay" on Rollcall No. 230, on approving the journal.

HONORING SALVATORE PUNZO ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered to extend my best wishes to my good friend, Salvatore Punzo, as he celebrates his retirement after 35 years in education.

I have often spoke of our Nation's need for talented educators ready to help our children learn and grow. Sal has been just that kind of teacher and administrator. In a career that has spanned over three decades, he has touched the lives of thousands of our young people—helping them to build a strong foundation for their future success. We owe a debt of gratitude to teachers like Sal, who so willingly dedicate themselves to ensuring that our children have access to the best possible education.

Our teachers and school administrators spend many hours with our children, ensuring that they develop the tools and skills they will need as they continue their education and move into adulthood. Sal began his career in education as a teacher with the New Haven Public School system, where he spent the next 16 years in teaching grades three through five. In that time, he developed a strong reputation for his commitment to education and to meeting the needs of his students. After being appointed to a new administrator's mentoring program, he went on to serve as an assistant principal and finally, for nearly two decades, as the Principal of East Rock Magnet School.

After 17 years, Sal will now retire as the Principal of East Rock Magnet School—one of the most successful magnet schools in the State of Connecticut. Under his tenure, East Rock has blossomed—receiving numerous awards and recognitions, including being named a Vanguard School. In fact, just last year, I was honored to join Sal at East Rock to celebrate the success of the Model Laptop Program. This program, funded by one of only five such U.S. Department of Education grants in the country, tests the impact of introducing laptops in third through fifth grade classrooms. The success of East Rock, with this program and so many others, is remarkable and testament to Sal's leadership.

Salvatore Punzo has dedicated a lifetime to making a difference in the lives of children through education. We are so fortunate to have people like him working with our young people. Teacher, administrator, and advocate—he embodies all that an educator should be. I am proud to stand today and join his wife, Carmela; his children Sal and Michael; his five grandchildren, family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating Salvatore Punzo on the occasion of his retirement. My best wishes for many more years of health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALLIED LANDING AT NORMANDY DURING WORLD WAR II

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues a poem written by one of my constituents, Benedict Panzarella of Plainview, NY. Mr. Panzarella is an author, journalist and poet. He served as a U.S. Army Glider Crew member at the Invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944. I was proud to present him recently with the Liberty Medal for his service and courage on that day. The events of D-Day inspired Mr. Panzarella's poem "Normandy."

NORMANDY

(By Benedict P. Panzarella)

Sleep tight tonight.
Pack your gear
Check it twice
The time is near

Tomorrow we go
On board the craft
to take us
We know not where.

THEY know the place
We are to land.
It's marked by them
on tables of sand.

With children's toys
They play their games
But this is war, WE
May go down in flames.

A ship of canvas
On tubes of steel
A motorless ship
Pulled by a rope.

A trailer load
Filled with life
(K Rations)
And death (Gas and ammo)

We pray the pilot
On this night
Will guide us true
On this fateful flight.

We fly in darkness
On this flimsy craft.
We reach our target
At last.

We know we're there.
We know for sure
Hitler's greetings
Are loud and clear.

The rope is cut!
The shaking stops.
We smoothly glide
Over tall tree tops.

We stop abruptly
As we hit some poles.
Planted by Rommell
To clip our wings.

We are here
For us
The battle
Has just begun.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes in this chamber on June 8 and June 9, 2004. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 229, 230 and 231.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 228, "Condemning the crackdown on democracy protestors in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, in the People's Republic of China on the 15th anniversary of that tragic massacre," I regret that I was unavoidably detained and therefore unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

A SALUTE TO HARLAN AND JEFF LEE AND JOSEPH T. EDMISTON

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute my good friends Harlan and Jeff Lee at The Lee Group and Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Director, of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, who are being honored by the Westside Urban Forum on June 11, 2004.

Harland and Jeff Lee are receiving the Westside Prize for successfully creating liveable urban communities in urban Los Angeles while protecting the neighborhoods and the environment. The Lee Group has been one of the premier real estate development companies and market leaders in Southern California for the past six decades. I have known first hand of their good work for many years. The Lee Group is at the forefront of the "Smart Growth" movement that seeks to link jobs, housing, and economic development in compact, livable environments to revitalize urban areas and preserve open space. Their projects serve as models for future development. They address housing needs, offer affordable ownership and provide senior and disabled rental housing without sacrificing aesthetics and financial feasibility.

For many years Harlan and Jeff have been recognized for their great vision, their social consciousness and their excellent taste. They have received many well deserved accolades. In 1998, they were selected by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy to participate in Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing (PATH), a new housing initiative by President Clinton. On May 4, 1998, President Clinton attended the ground breaking for Village Green, a project of The Lee Group, to announce the national kickoff for the PATH program and designate Village Green as the first national PATH pilot site.

The first Westside Legacy Award is being presented to Joseph Edmiston and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC). His extraordinary vision and success has helped preserve, protect, restore and enhance significant open spaces in Southern California. I have known and worked with Joe for over two decades and am pleased he has been chosen to receive this award. He helped enact the Santa Monica Comprehensive Plan which enabled me to introduce state legislation establishing the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy in 1979.

For the past twenty-four years, Joe, the staff, the board and volunteers of the SMMC have saved over 55,000 acres of land for public use. The SMMC has reclaimed land in Los Angeles' urban areas for innovative park use.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to my good friends and distinguished individuals, Harlan and Jeff Lee and Joe Edmiston for their outstanding contributions to our community.

CO-SPONSORSHIP OF H.R. 4061

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in regards to H.R. 4061, the Assistance for Orphans and Vulnerable Children Act of 2004, which passed the House International Relations Committee by unanimous consent on March 31st.

