

Jets, Devils or Nets at the Meadowlands owe a debt of gratitude to Senator Bateman. His 1971 legislation establishing the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority paved the way for the construction of the Meadowlands Sports Complex.

Throughout his long life, Senator Bateman has exemplified the spirit of former President Theodore Roosevelt in his love for nature's beauty. From the rocky shores of Pleasant Pond, Maine, to the banks of the Pequod River in Warren County, New Jersey, Senator Bateman's skill as an avid trout fisherman is deservedly renowned. He has long been a champion of efforts to preserve open spaces in Somerset County. His early appreciation of and support for preserving New Jersey's Pine-lands helped ensure that this critical ecosystem would forever be protected.

During his long and distinguished career, Senator Bateman received numerous awards and honors. For example, he was one of the five Jaycees' "Young Men of the Year" of New Jersey in 1962; he earned the "Assemblyman of the Year" award from the New Jersey Association of Freeholders in 1967; he earned the Somerset County Education Association's "Distinguished Service Award;" he earned the "Outstanding Citizen" award from the Somerset Valley Chamber of Commerce in 1977; and he was named the Rotary Club of Branchburg's first Paul Harris Fellow in 1993 in honor of the founder of Rotary International in 1905.

Continuing his lifelong commitment to education, Senator Bateman in 1978 was appointed to the Somerset County College (now called Raritan Valley Community College) Board of Trustees and served as the Board's Vice Chairman. In 1978, he became Chairman of the Board of Trustees and served in that position for 25 years; Senator Bateman will serve as a Trustee until 2009. His leadership and vision helped transform Raritan Valley Community College into one of the top community colleges in New Jersey and the Nation.

Raritan Valley Community College in 2006 awarded Senator Bateman with an Honorary Degree, and in 2006 he was presented with the New Jersey Council of County Colleges' "Community College Spirit Award."

As long and distinguished as his public record of achievement is, Senator Bateman is first and foremost a son, husband, father, grandfather and friend. A lifelong New Jerseyan, Senator Bateman was born on October 29, 1927, in Somerville, New Jersey, as the son of Lydia and C. Palmer Bateman Sr. Senator Bateman was married for 49 years to the former Joan Speer, and together they had six children, Caren, Raymond, Christopher, Robin, Michael and Joanne. Those blessed to be acquainted with the Bateman family know firsthand that they personify Senator Bateman's generosity, zest for life and sense of community. His ten grandchildren similarly reflect his love of sports, the outdoors and the importance of family above all else.

Those of us who followed Senator Bateman into public service are at a distinct disadvantage, for Senator Bateman's shadow is long and his reputation is without equal. Senator Bateman established the standard for selfless service to our fellow citizens; it is a standard other public officials only strive to meet.

Somerset County and the State of New Jersey are better for Senator Bateman's service.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Raymond H. Bateman as his family and

friends gather this weekend to celebrate 80 truly remarkable years and to wish him many more happy, healthy and fulfilling years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD BELDEN

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. LAWSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay great honor to Representative Richard Belden, who passed away on August 20, 2007. Belden proudly represented Shelton, Connecticut in the state House of Representatives for 33 years and he was the longest serving lawmaker in the history of the Connecticut State House.

Dick Belden was born in Derby and graduated from Shelton High School. During his 33 years in the State House, Belden advocated a variety of issues such as fiscal restraint, open space preservation, and tough drunk-driving laws to improve the State of Connecticut. Recently, Representative Belden was the deputy House Republican leader-at-large and he served as the ranking member of the tax-writing finance committee for several years. Belden will also be remembered as an adamant questioner on the 10-member State Bond Commission. In 1984 Belden became deputy speaker when the Republicans briefly regained the House. Richard Belden was admired and a mentor to many of his colleagues. I was fortunate enough to serve with him and work with him on many issues. Above all, he was a man of integrity; his word was his bond. He will be missed at the Capitol. He will be remembered for his many years of service and his commitment to his constituents and to the state of Connecticut, but most of all as the "Dean of the House."

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the life and accomplishments of Richard Belden. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife of 51 years, Bertha Kurtyka Belden and all those who loved him. We will remember Belden as a dedicated member of the State House who touched the lives of many.

RECOGNITION OF SPORTSMEN'S WEEK

HON. JOHN J. HALL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in enthusiastic recognition of Sportsmen's Week in the House of Representatives.

Outdoor activities are important parts of the fabric of American life. As our Nation faces new environmental challenges, we can look to the historic commitment of sportsmen to conservation, wildlife management, and the preservation of open spaces to find guiding principles that will allow us to coexist with nature. The most famous embodiment of this tradition can be found in the tireless drive of President Theodore Roosevelt, an avid outdoorsman

and hunter, to make conservation and harmonious existence with nature national priorities.

My home, New York's Hudson Valley, has been blessed by an abundance of natural beauty and wildlife. The tie between sportsmen and their natural surroundings there remains strong and makes a significant contribution to our quality of life.

Hunters and fisherman in the region, organized in groups like the Orange County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, are constantly engaged in a wide variety of activities to maintain and improve our environment and enhance local recreation. They include important educational programs that teach important hunting and fishing skills in addition to the safety courses needed to obtain licenses and hunt responsibly. Sportsmen also set an admirable example by establishing a respectful, mutually beneficial relationship with ecosystems and wildlife through seasonal restocking operations. They also work to ensure that the natural beauty of our Nation will be passed on to future generations by aggressively working to preserve open space and expand parkland.

All these activities have important social, economic, and environmental benefits, and it is only right that we acknowledge them here in the House of Representatives during Sportsmen's Week. I was proud to support Representative Gillibrand's resolution supporting the goals of National Hunting and Fishing Day, and am honored to recognize Sportsmen's Week in Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I missed recorded votes on Monday, September 24, 2007 due to a delay in my flight. Had I been present, I would have voted the following:

"Yea" on H. Con. Res 193, Recognizing all hunters across the United States for their continued commitment to safety (rollcall No. 891)

"Yea" on H. Res. 668, Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the September 25, 1957, desegregation of Little Rock Central High School by the Little Rock Nine (rollcall No. 892)

"Yea" on H.R. 1199, Drug Endangered Children Act of 2007 (rollcall No. 893)

"Yea" on H. Res. 340, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives of the importance of providing a voice for the many victims (and families of victims) involved in missing persons cases and unidentified human remains cases (rollcall No. 894)

INTRODUCTION OF THE OVARIAN CANCER BIOMARKER RESEARCH ACT OF 2007

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Gynecologic Cancer Awareness