

kids who are attending, and for themselves, that they might make beautiful music to glorify our Lord.

I salute the membership, staffs, parishioners, and parents of these students of the Cedartown First Baptist Church and the Second Avenue Baptist Church of Rome for supporting this great ministry.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2000

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I was attending my daughter's high school graduation and missed the following recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted, "no" on rollcall vote 292, "no" on rollcall vote 293, "no" on rollcall vote 294, "yes" on rollcall vote 295, "yes" on rollcall vote 296, "yes" on rollcall vote 297.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF BILL AND HELEN LOTT ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize a very special couple from the state of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, June 30, 2000, in the presence of many of their family members, neighbors, and friends, Bill and Helen will celebrate a milestone day in their lives—the celebration of their sixtieth wedding anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, the celebration of the sanctity of marriage is one of our most cherished and time-honored traditions. Throughout the ages, husbands and wives have reaffirmed their trust, faith, and most importantly, love for each other on their wedding anniversaries. On this most treasured day, we, as their friends, neighbors, coworkers, and family members, have the opportunity to recognize them for their commitment, their sharing, and their love for each other.

The day on which two people are united in marriage is much more than simply a ceremony, with wedding vows and the exchanging of rings. It is the true union of two individuals who then become one, inseparable entity. It is the common bond and an unwavering dedication to each other that enabled their marriage to grow and flourish.

Mr. Speaker, for the past 60 years, Bill and Helen have shown how love, compassion, and conviction are the cornerstones of their long and lasting marriage. Their strong commitment to each other is an example for each of us to follow.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to stand and join me in paying very special tribute to Bill and Helen Lott on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. May the love and happiness they have found stay with them far into the future. Again, best wishes and congratulations on sixty wonderful years together.

THE U.S. CAPITOL POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I address on the subject of funding for the U.S. Capitol Police.

The House has now passed legislation ensuring appropriate funding levels for this law enforcement division.

This Congress should take every opportunity possible to salute the police officers of this nation, as I do for those who serve my Congressional District in Orange County.

Our nation loses an officer almost every other day; we've lost three Capitol officers in the line of duty. And that doesn't include the ones who may be assaulted or injured.

The calling to serve in law enforcement comes with bravery and sacrifice.

The thin blue line protecting our homes, our families and our communities—and the foremost symbol of American freedom and democracy—pays a price, and so do the loved ones they leave behind when tragedy strikes.

They shouldn't have to do this dangerous job with inadequate resources.

We have a responsibility to see that law enforcement—particularly those who guard the Capitol—have the resources they need.

I want to recognize my colleagues for their support of necessary funding for the U.S. Capitol Police force.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE FOR SENIORS

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2000

Mr. FORBES, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to submit a letter I received from Adam Zaveski of Southhold, Long Island. Mr. Zaveski describes about his personal situation and the financial strains he and so many other seniors are experiencing.

DEAR MR. FORBES: I am writing this letter to let you know how some of our Senior Citizens have to live. I am 98 (and 5 months) years old and not able to do any work, blind in one eye, can't hear [any] word[s] hardly at all and can't hardly walk. I have to live on \$530.00 a month [from] Social Security and have a small income which, I have with my daughter who I live with, [It is] \$140.00 a month [and] she does not take any of it. She gives it all to me to pay for my medicine.

I have 5 prescriptions which cost me \$23.00 for one pill and I use 5 every day which runs into \$115.00 for 100 pills. I pay \$60.00 for EPIC and \$130.00 a month for [supplemental insurance through] AARP. Other medicines I pay [for] in cash.

You politicians do not realize that us Old Timers never got into the high wages that they get today. I used to farm for a living [and] only made a living. What money I had I spent on my wife. She had diabetes and had both feet amputated and spent 6 months in [the] hospital. I had no insurance and Medicare paid for 3 months and [I] had to pay the rest.

I think I [have] done some good in the country while I was young. I belonged to

[the] Fire Department [for] 60 years and I was a Trusted Lieutenant, Department Chief, and a Fire Commissioner for 9 years. 20 [years as a] School Trustee, 7 years [on the] 4H Executive Board, 40 [years as a] Farm Bureau Trustee and a political Trustee for 25 years.

Thank you,

ADAM ZAVESKI.

There are thousands of Mr. Zaveski's across this Nation who have given so much to make this country great. In their time of need, let's not turn our backs.

Now is the time that this Congress heard the pleas of our seniors and help Mr. Zaveski and others. Now is the time to pass a reliable, affordable and comprehensive Medicare prescription drug plan.

