

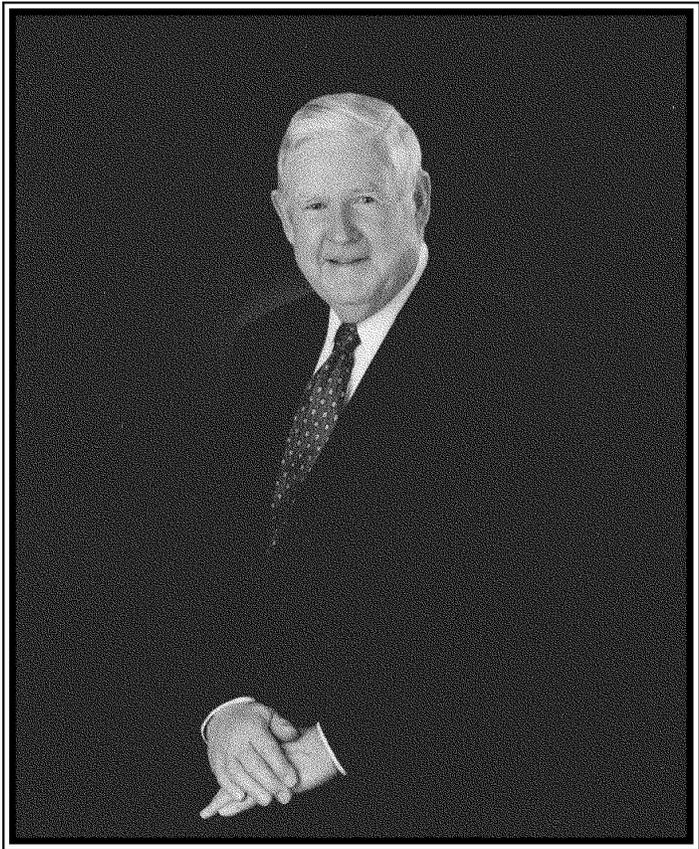
John P. Murtha
LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
PENNSYLVANIA

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES
AND OTHER TRIBUTES

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA  1932–2010

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA  1932–2010

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John P. Murtha

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Memorial Addresses and Other Tributes

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND SENATE
OF THE UNITED STATES
TOGETHER WITH MEMORIAL SERVICES
IN HONOR OF

JOHN P. MURTHA

Late a Representative from Pennsylvania

One Hundred Eleventh Congress
Second Session



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*Compiled under the direction
of the
Joint Committee on Printing*

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	Page
Proceedings in the House of Representatives:—Continued	
Tributes by Representatives—Continued	
Pelosi, Nancy, of California	45
Pitts, Joseph R., of Pennsylvania	5
Quigley, Mike, of Illinois	42
Rahall, Nick J., II, of West Virginia	47
Rangel, Charles B., of New York	72
Rothman, Steven R., of New Jersey	56
Shuster, Bill, of Pennsylvania	69
Skelton, Ike, of Missouri	39
Stupak, Bart, of Michigan	64
Thompson, Glenn, of Pennsylvania	8
Visclosky, Peter J., of Indiana	21
Wasserman Schultz, Debbie, of Florida	40
Welch, Peter, of Vermont	65
Young, C.W. Bill, of Florida	11
Proceedings in the Senate:	
Tributes by Senators:	
Dodd, Christopher J., of Connecticut	80
Reid, Harry, of Nevada	79
Memorial Services:	
Statuary Hall, U.S. Capitol	100
Westmont Presbyterian Church	83

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BIOGRAPHY

PENNSYLVANIA'S LONGEST SERVING MEMBER OF CONGRESS

U.S. Representative JOHN P. "JACK" MURTHA dedicated his life to serving his country both in the military and in the Halls of Congress. He had a long and distinguished 37-year career in the U.S. Marine Corps, retiring from the Marine Corps Reserve as a colonel in 1990.

He served the people of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District from 1974 until his death in 2010. At the time of his death, Congressman MURTHA was the eighth most senior Member of the 435-Member U.S. House of Representatives. Of the nearly 10,600 men and women who have served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1789, only 61 have served longer than him. On February 6, 2010, he became the longest serving Member of Congress from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

When he was a young boy, Congressman MURTHA's great-grandmother, Mary Bell, told him, "We are put on this Earth to make a difference." He lived by that motto every day of his life.

He had two childhood career goals and was successful in achieving both: he wanted to become a colonel in the Marine Corps and a Member of Congress.

EARLY LIFE AND MILITARY SERVICE

JOHN PATRICK MURTHA, JR., was born on June 17, 1932, in New Martinsville, WV. Early in his life he and his family moved to Pennsylvania. He grew up in Westmoreland County where he completed the requirements to become an Eagle Scout and where he worked as a newspaper delivery boy and at a gas station. He graduated from Ramsay High School in Mount Pleasant and later attended the Kiskiminetas Springs School and Washington and Jefferson College, where he played football.

During the Korean war, he decided to interrupt his college education and enlist in the Marine Corps out of deep patriotism and love for his country. In boot camp he earned the American Spirit Honor Medal, an award given to fewer than

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1 in 10,000 recruits. He was selected after basic training to become a junior drill instructor at Parris Island and in early 1953 was selected to attend Officer Candidate School at Quantico, VA. He was then assigned to the Second Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, NC. His unit was assigned to go to Korea, but the armistice was signed before his unit deployed. He was released from active duty in February 1955 and joined the Marine Corps Reserves.

On June 10, 1955, in Alexandria, VA, JOHN MURTHA married the former Joyce Bell, who was from Richlands, NC. They met while he was stationed at Camp Lejeune.

Mr. and Mrs. Murtha settled in Johnstown, PA. In August 1956, Mr. MURTHA opened the Johnstown Minute Car Wash.

He was promoted to captain in 1956, and in 1959 he assumed command of the 34th Special Infantry Company, Marine Corps Reserves, in Johnstown.

He attended the University of Pittsburgh on the GI bill, and graduated in 1962 with a degree in economics. He later did graduate work in economics and political science at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

In 1966, he was promoted to major and volunteered for active duty for service in Vietnam. For the next 12 months he served as the S-2 intelligence officer for the 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. During his tour of duty he was awarded the Bronze Star with Combat V, two Purple Hearts, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. He returned home from Vietnam in late 1967 and rejoined the Reserves.

He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1970 and colonel in 1974. Upon his retirement from the Marine Corps Reserve in 1990, he was awarded the Navy Distinguished Service Medal by the commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps.

ENTRY INTO POLITICS AND SERVICE IN THE PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In 1968, Mr. MURTHA was recruited by Democratic Party officials to run for the U.S. House of Representatives against popular incumbent Republican John Saylor. While Mr. MURTHA was unsuccessful in his first race, he was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives on May 20, 1969, in a special election to fill the remainder of the term of Representative Edward W. McNally who died in office. State Representative MURTHA was reelected in 1970 and 1972. He represented Pennsylvania's 72d District, which at the time

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included the city of Johnstown, some of its suburbs, and a portion of Westmoreland County.

As a State representative, Mr. MURTHA was influential in the passage of Act 120, a law that expanded training requirements for municipal police officers in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. A strong proponent of protecting and cleaning up the environment, Representative MURTHA supported legislation that required operators of abandoned surface mines to remove environmental hazards and to plant vegetation to prevent erosion. These measures, while unpopular in his district, helped to clean up Pennsylvania's waterways. He also focused on legislation that helped the steel industry. Believing that if people were old enough to fight for their country they were also old enough to vote, he voted in favor of the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which standardized the voting age at 18.

WORK IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

After the unexpected death of Congressman Saylor in 1973, Representative MURTHA was nominated by the Democratic Party to run in a special election to represent Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District. On February 5, 1974, he won the special election by just 122 votes. The Speaker, Carl Albert, was out of the country, so Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, the majority leader, administered the oath. Tip O'Neill eventually became Speaker himself and was also Congressman MURTHA's mentor. In fall 1974, Congressman MURTHA was reelected to a full term by over 25,000 votes.

Congressman MURTHA served on the House Armed Services Committee from March 1974 to January 1975, the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct from January 1979 to January 1981, and the House Appropriations Committee from January 1975 until his death in February 2010. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, he served on the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies from January 1975 to January 1979; the Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies from January 1975 to January 2005; the Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch from January 1977 to January 1979, from January 1981 to January 1995, and again from January 1999 to January 2001; and the Subcommittee on Defense from January 1979 until his death. He became chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee in January 1989 and served in that role until January 1995 when he became the subcommittee's

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ranking member. He once again became chairman in January 2007 and would serve in that capacity until his death.

After helping the Democrats regain control of the House of Representatives in 2006, Congressman MURTHA made an unsuccessful bid to become House majority leader.

One of the pivotal moments of Congressman MURTHA's congressional career was his response to the catastrophic Johnstown flood of 1977. After President Carter declared the region a Federal disaster area, the Pennsylvania National Guard was mobilized and placed under Congressman MURTHA's direction. He then worked with Speaker O'Neill and Congress to pass legislation that gave the Federal Government authority to rebuild damaged public facilities and to provide grants and loans to property owners for repairs and construction. He rolled up his sleeves, personally cleared mud, and surveyed the damage. He assured that aid got to those that needed it most, and found temporary housing for those whose homes had become uninhabitable. In the aftermath of the flood, Congressman MURTHA made it his mission to provide necessary Federal aid to assist the region and to work to prevent jobs from leaving the area.

As Congressman from the 12th Congressional District of Pennsylvania from 1974 to 2010, Congressman MURTHA at various times represented all or parts of Allegheny, Armstrong, Cambria, Clarion, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Somerset, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties.

JOBS

Congressman MURTHA worked hard to bring tens of thousands of family-sustaining jobs to western Pennsylvania. After the widespread and devastating loss of coal and steel jobs that were the lifeblood of the area, he pushed the region in a new direction. He was intent on diversifying the economy by attracting health care, defense, medical research, tourism, and high-tech jobs that would insulate the region from future economic downturns. His efforts transformed communities and brought much needed jobs to the 12th Congressional District.

He cofounded the Congressional Steel Caucus in 1979 to preserve what remained of America's steel industry by fighting subsidized steel imports. Throughout his career he supported legislation that funded alternative energy technology including wind energy, fuel cell technology, and a coal-based jet fuel.

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Congressman MURTHA strongly supported the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) Career Center in Washington, PA. The center has aided coal miners who have lost their jobs by providing access to job training and counseling.

He played a major role in heritage preservation and tourism efforts throughout Pennsylvania. He created a heritage region that became a model for the National Heritage Area Program, which today includes both the Rivers of Steel and Path of Progress in southwestern Pennsylvania. He secured funding to preserve heritage sites such as Fort Necessity, Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater, the Johnstown Flood Museum, the Johnstown Flood National Memorial, and the Allegheny Portage National Historic Site. He also authored legislation establishing the Flight 93 National Memorial in Somerset County, PA.

Throughout his career, Congressman MURTHA sought funding to improve the region's infrastructure in an effort to attract and retain jobs. Believing that it was essential for business growth, he constantly sought funding to improve and modernize western Pennsylvania's sewage and water systems. He was a staunch advocate of the continued replacement, repair, and upkeep of the Monongahela River locks and dams. Through the Army Corps of Engineers, he directed over \$600 million to the system. In order to facilitate economic development, he directed funding to multiple area highway projects, and he supported the establishment of industrial and tech parks throughout western Pennsylvania.

MILITARY AND DEFENSE LEADERSHIP

Congressman MURTHA was highly respected for his comprehensive knowledge of military and national security issues. He was a trusted adviser to Presidents of both parties and was one of the most effective advocates for America's national defense. In his position as the chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, he oversaw appropriations for the Department of Defense, which included the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy, as well as the intelligence community.

As the first Vietnam war combat veteran elected to Congress and a career reservist, he had firsthand knowledge and experience that enabled him to be a recognized expert in the Congress on defense issues.

Congressman MURTHA used his position as the House's most senior defense appropriator to fight for America's men

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and women in uniform. He was known for his hands-on approach, routinely visiting military bases to hear directly about equipment, training, housing, health care, and other services available to our troops and their families. He regularly visited wounded troops at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Bethesda Naval Hospital. He routinely visited combat zones to assess the needs of our troops and to gauge the progress of wars and conflicts from those who know it best—the troops themselves.

Congressman MURTHA worked tirelessly to ensure that our troops had every advantage possible when put in harm's way, including protective equipment and weapon systems that are both reliable and state of the art. He fought to strengthen body armor, to improve efficiencies at military depots, and to provide our troops with the crucial equipment necessary to respond to biological and chemical warfare.

In a 2009 trip to Fort Benning, Congressman MURTHA heard from a group of noncommissioned officers that the Army uniform in use in Afghanistan was not providing adequate camouflage. In his next appropriations bill, he required that the Department of Defense study the current uniform and determine if a different camouflage pattern would be more suitable. Because of Congressman MURTHA's efforts, an improved camouflage pattern became the standard in Afghanistan.

Knowing that quality personnel are our military's backbone, he aggressively advocated increased pay, pensions, improved health care and quality-of-life amenities and recognized they were the keys to retaining well-trained personnel.

FOREIGN POLICY LEADERSHIP

Congressman MURTHA traveled around the world leading congressional and Presidential fact-finding missions, meeting with foreign leaders, monitoring international elections, and representing the U.S. Congress abroad.

In 1975 President Ford asked Congressman MURTHA to be part of the first congressional fact-finding mission to Vietnam after U.S. forces had been withdrawn. He later returned in 1978 to acquire information on Americans missing in action from the Vietnamese and to bring back the remains of those who had been found.

In 1982 and 1983, Speaker Tip O'Neill sent Congressman MURTHA to Beirut, Lebanon, to assess President Reagan's decision to deploy U.S. Marines in the midst of civil unrest. Upon returning, he warned that our troops were in a vulner-

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able position and that the force was inadequate to accomplish the mission outlined by the State Department. He argued for the withdrawal of the Marines from Beirut.

Congressman MURTHA was part of a congressional delegation that visited the Soviet Union in 1984 shortly before Mikhail Gorbachev rose to power. The delegation reinforced the openness of the United States to pending economic and military changes. He later worked to provide funding that was essential to long-term global stability by decommissioning nuclear equipment and destroying warheads.

President Reagan named Congressman MURTHA and Senator Dick Lugar as cochairmen of a 20-member Presidential delegation to monitor the Philippine elections of 1986. The delegation personally observed voting fraud and manipulation and determined that the election had been stolen by the Marcos regime. After the delegation convinced President Reagan to delay certifying the election, Ferdinand Marcos fled the country and Corazon “Cory” Aquino became president.

Congressman MURTHA served as chairman or cochairman of four separate presidential election-monitoring delegations to El Salvador. He was one of the strongest and most influential supporters of a democratic El Salvador when Communist insurgents threatened to overrun the democratically elected government.

In 1989, President George H.W. Bush named Congressman MURTHA chairman of the U.S. delegation to monitor the elections in Panama. It quickly became clear that the election was fraudulent and that Panama’s military dictator, Manuel Noriega, had removed the constitutionally elected president and held onto power by declaring his party the election winner. At President Bush’s urging, Congressman MURTHA traveled to Panama on several more occasions and met secretly with the “defeated” candidates. He helped facilitate messages between them and the Bush administration regarding support for an American intervention. He later inspected the buildup of U.S. forces that invaded in December 1989 and deposed Noriega.

Congressman MURTHA played a key role in the defeat of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan during the 1980s. He worked with Congressman Charlie Wilson on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee to secretly provide funding for the CIA to supply arms to the Afghan fighters. Stinger missiles, provided through this funding, were successful in

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shooting down Soviet helicopters and aircraft and turned the tide for the Afghan resistance.

During the Persian Gulf war, Congressman MURTHA, as a moderate Democrat, was vital in attracting swing votes that assured passage of a House resolution supporting the U.N. resolution on the conflict. He made two trips to the gulf region to assess the situation and troop morale, and was invited numerous times by President George H.W. Bush to the White House to be briefed and to provide advice.

When President George H.W. Bush ordered 25,000 U.S. troops to Somalia in December 1992, Congressman MURTHA opposed the decision. He believed the deployment signaled a major shift in military policy and that troops would not be able to be redeployed easily. He traveled to Somalia on three inspection trips, which he found to be invaluable in assessing the situation. In July 1993, he wrote President Clinton a letter recommending a phased withdrawal of our troops. Although his advice was not heeded, history proved him right.

