Martie did not stop there. She introduced her students to unique and practical applications of their knowledge. Summit School District students are writing to Mexican pen-pals, and studying in two languages about migratory birds.

Martie's efforts gained the attention of the Colorado State Legislature, which now legally recognizes the foreign language profession. If it were not for Martie's determined spirit, surely this would never have come to pass. Both foreign language students, and teachers alike, owe Martie Semmer a debt of gratitude.

It is a person such as Martie Semmer that inspires us all to take that extra step. Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in congratulating Martie Semmer, a truly outstanding teacher.

THE SMALL BUSINESS JOB PROTECTION ACT OF 1996

HON. LINDA SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mrs. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House of Representatives passed the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 (H.R. 3448). I supported this legislation for several reasons. As the chairwoman of the House Small Business Subcommittee on Taxation and Finance, I have grown increasingly aware over the last year of the need for a lessened tax burden on small business owners.

For example, the extension of the work opportunity tax credit will mean that managers of J.C. Penney stores in my district will be able to hire veterans and recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children. If we are serious about ending the cycle of dependency that is endemic to our present welfare system, we need to provide small businesses with the means to make work a viable alternative to welfare.

The extension of the Federal unemployment tax exemption means that Washington State farmers will be able to harvest their crops with the aid of alien workers. We all know how great the apples are from Washington State. What many may not realize is that these apples would not be picked without the hard work of alien agriculture workers.

I also support the bill's provisions regarding tuition assistance. Hewlett Packard employs approximately 2,700 people in my district in southwest Washington. This year alone, 285 men and women have enrolled in undergraduate and graduate level courses. These hard-working Americans are furthering their job skills and employability by pursuing an education in their off hours. This would not be possible without Hewlett Packard providing their employees with tuition assistance as part of their salary package. For many of my constituents, extending the exclusion for employer-provided educational assistance makes the difference in keeping up with the latest developments in technology. This is particularly important for a company such as Hewlett Packard that is committed to keeping pace with an ever changing world.

I commend my colleagues for supporting the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996. This legislation will further enable our economy to grow and prosper.

TRIBUTE TO SEYMOUR H. KNOX III

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Mr. Seymour H. Knox III.

Throughout his life, Seymour Knox tirelessly dedicated himself to the enhancement of our western New York community. He was prominent in both Buffalo business and society through his involvement with the Buffalo Sabres National Hockey League franchise, the Buffalo Fine Arts Academy, which governs the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Kidder Peabody & Co., and the Crossroads Arena Corp.

Seymour Knox earned his undergraduate degree in sociology at Yale University in 1949, and attended graduate school at Columbia University, concentrating on accounting and banking. Mr. Knox honorably served the United States of America during World War II, where he received an Army commendation ribbon in recognition of outstanding performance of duty.

In 1969, Seymour Knox, along with his brother, Northrup, acquired a National Hockey League franchise which established our Buffalo Sabres. His passion for hockey, commitment to western New York, and genuine concern for its community is best evidenced by the Marine Midland Arena, a project which will undoubtedly serve as his legacy, and will help ensure Buffalo will always have its beloved Sabres.

For his efforts on behalf of Buffalo and professional hockey, Seymour Knox was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1993, and in an emotional tribute this past March, was inducted into the Buffalo Sabres Hall of Fame.

On May 22, 1996, the Buffalo community lost one of its greatest men. A man whose dedicated and charitable community service, hard work, commitment to Buffalo's development, personal strength, and vibrant love of life serve as an inspiration to us all.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to join with the city of Buffalo, and indeed, our entire western New York community, to honor Mr. Seymour H. Knox III, who is survived by his wife, Jean; his brother, Northrup; his children, Seymour H. Knox IV, W.A. Read Knox, Avery F. Knox, and Helen K. Keilholtz; and his five grandchildren for his dedicated service to our western New York community. To that end, I would like to convey to the Knox family my deepest sympathies, and ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join with me in a moment of silence.

SALUTING AIR FORCE LT. PAUL ''JAY'' SMITH FOR SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY

HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. FIELDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, all Americans were shocked and deeply saddened when they learned of the crash of Valujet flight 592 in Florida on May 11, a crash that took the lives of 110 persons. I want to take a moment to salute one of those victims, an extraordinary young man, Air Force Lt. Paul ''Jay'' Smith of Montgomery, AL.

When he lost his life, Lieutenant Smith was returning to Montgomery from Miami, where he had traveled to participate in ceremonies commissioning a fraternity brother and former ROTC colleague as a second lieutenant in the Air Force.

Lieutenant Smith was not a constituent, but he was a remarkable young man who served his country with distinction as a computer specialist with the U.S. Air Force at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery. While his parents, Susan and Lt. Col. (ret.) Paul Smith, and his sister, Laurie, mourn Jay's passing, and while all of us in this Chamber share their grief, let each of us remember Jay's enthusiasm for life, his dedication to his country, and the love he showed his family—and let each of us determine to bring those same qualities into our own lives.

A member of my staff who has known the Smith family for 40 years shared with me a letter that Jay wrote to his parents 2 years ago shortly after spending spring break with them.

> I pray every night that God will continue to be as generous as he has been with our family. I think back on my life and realize that I have been extremely fortunate. Who could ask for anything more than great parents [and] a great sister,

Jay wrote.

> There's never really much to write about that I don't already tell you about by phone, but I just wanted to take the time out for a family that has provided me with unconditional love. I love you very much. Making you happy is one of the most important parts of my life. . . .

That was the kind of young man that Jay Smith was—concerned more for others than for himself, and deeply grateful to his family for the opportunities they helped to provide him. But in the end, it was Jay's own hard work, dedication to duty, and commitment to excellence that made possible in his brief, but highly successful, career in the U.S. Air Force. A citation accompanying the posthumous presentation to Jay of the Air Force Commendation Medal mentions some of the qualities that so many other admired in him.

That citation reads in part,

> The outstanding professional skill, leadership and ceaseless efforts of Lieutenant Smith resulted in major contributions to the effectiveness and success of the Standard System Group's efforts. . . . He effectively accomplished the work of five individuals and accelerated work output to accommodate the heightened operational pace in support of the United States Peacekeeping Forces in Bosnia. Lieutenant Smith's ability to produce extraordinary results even during periods of uneven workloads, irregular hours, and an aggressive schedule, allowed the program to complete numerous complex and time-consuming taskings error-free in record time.

I understand that nothing I say here will fully ease the Smith family's grief, or the pain that Jay's many friends and Air Force colleagues feel. I understand, too, that nothing I say will do justice to this remarkably dedicated young man who dreamed of following in his father's footsteps as a career officer in the U.S. Air Force.

Regrettably, I can only state the obvious: that Lt. Paul ''Jay'' Smith is the kind of young man on whom our Nation's future depends, and on whom our Nation's freedom and security has always depended. In his all too brief