MEDICARE Rx 2000 ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 28, 2000

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I believe every senior citizen should have insurance coverage for prescription drugs. Pharmaceuticals are increasingly an important part of modern medicine, and the cost of prescription drugs is rising faster than most seniors can afford. The truth is, however, that most seniors already have drug coverage, and some have excellent coverage. According to the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), 65% of Medicare beneficiaries already have prescription drug coverage, either through their former employer, through Medicaid or through the Medicare+Choice program.

Unfortunately, over 13 million remaining seniors have no prescription drug coverage at all. Often, these individuals are low-income seniors or people with large prescription drug costs (due to multiple medications). Sadly, these people often must choose between buying groceries or taking their medication. This travesty must not continue unabated.

I believe we can help low-income seniors while preserving and strengthening Medicare for current beneficiaries and future generations. Moreover, I think we can do this without increasing premiums of jeopardizing the fiscal stability of Medicare.

H.R. 4680, the bipartisan Medicare prescription drug bill accomplishes these goals.

For those seniors who have drug coverage, the bipartisan plan won't change a thing. These seniors would continue to enjoy the benefits of their existing plan, if they choose. For those seniors who do not have coverage, this plan will help them obtain coverage through Medicare. By doing this, the federal government can reduce drug prices for all seniors.

Specifically, H.R. 4680 would:

Lower drug prices and expand access to prescription drugs for all beneficiaries.

Protect seniors against higher drug prices and runaway out-of-pocket costs.

Subsidize insurance premiums and prescription drug purchases for low-income seniors.

Expand an individual's right to choose the coverage that best suits their needs through a voluntary and universally-offered benefit.

Preserve and protect Medicare to keep the program solvent for our children and grandchildren.

Ensure that today's scientific research and medical innovation will continue to find tomorrow's cures.

Invest \$40 billion to modernize and strengthen Medicare.

I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

TOM RYAN: A TRIBUTE

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2000

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a truly great American, Thomas J. Ryan, whom the Lord claimed for eternal life earlier this month.

Tom Ryan's 87 years were lived with the joy, wit, humor, intensity, and love of life unique to his Irish ancestry. Tom Ryan was husband twice: to Eileen, who preceded him in death; and to Miriam, with whom he shared 42 glorious years; he was father of 13, grandfather of 42, and great-grandfather of 36 and loved them all equally and dearly.

Tom Ryan served his country in the Navy during World War II; and, again, during the Korean conflict, as Special Assistant U.S. Attorney prosecuting OPS violations. He served the city of St. Paul as assistant city Attorney, the people of the 55th legislative district in the Minnesota House of Representatives, and served the people of Pine, Isanti, and Chisago counties in the Minnesota State Senate, making his mark with important legislation affecting the judiciary, towns and counties, veterans, and highways.

This brief recitation of only the highlights of Tom's professional life shows abundantly that he was a man who, in Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes' words, "lived grandly in the law"—meaning that he was devoted to and an advocate of the law. He was also devoted to public service as a calling and a vocation.

Tom Ryan was my friend, counselor, and role model in his commitment to his family first, and to the people whom he so ably served in both elective and appointive office.

Tom Ryan's life and legacy might best be summed up by a scripture verse I have always loved, from Proverbs, ch. 18, v. 31: "Gray hair is a crown of glory;" it is gained by virtuous living."

I will miss Tom greatly; but he will always be a part of my life and an inspiration to my public service. Tom, and especially Miriam, as well as all their beautiful family, will always be in my prayers.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD the following obituary which appeared in numerous newspapers, as well as the beautiful poem, "The Heart of Solid Gold," written by Tom's loving daughter, Gloria Baker.

THOMAS J. RYAN

10/3/12—6/8/00

On October 3, 1912, Irishman, Thomas Joseph Ryan was born in Portland, Oregon. In 1935 he graduated from College of St. Thomas with a BA degree in social and political science. In 1943 he graduated from the William Mitchell School of Law with an LLB degree and was admitted to the practice of law in the state of Minnesota. His personal commitment to the field of law would not allow him to retire and he continued his private practice until the time of his passing.

From 1943 to 1946 he served in the U.S. Navy as Lieutenant J.G. After his discharge he was engaged in the general practice of law in Milaca area. During the Korean war he was appointed Special Assistant U.S. District attorney in the prosecution of OPS violations. Thereafter, he was appointed assistant city attorney for the city of St. Paul, in which capacity he served six years. He had been connected with the Minnesota attorney general's office as special assistant in the trial of jury cases in highway condemnation matters and in writing opinions on municipal law.

His specialty while in the city attorney's office was in research and drafting legislation and in presenting proposals to the legislature.

He served as state representative of the old 55th district. As a member of the legislature he served upon many important committees such as the committees on judiciary, highways, towns and counties, and veterans and military affairs.

He ran for the office of state senator in the new 21st district comprising of Chisago, Isanti and Pine counties in 1962. He served as Pine County Attorney from 1974-1980, until his retirement, at which time he continued his private law practice in the Pine County area.

