

for the people and governments of the countries of Central America, the Caribbean, and Mexico which have suffered from Hurricanes Felix, Dean, and Henriette and whose complete economic and fatality toll are still unknown, I would have voted "Aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 901, H. Res. 557, Strongly condemning the United Nations Human Rights Council for ignoring severe human rights abuses in various countries, while choosing to unfairly target Israel by including it as the only country permanently placed on the Council's agenda, I would have voted "Aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 902, H. Res. 675, Table Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, I would have voted "Aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 903, H. Res. 675, on the Previous Question on providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 976, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for small businesses, and for other purposes, I would have voted "Aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 904, H. Res. 675, on agreeing to the resolution, Providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 976, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for small businesses, and for other purposes, I would have voted "Aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 905, H. Res. 95, Campus Fire Safety Month, I would have voted "Aye."

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SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF GOLD STAR MOTHERS DAY

SPEECH OF

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 24, 2007*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague, Representative ROSKAM for introducing H. Res. 605, in support of Gold Star Mothers. Gold Star Mothers is a tremendous organization that honors our nation's brave sons and daughters in the Armed Services that have made the ultimate sacrifice. Gold Star Mother's outreach and volunteer efforts help to bring comfort and solace to family members and loved ones during their time of need. My stepson Doug and his wife Lindsay continue to serve overseas in the Marines so I greatly appreciate the support and devotion the Gold Star Mothers have for our Armed Forces and Veterans. I am also proud to have Georgianna C. Krell, a past and future National President of Gold Star Mothers from my Congressional District. Georgianna's son PFC Bruce Carter was killed defending our nation on August 7th 1969 in Vietnam. Private Carter was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions in battle. It is with great pleasure that I have been working with Georgianna to have our local VA hospital in Miami renamed after her son and I look forward to my continued relationship with Georgianna and Gold Star Mothers to honor our nation's heroes.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE RICHARD S. ARNOLD

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 27, 2007*

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Arkansan and a fine American, Judge Richard S. Arnold. I'm proud to recognize Judge Arnold in the United States Congress for his years of service as a legal scholar. His carefully reasoned and articulate opinions set new standards in the legal profession. Although Judge Arnold rose to one of the highest levels of his profession, he always maintained a sense of grace and humility that was admired by all.

Judge Arnold received his bachelor's degree summa cum laude from Yale and later graduated magna cum laude and first in his class from Harvard Law School. In addition to serving as a clerk to Justice William Brennan at the U.S. Supreme Court, Arnold served as a legislative assistant to Senator Dale Bumpers of Arkansas and was eventually appointed Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas. He was appointed to the Eighth Circuit in 1980 and finally Chief Judge on January 8, 1992 where he served until his untimely death.

According to his colleagues, Judge Arnold's intellect was unmatched and his compassion for others is a trait that is rarely found today. He was respected for his continual search for truth and justice that he applied to each of his opinions, which are often used today as models for judging. He worked tirelessly to improve the judiciary and supported efforts to help other judges across the nation improve their skills and in turn the legal profession.

Judge Richard Arnold has been recognized by the dedication of the United States Courthouse in Little Rock, AK where his life and his work can continue to be remembered. He was a fine Arkansan and a fine American and will be greatly missed by all.

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IN MEMORY OF A GOOD AND DECENT MAN, MAYER MITCHELL

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 27, 2007*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to announce to the House that a friend to many in this chamber—and throughout this city—Mayer Mitchell of Mobile—passed away yesterday morning at home with his family by his side.

In recent weeks, it became apparent that Mayer was involved in a battle unlike any he had ever faced. And yet, knowing that Mayer had that 'never-say-quit' spirit, it would not have surprised any of us had he been able to scale just one more mountain along life's journey.

Sadly, however, that was simply not meant to be, and Mayer's passing leaves a void that will be felt throughout our community, state and nation.

No tribute to Mayer could begin without offering our heartfelt sympathies to his wonderful family. Above all else, Mayer was truly a

family man . . . he loved his family and included them in almost all that he did and all for which he stood.

To his loving wife of 54 years, Arlene, their four children, Richard, Melinda, Joy and Lisa, their eight grandchildren, and to his brother, Abe, the people of south Alabama offer our deepest sympathies to you over your loss. At the same time, we offer our profound gratitude to you for sharing your wonderful husband, father, grandfather and brother with all of us.

Mayer Mitchell had a truly wonderful and amazing life, a life filled with exemplary philanthropic service that is unrivaled in the city of Mobile and perhaps the state of Alabama, but also, in a very real way, he was a man who enriched the lives of all who came in contact with him over the years.

Mayer, known to his close friends and family as "Bubba," was truly many things to many people.

As a businessman, Mayer was the consummate professional, always driven by a desire to be successful in whatever opportunity was presented. He often defined success as being centered on respect, trust and mutual understanding.

He was motivated by a personal philosophy of "the harder you work, the luckier you get," and that's just what Mayer did. Along with his brother Abe, they founded The Mitchell Company, a residential and commercial real estate development firm in 1958. Their company built single family homes and apartments as well as shopping centers. Not surprisingly, the firm grew rapidly and soon became one of the largest in the southeast.

Mayer and Abe sold their interest in the company in 1986 at which time the firm was responsible for 25,000 single family homes, 20,000 apartments and 175 shopping centers. Even today, The Mitchell Company remains the largest private firm in Mobile and among the top 40 in the state of Alabama. After selling the family business, Mayer spent the second half of his business life managing his investments through his company, MBI, L.L.C. Rather than retire at the young age of 53 simply to live on his successes, Mayer put his heart and soul in support of his family, his faith and his community. He followed the example set by his parents' commitment to philanthropy explained by one of his favorite Jewish proverbs, "Give when you're living, and it's gold. When you give when you're dead, it's lead."

A lifelong proponent of education, Mayer served more than 32 years on the University of South Alabama Board of Trustees, including a term as chairman. He was particularly supportive of USA's medical, business and sports programs, but to say his giving touched every aspect of the University would be a considerable understatement.

At the time of his death, Mayer and his family had given more than \$36 million to the University of South Alabama. As a result of his leadership, several key landmarks on campus today proudly bear the Mitchell name, including USA's Mitchell College of Business and the Mitchell Center sports arena, the finest facility of its kind in the state of Alabama.

Mayer and Abe also gave generously to create the University's business learning resource center, named in honor of their parents, Joseph and Rebecca Mitchell.

But as committed to education as he was, Mayer was also a tireless advocate for quality