On May 5th the International Relations Committee filed House Report 108–479.

Because House rules prohibit the addition of co-sponsors to a bill once the committee report has been filed, I am not able to formally add another Member of Congress as a co-sponsor of this legislation.

I ask that the record show that Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts is in support of my bill and should be considered by this body as a co-sponsor of H.R. 4061.

HONORING THE SHEDD AQUARIUM

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my best wishes to everyone associated with Chicago's John G. Shedd Aquarium on the occasion of its Gala 2004 Night Tide Tango.

Chicagoans are very proud to be home to the world's largest indoor aquarium. More than two million visitors who travel to our city to visit this lakefront treasure each year discover a diverse and contemporary institution dedicated to conservation, education and family fun.

The gala event, to be held on June 12, gives me the opportunity to commend so many committed Chicagoans who have dedicated countless hours ensuring that the aquarium remains one of our city's brightest gems.

I want to specifically recognize Chairman Stephen Byron Smith, Senior Vice Chairman Philip D. Block III, President and CEO Ted Beattie, and Gala Chairmen, Paula Epstein and Linda Mengelt. Each deserves high praise for devoting their time and energy to this undoubtedly worthwhile cause.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my admiration for the museum's originality and innovation. Visitors can enjoy the

marine mammal pavilion featuring the crowd-pleasing beluga whales and Pacific white-sided dolphins, and I continue to be particularly impressed by the aquarium's emphasis on conservation and preservation.

The Shedd Aquarium has also developed some of the most innovative preservation projects in the nation. These include breeding programs for animals such as the Tahitian land snail, African cichlids fish and West Indian rock iguanas, and Project Seahorse, which is working for the longterm survival of wild populations of seahorses in the Philippines.

Most recently, the Shedd Aquarium opened the Wild Reef, an incredible exhibit with the most sharks in captivity anywhere on the planet. And we are looking forward to the new children's exhibit on sea stars.

The Shedd Aquarium is much more than one of our city's top tourist destinations—it is also a place where students can learn about the importance of saving our environment and where researchers spend countless hours trying to preserve marine life.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored on behalf of the Fifth District and indeed all of Chicago to call attention to all of the meaningful work occurring at the Shedd Aquarium at the time of its 2004 gala event. I offer my heartfelt thanks to those officers, leaders, scientists, researchers and staff members who have dedicated their lives to ensuring that one of Chicago's favorite institutions is also making its impact felt throughout the rest of the world.

HONORING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 5 ERIC L. SNOW

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of our great military servicemen, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Eric L. Snow, for his service to our country. CW5 Snow served the United States for 38 years and he will retire on June 11, 2004 whereupon he will reside in Las Vegas, Nevada. His service assignments have sent him to Vietnam, Panama, and Haiti. His dedicated exemplary service has earned him the Meritorious Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Viet Nam Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and a United Nations Medal.

As we celebrate our patriotic holidays such as Memorial Day and July 4, I reflect upon the many opportunities and privileges that we as citizens enjoy because of the sacrifices of our military men and women. I stand here today in honor of one such individual whose life has been dedicated to his country. It is my hope that we as Americans remember the sacrifices of these brave men and women, not only on patriotic holidays, but all year, as they serve to protect and preserve those essential freedoms we enjoy.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Snow has served his country with honor and I urge the House to join me in thanking him for his service to our country.

IN MEMORY OF ARNOLD PLANK

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, Arnold Plank was my wonderful friend. He was blessed with smarts, passion, vision and athletic prowess.

Arnold was among a handful of my constituents who captured my attention early in my political career. He made a huge difference to my life and my ability to serve the people of the 36th Congressional District. For him, education was an adventure and an opportunity. His special gift was his ability to share that passion with others.

He's left us much too early, and leaves a huge void. Somehow, running a 1OK will be less fun and much harder without him. Just having him at my side seemed to make my feet feel a little lighter.

My thoughts and thanks are with Arnold's wife Janice, his daughters Rhonda and Lisa, and their four grandchildren. My thoughts are also with the school kids, parents and administrators who benefited from knowing Arnold, and with those who, sadly, will miss an extraordinary opportunity to learn from him.

CONGRATULATING KRISTEN MURPHY ON WINNING THE PATRIOTISM ESSAY CONTEST

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize Kristen Murphy and congratulate her on winning the top national award for the Fleet Reserve Patriotism Essay Contest.

As a typical 18-year-old from Pensacola, Florida, she usually joined the rest of her community celebrating America's most patriotic holiday, the 4th of July, by spending time with friends and family, and participating in traditional Pensacola events. Little did she know that one day soon, her father, Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Scott Murphy, would be deployed to Iraq. From that day forth, "patriotism" took on a whole new meaning to Kristen.

Starting out as a class assignment and 350 words later written on "What Patriotism Means to Me," she took home the top national award, earning more than $20,000 in savings bonds from the Fleet Reserve Association.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to share with you Kristen's award winning essay.

"When I think of the word patriotism, many images and words come to mind. Over this past year, though, the actual meaning of the word has changed considerably for me. A year ago, patriotism simply meant hanging an American flag on our flagpole in the front yard and barbecuing out on the Fourth of July. Since my dad has been deployed and is now stationed overseas in the heat of battle, my perception of patriotism has changed drastically. Patriotism no longer means showing support for my country through waving a flag during a Fourth of July parade. It has now become a way of life.

A year ago, patriotism meant knowing that many nameless, faceless soldiers did their job to keep me free. It meant going to the Blue Angels show on the beach or showing support for my country through a bumper sticker or a ribbon attached to my car antenna. It meant knowing that I lived in a free country where I enjoyed more rights than most but not caring how I got those rights.