Thomas was preceded in death by his first wife Eileen (Fitzgerald), his parents, Thomas and Alice (Doyle) Ryan, brother Dr. James Ryan, son, Thomas J. (Ryan) Jr., infant Mary (Ryan), infant grandson Patrick Johnson, and numerous other relatives and friends.

He is survived by and sorely missed by his second wife and best friend of over 42 years, Miriam (Young Mueller), 13 children; Kathleen (Ryan) and Terrance Oakes, Ortonville; Constance (Ryan) and Thomas Oakes, Marine on the St. Croix; Thomas and Phyllis Mueller, Aitken; John Ryan, Astoria, Oregon; Patricia (Ryan) and Denis Paine, Isanti; Paul and Judy Mueller, Apple Valley; Michael Ryan and fiance Helen Bartell, Mora; Carol (Mueller) and Roger Abdella, Pine City; Rosemary (Mueller) and Lawrence Perreault, Pine City; Gloria (Mueller) and Ralph Baker, Pine City; Mary (Mueller) and Dennis Willert, Pine City; Therese (Mueller) and Richard Prihoda, Pine City; Shawn (Ryan) and Douglas Johnson, Pine City, also survived by 42 grandchildren, 36 great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews.

Visitation and prayer service at Swanson Funeral Chapel, Pine City, Sunday, June 11, from 4:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Funeral mass celebration and burial will be on Monday, June 12, at 10:30 a.m. at the Immaculate Conception Church in Pine City, with Father Michael Lyons officiating.

His legacy of love for family, involvement and vitality for life will continue to be an inspiration to us all. In life he was teaching us, in his passing he taught us. Rest in the peace and love of the Lord, and meet us at heaven's gate when it is our turn.

Thomas graduated from the College of St. Thomas and William Mitchell School of Law. He served in the U.S. Navy as Lieutenant J.G. 1943 to 1946. After discharge he practiced law in the Milaca area. During the Korean War he was appointed Special Assistant U.S. District Attorney in the prosecution of OPS violations. He was appointed Assistant City Attorney for the city of St. Paul, and served for six years. Through the Minnesota Attorney General's Office he was a special assistant in the trial of jury cases in highway condemnation matters and in writing opinions on municipal law. He was state representative of the old 55th district. In 1962 he ran for the office of state senator in the new 21st district comprising of Chisago, Isanti, and Pine Counties. He served as Pine County At-

torney from 1974-1980, until his retirement, at which time he continued his private practice in the Pine County area until his passing.

Preceding him in death are his first wife Eileen (Fitzgerald), parents Thomas and Alice (Doyle) Ryan, brother Dr. James Ryan, son Thomas, infant Mary, grandson Patrick Johnson, and numerous other relatives. Survived by second wife of over 42 years, Miriam, 13 children, 42 grandchildren, 36 great grandchildren.

Visitation and prayer service at Swanson Funeral Chapel, Pine City, Sunday, June 11, 4:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Funeral mass and burial are Monday, June 12, 10:30 a.m. at the Immaculate Conception Church.

THE HEART OF SOLID GOLD

By Gloria Baker

Dad was the man with a solid gold heart from other men this set him apart.

A husband, a father, and a dad too, for anyone can be a father but only someone special can be a dad.

He was a friend and teacher and sometimes was even a preacher to this I'll explain.

As a lawyer his love was to keep law and order that was at times so trying for support he could have used a brick wall filled with mortar.

He lived life following his golden rule. His convictions so strong he was stubborn as a mule

"Innocent until proven guilty" Much time spent representing family and friend, defending, prosecuting and closing reality.

An exceptionally special adult generous to a fault.

Many times working gratis whether intended or not, often putting him in a spot.

He'd give away his last dime and the shirt off his back.

Well known for the gift to talk of which one dared not balk.

He once aspired to be a district court judge. Served the people as he represented us in the days long before politicians toured on bus.

All of his life he remained active often entering into debate that became reactive.

With a passion for politics he was staunchly Democratic Farmer Labor, the DFL this was no secret everyone could tell.

Verbally opinionated carrying on conversations until someone surrenders or when he would become satisfied.

A strong Catholic and love of god There were Wednesday night family Rosary meetings

first come got the best seating there were no pressures just told to come if you could.

Though we sometimes were too tired, we felt like we should.

Many trips by plane, boat, rail, or in the car with mom they would go far.

The Carribean, Mexico, Canada, Africa, Spain and Ireland.

All over the states in this great big beautiful land

The car was pre-programmed to stop at P.Q.s From this we have all learned to take the cue.

Eating healthy a must in the banana split he put his trust

Playing cards he was sharp; 500 or bridge on rotating teams he would play.

His partner of choice was mom Often a winner he would beam