

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

STATEMENT IN HONOR OF JUDGE
RONNIE WHITE

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2007

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge Ronnie White, who recently retired from the Missouri Supreme Court.

Ronnie White was born in St. Louis, Missouri in 1953, and received degrees from St. Louis Community College, St. Louis University, and the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law.

Judge White has a long and storied career in public service. This work included jobs as a Public Defender, at the St. Louis City Counselor's office, and as a State legislator in the Missouri House of Representatives.

Since 1994, Judge White has been serving the State of Missouri as a Judge. From 1994 to 1995, he served as a Judge for the Eastern District of the Missouri Court of Appeals.

He was appointed by my father, Governor Mel Carnahan, in 1995 and served on the Supreme Court of Missouri until his retirement last week.

During his tenure on the Supreme Court, from 2003 to 2005, he served as the State's first African-American Chief Justice.

Judge White's service to Missouri has extended well beyond being a lawyer and a Judge. He has also been dedicated to numerous other causes, having served on boards of the St. Louis Housing Authority, the Regional Justice Information Services Commission, and the Maria Droste Residence for Women.

I am privileged to call Judge Ronnie White a friend, and am honored to pay tribute to him today for his great service to our State.

HONORING DR. JAN ACHENBACH
OF NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
ON RECEIVING THE 2005 NA-
TIONAL MEDAL OF SCIENCE

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2007

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional professor and scientist at Northwestern University, Dr. Jan D. Achenbach. His seminal contributions in the area of wave propagation in solids and his pioneering work in quantitative non-destructive evaluation have earned him the 2005 National Medal of Science, the Nation's highest award for lifetime achievement in fields of scientific research. As a graduate of Northwestern University with a degree from Dr. Achenbach's Department of Mechanical Engineering, I am especially proud to recognize his accomplishments and thank him for his years of dedication in the field.

Dr. Achenbach, who joined Northwestern in 1963, serves as the Walter P. Murphy Professor and Distinguished McCormick School Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Engineering Science, and Applied Mathematics. For more than 40 years, Dr. Achenbach has devoted his time and energy to the research of solid mechanics and quantitative nondestructive evaluation, making major contributions in the field of propagation of mechanical disturbances in solids. He has developed methods for flaw detection and characterization by ultrasonic scattering methods. He also has achieved valuable results on earthquake mechanisms, on the mechanical behavior of composite materials under dynamic loading conditions, and on the vibrations of solid propellant rockets.

In addition, Dr. Achenbach is founder of Northwestern's Center for Quality Engineering and Failure Prevention, a state-of-art laboratory for quality control in structural mechanics, with profound impact on the aircraft industry, particularly the monitoring of aging aircraft.

Dr. Achenbach was awarded the 2003 National Medal of Technology, the Nation's highest honor for technological innovation. He was elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering in 1982, a member of the National Academy of Sciences in 1992 and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1994. In 1999, he was elected a Corresponding Member of the Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences. He is also an honorary member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and a fellow of ASME, ASA, SES, AMA, and AAAS. His awards include the Timoshenko Medal and the William Prager Medal.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Jan Achenbach for his tireless efforts in pioneering scientific research in engineering. He has done nothing less than an extraordinary job in his field and is truly deserving of the National Medal of Science. I congratulate Jan for this outstanding honor.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING
JACK VALENTI

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I stand today to recognize and honor Jack Valenti: a man from humble beginnings who achieved widespread recognition and respect in a career of remarkable and memorable accomplishments. I would also like to introduce an article from the New York Times entitled, "Walking with Presidents and (Hollywood's) Kings." His recent passing is a great loss to his family and many friends.

Jack Valenti, the son of a tax clerk and grandchild of Sicilian immigrants, was born September, 1921 in Houston, Texas. He admi-

rably served the United States during World War II as a member of the Army Air Corps, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross; and later received his Master of Business Administration from Harvard University. After graduating from Harvard, Valenti returned home to Texas where he co-founded an advertising and political consulting agency, "Weekley & Valenti," in 1952.

Fellow Texan and Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson called on Valenti to organize President Kennedy's trip to Houston; and was subsequently invited to Fort Worth and Dallas the next day where Valenti found himself an eyewitness to President Kennedy's assassination. After President Kennedy's death in 1963, Valenti accompanied Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson aboard Air Force One as Johnson took the oath of the office of the President. Valenti had the honor of writing Johnson's first address to the American public as President and the privilege of serving as President Johnson's special assistant.

Following his work in the White House, Valenti worked for the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) where he served as President for 38 years. In 1968 he created the MPAA film rating system. Although some changes have occurred along the way, this voluntary movie rating system is still used to date. Even as Valenti worked in Hollywood, he continued to play a hand in government as a pro-copyright lobbyist.

As a husband, father of three, lobbyist and MPAA President, Valenti will be greatly missed. He served his nation through both the private and public sector. While we are all saddened by his passing, we are grateful for his contributions and achievements concerning our federal government and motion picture industry. He will never be forgotten.

WALKING WITH PRESIDENTS AND
(HOLLYWOOD'S) KINGS

(By Jeanine Basinger)

The first time I heard Jack Valenti speak, I noted that he was dapper, unexpectedly handsome and short. He had arrived at a meeting of the trustees of the American Film Institute to nominate his friend Kirk Douglas for the annual Life Achievement Award. When he had finished and whirled out, he was still dapper and unexpectedly handsome, but he had grown very big in stature.

I had witnessed Mr. Valenti in action, an in-the-flesh version of his autobiography, "This Time, This Place: My Life in War, the White House, and Hollywood." He had exuded charm, established himself as everyone's pal with a few harmless anecdotes, taken the room by surprise with a passionate (and well-prepared) speech and rapidly moved on to his next battle, confident he'd get what he came for. (He did; Mr. Douglas got the award.)

Mr. Valenti, who died on April 26, was a warrior, and he knew how to win. He just looked harmless.

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