But now, that meaning has changed. Patriotism means knowing that my dad and others like him are fighting for our freedom, and it means being behind them 100 percent. It means honoring all those that have fought for this great country and knowing that I am free and safe because of them. It means realizing that without our brave soldiers and courageous leaders, we would not be the great country that we are today. It means living life every day knowing that thousands of men like my dad are the only reason why I can get up every morning and know I am free. Patriotism now means being truly proud that I was born and live in the greatest country in the world and that I am protected because of the greatest military in the world. Patriotism now means being truly proud of my dad and knowing he is doing his job for me."

Mr. Speaker, these words are an inspiration to all who hear them. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate Miss Kristen Murphy on her national achievement and for sharing a glimpse of what patriotism means to her with the rest of our great Nation. May God bless all of our military men and women overseas and may God bless America.

CONGRATULATING REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT BADHAM

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, this week, as we mourn the passing and commemorate the life of Ronald Reagan, we have another occasion for unabashed celebration. My predecessor in this office, Representative Robert Badham, who blazed trails for President Reagan in Sacramento and in Washington, celebrates his 75th birthday today.

Bob Badham won election to the California State Assembly at a remarkably young age, four years before Ronald Reagan won the governorship. He won election to the U.S. House of Representatives four years before Governor Reagan won the presidency. As soon as he arrived in Washington he was elected president of his incoming class of Members, and he remained a leader throughout his tenure here. From the 117 feet of his records held by the University of California at Irvine to the GOP records stored by the Policy Committee on the fourth floor of the Longworth House Office Building, Bob's name stands out as one of our party's most energetic spokesmen and most articulate advocates for our agenda; as an active litigant for electoral fairness; as an international diplomat supporting our critical security alliances; and as a Member of Congress who set a standard for constituent service and attention that I must work very hard to approach.

Most significantly, as Bob rose to becoming the ranking Member on the House Armed

Services Procurement Subcommittee, he helped President Reagan rebuild our military, and, through the policy of peace through strength, win the Cold War. As President Reagan headed back to California in 1989, Representative Badham chose to leave one of the most secure Congressional seats in the nation and to return to California as well. Needless to say, the career of our colleague, Duncan Hunter, and my own, were both advanced by Bob's decision that a quarter century in elected office was enough.

The people of southern California are fortunate that giving up elected office has not meant giving up public service to Bob Badham. Since his return to California, Bob has remained an active leader in Orange County. He and his wife, Anne, remain two of Orange County's most active and energetic citizens. They are among the kindest and most interesting people anyone will ever know.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join the people of Orange County, all of Bob's colleagues in the House of Representatives, and all of those who are fortunate to call Bob Badham a friend, in wishing him the happiest of birthdays on this, his 75th!

IN MEMORY OF LESLIE REIF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my colleagues, Mr. STARK and Ms. LEE, and myself, to offer tribute to Leslie Reif, who died on February 7, 2004. Leslie Reif devoted himself in exceptional ways to service in the communities in which he lived and worked. He served the Oakland community by choosing a career in public education, and bringing his exceptional talents to first and fourth grade students at the Jefferson Elementary School in Oakland. Mr. Reif served the San Francisco community by demonstrating an abiding concern for others in his neighborhood of Bernal Heights, and at his faith community at the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco on Franklin Street.

At the Jefferson Elementary School, Leslie Reif wore many hats. He was a fourth grade classroom teacher, responsible for mathematics, English, writing, geography and other subjects. Beyond his classroom, Mr. Reif was the school coordinator for the Martin Luther King Oratorical Fest held each year in February. During the fest, classes perform poems, plays and music to honor the memory of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and to advance his goal of equality for all persons. For the last 2 years, Mr. Reifs class placed first at the Jefferson Elementary Fest and then went on to place second and win a medal at the regional competition encompassing all schools in Oakland.

Leslie Reif could always be counted on to help other teachers hang photographs and educational exhibits in their classrooms, be a sounding board for advice or just to lend a sympathetic ear when someone was having a bad day. Mr. Reif was also the Fourth Grade teacher representative on the Faculty Council, a group that handles issues that affect working conditions at the school.

Mostly, those who knew him described him as a caring individual and a tireless teacher. Mr. Reif typically arrived at school at 7:15 in the morning and often stayed late into the afternoon correcting papers, setting up the classroom for the next day, working on his lesson plan, directing extra-curricular activities or assisting other teachers with their own classroom projects.

There is perhaps no better testament to his contribution to the students at Jefferson Elementary than in their own words and those of other teachers who were his colleagues there. On the Monday morning following his death, the school placed a giant banner in the central corridor for students to express their feelings. That banner, large as it was (ten feet long and four feet tall), turned out to be too small. Within hours, it was filled with messages of sadness, loss, love and grief. Another banner was added. When that one filled up, yet a third was put out. By the next day, that one had been filled as well.

The messages are poignant and speak volumes about the respect and love that his students felt for him. Many of the messages were surrounded by hearts. For example, one elaborately decorated, bleeding heart contained the Spanish words for ''Rest in Peace''—''Que en Paz descanse, Maestro, Reif'' A few others: ''I remember your kindness. I will miss you bunches.'' ''I'm sad but have happy memories.'' ''Dear Mr. Reif, I hope your family will never forget you.'' ''You were a wonderful teacher. I miss you. I love you.'' ''The school will be your home.'' ''I miss you very much. You were my best teacher.''

A Kindergarten class that barely knew Mr. Reif put up his picture and surrounded it with lighted candles in tribute. The students in his current class also wrote touching letters to Mr. Reifs family. Several referred to Mr. Reifs concern that his students not be the victims of violence, a real concern of his after he was held up at gunpoint one morning while parking near the school. Said one student, ''He was helpful by telling us not to open the door because someone could come in and shoot us . . . that it would be better if someone shoots him than someone shoots us.'' Another student wrote to Mr. Reifs son, Daniel, ''He was a really nice man. I bet he was a very good father.'' Many referred to the academic achievements they made under his direction, such as the ability to write properly composed letters, and to his efforts to teach them good manners.