From 1996 through 1998, Congressman MURTHA made several trips to Bosnia to inspect the U.N. forces. In September 1996, President Clinton asked him to cochair a U.S. delegation overseeing the first post-war election and to certify that the election was fair and that the Bosnian Muslims, Croats, and Serbs were able to openly participate. He also traveled to Bosnia with President Clinton for Christmas in 1997 and 1998.

Congressman MURTHA voted to give President George W. Bush authorization to use military force against Iraq in October 2002, a decision he would later come to deeply regret. He inspected the buildup of U.S. troops in the gulf region weeks before the invasion and 5 months later in August 2003. He found severe shortages of body armor, electronic jammers, and spare parts for vehicles. He wrote to President Bush in September 2003 warning that, "We have severely miscalculated the magnitude of the effort we are facing," and said that he agreed with an assessment by former Deputy Secretary of Defense Dr. John Hamre, that we had a "narrow window of opportunity available to deliver progress in terms of economic infrastructure, security, and basic service improvements." He received a reply 7 months later from the Department of Defense saying, "We have made substantial progress in the very ways that you suggest."

After voicing his concerns and suggestions directly to the Bush administration with no substantive response, he made the decision to publicly argue for the redeployment of U.S.

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forces from Iraq on November 17, 2005. Since then, he became one of Congress' most outspoken critics of the war in Iraq, convinced that the conflict could only be solved politically, diplomatically, and economically by the Iraqis, not the American military. His stance and beliefs validated those who had already been opposed to the war and also helped to change public opinion. These efforts ultimately led to major policy changes in Iraq. Overall, he made eight visits to Iraq over the course of the war.

He was the author of "From Vietnam to 9/11: On the Front Lines of National Security." This autobiography told the story of his involvement with international affairs and the lessons he learned from those experiences.

VETERAN ISSUE LEADERSHIP

As the first Vietnam combat veteran to be elected to Congress, Congressman MURTHA deeply understood the need to take care of America's veterans. Throughout his career he often spoke with veterans, veterans groups, and family members of veterans to ensure that they were treated fairly and with honor and respect.

In 2000, Congressman MURTHA visited Gettysburg battlefield. As a result of the visit, he recognized the deplorable state of maintenance and care of the priceless artifacts from the battle which included weapons, battle flags, and uniforms. Over the next decade he ensured funding was added to numerous interior appropriations bills to establish a new and modern visitor center and to preserve priceless artifacts. These efforts helped refurbish the Gettysburg cyclorama, store artifacts in a climate-controlled facility, and restore the battlefield to its original state.

In 2001, Congressman MURTHA visited the Normandy battlefield and cemetery in France. He found that the existing visitor center was inadequate to accommodate the millions of guests that visited each year, and that it neither conveyed how important the battle was to liberating Europe nor the enormous sacrifice made by Allied forces. Congressman MURTHA worked with Congressman David Obey and Congressman David Hobson to provide funding for a new interactive visitor center, which was dedicated in June 2007.

In 2003, he worked to create the "Helmets to Hardhats" Program, an initiative that works to connect transitioning active-duty and reserve-component soldiers with the construction industry. The program is designed to help those

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with military experience get hired in civilian construction trades that are facing critical labor shortages.

Concerned with the mental health of our troops and veterans, Congressman MURTHA helped develop the Defense and Veterans Head Injury Program which supports research and tracks those with head injuries to better evaluate various treatment methods. He earmarked over \$1.4 billion for traumatic brain injury and psychological health research and counseling. He worked to establish long-term treatment facilities for veterans facing severe mental illnesses across the country.

He also worked to start a partnership between Conemaugh Health System in Johnstown and Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He successfully obtained over \$30 million for their work in neuroscience and pain research, which is revolutionizing the military's treatment and management of pain.

In 2008, Congressman MURTHA worked to include provisions for the GI bill for the 21st century in a supplemental defense appropriations bill. The legislation increased GI bill benefits to all members of the military, including members of the Reserve and National Guard, who have served on active duty for at least 3 months since September 11, 2001.

HEALTH CARE LEADERSHIP

During his time in office, Congressman MURTHA expanded medical research and improved access to preventative medicine and quality health care.

In 1990, Congressman MURTHA worked with Congressman Bill Young of Florida to create the Department of Defense Marrow Donor Program, which later became the National Marrow Donor Program.

In 1991, he, along with Senator Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia, introduced the Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefit Act, also known as the Coal Act. This bill, which was ultimately incorporated into the Energy Policy Act of 1992, established the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) 1992 Benefit Plan. The plan provides health benefits to retired and disabled miners and their spouses. After the establishment of the benefit plan, Congressman MURTHA fought for the continued solvency of the fund when it was in danger of bankruptcy.

He was also a staunch supporter of the Black Lung Benefits Program. He helped pass the legislation that enabled miners who worked underground for 25 years to automatically qualify for black lung benefits. He also directed funding

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for research on lung disease and the development of an artificial lung to help miners suffering with black lung disease, and pressed for passage of legislation to make dust monitors in mines tamperproof.

In 1992, Congressman MURTHA helped create the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) within the Department of Defense to manage funding for the research of diseases and illnesses prevalent in the military. This program developed into a unique partnership between Congress, the military, and the public, in which doctors, scientists, and health advocates collaborate on innovative ideas and high-impact research.

The first program funded through the CDMRP was the breast cancer peer-reviewed research program. In the early 1990s, a group of military spouses came to Congressman MURTHA and told him that the military health care system was paying no attention to the disease. At the time, even mammograms were not being offered at many of our military hospitals. As the chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, Congressman MURTHA put \$25 million into the Pentagon budget for breast cancer research that year. When the Secretary of Defense called to ask what he should do with this money, Congressman MURTHA's response was simple, "Offer mammograms." This initial funding was so successful that the following year Congressman MURTHA put \$210 million into the program. Under his leadership, Congress has earmarked over \$2.5 billion for the Department of Defense peer-reviewed breast cancer research program. These funds have enabled over 5,500 proposals from scientists and doctors across the Nation to receive funding for innovative projects that have made a significant impact on the detection and treatment of the disease.

In 1993, Congressman MURTHA helped create TRICARE, a nationwide-managed military health care program. The beneficiaries of this program include active duty military personnel, military retirees, their dependents, and some members of the Reserves.

In 2003, the Air Force Surgeon General informed Congressman MURTHA that 144,000 Air Force personnel and members of their family had diabetes. Determined to reverse the diabetes epidemic that affected the military, he provided funding for diabetes prevention, education, and outreach programs.

He fought for a patient's bill of rights, prescription drug benefits, and increased Medicare benefits. When Pennsylva-

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nia's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) was slated to be eliminated by Federal regulations, he convinced the Clinton administration to be more flexible and ultimately saved the program. When Medicare refused to pay for preventive health care such as mammograms and flu shots, he directed funding to pay for these procedures.

In 2009, Congressman MURTHA supported the Affordable Health Care for America Act believing that every American should have access to quality affordable health care.

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

Since his election in 1974, Congressman MURTHA worked to clean up the environment and reduce pollution. As a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, he traveled to various national parks throughout the country and promoted the well-being of America's natural treasures and wildlife. Locally, he understood that clean water was important for safety, the environment, and business growth.

Congressman MURTHA led the fight to maintain funding for the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund, which has provided millions of dollars to Pennsylvania to reclaim abandoned mine hazards, including mine fires, subsidence under communities, open pits and shafts, high walls and coal refuse piles. He was instrumental in creating the Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative, which provided millions of dollars of funding dedicated to cleaning up abandoned mine drainage. Also, he was integral in creating the Oven Run Project, which improved water quality and returned fish and other aquatic life to previously dead sections of the Stonycreek River outside of Johnstown.

Congressman MURTHA worked tirelessly to revitalize brownfields, providing money to clean up abandoned industrial sites and attract new businesses to these properties.

Congressman MURTHA created the Kiski Basin Initiative to bring in Forest Service money for community tree planting and pushed to make the Kiski Basin Pennsylvania's first Forest Legacy area. He also worked to protect native trees by pursuing funds to control invasive species such as Japanese knotweed.

In 2005, Congressman MURTHA helped to attract Gamesa, a Spanish windmill manufacturer, to Ebensburg through an initiative to develop wind power at remote military bases. Gamesa's windmills are found throughout southwestern Pennsylvania, creating clean, renewable energy. Congressman MURTHA was also instrumental in creating the National

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Defense Center for Environmental Excellence, part of Concurrent Technologies Corporation in Johnstown, which helps manufacturers reduce environmental impact by identifying more environmentally friendly materials, coatings, or manufacturing methods.

Congressman MURTHA worked with Speaker Nancy Pelosi and other Members of Congress to ensure that Fort Baker and the Presidio in the San Francisco area transitioned from military installations to protected land in the National Park system.

To protect the environment from the negative effects of global climate change, Congressman MURTHA was an early supporter of carbon capture and sequestration technology. In 2009 he worked with other Members of Congress to ensure that a bill he originally cosponsored, the Carbon Capture and Storage Early Deployment Act, was incorporated into the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, which was passed by the House.

OTHER LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

In 1998, in the wake of the unsuccessful prosecution of House colleague and friend Joseph McDade, and due to numerous published examples of Federal prosecutorial misconduct, Congressman MURTHA took on the Department of Justice to require its prosecutors to abide by State ethics rules. Congressman MURTHA introduced an amendment that reversed the 1989 “Thornburgh Memo,” and codified that Federal prosecutors must abide by the ethics rules of jurisdiction in which they practice. After many Members of Congress cited examples of prosecutorial misconduct, the amendment passed resoundingly.

A staunch advocate of law enforcement personnel, Congressman MURTHA worked to ensure that police departments throughout Pennsylvania received Federal funding for necessary equipment and training.

Concerned about the future viability of Social Security and the retirement savings of Americans, he authored legislation allowing children to have a Roth IRA so that family members and friends can contribute to a child’s nest egg from day one while receiving a tax credit.

As a strong supporter of Second Amendment rights, Congressman MURTHA ensured that the Civilian Marksmanship Program, a program that provides marksmanship training, sponsors shooting competitions, and provides sales of M–1 rifles to qualified individuals, received Federal funding. The

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program promotes firearms safety training and rifle practice for all qualified U.S. citizens through a network of affiliated shooting clubs across the United States.

He also supported changing the way in which the Social Security COLA was calculated, so that it more accurately reflects the needs of seniors. Congressman MURTHA voted for every minimum wage increase during his tenure in Congress and voted against the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in order to try to preserve manufacturing jobs in his district. He also voted for the Family Medical Leave Act to ensure that workers could take time off for illness, to take care of a sick family member, or for the birth of a child without fear of losing their jobs.

PERSONAL LIFE, CIVIC INVOLVEMENT, HONORS, AND FAMILY

When not at work, Congressman MURTHA enjoyed nature, gardening, fishing, and playing golf. He was an avid reader, enjoyed crossword puzzles, and watched sports. He cared deeply about the quality of life in his community and was a strong supporter of civic organizations and the arts. He also gave guest lectures for students at area colleges and universities.

He was a member of the Marine Corps League, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, and the Military Order of the Purple Heart. He was also a life member of the National Rifle Association and was awarded the coveted Kentucky Rifle.

In 2006, Congressman MURTHA received the prestigious John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award. He has received countless awards including the Department of the Navy Distinguished Public Service Award; the National Breast Cancer Coalition Leadership Award; the Congressional Medal of Honor Society's National Patriots Award; the Spirit of Hope Award from the United Service Organization (USO); the Edmund S. Muskie Distinguished Public Service Award; the highest honor from the Marine Corps League, the Iron Mike Award; and Pennsylvania's two highest honors, the Distinguished Service Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal. In 2009, he was inducted in the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Hall of Fame. He was named Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry's Government Leader of the Year and Pittsburgh's Riverperson of the Year. He has received honorary degrees from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Mount Aloysius College, Northeastern University, Saint Francis University, Seton Hill University,

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Suffolk University, the U.S. Army War College, Washington & Jefferson College, and Waynesburg University.

He died on February 8, 2010, from complications of gallbladder surgery, and is buried in Grandview Cemetery in Johnstown, PA.

Congressman MURTHA is survived by his wife Joyce; his daughter Donna; his twin sons, John and Patrick; their wives, Kathy and Lynn; his grandchildren, Jack, Anne, and Clayton; his two brothers, Robert “Kit” and Jim; and many nieces and nephews and their families. He is preceded in death by his parents, John, Sr. and Mary Ray, and his brother Charles.

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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

AND

OTHER TRIBUTES

FOR

JOHN P. MURTHA

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Proceedings in the House of Representatives

FRIDAY, *February 5, 2010*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, on behalf of Representative Jason Altmire, Representative Robert A. Brady, Representative Christopher P. Carney, Representative Kathleen A. Dahlkemper, Representative Charles W. Dent, Representative Michael F. Doyle, Representative Chaka Fattah, Representative Tim Holden, Representative Tim Murphy, Representative Todd Russell Platts, Representative Allyson Y. Schwartz, Representative Joe Sestak, Representative Bill Shuster, Representative Glenn Thompson, and myself, we rise today to acknowledge and celebrate a milestone in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Thirty-six years ago today, our colleague, Representative JOHN “JACK” P. MURTHA, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives to fill the seat vacated by the death of former Representative John P. Saylor.

Tomorrow, he surpasses the career of our former colleague, Representative Joseph M. McDade, and officially becomes the longest serving Member of Congress ever from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JACK has dedicated his life to serving our country both in the military and in the Halls of Congress. A former Marine, he became the first Vietnam war combat veteran elected to the U.S. Congress.

When he arrived here in 1974, he quickly attracted the attention of then-majority leader, and future Speaker, Tip O’Neill, who became JACK’s mentor. Tip taught him that “all politics is local,” which has enabled him to become an effective advocate for his own congressional district and for initiatives throughout our State.

JACK’s contributions to Pennsylvania are endless. When Pennsylvania’s Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) was slated to be eliminated by Federal regulations, JACK convinced the Clinton administration to be more flexible and ultimately saved the program. When our steel industry was

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in crisis, he convinced the Reagan administration to impose higher tariffs on foreign steel, giving domestic producers an edge. When the Philadelphia Shipyard was threatened with closure, he secured funding to keep ship production going. When the U.S. Army was forming Stryker Brigades, JACK helped convince Army leaders to field one within the Pennsylvania National Guard, creating the first and only brigade of its kind in the Reserve component. When the National Park Service wanted to construct a new museum and visitor center at Gettysburg, he secured funding to make the project possible. When a decades-long mine fire threatened the residents of Centralia, PA, JACK worked to secure funding to buy the town and relocate the residents. When the health care benefits of retired miners were in trouble, he twice secured funding to help save their benefits from termination. When Flight 93 crashed in Stonycreek Township, PA, JACK was there the next day to survey the scene and later introduced legislation, which was enacted, establishing a national memorial to honor the passengers and crew. When he found out that diabetes was becoming an epidemic in the military and throughout Pennsylvania, JACK secured over \$150 million for research, prevention, education, and outreach programs.

As the dean of our congressional delegation, JACK exemplifies the hard work and dedication seen throughout our Commonwealth. He has always been there when Pennsylvania needed him. JACK is emblematic of the hard-working Pennsylvanians that he has represented for 36 years, as well as those that each of us represent. He has led our delegation with passion and perseverance. . . .

TUESDAY, *February 9, 2010*

PRAYER

Chaplain Phillip Lee, Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans, LA, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, Supreme Judge of the world, thank You for our military members, for the security they provide to our Nation and the hope they bring to hurting places on distant shores. Give each one clear ears, sharp eyes, a keen mind and a heart full of courage to accomplish the mission they are assigned. Heal them when they are injured; sustain their families and friends as they too endure war's tragedies and tensions caused by spiritual wickedness in high places and the darkness of this world.

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Today help us to silence the roaring lions and charging bears who seek to rule the globe with terrorism. Empower us by every righteous means to foster peace on Earth and good will to all. Guide those entering this room today to be faithful, and full of faith, while performing their duties on behalf of the American people. And as weariness tugs at the soul, may each person mount up as on the wings of an eagle.

We ask that You give particular comfort to the family of JOHN MURTHA today, former Marine and citizen Congressman for 19 terms who passed away yesterday.

By Your grace, anchor us now in the Rock who leads us to be holy, reconciling us to Your purposes and ways. Remind us never to forget that we are Americans promoting freedom, responsible for our actions, and dedicated to the principles that make us free; free indeed. Keep us trusting in You, God, and then the United States of America.

We ask You all this, Supreme and Eternal Commander in Chief, because Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. *Semper Fi*. Amen.

MONDAY, *February 22, 2010*

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF REPRESENTATIVE JOHN P.
MURTHA OF PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. KANJORSKI. As most Members of this Chamber know, we recently lost a dear friend and colleague. Congressman JACK MURTHA passed away on February 8 after complications from gallbladder surgery.

JACK recently became the longest serving Member of Congress from Pennsylvania ever. JACK was dedicated to his country, our military troops, and the people of Pennsylvania that he represented for 36 years. He will be greatly missed by our delegation, our State, and the entire Nation.

On Wednesday, there will be a special order following votes in memory of JACK MURTHA. Anyone wishing to speak may contact my office for that privilege.

In closing, I respectfully request a moment of silence in memory of our dear friend, JACK MURTHA.

I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Pitts).

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I first got to know JACK as a freshman legislator in the Pennsylvania House of 1973–1974, where he and I served together until he was elected to Congress in 1974. We were both Vietnam veterans—the only

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two in the State house, so we had something in common that we chatted about.

JACK served his community in western Pennsylvania as both the State and Federal Representative for nearly four decades, and he will be missed by his hometown of Johnstown and residents of the 12th Congressional District.

He served his country as a Marine drill instructor. As an officer, he remained in the Reserves after leaving full-time service in 1955. He volunteered to return to full-time service in 1967, and he served honorably in Vietnam, earning a Bronze Star with Valor and two Purple Hearts.

Even after being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, Representative MURTHA continued his service in the Reserves, finally retiring as a colonel in 1990. Just a few weeks ago, he became the longest serving Pennsylvania Member of the House of Representatives.

He will be dearly missed by his wife of 54 years and his children and grandchildren that he leaves behind. I join with my colleagues in the Pennsylvania delegation to extend our condolences to his family and friends.

Tonight, we honor his service.

The SPEAKER. Will all Members please rise for a moment of silence.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1084

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable JOHN P. MURTHA, a Representative from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is with great sadness as well as a great deal of honor that I rise this evening to commemorate and to celebrate the life of our friend and colleague, Congressman JOHN MURTHA of Pennsylvania's 12th District.

As we mourn the loss of JACK MURTHA and remember his life, I pass along my thoughts and prayers to his family and

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friends. Just days before his passing, JACK became the longest serving Member of Congress ever from Pennsylvania.

I am privileged to have had the opportunity to work closely with JACK during our time together in Congress, and I am honored to have called him my friend. I thought the other day, upon returning from Pittsburgh and the funeral in Johnstown, that JACK and I had spent more than 5,000 days together, and more than 2 or 3 hours each day, during our service in Congress together. That is probably longer than most husbands and wives spend together. And maybe that accounts for the fact that I feel such a loss.

I looked up to JACK for his dedication to our country and our military troops, his strength to work in a bipartisan way, and his passion for his work and the Pennsylvanians he represented. Throughout his career in public service, JACK has been a symbol of the hard-working Pennsylvanians throughout the Commonwealth.

JACK dedicated his life to serving our country both in the military, in the Halls of Congress, and the State legislature of Pennsylvania. A former Marine, he became the first Vietnam combat veteran elected to the U.S. Congress.

When he arrived here in 1974, he quickly attracted the attention of then-majority leader and future Speaker Tip O'Neill, who became JACK's mentor. Tip taught him that all politics is local, which enabled him to become an effective advocate for his own congressional district and for initiatives throughout our State.

JACK's contributions to Pennsylvania are endless. When Pennsylvania's Children's Health Insurance Program, CHIP, was slated to be eliminated by Federal regulations, JACK convinced the Clinton administration to be more flexible, and ultimately saved the program. When our steel industry was in crisis, he convinced the Reagan administration to impose higher tariffs on foreign steel, giving domestic producers an edge.

When the Philadelphia Shipyard was threatened with closure, he secured funding to keep ship production going. When the U.S. Army was forming the Stryker Brigades, JACK helped convince Army leaders to field one within the Pennsylvania National Guard, creating the first and only brigade of its kind in the Reserve component. When the National Park Service wanted to construct a new museum and visitors center at Gettysburg, he secured funding to make the project possible.

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When a decades-long mine fire threatened the residents of Centralia, PA, JACK worked to secure funding to buy the town and relocate the residents. When the health care benefits of retired miners were in trouble, he twice secured funding to help save their benefits from termination.

When Flight 93 crashed in Stonycreek Township, PA, JACK was there the next day to survey the scene, and later introduced legislation which was enacted establishing a national memorial in honor of the passengers and crew.

When he found out that diabetes was becoming an epidemic in the military and throughout Pennsylvania, JACK secured over \$150 million for research, prevention, education, and outreach programs.

JACK led our Pennsylvania delegation for 36 years with passion and dedication. The legacy that he has left will surely live on as a symbol of the great work that one man can do, and is something that we can all strive to achieve. The Pennsylvania delegation is honored to pay tribute to his life this evening and say goodbye to a dear friend and colleague.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Thompson).

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend, Mr. Kanjorski, for yielding and this opportunity to take time to remember and to recognize the life and public service of Congressman JOHN MURTHA.

As a freshman, and being here 14 months, I had the opportunity to just get to know the Congressman when I joined this Chamber a little over a year ago. And I will say that although Congressman MURTHA was the dean of the delegation, and someone who had been here almost four decades, he reached out to an individual who was a freshman, a rookie. Whenever I saw Congressman MURTHA, he was always quick to ask how things were going, how people were treating me, and was there anything he could do for me. He had that bipartisan approach. He was first and foremost from Pennsylvania, as opposed to identifying himself as part of a party.

As I had gotten to know Congressman MURTHA we had some common ties. I found out he had such a sense of public service. As Mr. Kanjorski mentioned, he certainly will be missed by the people of Cambria County and throughout his entire congressional district. And his sense of public service I believe really grew out of his experiences in scouting. Congressman MURTHA was an Eagle Scout. And within scouting, learned those principles of leadership and citizenship and

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service, went on to serve as a decorated war hero in the U.S. Marines, and continued that service right up until 1990, retiring as a colonel.

And today, we remember Congressman MURTHA in his public service as he went on to be the longest serving Member in the U.S. House of Representatives from Pennsylvania.

All of our prayers go out to Congressman MURTHA's wife and his family as we take this time to pause and give thanks and honor the life of Congressman JOHN MURTHA.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE TO ATTEND
FUNERAL OF THE LATE HONORABLE JOHN P. MURTHA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker on February 16, 2010, appointed the following Members of the House to the Committee To Attend the Funeral of the Late Honorable JOHN P. MURTHA:

The gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Kanjorski

The gentlewoman from California, Ms. Pelosi

The members of the Pennsylvania delegation:

Mr. Holden

Mr. Doyle

Mr. Fattah

Mr. Pitts

Mr. Brady

Mr. Platts

Mr. Shuster

Mr. Gerlach

Mr. Tim Murphy

Mr. Dent

Ms. Schwartz

Mr. Altmire

Mr. Carney

Mr. Patrick J. Murphy

Mr. Sestak

Mrs. Dahlkemper

Mr. Thompson

Other Members in attendance:

Mr. Larson (CT)

Mr. Becerra

Mr. Crowley

Ms. Wasserman Schultz

Mr. Rangel

Mr. Dicks

Ms. Kaptur

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Mr. Levin
Mr. Mollohan
Ms. Slaughter
Mr. Taylor
Mr. Andrews
Mr. Moran (VA)
Mr. Bishop (GA)
Ms. Corrine Brown (FL)
Ms. Eshoo
Mr. Kennedy
Mr. Berry
Ms. Kilpatrick (MI)
Mr. Kucinich
Mrs. McCarthy
Mr. Pascrell
Mr. Reyes
Mr. Rothman
Mr. Capuano
Mr. Holt
Mr. Weiner
Mr. Ryan (OH)
Ms. Matsui
Mr. Cohen
Mr. Courtney

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I would like to thank my dear friend, Mr. Kanjorski, for offering a privileged resolution.

My simple words are that this House was privileged to have a man like JOHN MURTHA walk these halls and this floor. I know that as he is honored on Wednesday night with a special order, we will gather to celebrate and commemorate a life well lived not only for his family, but for his country and for the people that he loved and the military that he served and respected. . . .

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), under its previous order and pursuant to House Resolution 1084, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, February 23, 2010, at 10:30 a.m., for morning-hour debate, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable JOHN P. MURTHA.

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WEDNESDAY, *February 24, 2010*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Young) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to speak to the memory of one of my close friends, one of my colleagues, my partner, and a man with whom I have spent so many hours, so many days and for so many years as we've worked together on the national defense appropriations bill, and I'm speaking of the late Chairman JACK MURTHA.

In keeping with his legislative management style, I'll be brief because, as we presented our defense appropriations bills, the last meeting that we would have somewhere in the Chamber here would be, "Hey, look, this is a good bill. It's not controversial. Let's pass it quick. We ought to be able to get it done in 8 or 10 minutes," which we normally did.

JACK was a good leader, a good chairman. When we had discussions on the hundreds and hundreds of issues in that bill, his concern always was what is best to keep America safe, and what is best to give our soldiers the tools that they need, the technology that they need to do their job, to carry out their mission, and to protect themselves while they're doing that.

I expressed my condolences and my sadness to his wife, Joyce, and their children. I know of the sadness that they experienced here a couple of weeks ago as JACK left the Congress, left the family, and left this life. I really was saddened and regretted and felt extremely bad that I was not able to attend his funeral, but Beverly and I had a tragic event of our own during that same period.

I wanted to mention that Beverly, my wife, knew JACK MURTHA very well because we would oftentimes be at the same military hospital with him visiting troops, wounded troops and their families. I remember the first day that my wife ever ran into JACK MURTHA at Walter Reed Hospital. She had been talking with the wife of a soldier who had serious physical problems, and the family had financial problems.

She said, "Hey, Mr. MURTHA, give me your wallet." And JACK MURTHA took out his wallet and handed it to her, and she took out all of the money and handed it to the soldier's wife and then gave JACK back his empty wallet. And so she also had a special relationship.

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But we were not able to attend JACK's funeral. During that same period of time, my son Billy and his wife, Ashley, had become pregnant some time ago, and everybody was excited about that. Then one day, they picked us up at the airport coming back from Washington, and we had lunch together. They announced that they had just been to the doctor, and we were going to have twin granddaughters. You talk about being excited and cheers and tears. But that was not to be. Twenty weeks into the pregnancy, something happened. Things went wrong. The two little girls, Taylor Ann and Riley Grace, were born alive and lived only a couple of hours until their little hearts quit beating.

So we were going through that same grief at about the same time that Joyce and her family were going through the grief of losing JACK MURTHA.

I lost a friend. Congress lost a powerful legislator. He didn't speak on the floor very often. He was never boisterous. You never saw him—well, seldom—shouting and waving his arms, but he knew what was going on. And he affected what was happening in the legislation.

Some of our colleagues used to joke that he would sit back in this corner while I sat back in that corner so that between the two of us, we could watch everything that was happening in the House Chamber at any given time. Well, there might have been something to that, but it was a good relationship.

So again, I express my condolences. My own sadness of losing this friend, of losing this great American. Mr. Speaker, I think JACK has left an emptiness that probably will not be filled for a long time, if ever. And I think those on the House floor, as we proceed with appropriations bills in the future, will recognize that without JACK MURTHA here, things are a lot different.

God bless the family.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Kingston) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a friend and mourn and share the loss not just to the Murtha family and the State of Pennsylvania, but to the entire Nation, and certainly every man and woman wearing a uniform.

I was proud to know JACK MURTHA, proud to serve in the U.S. Congress with JACK MURTHA. He was a bipartisan guy. He was a knowledgeable guy. He was a hard-working guy.

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The military budget in appropriations is over \$500 billion. It is a very thick bill. You have to know airplanes from submarines, from tanks to battleships. JACK MURTHA knew that, and he would study it very deeply.

JACK MURTHA, though, beyond being a professional Congressman, taught this Chamber many things.

For one thing, I learned as a guy who came up through some partisan battles and some nonpartisan battles that the MURTHA-McDade relationship almost cast a certain circle around the State of Pennsylvania that made it a special place, that the Pennsylvania delegation had something that the other States did not have, and that was two great leaders—Republican and Democrat—who kind of set the tone not just for the entire State but for the rest of us to see how things could be. And indeed, the Pennsylvania delegation has still had great fellowship because of that legacy.

It was also reflected in his relationship with Bill Young. I can't tell you what a joy it has been for all Members of Congress who come and often see the battles that are so epitomized on the talk shows and the name calling and so forth, and you think that is Congress. And then you go into a committee room and you see Bill Young and JACK MURTHA working together, not always agreeing but always affectionate and always having great respect for what the other one had to say.

And indeed, I can tell you as somebody who served here 18 years, sometimes you couldn't tell who was chairman. They were that close and that united and that focused on what was best for the troops. What a great relationship. And again, what a great example for the rest of us.

JACK MURTHA was an old-school guy. He liked to have his bill done in a hurry. In fact, the chairman, Mr. Obey, is there, and he knows while it was one of the largest bills, it was also one of the fastest bills to be passed so many times. JACK MURTHA knew exactly where he wanted to go long before the hearing started.

I remember I had an amendment that had to do with electronic verification of Social Security numbers for people working on Federal contracts. The chairman didn't like it. And I remember Mr. MURTHA—I submitted it, I worked the committee, the subcommittee very carefully, and he said, "Kingston, we're not going to do that." That was it. That was my hearing. And when he said that, you knew that was it. The curtain was closed. The case was over.

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And this same chairman could turn around and say to you, “You’ve got a problem in Hinesville, Georgia.” Little old Hinesville, GA, a speck on the map, that because it’s the home of Fort Stewart, the Third Infantry was expecting two more brigades, went out and built a lot of roads and schools and infrastructure in preparation for another brigade.

And then the Pentagon made a turn and decided not to send it to them. And who stood up for Hinesville, GA? JACK MURTHA. Who did I go to and say, “Look, if we’re going to make this happen, we’ve got to do something to help these people because the Pentagon has done them wrong. They stood tall for the military but now the military has let them down. We’re not going to let that happen.” And JACK MURTHA pulled through. Not just on that issue but time and time again.

JACK MURTHA loved the United States of America. JACK MURTHA loved the military. JACK MURTHA loved the soldiers. He stood up not just for them, but for their families over and over again.

Congress has lost a great leader, as has the State and the United States of America. But the American soldiers have lost a true friend and a passionate guy who would do anything for the men and women in uniform.

I say God bless JACK MURTHA and his memory and everything he has done for the United States of America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. Frelinghuysen) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I echo the sentiments of my colleagues here today and want to add my voice in tribute to JACK MURTHA—our colleague, my chairman, and my friend.

For nearly his entire adult life, JACK MURTHA selflessly served his beloved Nation—first in uniform as a decorated combat Marine and later as an elected Representative from my neighboring State of Pennsylvania.

We all know by now that he was the first Vietnam war combat veteran elected to Congress. And while many of us followed him to Congress, he rose to become chairman of the House Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Defense. I’ve had the honor of serving with him on the subcommittee for over 10 years.

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In our dealings over the years, JACK and I did not always agree on policy decisions. But I always respected his undeniable dedication and his refreshing candor.

And there is no doubt that he cared most deeply about the men and women of America's military and their families. He understood their challenges and their anxieties. And what he did not understand, he actively sought to learn in trips to Defense Department facilities, forward operating bases, and military medical centers across the world.

He served our men and women in uniform diligently and daily in countless ways. He worked each week to improve their quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, JACK MURTHA loved Congress. He loved Pennsylvania, he loved his constituents, he loved the military, and he loved all of these things with a passion that exceeded the most ardent enthusiast.

But fundamentally, JACK MURTHA was a Marine—with all of the distinguishing attributes and characteristics that brings. As a former member of the U.S. Army, I recall the statement of one Army general, "There are only two kinds of people who understand Marines: Marines and the enemy. Everyone else has a secondhand opinion."

My secondhand opinion is that I am honored to have served with JACK MURTHA. I will never forget his enduring friendship. May the tributes and prayers of so many of our colleagues this afternoon here today be a source of strength to his wife, Joyce, and to his family.

Semper Fi, JACK MURTHA.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Kanjorski) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to honor our friend and one of the outstanding Members of this House, JACK MURTHA, who represented Pennsylvania's 12th District, and to remember his devotion to his work in this Congress, his strength of character, and his hard-fought efforts for his district in Pennsylvania and our country.