Similarly, fellow teachers at the school are honoring Mr. Reifs achievements and contributions by having a plaque made up in his honor and memory, which will be placed on the lectern in the auditorium which is used at all school assemblies and the Martin Luther King Oratorical Fest. In addition, a scholarship fund has been established in his name by the Marcus A. Foster Educational Institute in cosponsorship with the Oakland Education Association.

Mr. Speaker, Leslie Reif was the kind of teacher students remember 10 and 20 and even 40 years later, because he made a real difference in their young lives. He began each morning by having his students recite ''The Happiness Formula,'' a statement written by a former colleague that promotes non-violence, high self-esteem and kindness to others. They will remember him for his tireless dedication to excellence, his infectious optimism, and his deep caring for them and their achievements. He will be remembered as a man who loved working with children.

That public education became his vocation is not terribly surprising. When he was only 16, he was already teaching younger children to play chess, a particular talent of his, and tutoring public school students in New York City, where he grew up. He was, in fact, born in New York City, educated at Bowdoin College and Princeton University, from which he received his B.A. Cum Laude, and Columbia University's School of Journalism, from which he received a Masters Degree.

He moved to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1987, and had been a resident of San Francisco's Bernal Heights neighborhood since 1989. His was a friendly and familiar face to neighborhood residents, shopkeepers and others. He always had a warm greeting on the street or in a store and became involved in community events and activities. For example, when Mr. Reifs son, Daniel Reif, started attending kindergarten at the Paul Revere Elementary School 6 years ago, Mr. Reif volunteered extensively in school activities. He met and was mentored and inspired by the Principal of Paul Revere at the time, Randy Haves.

Not one to allow the inspiration of a great educator to go to waste, Mr. Reif had, within a year, obtained emergency teaching credentials to be a first grade classroom teacher at Jefferson Elementary in Oakland across the bay, and had gone back to school to gain his full teaching credentials. It was only the first step in his involvement at Jefferson Elementary.

Leslie Reif was a member of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco, where a memorial service was held for him on February 11. More than 150 people attended, including several of his students and their parents. He is remembered by church members for his involvement in the Forums Committee and the children's Religious Education program.

Mr. Reif died of complications from an epileptic seizure. In the last decade, Mr. Reif had helped educate others about epilepsy, including working as a health educator for the former Epilepsy League of the East Bay, now the Epilepsy Foundation of Northern California. His death helps to illustrate how much more needs to be done to learn more about, to treat and ultimately to find a cure for this neurological disorder.

Finally, last but certainly not least, Leslie Reif was a loving husband to his wife, Millie Phillips, a devoted father to his son Daniel Reif, and an attentive and supporting stepfather to Ms. Phillips' son, Jeffrey Morgan. Mr. Reif was born to an Irish Catholic mother and a Czech Jewish father, who emigrated to the United States in 1940. It is not surprising that the term used most often by his friends to describe him is the Yiddish term ''mensch.'' He was a kind, modest man who downplayed most of his own accomplishments, while working hard to encourage the success of others. That is the lasting legacy he leaves to his family, his school, our communities and our country.

H.R. 3619, THE EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I have agreed to become a co-sponsor of H.R. 3619, the Employee Free Choice Act, but not before considerable thought and deliberation. Among other things, this legislation gives workers the right to unionize and be recognized by the National Relations Labor Board (NLRB) when a majority of the workers sign a card circulated by union organizers. I continue to remain skeptical of any election system in which voters are not free to make their decisions in private. A simple card check system could arguably provide opportunities for group pressure and even coercion and I am convinced that the secret ballot process works best in most cases. However, I am disturbed by reports citing example after example of employers using heavy handed techniques to discourage workers from organizing a union shop in the first place and intimidating and even illegally firing workers who decide to join a union.

I am particularly troubled by a recent decision by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) that gives employers carte blanche to intimidate union organizers. In a 2–1 party line vote, the NLRB has decided that an employer may explicitly inform workers who are about to vote on whether to form a union that workers in two other facilities lost their jobs after they formed a union. It is my understanding that the regional NLRB director ruled against the employer, saying that the memo circulated by the employer ''clearly implied'' the union was responsible for the firings at the other two hotels and insinuated similar firings could happen if the workers voted for the union. However, the two NLRB Bush appointees overruled the regional director's decision and claimed the memo ''did not exceed the bounds of permissible campaign statements.'' The Democratic appointee was the lone dissenter.

This decision sends a clear message to employers that just about anything goes when it comes to union busting. And the message is equally clear to unions: if you try to organize, you could be fired. This is an untenable situation and the Employee Free Choice Act is, therefore, an opportunity to try to equalize the playing field between union organizers, union busters, and now the NLRB. In short, Mr. Speaker, I have come to the reluctant conclusion that the NLRB under the Bush Administration is more interested in busting unions than in protecting workers' rights to form and join unions. In this atmosphere, a shot across the bow is needed and this legislation does that.

On balance, I would prefer a policy that energizes and funds the NLRB. But it is becoming increasingly clear that we may have to wait for a new Administration to provide this balanced leadership. Co-sponsorship of this legislation, even with its flaws, sends an important and necessary message to the Administration to clean up its act.

FREEDOM FOR JOSÉ UBALDO IZQUIERDO HERNÁNDEZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about José Ubaldo Izquierdo Hernández, a prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Izquierdo Hernández is a peaceful pro-democracy activist who has worked for basic human rights for the people of Cuba. As a correspondent for the Decorum Task Force and the operator of the private ''Sebastian Arcos Bergnes'' Library, he devoted his energies to depicting the true, decrepit, reality of totalitarian Cuba.

Because he bravely defied the communist regime as he worked to bring freedom to Cuba, Mr. Izquierdo Hernández was constantly harassed by the tyrant's thugs. According to Amnesty International, on March 8, 2002, he was arrested on his way to participate in an event connected with International Women's Day. His house was stoned the same night. Amnesty International also reports that on December 4, 2002, Mr. Izquierdo Hernández was threatened with imprisonment if he attended an event honoring the Virgin of Santa Barbara.

On March 18, as part of the unconscionable crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists in March 2003, Mr. Izquierdo Hernández was arrested. In a sham trial, he was subsequently sentenced to 16 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Reporters Without Borders reports that on June 27, 2003, Mr. Izquierdo Hernández fell down a stairway with no banister as prison guards escorted him to a courtyard. The fall resulted in head wounds and two wrist fractures. Let us be very clear, Mr. Izquierdo Hernández is suffering, and has suffered serious injury, in the infernal, inhuman, gulag, because he desires freedom for his country.

This week we mourn the passing of President Ronald Reagan, a man who knew that freedom is the birthright of all mankind. As we remember the President who made freedom and democracy for all the objective of U.S. foreign policy, let us not forget those, such as Mr. Izquierdo Hernández, who currently languish in the darkness of repression.

Mr. Speaker, it is categorically unacceptable that peaceful pro-democracy activists are locked in dark gulags because they believe that freedom is the essential right of man. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate release of José Ubaldo Izquierdo Hernández, and every prisoner of conscience throughout the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on June 8 and 9, 2003, I was unable to be present for rollcall votes: 229 on H. Res. 663 expressing profound regret and sorrow on the death of President Ronald Wilson Reagan, 230 on approving the journal, and 231 on H. Res. 664, mourning the passing of President Reagan.

Due to technical difficulties with our mode of transportation, a number of colleagues and I were unable to return from the events commemorating the 60th anniversary of the invasion of Normandy, and the veterans that served there, in time to cast these votes. Had I been present I would have proudly voted ''aye'' on all three resolutions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, on June 8, 2004 I was unavoidably detained in France for the D-Day ceremonies and missed Rollcall ''votes Nos. 229 and 230. Rollcall 229 was on agreeing to the resolution for H. Res. 663, expressing the profound regret and sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, former President of the United States of America. I also missed rollcall vote No. 230, approving the Journal. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on both H. Res. 663 and approving the Journal. I would ask that my statement appear in the appropriate location in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HONORING KATIE WRIGHT FOR HER OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring attention and praise to one of my young constituents. Katie Wright, a soon to be sixth grader at Randolph Howell Elementary in Columbia, Tennessee, was recently named National Safety Patroller of the Year by AAA. This award is presented to those patrollers who demonstrate outstanding dedication to the program and community.

Katie, nominated by Ms. Paula Ensinger, the physical education teacher and safety program director at Randolph Howell was selected among thousands of nominees. After winning the regional competition, Katie was flown down to Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida where she competed against 32 other regional finalists. While in Orlando, Katie met many dignitaries including NASA astronauts.

AAA started the national school safety patrol in 1920. Today, the AAA School Safety Patrol is an organization of 500,000 boys and girls nationwide in 50,000 schools. Katie is following in the footsteps of former safety patrollers like Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton.

Katie should be proud of herself, as I am for her. She has demonstrated leadership qualities well beyond her age. I look for many good things to come from her as she matures and further distinguishes herself.

MOORESTOWN ECUMENICAL NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT, INC.

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Moorestown Ecumenical Neighborhood Development, Inc. (MEND), a nonprofit MR. organization celebrating its 35th anniversary of service to the low and moderate-income citizens who have been and still are in need of affordable housing in Burlington County, New Jersey.

The Federal Government has worked hand-in-hand with this organization, a significant contributor to the vitality, diversity and growth of southern New Jersey, helping it meet the region's affordable housing needs,

On October 15, 2004, MEND will celebrate its 35th Anniversary with a Gala Dinner Dance. This private, non-profit, faith-based corporation was founded in 1969 by 9 Moorestown churches to provide affordable rental and for-sale housing to low and moderate income individuals, families, senior citizens and the disabled.

The concerned people of MEND who strive to help their Burlington County neighbors are deserving of recognition for their selfless concern for those in need, and for their efforts to improve the lives of the residents of Burlington County.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH BIRTHDAY OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND PARK

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the City of Oakland Park, Florida as its residents celebrate their city's 75th birthday.

Originally named Floranada, Oakland Park was incorporated with its current name in June of 1929. The official census of the time reported the budding town's population at only 562 residents. In those days, the town was so eager for growth that one could get a free lot in Oakland Park just by buying a 30-day subscription to Miami Movie Magazine; it was thought that the town would soon become a home for all the stars of the ''Motion Pictures.''

While the city has grown up a lot since the 20's, now boasting a population of over 30,000 residents, small town values have always been a fundamental part of living in Oakland Park. As late as the 1950's and 60's, residents always left their keys in the ignition, and only locked their houses during hurricanes to keep the doors from blowing off.

Even today, though these practices do not persist, the values they embody make Oakland Park a great place to live and work. This is perhaps owing to the many community related programs and activities the residents of Oakland Park have organized, all of which have grown and evolved along with the city. For example, the Oakland Park Recreation Center opened its doors in 1960 with only two part time employees supervising children's activities. Today, the center maintains a staff of over 50, who are in charge of overseeing the care and maintenance of all parks and athletic complexes. Beyond activities for children, citizens can now partake in a wide variety of activities, from youth T-ball, to adult tennis, to ceramics for seniors.