Additionally, I feel privileged to have called JACK my friend, and I know that many other Members in this Chamber feel the same way.

As first votes were called this week and Members gathered on the House floor, it was very apparent to most of us that someone was missing. I walked in on Monday almost expect-

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ing to see JACK seated in the far chair in the Pennsylvania corner as I had seen since I had first joined Congress 25 years ago.

While JACK is no longer with us, his spirit will live in this Chamber and in the Halls of Congress. For now, the chair will remain empty, as he could never be replaced.

JACK left us too soon. But his legacy will surely live as a symbol of the great work that one man can do and is something that we can all strive to achieve. He will be sorely missed by all of his fellow colleagues, his friends, and definitely, the Pennsylvania delegation.

Mr. Chairman, I'd like to yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Holden).

Mr. HOLDEN. I thank my friend from Pennsylvania for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, today we pay tribute to our departed friend and colleague, JACK MURTHA. Over 17 years ago, I heard JACK say that his great-grandmother told him he was put on this Earth to make a difference—and boy did he make a difference.

He loved his country and served it with distinction at many levels. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps stateside during the Korean war. When the Vietnam war broke out, he volunteered to go back and served in Vietnam and received two Purple Hearts.

He was the first Vietnam combat veteran elected to the U.S. Congress. He was the longest serving Member in the history of the Congress from Pennsylvania to serve in the House of Representatives, and as Mr. Young mentioned during his remarks, he never forgot the men and women in uniform and made sure that they had the tools to do the job that they do so well. And our returning veterans as well, he was always at the forefront of making sure they had the proper care and treatment and visited them so many times at our military hospitals.

But he also cared so much about all of us. Everybody in this body has an example where JACK helped them. And he helped me so many times over the years, but there is just one that I want to share with everyone today.

After the redistricting of 2000 and after the 2002 election, I found myself serving in a district that was 60 percent new to me, and I inherited one of the best medical facilities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania—and actually in the entire country—the Penn State Milton Hershey Medical Center. After meeting with the leaders at the Penn State Milton fa-

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cility and seeing the quality of care that they provide, he said, "There's one thing that we're missing. We're missing a cancer research and treatment institute. People that we serve, when they are diagnosed, all too often have to go to Philadelphia or Pittsburgh or Baltimore for care. We need to have a facility for literally millions of central Pennsylvanians, and we, Penn State, are willing to put up more than our fair share or more than the majority of the cost, but we are about \$35 million short of getting there."

I went to see JACK. I brought him to Hershey. He looked around at the quality of care that was provided, made an agreement and said, "It won't happen in 1 year or 2 years, but it will happen. We, the Federal Government, will be a partner and the people of central Pennsylvania no longer will have to travel to Philadelphia or Pittsburgh or Baltimore."

I am proud to say today that as a result of JACK's efforts and his desire to help me, we have the best quality cancer care in central Pennsylvania. All of us could cite incidents like that where JACK cared about Members and did things to affect the quality of life for their constituents.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to go to Joyce, Donna, Patrick, and John and so many of JACK's former and current staffers that are with us today.

JACK, we miss you dearly.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce Mr. Mike Doyle. Before he speaks a word, he was commissioned as the jokester of the Pennsylvania corner purposely to keep JACK in his good spirits during his presence there.

Mr. DOYLE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I rise to honor the memory of my mentor and my dear friend, Congressman JACK MURTHA. This is a tough day for all of us in the Pennsylvania delegation. Our State has lost its 800-pound gorilla and our dear, dear friend.

JACK MURTHA personified the people of western Pennsylvania, tough, hard working, salt of the Earth. He loved his family. They always came first, his beautiful wife, Joyce, to whom he was married for over 50 years, his three children, and his grandchildren. Family always came first to JACK MURTHA.

He loved his country, and he most especially loved the men and women who wore the uniform of the United States of America. He was their champion. There wasn't any Member in this body who fought harder for those troops than JACK MURTHA.

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He loved this institution too. I remember he especially was helpful to new Members. When I got elected in 1994, JACK took me under his wing and one day he sat me right back there in the Pennsylvania corner, right next to his chair, and he said, "I am going to give you two pieces of advice." He says, "Number one, sit here on the floor and learn the rules and the procedure, because if you master the rules and the procedure of the House, someday you're going to get a chance to offer a bill, and the people that understand the rules will always win."

He said, "Number two, find out what you are passionate about and be the best person you can be in that field. Be the person that other people come to and ask for advice on that issue."

I never forgot that advice. Sixteen years later, every day, we still come over to that corner, and those of us who were smart enough would come over there to seek JACK's counsel. He didn't just do it for the members of the Pennsylvania delegation, he did it for anyone who was smart enough to come back there and introduce themselves to JACK and seek his counsel. It didn't matter what their party affiliation was either.

Much has been said about JACK's ability to work across the aisle. He truly did. When he chaired the Defense Appropriations Committee, it didn't matter to him what your party was. What mattered to him was that you had something that was going to be good for the troops and good for the country, and if you had a good idea, JACK was willing to help you turn that idea into reality.

When you think about the appropriation bills and how long it takes us sometimes to pass bills and how long that we go sometimes without passing bills and have to throw them in an omnibus at the end of the year, there was always one bill that we never had a problem passing. I can't remember in the 16 years that I have been here in the House of Representatives it ever taking more than 10 minutes to pass the defense appropriations bill. JACK just had it all worked out from the beginning, and he worked it out with both sides. That was the beauty of it.

You know, it was said that when JACK wasn't in the majority anymore and not the chairman of the committee, it was hard to tell who was the chairman of the committee, because JACK and his good friend Bill Young worked together as a team. They were both the chairs of the committee every

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year, regardless of what party was in control. It was his dear friend, and it was a pleasure to see those two work.

To sit on these opposite ends, we hear so much rancor in America today about the division in our country and the division here in the House of Representatives, how Democrats and Republicans can't work together. These two gentlemen worked together their entire careers. They were an example for the rest of us to follow.

JACK MURTHA is not with us anymore. It's hard to imagine coming to the Pennsylvania corner, and I think the toughest thing for all of us this week was to stand in that corner and see that chair empty and know that our friend wasn't coming in. It's going to take us a while for that to sink in that it's really happened, but one thing lives on. JACK would want us to move forward. JACK wouldn't want us to spend a lot of time dwelling about him or how we feel because he is gone.

JACK would want us to get back to work. He would want to make sure that we were working for this country and for our districts. He always told every Member that came over there, vote your district first. Regardless of what anybody tells you on this floor, you vote your district. I watched JACK MURTHA chase some of the leadership of our party back from Pennsylvania corner when they were trying to make some of our members not vote their districts. JACK made sure that didn't happen.

JACK, we're going to miss you. You've been a great teacher. To those of us in the Pennsylvania delegation, you were a great friend, to many of us a father figure. We stand here today to honor your memory and to pledge to you that we will continue to work hard in your memory and make sure that the people of western Pennsylvania and the great State of Pennsylvania continue the tradition that you set for all of us, the example that you set for this delegation.

To his family, our deepest sympathies. JACK MURTHA, God-speed, God bless.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, JACK's chairman as chairman of the Appropriations Committee, David Obey.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, this is a very human institution, and it's affected very much by our personal relationships with one another. Very frankly, for the first 20 years that JACK and I served on the Appropriations Committee, we were often adversaries. There were some issues on which we differed. He was, as has already been said, very much old school, and I was more of a reformer.

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In fact, when I ran for the chairmanship of the committee against a senior member of the committee, JACK managed the campaign of my opponent and, unfortunately, he did a pretty good job. After I was elected, we had an arm's-length relationship for a couple of years.

But if you care about your country, and you care about this institution, you swallow your differences and you learn to work with everybody. JACK and I soon had developed a solid working relationship, and we became allies on a host of issues. One of the most important was our view of the war in Iraq and how to get out of it; and another was our concern about the dubiousness of our continued involvement in Afghanistan if we didn't have a better ally in that government to rely upon.

We often talked together, and we traveled together. We went to the Middle East together. We shared something special as well in a different place on this globe. A few years ago, he and I and Dave Hobson and our staffs became concerned about the visitors center at Normandy. It was really pretty much of a crackerbox affair, and it was not at all fitting to the history of that place. So we determined that there ought to be a new visitors center at Normandy. With the three of us working together with our staffs, that visitors center was built.

Today, if you visit it—and it's truly beautiful—there is a little plaque behind that visitors center in front of a small tree with the names of MURTHA, Obey and Hobson on it. I know I am proud of that, and I know JACK was proud of that. I think it symbolizes what happens in this place. Two people who started out as adversaries became reasonably good friends, never fully agreeing, because no two people in this place ever agree on everything, but we had a solid working relationship.

I learned one thing about JACK a long time ago. He had the courage of his convictions, and he fought hard every way he knew how for those convictions, and he cared deeply about the welfare of the men and women who serve in the Armed Forces and defend this country's freedom.

I am proud that at Normandy there is that little note of the three of us having gotten together, all for one purpose, to honor the people who did so much on those beaches to build and preserve America's freedom and the freedom of the world.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would now like to yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. Visclosky).

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Mr. VISCLOSKY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I would like to take a bit of a different tack because I met Chairman MURTHA for the first time in 1977 when I was an associate staff member on Appropriations. My Member and my mentor, Adam Benjamin, Jr., was a member of the Appropriations Committee that year. Mr. MURTHA, Mr. Carney, Mr. Benjamin and others were instrumental in that year, not only in that appropriations process, but in also establishing the Steel Caucus, because they were very concerned about people who worked in their district.

What I took away as a staffer from that relationship with Mr. MURTHA is the fact that he always treated me and every other staff he came into contact with with respect. He always heard what I had to say and what other staff had to say, whether, as Mr. Obey implied, he always agreed with you or not, and he always treated you very professionally.

I had no conception during those 6 years working as a staff member that the time would come that I would serve as a colleague on the committee with Mr. MURTHA, would serve on the subcommittee, and would be blessed enough to call him a friend. He was a friend to every person he encountered. He was a good friend to the people he represented, because he was most concerned with those who worked hard, who needed a job or who needed a hand up.

Our country is much richer because of that attitude that Mr. MURTHA carried with him every day, and the world is certainly a much better place than it would have been had he not walked among us.

The fact is, as far as his activities on the defense subcommittee, and my Member was a former Marine as well, I was always struck that while some people are very focused on weapons systems, Mr. MURTHA, while never losing sight of the big picture, was most concerned about that individual man or woman who was in the field, who was risking their life and who was serving our country. As he would suggest, operation and maintenance, how you train, how you provide for their safety, how you equip that person and their family and those children was the most important thing for him.

He taught me many valuable life lessons. I am a better person, and we are all better people because of Mr. MURTHA. He will be greatly missed, and I deeply appreciate the gentleman from Pennsylvania for this opportunity.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I now yield time to the gentleman from western Pennsylvania, one of JACK's prodigies, Jason Altmire.

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Mr. ALTMIRE. I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania and I thank everyone who has spoken tonight.

I want to talk about western Pennsylvania and what JACK meant to western Pennsylvania, his home region and my home region.

A lot has been said over the past few weeks, and certainly tonight, about the impact that this “giant of the Congress” made on this institution, that he made on this country, and certainly the impact that he had on the American military, and there is nobody here that supported them more than JACK MURTHA.

I wanted to talk about the impact he had on his home region. I am fortunate enough to represent a district that is intertwined, due to gerrymandering, with Mr. MURTHA’s district, the district that he represented for so many years. I was born in a hospital that is in the district that he represented. I grew up in a town that is in the district that he represented. And I can tell you that we have lost a giant in this Congress and we have lost a giant in this country, but we’ve also lost a giant in western Pennsylvania. He will not be forgotten in his home region.

It should not be forgotten that JACK MURTHA, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, over the course of his career put \$1.5 billion into breast cancer research. He put nearly \$1 billion into diabetes research as a member of the Appropriations Committee. I don’t think that there is anybody in this Congress who has a record that can match what he has done in promoting health and promoting wellness—yes, in our military, but also across all segments of society. And again, this is somebody, as Congressman Doyle talked of earlier, that epitomizes the work ethic that represents western Pennsylvania and the constituency that we represent.

I am fortunate to have known Mr. MURTHA. I count him as a true champion of the region that I grew up in and somebody who will never be forgotten. There will never be his like again in western Pennsylvania, in the Congress, or in the country.

I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for the time.

Mr. KANJORSKI. I would now like to yield to part of our leadership, Mr. Larson.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. I want to thank the gentleman, the dean of the Pennsylvania delegation, for having

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this opportunity for Members to speak about a great American and someone who was so near and dear to all of us.

I want to commend Mike Doyle, Bob Brady, Paul Kanjorski, the entire delegation for last week making sure that, aside from the formal services held for Mr. MURTHA in Johnstown, PA, there was an opportunity for an Irish wake afterward. JACK, I know, would have been very proud of that. I am sure he got quite a chuckle with Tip O'Neill up in a higher place at the coming together of so many Members and regaling with so many stories of JACK MURTHA.

America has lost a great patriot. The Congress has lost one of its giants, one of the most knowledgeable Members on national defense ever to serve here, whose service spanned almost four decades, and seven Presidents and Members from both Chambers and on both sides of the aisle.

Our hearts go out to Joyce and the family. We in this body have lost a person who makes the very essence and fabric of being here so rich and rewarding; it was evident in listening to our colleagues, listening to Rodney and Bill and Jack Kingston talk about Mr. MURTHA. His death is a reminder to us all that our time here and all that we hope to accomplish is fleeting. As he would say, make the most of it while you're here; become an expert in a field; but most of all, stand up for what you believe.

JACK reminded me in so many ways of my grandfather, with that shock of white hair and piercing blue eyes and his way of questioning, but also his incredible Irish wit. He loved Congress. He was the epitome of what so often is talked about in terms of bipartisan cooperation and was so often demonstrated between him and Bill Young or Dave Hobson. When he gave his word, he kept it.

He was a Member's Member, ever cognizant of what he could do to help you. And while he was a tough questioner and firm in his convictions, he had an incredible heart and a deep love of history. He loved to talk about Tip O'Neill and the good ol' days here.

I was fortunate to travel overseas with Mr. MURTHA four times. Sometimes I thought I drew the short straw in the Pennsylvania corner because JACK, when he took a trip, it was all work; up at 6, he was in bed by 7. There were no PowerPoints, and he looked people dead in the eye. And he always made sure that he spoke to the enlisted men because he cared most about them. He was a decorated hero, with two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star in Vietnam, the first

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combat veteran from that conflict to be elected to the U.S. Congress.

Personally, a young man from East Hartford, my hometown, was wounded in Fallujah. He was in bad shape. He was sent back here, and his brother who was fighting alongside him, a fellow Marine, was back there. JACK MURTHA got on the phone and made sure that those brothers were united at Bethesda along with their parents.

I remember him counseling a father and his teenage son over at Ramstein Hospital in Germany. They had just lost a son. I don't know where JACK got the strength or that reservoir of courage to comfort and console the father and son, but he did, in almost Father O'Malley quality.

He cared so deeply about the troops that serve this great Nation. And as Bill Young pointed out, he and Bill made more trips out to Bethesda and Walter Reed with no publicity. They did it out of duty and honor and respect for those who serve.

He wrote a book, and on these flights I was privileged as he would go through it with me. His favorite book of all time was "War and Peace." He cared as deeply about peace as he did about making sure that we protected our troops when they're in the field and took care of them when they came home.

He will ever stand out in the minds of Americans for speaking out against the war in Iraq, an issue that he struggled deeply with. But as so many great Americans on this floor and in this Chamber and around this Nation, he found that profile in courage to stand up and speak out.

Democrats, I dare say, would not be in the majority if it were not for JACK MURTHA leading the way and speaking out, because he is a soldier's soldier. And he was respected on both sides of the aisle, as you've heard this evening. But as one commentator said, "When JACK MURTHA speaks, he speaks for America," and he did.

How proud he was to receive the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award. But his life was not only about speaking out; it was about the day-to-day work, the belief that he had in the men and women who serve and the people that he was sworn to serve from his district, and about the men and women who work here. He loved this institution. God, how everyone liked to come over to the corner. It seemed as though people were going over there to hear confessions, seek advice and, most often, to check in on how their projects

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were doing. He did it with wit, determination, and guile, and a deep love and abiding respect for his country.