Today, Oakland Park continues to grow and thrive. Recently the city embarked on a $19 million facelift plan to be completed in 2008. The redevelopment is designed to further the friendly ''small town'' atmosphere that has always belonged to Oakland Park. The primary goal of the plan is to compliment Oakland Park's already safe and attractive neighborhoods and good schools with all of the social, cultural, and business opportunities of a city.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the City of Oakland Park in the U.S. House of Representatives, and extend my best wishes to the Mayor, Commissioners, and residents of Oakland Park as they celebrate their first 75 years.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 10, 2004 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 14

3 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Thomas Fingar, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research, Ralph Leo Boyce, Jr., of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Thailand, James R. Kunder, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Suzanne Hale, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Micronesia.

SD–419

JUNE 15

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold an oversight hearing to examine pipeline safety.

SR–253

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the status report on the global partnership against weapons of mass destruction relating to the Sea Island G8 Summit.

SD–419

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Alan Greenspan, of New York, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

SD–538

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine crude oil supply, gasoline demands and the effects on prices.

SD–366

Finance

To hold hearings to examine U.S.-Australia and U.S.-Morocco free trade agreements.

SD–215

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine current efforts to combat terrorism financing.

SD–342

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 1530, to provide compensation to the Lower Brule and Crow Creek Sioux Tribes of South Dakota for damage to tribal land caused by Pick-Sloan projects along the Missouri River.

SR–485

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine S. 2324, to extend the deadline on the use of technology standards for the passports of visa waiver participants.

SD–226

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine substance abuse prevention and treatment services for adolescents.

SD–430

Aging

To hold hearings to examine certain measures to strengthen social security, focusing on what personal retirement accounts do for low-income workers.

SD–628

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the current situation in Sudan.

SD–419

4:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph D. Stafford III, of Florida, to be Ambassador to Gambia, Lewis W. Lucke, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Swaziland, and R. Niels Marquardt, of California, to be Ambassador to Cameroon, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to Equatorial Guinea.

SD–419

JUNE 16

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine S. 2281, to provide a clear and unambiguous structure for the jurisdictional and regulatory treatment for the offering or provision of voice-over-Internet-protocol applications.

SR–253

Foreign Relations

To hold a closed briefing on Pakistan counterterrorism cooperation.

S–407, Capitol

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S.J. Res. 37, to acknowledge a long history of official depredations and ill-conceived policies by the United States Government regarding Indian Tribes and offer an apology to all Native Peoples on behalf of the United States, S. 297, to provide reforms and resources to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to improve the Federal acknowledgement process, S. 1529, to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to include provisions relating to the payment and administration of gaming fees, S. 1696, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian tribes, S. 1715, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian tribes, S. 2172, to make technical amendments to the provisions of the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act relating to contract support costs, and S. 2277, to amend the Act of November 2, 1966 (80 Stat. 1112), to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting the land within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Reservation, and motion to authorize the chairman to issue subpoenas in regards to tribal lobbying matters; to be followed by an oversight hearing to examine the No Child Left Behind Act (Public Law 107–110).

SR–485

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard A. Griffin, of Michigan, David W. McKeague, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, and Virginia Maria Hernandez Covington, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

SD–226

11:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD–366

2 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Charles P. Ries, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to Greece, Tom C. Korologos, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to Belgium, and John Marshall Evans, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia.

SD–419

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 1996, to enhance and provide to the Oglada Sioux Tribe and Angostura Irrigation Project certain benefits of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River basin program.

SR–485

JUNE 17

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine measures to enhance border security.

SR–253

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime (the ''Cybercrime Convention'' or the ''Convention''), which was signed by the United States on November 23, 2001 (Treaty Doc. 108–11), United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (the ''Convention''), as well as two supplementary protocols: (1) the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and (2) the Protocol Against Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, which were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on November 15, 2000. The Convention and Protocols were signed by the United States on December 13, 2000, at Palermo, Italy (Treaty Doc. 108–16), Inter-American Convention Against Terrorism (''Convention'') Adopted at the Thirty-second Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (''OAS'') Meeting in Bridgetown, Barbados, and signed by thirty countries, including the United States, on June 3, 2002 (Treaty Doc. 107–18), and Protocol of Amendment to the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures done at Brussels on June 26, 1999 (Treaty Doc. 108–6).

SD–419

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the regulation of the bond markets.

SD–538

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the Environmental Management Program of the Department of Energy and issues associated with accelerated cleanup.

SD–366

2 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Anne W. Patterson, of Virginia, to be Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and the Deputy Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations, and to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and James B. Cunningham, of Pennsylvania, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Vienna Office of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be Representative of the United States of America to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador.

SD–419

JUNE 23

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian tribal detention facilities.

SR–485

SEPTEMBER 21

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion.

345 CHOB

POSTPONEMENTS

JUNE 16

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the grounding of multi-engine fire-retardant aircraft, steps the Forest Service and Department of the Interior have taken to provide alternative aerial support for initial attack and extended attack fire fighting operations in the short run, and the feasibility and desirability of designing and implementing an inspection process to allow the use of multi-engine fire-retardant aircraft in the future.

SD–366

JUNE 24

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine U.S. policy toward Southeast Europe, focusing on unfinished business in the Balkans.

SH–216

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to S. Res. 373, President Ronald Wilson Reagan Commemorative.

Senate agreed to S. Res. 374, Honoring President Ronald Wilson Reagan.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6639–S6684

Measures Introduced: Three bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2513–2515, S. Res. 373–375, and S. Con. Res. 117–118.