For me personally, one of the great honors of being a Member of the U.S. Congress will always be to say I had the opportunity to serve with JACK MURTHA, a great American.

God bless you, JACK. God bless Joyce and your family.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Thank you very much, Mr. Larson.

I now yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Carney).

Mr. CARNEY. Thank you, Mr. Kanjorski, the new dean. I know that is probably a hard title to accept now under these circumstances.

It's interesting, I was listening to Mr. Larson speak, and I wish that every American had the opportunity to be in Johnstown on Monday night last to be part of the wake we had because it was truly a celebration of a man who deserves to be celebrated, but it was very striking in the bipartisanship that was displayed there. Friends on both sides of the aisle came to honor the man who was—and the word is not overused in this case—a giant, who knew how to fight for what he believed in, but also knew the art of the possible.

One thing JACK taught me a long time ago is that we are judged on this Earth not by what we don't do, but what we do. That is how I think we all have to proceed as Members of Congress in this body that we are privileged to be elected to serve. And here is a man who fought for everything he believed in.

Back in 2006, a number of us had the privilege of meeting JACK. He became our mentor when we came into power as the majority party again. It was his leadership, his tutelage, and his guidance that got us here. The fact of the matter is, when you came to JACK with a problem, especially one that dealt with the troops, he was going to take care of it.

Before my tenure here in Congress I was a professor at Penn State, and I had a student who was deployed to Iraq in the first wave of the invasion. He came back from Iraq and told me that when we were there, we had to go through Iraqi junkyards to find scrap metal to lob onto our trucks for more protection. When I told JACK that story, that kind Irish face of his hardened, those blue eyes didn't twinkle quite as much, and that grin firmed up. He said, "By God, we're going to fix that." And by God, he fixed that.

JACK, we are going to miss you. We are going to look back in that corner. We are going to know that we are not whole

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just yet, but we will remember the lessons you taught us and the leadership you provided.

Godspeed, soldier.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Patrick J. Murphy).

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania and now the dean of the delegation.

I want to echo the comments of my classmate, Congressman Chris Carney, also from Pennsylvania. When we came in together, he was really our mentor, and he was a great man. I thought it was fitting, when we heard earlier Republicans talking about the honor to serve with a great patriot like JACK MURTHA, the fact that he always reached across the aisle. The pallbearers at his service last week were both Democrats and Republicans. They were coming together to be those pallbearers in that final service.

In that service last week, we heard how Mrs. Bell told a young JACK PATRICK MURTHA that one person can make a difference, that one person can change the world. Whether it was in the Marine Corps, in the Congress of the United States, or within the Murtha family, JACK PATRICK MURTHA certainly did make quite a difference.

In the military, he was proud of his over three decades in the Corps. He was proud that he was the first combat Marine to serve in the U.S. Congress. He was proud when he had given a knife to a current commandant of the Marine Corps, General Conway. General Conway talked in the service last week about still having that knife. He was also proud to go down the street at the Walter Reed Military Hospital to see the men and women, our country's heroes, when they came back. When they gave it all on the battlefield and they came home, he was there for them.

As for his time in the Congress, he was proud of the family that made up "team Murtha"—the folks who served with great honor and distinction, not just to the constituents of the 12th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, but also to the citizens of the United States of America.

I am a person who often says that budgets are moral documents. If you want to see someone's priorities, you look at his budget, whether it's a family's budget or a country's budget. Well, the fact is that JACK MURTHA made sure that our troops had everything that they needed. If our warfighters were going to put their lives on the line, if they

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were going to be willing to take a bullet to keep our families and our country safe, JACK MURTHA did not want a fair fight. JACK MURTHA wanted to make sure that our troops had a tactical and a technical advantage on that battlefield. JACK MURTHA also wanted to make sure that the Congress of the United States and our country's policymakers also had the right war policy for those troops.

As John Larson said earlier, when JACK MURTHA spoke about calling for a timeline to bring our troops home from Iraq, it sent shock waves, not just across our country but around the world, that he was going to stand up for principle and do the right thing. That is the kind of Marine, that is the kind of leader that JACK MURTHA was. It was no surprise to many of us who had watched him throughout the years when he was awarded John Kennedy's Profile in Courage Award. He was so proud of that award because he knew what that award represented—the fact that he, a guy who had grown up in Johnstown, PA, had finally made a difference.

Last, we all know JACK to be the family man that he was. The fact is he was most proud of his wife, Joyce, of his kids, and of his grandchildren. He'd be here at the Capitol so early, by 6 in the morning at least. Then when we'd have late votes, at about 7 or 7:30, you could see him fidgeting. We used to joke with him.

You'd hear Bob Ray ask, "What's the matter? Does Joyce have pork chops going on? You know, why do you want to rush out of here?"

He'd say, "I've got to get home."

He wanted to make sure that he was home so he could be there with his family to have a meal.

I believe that JOHN PATRICK MURTHA and his service that he gave to our country as a Marine, as the chairman, and as a family man is a testament to his life's work, which is that one man can make a difference.

God bless you, JACK MURTHA.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Thank you, Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the last of the Pennsylvania delegation, Representative Dahlkemper of Erie.

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. I thank the gentleman, our new dean of the delegation.

I join my fellow Pennsylvania members and all of those who are here tonight to honor JACK MURTHA. I am deeply honored and equally saddened to stand here in tribute to our

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colleague and to my friend, the late JACK MURTHA. I am the youngest—or the newest member, I should say. I am not the youngest. I am the newest member of the Pennsylvania delegation. I've been here just 14 months.

Yet, from the first day that I stepped onto this floor, JACK MURTHA was a friend, a mentor. He welcomed me into the corner, the famous Pennsylvania corner which I had heard so much about. He welcomed me graciously, sharing his wisdom, his intellect, his wit, his humor.

He would say, "Hey, kid. How ya doing?"

JACK and I, I think, quickly developed a very special relationship. I saw him sort of as my father on the floor, the person I could turn to. He was a mentor, always offering me that advice. JACK MURTHA made sure that, as a new Member, I knew my constituents had to come first, that you represent the people who brought you here in every vote.

He was enormously helpful to all of us here. Certainly, if I had a question or a concern or an issue in my district, I'd first turn to JACK MURTHA and get his advice on how I should proceed.

In November, I am so grateful that I was given the privilege to travel with JACK MURTHA to Afghanistan over the Thanksgiving work period. We went to visit our troops abroad. To be with him and to see how he interacted with our troops was just a wonderful experience to be a part of. In seeing his questioning of those in charge, I learned a lot from him over that trip—how to do a CODEL, how to do it right and how to come back with the information that you need. There was no better person to really take that journey with than JACK MURTHA.

His mere presence in Afghanistan and everywhere we went on that trip commanded respect from everyone we encountered, and his keen insight and understandings of the needs of our troops, I think, was appreciated by everyone. All of those whom he touched there knew that he had one interest, and that was to take care of those who were there serving our country.

JACK MURTHA was a true patriot. He loved his country, and he believed in the value of public service. His passing is a great loss for the United States of America. It is a great loss for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It is a great loss to his district. It is a great loss to all of us who served with him in the House. I am grateful to have served with him.

God bless JACK MURTHA. God bless his family—his wife, Joyce, his children, and his grandchildren.

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Mr. KANJORSKI. Thank you, Mrs. Dahlkemper.

Now we will hear from the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. Kilpatrick).

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I, too, come to pay homage to a giant—to our leader, our chairman, the epitome of a public servant. All of us feel like he was our best friend.

As the newest member of the Defense Appropriations Committee, I was in awe as I watched the chairman yield, educate, speak, and do what he did so that all of the members on our subcommittee, on both sides of the aisle, could participate in the process.

Chairman MURTHA held 32 hearings before we even got to the appropriations bill last year. I was at every one of them. To watch him and to watch the prestige and the honor that he received as well as gave to those who came before our subcommittee was astounding. Chairman MURTHA welcomed me into the group. It is a prestigious group. In my 32 years of public service, there has been none like it.

I honor you, JACK MURTHA, for your wisdom, your courage. It has already been said—and I akin myself to all of my colleagues who have come before me, but the redundancy needs to be said over and over again—that our country has lost a giant. This institution will never be the same. We will strive to carry the torch and passion of JACK MURTHA, those of us on the committee, on the full committee, and in this Congress on both sides of the aisle.

We love you, JACK MURTHA. I pledge to you, as I do my work here in the U.S. House of Representatives, it is because of you and others like you who showed me and helped me to become that defense protege, if you will, who will speak out, who will protect our men and women in uniform and our entire United States of America. So rest in peace, my great warrior.

To his family—to his children and grandchildren—know that you have a friend in all of us. We have adopted you into our family. Let us speak and serve and reach and grow and build a new United States of America as JACK MURTHA has held us to do.

God bless you, JACK. We will never forget you.

[The prepared remarks of Ms. Kilpatrick of Michigan follow:]

Warrior. Statesman. Husband. Father. Legislator. Chairman JOHN P. MURTHA was the epitome of the best of what our Nation's military and this Congress does. As one of the

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seven people in the history of our country selected to chair the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, Chairman MURTHA comes from a family with a long and stellar line of service to our country. Chairman MURTHA's great-grandfather served in the Civil War. His father and three uncles served in World War II. Chairman MURTHA, along with his brothers, served in our Nation's military. Of course, we all know that Chairman MURTHA went in as an enlisted man in the U.S. Marine Corps, serving as a drill sergeant at Parris Island, SC, the home to many of our Marines. In 1966, Chairman MURTHA volunteered for active duty in the Marine Corps, joining his brothers in combat. Chairman MURTHA earned two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star and the Vietnamese Cross for Gallantry in Vietnam. Chairman MURTHA served in the Marine Corps in the Reserves, and retired as a colonel.

Chairman MURTHA, after active duty in Vietnam, became active in politics and was elected to Pennsylvania's House of Representatives. When Chairman MURTHA was elected to Congress in 1974, he was the first Vietnam era combat veteran elected to Congress. Chairman MURTHA was a dedicated and devoted servant to the people of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District. We all know Chairman MURTHA.

What many people do not know is how Chairman JACK MURTHA fought for pay raises for all members of America's military. How Chairman MURTHA demanded accountability from all our Presidents on the number of contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan. What many people do not know is how Chairman MURTHA took a young Member of Congress aside and taught her or him how to get things done. What many people do not know is that Chairman MURTHA was feared, and also respected; Chairman MURTHA was intimidating and also loved. There is a reason that just over my shoulder, on the House floor, a flag hangs in respect, love, and admiration in the seat that Chairman MURTHA called home for more than three decades.

Chairman MURTHA's respect went far beyond the confines of the House Appropriations Committee on Defense. When our Nation's warriors go to fight for us, they deserve nothing but the best in return. That was Chairman MURTHA's goal for the men and women of our Nation's military. Chairman MURTHA, very simply, made things happen. You know what? Most of the things that Chairman MURTHA made happen never made the pages of the newspaper. They were not in a

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sound bite on television or on radio. But each and every Member who walks these Halls know that Congress is a lot emptier and things will not be done as quickly or as well since the loss of Chairman MURTHA. I do not believe that it is an understatement when I say that the reason why our troops in Iraq are coming home today is because Chairman MURTHA, warrior, statesman, and lover of his men and women in combat, said “enough.”

Chairman MURTHA knew defeat and victory. Chairman MURTHA loved the institution of Congress, he loved his family, he loved his Marines, he loved his servicemembers of our Nation’s military, and those individuals who volunteer to put themselves in harm’s way to defend our Constitution. Chairman MURTHA defended our Constitution as a Marine in combat in Vietnam. Chairman MURTHA defended our Constitution as a Member of Congress. Chairman MURTHA will continue to guide the spirits and souls of us all as we work to solve the problems of America. Because that is what Chairman MURTHA did—solve problems.

Chairman JOHN PATRICK MURTHA, rest in peace. To his wife and family, know that we will always honor and cherish his memory, and we thank you for sharing him with us for more than three decades. The heart of a lion that once roamed the Halls of Congress is lost, and I will miss his kind heart, his vivacious spirit, and his intelligence forever.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Thank you very much, Ms. Kilpatrick.

Now we will hear from the gentleman from New York (Mr. Hinchey).

Mr. HINCHEY. Well, thank you very much.

I just want to express my deep sense of sadness for the loss of a very dear friend, someone for whom I had a great deal of respect and admiration. I know that sense is not unique. It is shared and expressed by a great many other people. Of course, the reasons for that are the interactions that he had with so many people. It is the involvement that he had and the way in which he provided leadership and direction for a great many. I knew him for a little more than 17 years but not very closely until the last year and a half or so, and that was because I now serve on the subcommittee that he chaired, the Subcommittee on Defense.

I felt a great sense of admiration for him, for the focus that he had on the work that he had to do and for the way in which he did it so very effectively. I could understand

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why, because that was the simple nature of the man, and it was the kind of thing that he had done all his life.

He served in the military, and was a great exemplary of strength, and honor, and courage, and he had done the same thing during his tenure here in the House of Representatives. He served with strength, and honor, and courage. He did a great many things for the district that he represented, a great many things for Pennsylvania, but also a great many things for many places across this country. I know that he did a great many things in helping me.

So, again, I want to express my deep sense of gratitude for JACK MURTHA, my deep respect for him and this deep, unexpected sadness in his leaving us. I had thought that he would be here for a long time. Nevertheless, we will continue to have the strength that we have had as a result of our interactions with him. We will be much more effective, much more knowledgeable, and there will be a continuation of positive things done here. A lot of those positive things will be as a direct result of the leadership and of the examples set by JACK MURTHA.

Thank you, JACK, for everything that you've done.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Thank you very much, Mr. Hinchey.
Now we will hear from the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for yielding and for allowing me to participate in this tribute to our great friend.

The poet wrote that the lives of great men all remind us that we can make our lives sublime, and departing, leave behind footprints on the sands of time.

JACK MURTHA was a great man, and he, indeed, left indelible footprints. He left footprints on his beloved district in Pennsylvania with all of the projects and all of the things that he did for his constituents there over the 36 years of service he gave.

He left footprints on the Department of Defense and on the men and women who served in our military and their families with all of the care and concern that he put into making sure that they had everything that was needed to carry out their missions and that they got what they needed when they returned home.

He left a footprint on this institution with the leadership and the example that he set for all of us as a bipartisan collegial Representative. To watch the interaction between Mr. MURTHA and Mr. Young and to be able to feel and to see the

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genuine friendship and mutual respect that they had for each other was a lesson every day in the collegiality and the civility that Members of this institution should carry in the traditions of this institution.

JACK MURTHA made and left indelible footprints on the United States of America. He made an impression on all of us, on his family, Joyce, who was a mentor to my wife in the Congressional Club as JACK was a mentor to me in this House. I can remember my very first trip to Murtha's corner, seeking sage advice, and I can remember the last trip on his last day on the floor 1,000 visits later.

JACK made a lasting impression on us. He was a friend. He was a mentor. He was a Member's Member. The world is better because JACK MURTHA was here. This institution and our country are better because JACK MURTHA was here.

Someone said you make your living by what you get; you make your life by what you give. JACK MURTHA indeed made a life and he made our lives better for his service.

Thank you, JACK. Thank you to the Murtha family. Thank you, God, for allowing us to know, love, and share the life of this very exceptional and remarkable man.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield now to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. Holt).

Mr. HOLT. We will miss JACK MURTHA. Strong willed, plain spoken, fearless, dedicated, patriotic, honorable, and remarkably generous with his time, his wisdom, and his advice. We will not see the like of him again.

The descendant of veterans of the American War for Independence and the Civil War, he was the champion of the Marine, the soldier, the sailor, the flyer. And to me personally he was magnanimous.

When the Speaker created the Select Intelligence Oversight Panel as part of the Appropriations Committee and asked me to take the chair, JACK MURTHA embraced the panel and gave it strength, even though it might have appeared to lessen his authority. Of course, nothing ever diminished the authority of JACK MURTHA. He embodied authority. More than magnanimous, he was kind and sharing.

We express our sympathy to the family, friends, and all of those who JACK MURTHA championed who don't know what he did for them and what he did for America. What a loss.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. Pascrell).

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Mr. PASCRELL. We who worked with JACK MURTHA day in and day out really appreciated his deep respect for this institution.

In a time when we see the demise of institutional respect and ritual, he enjoyed the ritual of this House, just as he enjoyed the ritual of serving his country as a Marine. He enjoyed the ritual of marriage. He was honorable, he was devoted, and he was faithful; a faithful brother who served his country and asked nothing in return. Man, that is different in this city.