Page S6673

Measures Passed:

Ronald Wilson Reagan Commemorative: By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. 111), Senate agreed to S. Res. 373, relative to the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, a former President of the United States. **Pages S6651–52**

Honoring President Reagan: Pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of June 9, 2004, Senate agreed to S. Res. 374, honoring President Ronald Wilson Reagan. **Pages S6652–53**

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents Appointment: Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 38, providing for the appointment of Eli Broad as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S6680**

Italy Property Claims Resolution: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 341, to urge the resolution of claims related to the confiscation of certain property by the Government of Italy, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S6680–81**

Luis A. Ferre U.S. Courthouse and Post Office Building: Senate passed S. 2017, to designate the United States courthouse and post office building located at 93 Atocha Street in Ponce, Puerto Rico, as the "Luis A. Ferre United States Courthouse and Post Office Building". **Page S6681**

Mike Mansfield Post Office: Senate passed S. 2214, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3150 Great Northern Avenue in Missoula, Montana, as the "Mike Mansfield Post Office". **Page S6681**

Robert J. Opinsky Post Office Building: Senate passed S. 2415, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4141 Postmark Drive, Anchorage, Alaska, as the "Robert J. Opinsky Post Office Building". **Page S6681**

Dosan Ahn Chang Ho Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 1822, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3751 West 6th Street in Los Angeles, California, as the "Dosan Ahn Chang Ho Post Office", clearing the measure for the President.

New Bridge Landing Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 2130, To redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 121 Kinderkamack Road in River Edge, New Jersey, as the "New Bridge Landing Post Office", clearing the measure for the President.

Major Henry A. Commiskey, Sr. Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 2438, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 West Pine Street in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, as the "Major Henry A. Commiskey, Sr. Post Office Building", clearing the measure for the President.

S. Truett Cathy Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3029, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 255 North Main Street in Jonesboro, Georgia, as the "S. Truett Cathy Post Office Building", clearing the measure for the President.

Lloyd L. Burke Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3059, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 304 West Michigan Street

in Stuttgart, Arkansas, as the ''Lloyd L. Burke Post Office'', clearing the measure for the President.

Brigadier General (AUS-Ret.) John H. McLain Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3068, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2055 Siesta Drive in Sarasota, Florida, as the ''Brigadier General (AUS-Ret.) John H. McLain Post Office'', clearing the measure for the President.

Ben R. Gerow Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3234, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Chestnut Street in Liberty, New York, as the ''Ben R. Gerow Post Office Building'', clearing the measure for the President.

Walter F. Ehrnfelt, Jr. Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3300, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15500 Pearl Road in Strongsville, Ohio, as the ''Walter F. Ehrnfelt, Jr. Post Office Building'', clearing the measure for the President.

George Henry White Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3353, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 525 Main Street in Tarboro, North Carolina, as the ''George Henry White Post Office Building'', clearing the measure for the President.

Army Staff Sgt. Lincoln Hollinsaid Malden Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3536, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 210 Main Street in Malden, Illinois, as the ''Army Staff Sgt. Lincoln Hollinsaid Malden Post Office'', clearing the measure for the President.

Army Pvt. Shawn Pahnke Manhattan Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3537, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 185 State Street in Manhattan, Illinois, as the ''Army Pvt. Shawn Pahnke Manhattan Post Office'', clearing the measure for the President.

Marine Capt. Ryan Beaupre Saint Anne Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3538, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 South Chicago Avenue in Saint Anne, Illinois, as the ''Marine Capt. Ryan Beaupre Saint Anne Post Office'', clearing the measure for the President.

Barber Conable Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3690, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 West Main Street in Batavia, New York, as the ''Barber Conable Post Office Building'', clearing the measure for the President.

Myron V. George Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3733, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 Huston Street in Altamont, Kansas, as the ''Myron V. George Post Office'', clearing the measure for the President.

Oscar Scott Woody Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3740, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 223 South Main Street in Roxboro, North Carolina, as the ''Oscar Scott Woody Post Office Building'', clearing the measure for the President.

Ben Atchley Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3769, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 137 East Young High Pike in Knoxville, Tennessee, as the ''Ben Atchley Post Office Building'', clearing the measure for the President.

General John J. Pershing Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3855, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 607 Pershing Drive in Laclede, Missouri, as the ''General John J. Pershing Post Office'', clearing the measure for the President.

Maxine S. Postal United States Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 3917, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 695 Marconi Boulevard in Copiague, New York, as the ''Maxine S. Postal United States Post Office'', clearing the measure for the President.

Mary Ann Collura Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3939, to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14–24 Abbott Road in Fair Lawn, New Jersey, as the ''Mary Ann Collura Post Office Building'', clearing the measure for the President.

Rhode Island Veterans Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3942, to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7 Commercial Boulevard in Middletown, Rhode Island, as the ''Rhode Island Veterans Post Office Building'', clearing the measure for the President.

Richard G. Wilson Processing and Distribution Facility: Senate passed H.R. 4037, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 475 Kell Farm Drive in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, as the ''Richard G. Wilson Processing and Distribution Facility'', clearing the measure for the President.

Bobby Marshall Gentry Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 4176, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 West Elwood Avenue in Raeford, North Carolina, as the ''Bobby Marshall Gentry Post Office Building'', clearing the measure for the President.

Dr. Miguel A. Nevarez Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 4299, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 South

Jackson Road in Edinburg, Texas, as the ''Dr. Miguel A. Nevarez Post Office Building'', clearing the measure for the President.