JACK and I, 7 years ago came together in two different paths in order to respond to our soldiers, our brothers and sisters, our aunts and uncles, our fathers and mothers who were coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan with the signature injury of those two wars: traumatic brain injury. No contusion, no blood, misdiagnosed, never diagnosed. And post-traumatic stress disorder. It was part of my official family. I knew it first hand. And JACK said, "Why don't we bring the civilian research and the military research together?" So we set out. Can you imagine going into a war without having ready how we would help those soldiers coming back? JACK couldn't. And he did something about it.

When you go to Walter Reed Hospital, a hospital that was supposed to be closed, if you remember, 4 years ago, and you see the state of the art, he did not give up on those soldiers, many of whom would be dead if it were not for what he did in getting the resources so that the state-of-the-art treatment for our soldiers would be there.

To his friends on both sides of the aisle, let us remember when JACK would come to the microphone, and it wasn't often, but he came to the microphone during appropriations time, and he would say many times to me, "Billy, watch how quick I'm there and I'll be gone." And you would think the chairman would want to give a dissertation. But he had done his homework. There were no speeches that weren't necessary. He did not mention platitudes. It was honor, duty, and then a nonpretentious exit.

Good friend, you are not gone. We will remember you and we love you.

Mr. KANJORSKI. I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Lipinski).

Mr. LIPINSKI. I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for yielding.

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I know a lot of people have talked about JACK MURTHA as a giant, and I really think that this institution probably will not see another man like JACK MURTHA in many ways.

But I think what stands out most to me and what has come through here is that JACK MURTHA had a heart of gold. He really cared about people. He cared about the men and women in our Armed Forces. He cared about his colleagues. And he cared about his constituents greatly, especially in his hometown of Johnstown, PA.

I didn't get to meet JACK MURTHA until I was elected in 2004, but I feel like I really started to get to know him before that. In 2000 I started dating Judy, who is now my wife, and she is from Johnstown. Her family is still in Johnstown. So I would go to visit Judy's family in Johnstown and I would hear people talk about JACK MURTHA. I would see what JACK MURTHA did for his district. And I knew that his constituents, especially the people of Johnstown, loved JACK MURTHA.

When I was elected, I would often go say hello to JACK over in the Pennsylvania corner, just come over to say hello, and so many times he would give me that smile and he'd tap his colleague next to him on the shoulder and say, "This guy married a gal from Johnstown." And I always felt a very close connection to JACK because of that.

I feel very blessed to have had the opportunity in these 5 years to get to know JACK MURTHA and what he did for Johnstown. I certainly saw people suffer through floods, economic turmoil, and he really cared about the people, and doing all he could for them meant a lot to him.

I will miss JACK and what he meant to so many of us. I think that JACK loved his job because he knew it gave him a great opportunity to do what he really believed, and that is take care of people, to help people out. This job gave him the opportunity to do that, and he did it throughout all of his life. Because of that I will greatly miss JACK MURTHA.

God bless JACK MURTHA, Joyce, and his entire family.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, we have the Speaker who will be arriving and, as I understand it, we have additional Members who will make requests to speak for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker I rise to remember my friend and our dear colleague Congressman JOHN MURTHA.

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I was deeply saddened when I learned of Congressman MURTHA's death. I share the sentiments of my colleagues on the floor today, and my heart goes out to the entire Murtha family for their loss.

The people of Pennsylvania and of this entire country have lost a good and faithful servant with the passing of Congressman JOHN MURTHA.

For nearly half a century, whether it was on the battlefield as a Marine, the Pennsylvania State Legislature or on Capitol Hill, JOHN MURTHA always led with distinction and honor.

As a veteran of the Vietnam war, Congressman MURTHA served this country courageously and was a staunch advocate for our men and women in uniform.

In the House of Representatives he was a true leader, and a man of conviction, who was always willing to share a word of wisdom.

He had the courage to call for a withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq long before it was popular to do so and I will always be grateful for his willingness to take such a difficult stand.

We have lost a friend and colleague, and our country has lost a great public servant and statesman. Congressman JOHN MURTHA will be deeply missed.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Joyce, his daughter Donna, his twin sons Pat and John and his three grandchildren: Jack, Anne and Clayton.

It is our charge to ensure that his memory and legacy lives on, and that we continue his fierce dedication, loyalty, and love for the brave men and women of the Armed Forces.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I and the following members rise in recognition of the late U.S. Representative JOHN MURTHA's lifelong dedication to members of our armed services: Representative Bruce Braley, Representative Tim Walz, Representative Keith Ellison, Representative James Oberstar, Representative Leonard Boswell, Representative David Loebsack, Representative Collin Peterson, and Representative Tom Latham.

Chairman JOHN MURTHA was a passionate legislator and decorated former Marine who never stopped fighting for our men and women in uniform. In 1974, MURTHA, then an officer in the Marine Reserves, became the first Vietnam war combat veteran elected to the House of Representatives. As chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, Congressman MURTHA was a tireless advocate for our

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troops, military families, and our veterans on Capitol Hill. At a time when we are mourning his passing, it is important to recognize Chairman MURTHA's work to ensure that veterans receive support. The undersigned members would like to call attention to the work he did to secure the benefits promised and earned by 22,000 National Guard and Reserve personnel in our States.

In January 2007, the Department of Defense authorized the Post-Deployment Mobilization Respite Absence (PDMRA) Program, which provides additional pay when a soldier deploys more frequently than DOD policy requires. For the 2 years since the authorization of PDMRA, the Pentagon's implementation of the program has been slow and incomplete. As a result, thousands of National Guard and Reserve members who have served multiple and extended tours in Iraq and Afghanistan did not receive the pay to which they are entitled. This problem has affected National Guard and Reserve personnel in every State across the Nation. Members organized to bring attention to this problem and to find a resolution. The undersigned Members have sent letters to the Pentagon, organized events, and met with armed services personnel for years and asked for the chairman's assistance and leadership.

Chairman MURTHA heard our request and took action. He made phone calls directly to Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Army Secretary Pete Geren. He included language to remedy the delay in the fiscal year 2010 defense appropriations bill, and in numerous letters to the Department of Defense since 2007 Congressman MURTHA supported his colleagues in making it clear that further delay in resolving this issue was unacceptable to our members of the armed services. Because of Chairman MURTHA's support, the Department of Defense issued Army policy guidance for cash reimbursements for PDMRA for Reserve and National Guard personnel, which represents a crucial step in finally resolving this issue.

The late Congressman JOHN MURTHA has shown throughout his time in the military and in Congress that he is a dedicated leader on fighting on behalf of military families.

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, JACK MURTHA was a paradox: a big man with an impressive war record who never wavered from his commitment to the wounded, the disadvantaged, and always challenged those who, in his strong opinion, underestimated the economic and human costs of war. He was a politician who constantly spoke his mind, and

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never worried about ruffling feathers. That's rare in today's Washington. JACK reached out to his colleagues—not just those who sat near him in the Pennsylvania corner on the House floor, but to others whom he respected. The people of California's 36th District and I are lucky to have been one of those he looked out for. I remember his visit about a decade ago to the Los Angeles Air Force Base Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC), located in my congressional district. Of course he cared about SMC's mission of development and acquisition of our Nation's defense satellites. He also wanted to know about the people of SMC. He met with the generals and staff about how things were going, and whether funding was on track, but he also took the time to speak at a town-hall-style meeting with the workforce where he thanked them for their service and to check on their well-being. They will miss him. So will I. I hope Joyce and his family are comforted by how big the big man's impact was.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I join with my colleagues in the House to express my deep sadness at the passing of one of the most extraordinary Members to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. JACK MURTHA will be missed as a courageous statesman, a respected colleague, an effective legislator, a dedicated representative of his constituents in Pennsylvania, a true friend to those who wear the uniform of the U.S. armed services, a treasured friend, and most important, as a beloved husband, father, and grandfather.

Many of you served with JACK MURTHA for decades; as a sophomore Member of Congress, I only had the privilege of serving with JACK for a little over 3 years. Despite the fact that he was one of the most senior and powerful Members of our body, JACK was interested in the needs of my district and helped me to secure funding to clean up sites in Hawaii impacted by Department of Defense activities.

Congressman MURTHA's decades of dedicated service in the U.S. Marine Corps and Reserve and his service in Vietnam gave him an appreciation of the sacrifices made by the men and women who serve in the Armed Forces. Nothing was more important to him than the well-being of service-members and their families. And he and his beloved Joyce regularly went to visit the wounded at Walter Reed and other hospitals.

Despite his years of service in the military and his long-time record as an advocate for the military, JACK did not hesitate to speak his conscience. Despite his initial support for the war in Iraq, he became disillusioned with the conduct

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of the war and called for the withdrawal of our troops. This took great courage and, in my view, speaks to the inherent honor of this fine man.

It is still hard to believe that JACK is gone. He had such a dynamic presence that it feels as if he is still here with us—sitting in his corner holding court. In his book, “From Vietnam to 9/11,” JACK wrote, “Ever since I was a young boy, I had two goals in life—I wanted to be a colonel in the Marine Corps and a Member of Congress.” He achieved those goals and so much more.

I send my deepest sympathy to JACK’s partner of 54 years, Joyce Murtha; to his daughter Donna; his sons Pat and John; and his grandchildren. I join all my colleagues in giving thanks for JACK’s life of service and accomplishment. *Mahalo nui loa*, JACK.

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and colleague Congressman JOHN MURTHA of Pennsylvania. It is with a heavy heart that I say goodbye to a friend of more than 30 years.

JACK MURTHA arrived in Washington to serve in this House in 1974, just a few years before I had the honor to join this distinguished body.

JACK MURTHA and I had a lot in common, in our love for the troops and for our country. We didn’t always agree, but you always knew that his heart was in every fight he took on. People listened to his counsel. He had conviction. He inspired respect.

The kind of respect that JACK MURTHA had in this House doesn’t come automatically. No one has it when they take the oath of office for the first time. It has to be earned.

JACK MURTHA was no nonsense. Like President Truman, he didn’t suffer fools. You knew where he stood, and if you were lucky, you had him in your corner. He was a fighter, for his country and for the people of Pennsylvania.

JACK MURTHA was a leader. He loved our country. He loved the men and women of the Armed Forces, and especially the U.S. Marine Corps, of which he wore the uniform and served with great distinction.

He also loved the Congress, and understood its indispensable role as a coequal branch of our Federal Government. Anyone watching the House floor could see his leadership in action, as he held court with other Members in the back corner. A master legislator, he built relationships, mentored other Members, and conducted the business that runs this institution and plays a big part in running this country.

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With the passing of JACK MURTHA, we have lost one of the giants of the House. I salute his dedicated service to our country—as a Marine, as a businessman and community leader, and as a Member of Congress.

JACK MURTHA will be deeply missed. My condolences go to his wife Joyce, his children Donna, Pat, and John, and also to the people of Pennsylvania he cared about so much and represented so well.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, first, let me thank Congressman Kanjorski for reserving this special order today to honor the life, legacy, and service of our friend and colleague JOHN MURTHA.

Our Nation has lost a gifted lawmaker, a devoted public servant and a true patriot. In 1974, JACK became the first Vietnam war combat veteran elected to Congress. His spirit emboldened and his resolve hardened by his service on the battlefield, he became a tireless advocate for the people of Pennsylvania and all Americans.

We all know so well that he never lost his courage and his dedication to our Nation's security, our troops, or their families. Even after his election, he continued to serve in the Marine Corps Reserves until 1990 as a colonel, receiving the Navy's Distinguished Service Medal.

From my first day here, JACK was always a mentor and a friend. When I was first appointed as a cardinal on the Appropriations Committee, JACK was right there with sage advice and a helping hand. His no-nonsense exterior contained a fiery soul and fierce intelligence the equal of which this body has seldom known. Our Nation is surely better for his service to it and a grateful country grieves its loss.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Joyce, their children, and extended family during this time.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, JACK MURTHA and I served together in this institution for over 30 years. We disagreed at times over policy and politics, but I am proud to say that JACK was my friend.

Throughout my time in Congress, I have never seen a more valiant defender of the men and women of our Armed Forces than JACK, nor a more steadfast advocate for our country's unequalled national defense.

Years ago, when I was convinced that we should push forward quickly with development of the Predator UAV, JACK listened to my reasons and helped me push through the

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funding that has produced one of our most valuable weapons in the war on terror.

When I became chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, I counted on JACK MURTHA to be a partner rather than an adversary when the welfare of our military was on the line. When we urged that the F-22 Program be reined in to ensure it was thoroughly tested, JACK was by my side and helped win the day and make that a better airplane.

Just weeks ago, JACK and I traveled together to Afghanistan. We were under tight timelines that were influenced by the situation on the ground. Although the travel was hard and the schedule was arduous, JACK maintained the energy and dedication of a man half his age. His unwavering purpose was to learn as much as he could, gain as much insight from our commanders as possible, and see for himself the challenges our country faces in that region.

He was a true patriot, and his passing is a cause for great sadness. This Congress will be a much lesser place without him.

My wife Arlene and I offer our most sincere condolences to his family, and also to his second family—his congressional staff and the members and staff of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a dear friend and colleague, loving father and grandfather, and a true American patriot, Representative JOHN MURTHA.

JOHN served proudly when called to action in the Vietnam war, and his valor was recognized with the Bronze Star, and not one, but two Purple Heart awards.

In all, JOHN spent an astounding 37 years of his life in active and reserve duty service in the Marine Corps.

In 1974, JOHN heeded another call to duty, and began a life of public service here in the House of Representatives.

JOHN served his constituents in Western Pennsylvania for an impressive 19 terms.

In Congress, he was respected for his political prowess—and his tireless passion to support America's men and women serving in uniform.

JOHN MURTHA was a man who measured our Nation's strength not only by military might, but also in the well-being of our people; and I am proud to have served with him in this body.

The thoughts and prayers of my wife Barbara and I go out to Joyce and all of JOHN's family during this difficult time.

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Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Congressman JOHN MURTHA, who passed away on February 8, 2010. Representative MURTHA was an exemplary leader and an American patriot.

Born into an Irish-American family, JOHN left college in 1952 to join the Marine Corps. Here he would begin his course in leadership, becoming a Marine Corps drill instructor. His military career not only led him to receive a degree from the University of Pittsburgh, but also placed him on the front lines of service in the Vietnam war. During this time, he was awarded the Bronze Star with Valor device, two Purple Hearts, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

In 1974 JOHN was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and had an extraordinary 36-year career, obtaining the distinction of Pennsylvania's longest serving Congressman 2 days before he passed. A fiercely independent-minded public servant, JOHN strived for bipartisan solutions to our Nation's struggles. He had no fear of partisan attacks and as the chairman of the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee he courageously spoke out against the Iraq war. His fearless calls for the withdrawal of American forces in Iraq, in the face of strong partisan confrontations, earned him the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award.

I thank JOHN for his service to our Nation. I extend my deepest sympathies to JOHN's wife Joyce, his children Donna Sue, John, and Patrick, and his grandchildren in this difficult time. JOHN was a tremendous public servant who exemplified the spirit of America. He will be greatly missed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. Halvorson). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. Farr) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FARR. I live in Carmel, CA, and when the phone rang and I heard that JACK MURTHA had died, I couldn't believe it. I broke into tears. I just couldn't believe it. It was like when I heard my father had died. What I did at that moment was the same thing I did when my dad died. I sat down and I wrote a letter to JACK MURTHA. Here it is:

Dear JACK, I can't believe you're gone. Gone from the Pennsylvania corner, from your chair where we would all come to see you; each checking in during floor sessions on your opinion on military issues and Pennsylvania politics. And we talked about our issues, about base closure progress, about programs that were working and programs that had problems. Always thanking you for your help. Thanking you for your earmarks. I'll never forget what you did with your earmark for breast cancer research, for child care centers at military bases, for military education. More than anything

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else, you were concerned about the welfare of our troops and especially their families.

Remember when you got me to go to Walter Reed Hospital and Bethesda Naval Hospital to visit the war wounded and how we worked to get golf carts for disabled soldiers by insisting that each of the 177 golf courses operated by the services have carts for the disabled?

You always asked me, "How is that university that we got at Fort Ord doing?" I thanked you for the help in getting the \$65 million to get it started. JACK, Cal State University Monterey Bay is doing really well, with ever-growing enrollment and faculty. You can be proud of the role you played in converting swords to ploughshares.

You got really excited when I showed you what I had done to bring all the military missions in Monterey County together to form Team Monterey, showing the brochure indicating that over \$1 billion was spent in Monterey County for the DOD efforts there. You were going to see if this team effort could be done for your district and for the State of Pennsylvania.

JACK, you were quite the Zeus. Everyone came to you, loved you, loved your good nature, your loyalty, your friendship, your laugh, and your wisdom. Remember how you would bet on how long the debate would take on the defense appropriations bills? You always won. I was shocked that the biggest appropriations account in the Federal Government could be enacted with the shortest debate. You laughed and said, "All the problems were worked out in committee, we don't need floor debate." At first I thought it was a fluke. But over the years, I learned you made it so.

JACK, thanks for coming out to the Monterey Peninsula to visit the Naval Postgraduate School and the Defense Language Institute. You were a good listener, and always insisted no PowerPoints, no BS, just the problems. No one in Congress cuts to the issue faster than you.

I remember your delight in hearing from an IED specialist just back from Iraq who asked you, "Why don't we figure out what makes cultures set these things off in the first place?" You loved that thinking. Thanks again for allowing me to ride back to Washington, DC, on Mil Air. We brought Paul Stockton along and had a wonderful discussion on Iraq and how we might exit. By the way, JACK, Paul is now the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and America's Security Affairs. I know how much you respected his insight.

Thanks, JACK, for always asking me for copies of photos I took, not of you, but of your staff. I remember the photo of John Hugya when he was your district director taken with President Clinton. You insisted I give it to you for him. Remember the time you hung up on a President when he called you? You had guts.

I remember going to your district and being in a meeting with the area economic development folks. You were giving them the Washington update. It was cold and wet, but full of people. I admired how devoted they were to you. And I took pictures, which you wanted to pass on to them. Seeing the countryside and the poverty of the area made me realize how lucky I was to represent my district. You really helped people in need. That is why you are loved in your district and here on the floor of the House of Representatives.

The House Chamber has a lot of famous fixtures and paintings, statues, reliefs, but you are going to stand out as one of our greats. You showed your profile in courage in taking a nationally profiled lead against the war in Iraq that you originally supported. And you were attacked by everyone except the military. They knew that you knew it couldn't be sustained.

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When they attacked you with big campaign expenditures to defeat you, your friends responded without even being asked. The word was out JACK was in trouble, and we responded.

JACK, you shouldn't have died. It is a real shock, not only to you, your friends, and this institution, but to your beloved family. You and Joyce had such a special partnership.

I loved accompanying you both on the Appropriations Committee CODEL to California's National Parks, the joy you got in seeing how a former army base in San Francisco could be turned into the Golden Gate National Park, and even Alcatraz is now a tourist site. You loved being a tourist in San Francisco and Joyce was so appreciative of Nancy Pelosi's hospitality long before she sought leadership roles.

While the Democratic Caucus was visiting Nemaocolin Resort in your State you encouraged me to visit the two Frank Lloyd Wright homes there. Joyce led the tour. She was a model host and a good friend to all. I can't imagine her life without you, nor yours without her. This has to be as hard for your children as it was for me in losing my mom at an early age. Time heals—unfortunately it is going to take a long time.

Congress will miss you as a great Member and, more importantly, as a caring, sensitive friend. We will try to fill in, but the credibility will be lacking and the outcome less successful.

Just know you made a difference, a big difference—out here on the Central Coast of California—you helped launch a new university, upgrade the Naval Postgraduate School, and provided the programs that let our students learn foreign languages faster and better.

You were the Captain of our ship, and Oh Captain, you will be sorely missed!

I'd like to include the letters from the Naval Postgraduate School and the Defense Manpower Data Center in Monterey in sympathy.

NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL,
Monterey, CA.

Congressman MURTHA was a true servant to the public, a throwback with few peers matching his length of service to the U.S. House of Representatives. Service to his nation was perhaps a constant throughout his life—not only is he one of our nation's longest serving representatives, he was also a retired Marine Corps colonel, joining the service in 1952 during the Korean war out of a deep sense of obligation to his country.

Congressman MURTHA also served as Chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee—and was the ranking Democrat on the committee for nearly two decades—which put him in a position to impact so many communities far beyond Pennsylvania's 12th District.

That impact was felt here at the Naval Postgraduate School, where he was a friend to NPS. He believed in the value of graduate education for military officers and was consistently and particularly supportive of NPS over the years. Congressman MURTHA recognized the value of the NPS MISSION in supporting our military forces and NPS unique contributions to national security.

LEONARD A. FERRARI,
Executive Vice President and Provost.



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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITY,
DEFENSE MANPOWER DATA CENTER,
Seaside, CA.

Chairman MURTHA was a great American and a steadfast friend of the members of the Armed Forces and their families. He exemplified the best of our Nation's values and was the iconic example of a patriot. As a decorated veteran he identified closely with Service members and his tireless efforts to see that they were adequately compensated, well-trained, well-led and provided with the best equipment were legendary. As a direct result of his four decades of leadership in the Congress our ability to support and defend our Nation remains unsurpassed. His unwavering support for Defense organizations in the Monterey area was of enormous value to the Nation.

Every American owes him a great, great debt.

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues to sing the praises of a great man, JACK MURTHA. Many of us had the honor of calling him colleague in this Chamber, and some of us here had the privilege of calling him friend. And when he was your friend, you had a true friend.

Last week, many of us traveled to Johnstown, PA, to see JACK put to rest. It was wonderful to hear the stories of the thousands of people who showed up to pay their last respects to him in Johnstown, the people he knew so well, cared about so much, fought for in this Chamber. His family was gathered and surrounded by their loved ones and guests. The former President of the United States, Bill Clinton, was there, the Secretary of Defense was there, the chairman of the National Security Council was there, representatives of the President's Cabinet, and planeloads of his colleagues who came from Washington or drove from home.

At that time we laughed and we cried, and we tried to understand why this had happened. JACK's wife Joyce, who is very strong, said to me, "JACK would have wanted it this way. He went out at the top of his game." Joyce is very strong. We went there to console, and we came back consoled by JACK's strong family.

I told them in my remarks about JACK holding court in the Pennsylvania corner in this Chamber. There isn't another corner that I know of that has its own name and its own presiding officer. But JACK held court there, and Members from across the country and across the aisle came to visit him, to ask his blessing on their endeavors, and to just be encouraged, and sometimes supported by him. The cluster around him were Pennsylvanians and others, but he was never alone. He was a magnet, a personal magnet. People were

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drawn to him. He had this wonderful smile and cheerful, twinkling eyes.

To see him operate in the Appropriations Committee, many of us served there, was to see a master at work. But really to understand his character, it was more important to see him with our troops, whether it was just off the battlefield or in a military hospital, Bethesda Naval Medical Center, Walter Reed, Germany, Afghanistan, Iraq, in the hospitals where our troops were taken.

From his own military experience, he would ask them questions very knowledgeably about their unit and what they had encountered and what they had seen. And they all loved seeing him. They knew he was their friend. And so to visit, on the occasions when I had the privilege of visiting with JACK MURTHA, was to receive a special welcome from the troops and their families.

One time I remember in particular, we were visiting this young man, it was a second visit, and he managed somehow, when he knew JACK was coming, to get out of his bed. And as we went in the door, there he was standing at attention saluting JACK MURTHA in a Steelers jersey. Pennsylvania, how he loved that State, how he worked for it, how we will miss him here.

He had a special way about him, as I have said, by dint of his knowledge, his courage. Imagine the courage it took for JACK MURTHA to come to our caucus, to come to the Leader's office and tell me that day, "We have to begin removing our troops from Iraq." He went alone to the press to tell them that. It was like an earthquake in terms of opinion. People who had questions about the war felt validated. People who respected JACK began to question.

One thing was for sure. He was respected by the military. And when he spoke, they knew it was with no agenda except the national security of our country and the safety of our men and women in uniform.

Force protection. He was always talking about that. When we would travel to the war zones, whether it was the seats in the trucks, or the better radios, or whatever, up-armored cars, body armor, you name it, as soon as he saw the need he came back and delivered. So when he did speak out against the war in Iraq, it was really quite a stunning thing for our country. I think it was really historic. It wasn't just that episode, it was that event of national significance, historic significance.

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He received, as has been mentioned, the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award. Can you imagine for people of our generation, someone to receive the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award? I will never forget that night. The Kennedy Library, he and Joyce, black tie, beautiful Joyce, proud JACK standing tall like a Marine coming down those steps, being cheered by Democrats and Republicans alike. It wasn't about any partisanship. It was about patriotism.

He was a proud Marine, as we all know. *Semper Fi* was their motto. *Semper Fidelis*. Always faithful. And that was the motto of his life, faithful to God, faithful to country, faithful to his family, faithful to his district.

I can't talk about JACK, just one more moment, if I may, Madam Speaker, without talking about the funny stories he always told us about Tip O'Neill. As he mentored so many of us, Tip was his mentor. And he loved Tip O'Neill. And he would tell us the stories of how it was to go to a baseball game with Tip, and this and that and the rest. I won't go into the stories now about peer review, Mr. Obey, and those kinds of appropriations matters. But Tip instilled in him, perhaps he had it innately, but still Tip strengthened in him a pride in this institution that he took very seriously. And he, in mentoring others, passed that pride on to others as well. He loved this Congress, he loved this institution. He left us at the top of his game. We will miss you, JACK MURTHA.

Next week we will gather in Statuary Hall with many more friends who can join in, now as we are on the floor of the House, to once again pay tribute to this man. It is hard to believe he is gone. But as he said, "Soldiers can't speak for themselves. We sent them to war, and, by God, we are the ones that have to speak out."

His wife Joyce wants us to have the music "God Bless America" at the closing of his ceremony next week. God truly blessed America with the life, leadership, and service of JACK MURTHA. I hope it is a comfort to Joyce and to the children and grandchildren, of whom he was so proud, that so many people mourn their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. Rahall) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about principled leadership that makes a difference. That best de-

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scribes the dean of the Pennsylvania delegation and its longest serving member, JACK MURTHA. Yes, JACK MURTHA was a Member's Member. He was a soldier's soldier. Always straight shooting, courageous, willing to defend this institution and all of us that work herein.

During my 33 years of service in this body and with JACK MURTHA, very few individuals would I turn to for advice and counsel like I would JACK MURTHA. Like so many of my colleagues, I have traveled to troubled spots in this world with JACK MURTHA. I have read and learned from him not only on these hard-working, hard-hitting CODELS, but also from his book, "From Vietnam to 9/11." Words of wisdom for all of us here today and for the future.

Many of my strongest memories of JACK MURTHA are from our congressional travels together. We traveled to Lebanon in fall 1982, following the deployment of U.S. forces as peacekeepers to that country. We stayed in the very same Marine barracks that 6 months later were blown to smithereens.

During our trip in June 1987 to Angola, it was Chairman MURTHA who was successful in securing the release of a downed U.S. pilot from his congressional district. Later, in August of that same year, we traveled to the Persian Gulf during the U.S. reflagging operation of Kuwaiti ships. A few years later, in January 1993, we traveled on an inspection trip to Somalia, following President George Herbert Walker Bush's December 1992 dispatch of our U.S. troops there in order to establish order and ensure the success of our humanitarian relief efforts.

The bottom line in all of these travels, of course, as so many of my colleagues can attest, is that around this world our servicemen and women knew the true character of JACK MURTHA.

They knew the backbone of JACK MURTHA, a veteran, a dedicated public servant, an individual who was never too busy or too selfish to take time to regularly visit our military installations, our military hospitals, to visit our brave, wounded service personnel.

From Chairman MURTHA's station atop our Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, our soldiers knew they were secure in the knowledge that their sacrifices and their dedications were in the best hands in the U.S. Congress.

I will miss you, JACK. I will miss our true leader. I will miss your courage and your dedication. Our courageous American troops will miss you, JACK MURTHA. Our veterans will miss you, and all of America will miss you.

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Your family, Joyce, and your children and your grandchildren, to them I extend my thoughts and prayers and know that the memories of JACK MURTHA will always instill in his family the inspiration, the pride, the strength, and the love that will enable them to carry on the brave torch of JACK MURTHA.

God bless you, friend.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Moran) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. I want to make note, Madam Speaker, of the fact that the Speaker of the House is here and the chairman of the Appropriations Committee has been here throughout the entire time of this tribute, out of respect. That's old school. JACK was old school. That's what would matter to him. You'd never see him with a BlackBerry. Can you imagine JACK MURTHA with a BlackBerry? I am sure he's never used the Internet once in his life.

You know, when we learned of JACK's passing, Norm Dicks and I were on the phone and, between sobs, we, at the same time, we blurted out the same thing: "He was like a father to me." He kind of was. He sort of taught us in his own ways, really, by his conduct, the way we should conduct ourselves in this institution. That's why he is here. He's here. He's left his mark on each one of us individually and collectively. He's done so much to shape this institution.

Family comes first. He would call his daughter, Donna, who's a teacher in Fairfax County schools, every night. Regardless of all the issues he was dealing with with Iraq and Afghanistan and so on, he'd want to know how her kids were doing in class.

And, of course, he adored Joyce. Joyce was the queen. Of course, Joyce would sometimes acknowledge that "I know I have to share him with you, Nancy, as Speaker," but he had that kind of reverence that was so important to this institution for leadership and for individuals.

And he also knew how to be a friend. Everyone who walked up to that corner, he welcomed. He knew their name. He made them feel welcome. If they had a letter that they wanted him to read, a little note or something, he'd take the time and read it. He'd say, "Come on, sit down beside me."

He also was strong enough that he could afford to be gentle. We know how he reached out to all of the soldiers, the men and women in uniform, really cared about them.

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He'd go over to Walter Reed. He would go and stand with them, hold their hand at times.

He also did other things that if I didn't mention it, I doubt that anyone would know, and some people will think they seem a little silly perhaps.

Charlie Horner knows, his longtime aide. He heard that Army Navy Country Club had a problem with the cats, that they had proliferated. They were all over the place. And so they decided, we've got too many cats; we're going to kill them all. JACK found that out. It's true, isn't it? He called a general and he said, "Don't you go killing any of those kitty cats at Army Navy Country Club." And he didn't. They didn't. They all survived.

I just want to share an experience about 9/11. We were debating whether to put money into missile defense or into counterterrorism because Richard Clarke had told us that's the real threat. So on the morning of 9/11 we were debating it, and JACK had decided the real threat was counterterrorism. And then Norm had seen the television and the planes going into the World Trade Center, and we could hear this herd of people running down the corridor outside. The Capitol vacated immediately. But there wasn't a sign of anxiety, let alone fear, on JACK's face. I walked out with him.

We stood there in the driveway and all the police were trying to clear everyone. JACK didn't feel any need to move, and he told me this story. He said, "Jerry, when I was in Vietnam, I was in a foxhole and we were taking fire. And a young private jumped in the foxhole. There was only room for one person, so I had to get out. And I ran into the line of fire looking for a foxhole and found one. A few minutes later, a grenade landed in that foxhole I had been in, blew the soldier up." Now, this is the soldier, of course, who forced him into the line of fire. And JACK said, "I have always felt so bad for that young soldier. I wish I had stayed there and not seen him blown up."

That was the kind of guy he was. He was bigger than life, but his life was really about other people and about this institution and this country.

So JACK, thank you for being who you were and who you are to this institution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. Kaptur) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, man of the House. The passing from this life of legendary Pennsylvania Congressman and Defense Appropriations Chairman and Marine Colonel JOHN P. “JACK” MURTHA truly represents a seismic shift in this Congress and in our Nation’s history. His acumen, brass-tacks style, and man-of-his-word reputation are so rare.

As the longest serving woman in the current U.S. House, I came to know JACK MURTHA well, serving with him for 28 years. In early February, he became the longest serving member of the Pennsylvania delegation in U.S. history.

No one had his grasp of our Nation’s defense or his dexterity at ushering the complicated defense appropriations bill, the largest in Congress, with nearly unanimous bipartisan support.

JACK put the soldier first. Each branch of the service, plus the Guard and Reserve, owe JACK great gratitude. He was indefatigable in their cause. JACK MURTHA respected the awesome power of the U.S. military, but he also knew its limits.

I have never served in this Congress when JACK MURTHA wasn’t here. Properly, a U.S. flag flown over this Capitol has been placed on his chair in the Pennsylvania corner where he anchored his work on the floor of this House that he loved. His knowledge, leadership, measure, and tutelage remain timeless gifts to those who shared his path.