Department of Defense Authorization Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate resume consideration of S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, at approximately 2 p.m., on Monday, June 14, 2004. **Pages S6683–84**

Messages From the House: **Page S6671**

Enrolled Bills Signed: **Page S6671**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6671–73**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6673–74**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S6674–79**

Additional Statements: **Pages S6669–71**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Pages S6679–80**

Authority for Committees to Meet: **Page S6680**

Privilege of the Floor: **Page S6680**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—111) **Page S6652**

Adjournment: Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, 40th President of the United States, in accordance with S. Res. 371, adjourned at 3:15 p.m., until 1 p.m., on Monday, June 14, 2004. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6684.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DIGITAL TELEVISION TRANSITION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the completion process of the digital television transition, focusing its impact on consumers and the constitutional and statutory compliance requirements, after receiving testimony from Representative Harman; W. Kenneth Ferree, Chief, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission; Patrick P. Gelsinger, Intel Corporation, Santa Clara, California; Thomas W. Hazlett, Center for a Digital Economy, New York, New York; and John M. Lawson, Association of Public Television Stations, and Michael Calabrese, New America Foundation, both of Washington, D.C.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PIRACY

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the scope of intellectual property piracy, focusing on the economic worth of copyright industries, piracy protection issues regarding China, Russia, Brazil, and Pakistan, counterfeiting, internet piracy, and activating United States law enforcement agencies against overseas piracy, after receiving testimony from Jack Valenti, Motion Picture Association of America, Mitch Bainwol, Recording Industry Association of America, Robert W. Holleyman II, Business Software Alliance, and Douglas Lowenstein, Entertainment Software Association, all of Washington, D.C.

DOD UNUSED AIRLINE TICKETS

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the amount the Department of Defense spends on unused airline tickets, focusing on whether DOD paid for airline tickets that it did not use and did not process for refund, improperly reimbursed travelers for the cost of airline tickets paid for with centrally billed accounts, and adequately secured access to centrally billed accounts against improper and fraudulent use, after receiving testimony from Senator Grassley and Representative Schakowsky; Gregory D. Kutz, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, and John J. Ryan, Assistant Director, Office of Special Investigations, both of the General Accounting Office; and JoAnn R. Boutelle, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, and Jerry Hinton, Director of Finance, Defense Finance and Accounting Service, both of the Department of Defense.

HOMELAND SECURITY TERRORISM OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the efforts and progress of the Department of Homeland Security in combating global terrorism, after receiving testimony from Tom Ridge, Secretary of Homeland Security.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 4528–4544; 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 446–448, and H. Res. 667–669, were introduced.

Pages H3872–73

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H3873**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4259, to amend title 31, United States Code, to improve the financial accountability requirements applicable to the Department of Homeland Security, to establish requirements for the Future Years Homeland Security Program of the Department, and for other purposes, (H. Rept. 108–533, Pt. 1); **Page H3872**

H.R. 4248, to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to expand or modify existing comprehensive service programs for homeless veterans, and for other purposes, amended, (H. Rept. 108–534); **Page H3872**

H.R. 4115, to amend the Act of November 2, 1966 (80 Stat. 1112), to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting the land within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Reservation, (H. Rept. 108–535); **Page H3872**

H.R. 3754, to provide additional civil and criminal remedies for domain name fraud, amended, (H. Rept. 108–536); **Page H3872**

H.R. 4158, to provide for the conveyance to the government of Mexico of a decommissioned National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ship, and for other purposes, (H. Rept. 108–537); and

H.R. 4231, to provide for a pilot program in the Department of Veterans Affairs to improve recruitment and retention of nurses, and for other purposes, amended, (H. Rept. 108–538). **Page H3872**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of Tuesday, June 8, by voice vote.

Page H3823

Providing for the lying in state of the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 444, authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the lying in state of the remains of the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th President of the United States;

Pages H3826–29

Providing for the lying in state of the late Ronald Wilson Reagan: Agreed to take from the Speaker's table and agree to S. Con. Res. 115, authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the lying in state of the remains of the late Ronald Wilson Reagan, 40th President of the United States, H. Con. Res. 444 was then laid on the table; **Page H3829**

Honoring the Late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan: The House agreed to H. Res. 664, mourning the passing of President Ronald Reagan and celebrating his service to the people of the United States and his leadership in promoting the cause of freedom for all the people of the world by a yea-and-nay vote of 375 yeas to 0 nays Roll No. 231.

Pages H3829–69

Adjournment Resolution: The House agreed to S. Con. Res. 116, providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and the House of Representatives; **Pages H3869–70**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H3823.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on page H3869. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:00 a.m. and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, 40th President of the United States, and pursuant to S. Con. Res. 116, the House adjourned at 3:06 p.m. until 12:30 p.m. on Monday, June 14, 2004, for Morning-Hour Debate.

Committee Meetings

HOMELAND SECURITY AND INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEAR 2005; BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Ordered reported the following appropriations for fiscal year 2005: Homeland Security; and Interior and Related Agencies.

The Committee also approved a Report on Suballocations of Budget Allocations for fiscal year 2005.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development approved for full Committee action the Energy and Water Development appropriations for fiscal year 2005.

OVERSIGHT—MARINE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ACT IMPLEMENTATION; PORT SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS ACT; U.S. SEAPORT MULTIYEAR SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held an oversight hearing on Implementation of the Maritime Transportation Security Act, and on the following bills: H.R. 2193, Port Security Improvements Act of 2003; and H.R. 3712, United States Seaport Multiyear Security Enhancement Act. Testimony was heard from RADM Larry Hereth, USCG, Director, Port Security, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; Noel Cunningham, Director, Operations, Port of Los Angeles, California; and Michael Mitre, Coast Port Security Director, International Longshore and Warehouse Union.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2004

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No committee meetings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

1 p.m., Monday, June 14

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond a period of 60 minutes), Senate will resume consideration of S. 2400, Department of Defense Authorization Act. *(Any rollcall votes ordered will begin at 5:30 p.m.)*

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12:30 p.m., Monday, June 14

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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