As the first Democratic woman to serve on the Defense Subcommittee of Appropriations, I can attest, it never would have happened but for his support and encouragement. For his faith in me, I shall always be in his debt as I try to emulate his acuity, his range, and his concern.

We, his subcommittee colleagues, who had the privilege of serving most closely with this giant of a man shall miss him greatly.

When my constituents ask me to describe him, here’s what I try to say in his cadence: Man of the House. Marine. Chairman. Colonel. Dean. Authentic. Patriotic. *Semper Fi*. Fearless. Keen. Optimistic. Jovial. With an unforgettable glint in his eyes. Alive. Devoted husband to Joyce, and proud and caring father and grandfather.

To his family, we send our deepest sympathy and our abiding prayers and friendship.

Son of Johnstown. Rough-hewn. Battle tested. Two Purple Hearts. A Bronze Star. Not blow dried nor cosmetic. Fiercely loyal to his district and Pennsylvania. In command. Extraor-

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dinarily hard working. Kept Marine hours, rising early, arriving early. Always building others. Trusted. Never gave a word he would break. If he said, “I’ll talk to you about it later,” the subject was closed before you knew it. Acute judge of character. Revered counselor to dozens and dozens and dozens of Members and friends. In few golden but choice words, he advised, critiqued, led.

Don’t mess with him. Absolutely loved politics. A ticketmaker and analyzer. Lots of real friends. Some really cruel enemies. Always had a good word. An author. Well traveled, too, often to war zones. Visited the wounded and bore that pain close to his heart.

New ideas and insights captivated him. Razor-sharp mind. Don’t tangle with him unless you know your subject. Memory that could recall votes 10 years ago, and who voted which way. Master of the rules. Wielded the gavel with authority and certitude. Attentive to the floor at all times, even when you thought he wasn’t paying attention. Possessed all the attributes to be Speaker, except he came from the working class of people and didn’t hail from a financial or government enclave.

Madam Speaker, he instinctively knew how to build a majority. He had lived war, and his heart was always with the soldier.

A giant tree has fallen in the forest. A lion is now at rest. How fortunate we are to cherish his friendship and service. America’s defense is the best in the world because Chairman JACK MURTHA lived to leave that legacy.

[The prepared remarks of Ms. Kaptur follow:]

The passing from this life of legendary Pennsylvania Congressman and Defense Appropriations Chairman and Marine Colonel JOHN P. “JACK” MURTHA truly represents a seismic shift in our Nation’s history. His acumen, brass-tacks style and man-of-his-word reputation are so rare.

As the longest serving woman in the current U.S. House of Representatives, I came to know JACK MURTHA well, serving with him 28 years. In early February he became the longest serving Congressman in Pennsylvania history. He took it upon himself to guide young Members of Congress, particularly if their districts mimicked the hardscrabble nature of his own.

As representative of the Ninth Congressional District of Ohio, which extends along the Lake Erie shoreline from Toledo almost to Cleveland, I had invited JACK to our job-chal-

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lenged region many times. In fact, he was scheduled to open the national rifle matches at Camp Perry this spring.

JACK MURTHA was legendary. He never forgot where he came from. He tirelessly served his district and his constituents. He grew to serve our Nation and his reach was global. No one had his grasp of our Nation's defense or his dexterity at ushering the complicated defense appropriations bill, the largest in Congress, with nearly unanimous bipartisan support.

JACK put the soldier first. His unheralded visits to military hospitals to visit the sick and wounded were not designed as photo ops but as heartfelt expressions of appreciation for those who served on the front lines and sacrificed for us. Every soldier knew he understood.

Each branch of the service, plus the Reserve and National Guard, owes JACK MURTHA a debt of gratitude. He was indefatigable in their cause. In Toledo, our 180th F-16 Fighter Wing is genuinely the best in the world. Why? Because JACK MURTHA helped to build its capability. I daresay he attended to all 435 congressional districts with the same diligence.

Our Guard and Reserve units were modernized with improved pay and benefits because he knew their importance: he advised America cannot conduct successful operations without them. America's blood supply is more robust and deliverable because he fought for it. New weapons, materiel, and technologies are under way in every service branch because JACK knew that some generals tend to fight the last war, so he purposely worked in the future.

JACK MURTHA respected the awesome power of the U.S. military, but he also knew its limits.

I have never served in Congress when JACK MURTHA wasn't here. Properly, a U.S. flag has been placed on his chair in the Pennsylvania corner, where he anchored his work on the floor of the House of Representatives and will remain unoccupied by those who held him in esteem. His knowledge, leadership, measure, and tutelage remain timeless gifts to those who shared his path.

As the first Democratic woman to serve on the Defense Subcommittee of Appropriations, I can attest it would never have happened but for his support and encouragement. For his faith in me, I shall always be in his debt as I try to emulate his acuity, range and concern.

We, his subcommittee colleagues, who had the privilege of serving most closely with this giant of a man, shall miss him greatly.

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When my constituents ask me to describe him, here is what I say in his cadence: JACK. Authentic. Patriotic. Man of the House. Marine. Chairman. Colonel. Dean. *Semper Fi*. Fearless. Keen. Optimistic. Jovial. With an unforgettable glint in his eyes. Alive. Devoted husband to Joyce and proud and caring father and grandfather. Son of Johnstown. Rough-hewn. Battle tested. Two Purple Hearts. A Bronze Star. Not blow dried nor cosmetic. Fiercely loyal to his district and Pennsylvania. In command. Extraordinarily hard working. Kept Marine hours, rising early, arriving early. Always building others. Trusted. Never gave a word he would break. If he said, "I'll talk to you about it later," the subject was closed before you knew it. Acute judge of character. Revered counselor to dozens and dozens of Members and friends. In few golden but choice words, he advised, critiqued, led. Defended his subcommittee's prerogatives.

Don't mess with him. Absolutely loved politics. A ticketmaker and analyzer. Lots of real friends. Some really cruel enemies. Always had a good word. Liked bright colors on others. Extraordinarily gifted. Well read. An author. Well traveled too, often to war zones. Visited the wounded and bore that pain close to his heart.

Quite curious. New ideas and insights captivated him. Capable of independent views. Razor-sharp mind. Don't tangle with him unless you know your subject. Memory that could recall votes from 10 years ago, and who voted which way. Master of the rules. Wielded the gavel with authority and certitude. Attentive to the floor at all times even when you thought he wasn't paying attention. A coach. Possessed all the attributes to be Speaker, except he came from the working class of people and didn't hail from a financial or government enclave.

Not a trust fund baby nor into the cocktail circuit. Self-made. Fair. Precise. Garrulous. Politically savvy. Strong. Unflinching. Always humorous, throwing his head back with a sincere laugh, and "is that so?" A brusque manner that didn't suffer fools gladly. Regularly reached across the aisle. Consistently passed his bills with nearly unanimous support. He instinctively knew how to build a majority.

Lived war. Heart always with the soldier. Loyal disciple of Speaker Tip O'Neill and the common man. Soul buddies with twinkles in their eyes. Cussing occasionally. But a good word always. A giant tree has fallen in the forest. A lion is now at rest. How fortunate are we who cherish his friendship and service. We loved him and will deeply miss him. America's

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defense is the best in the world because Chairman JACK MURTHA lived to leave that legacy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. Lowey) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of our dear friend and colleague, Chairman JACK MURTHA. JACK was truly an all-American, a committed public servant, decorated veteran of war, small businessman, devoted husband and father and grandfather.

Many have recalled tonight and in recent weeks his service on the front lines of combat. His experience in the military made him a lifelong advocate for our men and women in uniform and a compass for this body when it came to making some of the toughest issues we face, those related to the defense of the United States.

JACK MURTHA exercised his power to protect the country he loved, taking seriously the trust of his constituents and his responsibility to the American people.

I learned so much from JACK MURTHA. I witnessed first hand and benefited from his expertise on military strategy, intelligence, and foreign policy. His compassion and commitment to do what was right were equally impressive. On his broad shoulders, he carried a great burden to not only provide for our troops and their security but to ensure that we have made this world a better place, a safer place, including for innocent civilians in war zones and vulnerable societies around the world. With a heavy heart he regularly gave his time to lift the spirits of men and women recovering from injuries in battles, sharing with them the appreciation of a grateful Nation.

Finally, I would like to note his dedication to a goal we shared: Alleviating cancer, especially those unique to women. He not only worked to help adapt military technology to aid in the treatment of cancer, he and his loving wife, Joyce, have supported initiatives to directly support breast cancer patients and survivors.

JACK was a giant among men. He was tough, he was smart, he was committed to this great institution. His lifelong service to our country will be missed.

Rest in peace, my dear friend.

I will miss him.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. Rothman) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I've been in Congress 14 years.

A lot of people don't know about the quality of some of the people who are here in the Congress. A lot of people in this country find it funny to ridicule elected officials in general—Members of Congress in particular.

I am going to talk to you about a great American, a great human being. But there are many others like him, in a sense, with the patriotism and grace and greatness that he possessed.

Grace, generosity, and greatness: JACK MURTHA. This was my 4th year serving on Mr. MURTHA's Defense Subcommittee, and I was wondering how this giant of a man—physical giant, powerful, legislatively powerful man, would accept this guy from Jersey on his subcommittee. But he had such grace. He welcomed me with great civility and gentility. He was tough. He was so generous to me. He was generous to everyone on the committee.

He believed in bipartisanship absolutely, completely and totally, especially when it came to the security of our beloved country, the United States of America. So he took the best ideas from wherever they came—Democrat, Republican, liberal, or conservative. He just wanted what was best for America.

To talk about generosity, he even let me, a New Jersey guy, into the Pennsylvania corner. I was tickled by it. I was honored. For most of my years here when I was not on his subcommittee, I would see him over there in his corner, and I would see the people flocking around him from Pennsylvania and elsewhere, coming as if truly just to get an audience with a great man, a great human being, to get advice, to get direction, to get support. He always made you feel as if he was interested in your point of view.

He asked me what books I read. When I told him, he said, "I want to read that book," and he did. He made you feel like you were making a contribution.

The greatness of JACK MURTHA—aside from being a great husband and father and war hero and devoted representative of the people of Johnstown and his congressional district—part of his greatness was his expectations about what it meant to be an American, someone committed to equal jus-

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tice, equal opportunity, and integrity. His integrity was unquestioned and unquestionable.

I just hope that we remember, Madam Speaker, when we think of this great, gracious, generous, gentle giant, JACK MURTHA, we remember not only his expectations for himself, but we remember his expectations for each of us. He had expectations with regard to his staff, his committee members, all of his colleagues of the House—that we behave as true American patriots and leave America stronger, freer, more just, and a greater Nation, as great as he believed America to be. He demanded greatness from all of us and that we pass on that legacy for our country, our fellow countrymen and women, for generations to come.

Thank you, Mr. MURTHA, for all you have done for us, and we hope to repay all that you have done for us by giving back to our country and creating the kind of country that you fought so hard to make.

We will never forget you, sir. Thank you. God bless you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. Braley) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, some people may wonder why I am standing here tonight, because almost everyone who's spoken before me knew JACK MURTHA longer and better than I did.

But one of the things that I want to share with everyone who cares about JACK is my first meeting in his office, because JACK came to the door and greeted me, and as we were walking in, I looked up on the wall of his office and I saw that famous photograph that Joe Rosenthal took of the flag-raising on Iwo Jima, and it was signed by Joe Rosenthal. I stopped the chairman, and I pointed out to him that my father landed at Iwo Jima the same days that those flags were raised. And in that instant, JACK MURTHA became my friend for life.

We talked about the photograph, and I showed him that over the shoulder of those Marines on Mount Suribachi, you could see down on the shoreline on Green Beach LST-808, which was the landing ship tank that dropped my dad off on Iwo Jima 65 years ago yesterday.

After that moment, any time I had a question or a concern or a problem that affected the men and women in my district or my State that served this country in uniform, I knew where to go, and I went to JACK MURTHA.

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One of the amazing things about how all of this unfolded is JACK and I had talked about this year being the 65th anniversary of the invasion of Iwo Jima, and we talked about going there together. Unfortunately, because of his tragic loss of life, we never had that opportunity.

I think about that because my dad died 29 years ago, and so many things about him were like JACK. He landed as an 18-year-old farm boy from Iowa, and he saw horrible things in the war. Like JACK, he saw one of his good friends vaporized by a shell burst, and I have read the story of that account by the commanding officer of the core artillery that my dad served under, Colonel John Letcher.

One of the things that I did recently was I got a chance to tape the veteran's history interview of my cousin, Richard Braley, who, like my dad, was a Marine and served in Vietnam as an officer, just like JACK MURTHA. And one of the things that is so special about people like my dad and my cousin and JACK MURTHA is you never forget and you're always faithful.

So when my dad died 29 years ago, one of the most emotional things that happened was when my cousin flew all the way back from Hawaii so that someone would be at that small rural cemetery where he was buried to play "Taps," and he played it on his trumpet. And then he came up to me at the very end with tears in his eyes, and he said, "I wonder if you could help. I brought this with me and I would like to put it in the casket." And I looked down and in his hand he had a small silver medallion with the words "*Semper Fidelis*" on it.

And when I heard these stories about JACK MURTHA all afternoon long, one of the other things it reminded me of was how mad my mother used to get when my dad would stop and pick up hitchhikers, because she didn't think it was safe for him to be doing that. And I think my dad and JACK MURTHA realized after the hell that they had lived through on the battlefield, that the rest of their lives was gravy.

And as I was listening here to all of these amazing stories about JACK, I was thinking to myself, I wish my father had lived to meet JACK.

And then it suddenly dawned on me that he probably has.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. Edwards) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my condolences to the family of JACK MURTHA and to pay tribute to him. As a relatively new Member of this body, I knew JACK MURTHA only briefly, but I am so grateful even for that.

One day very early in my tenure here in Congress, I needed some guidance on a military issue, and everyone told me I needed to speak directly with Mr. MURTHA. I have to admit I was just a little bit intimidated. It wasn't just his size and the boom of his voice and his upright carriage, but I knew he knew stuff and that he could guide me. To my great surprise, Mr. MURTHA was wonderful to me. His advice was sage, his generosity was unlimited, his inquiry was precise, and his kindness and gentleness were truly genuine. And from that moment forward, I am honored to have been guided by his good counsel.

I can still see on occasion when I sit in the Speaker's chair a twinkle from his eye, and when it got a little rough, a little bit of a nod from that back corner.

On a personal note, JACK MURTHA remembered that I grew up in a military family, and he asked me about my father's and my brother's service and my experiences growing up. And I talked to him about being a candy striper and reading to our servicemen and women at veterans' hospitals.

I know that he cared deeply about our servicemembers and about their families and about the special obligation that we owe to them. He understood more than so many the call to service and the importance for political leaders to carry that at the forefront of all of our decisions on questions of war and peace. And his passion was so evident. And I know that my family and all of our servicemembers and their family members are so much better off because of JACK MURTHA's service in this body, his service to our Nation, his commitment to them and to their service.

And so I am really grateful, JACK, to have even had just a moment in time with you, and I only hope that in my service here in the U.S. Congress, I can carry myself forward with the kind of honor and duty and courage with which you served.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. Jones) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, my heart ached so much last week when I heard that the chairman, and that's what

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I called JACK MURTHA, Mr. Chairman, that he had passed on. My father served in the Congress for 26 years. I have been here for 15 years. So that means for 41 years JACK MURTHA, Mr. Chairman, has been part of our life, of the Walter Jones family.

I wanted to come to the floor tonight because I could not go to bed knowing that this tribute would be held to honor a great man. I have the privilege of having Camp Lejeune Marine Base and Cherry Point Marine Air Station in the Third District of North Carolina. To the chairman, the Marines were a part of his heart, because he was a Marine.

The many times that I would go to that corner that so many people have made reference to, and I would stand in line because I am a Republican, and that didn't matter to him. What mattered to him was that I was a person, like the chairman, who cared. As has been said many times before me tonight, it didn't matter which party you were in. What was good for America, what was good for the military, that's what he stood for.

I would stand and wait my time, and he would say, "Walter, what do you need?" I would go up and take my turn and say, "Mr. Chairman, our Marines down in Camp Lejeune are having many problems with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and there are not enough psychiatrists to help." This was the last time I spoke to him. He said, "Well, why don't we get together. Why don't we have a meeting."

So in the little room downstairs, I guess, on the first floor, the basement, in his room, we would go in, and I would talk to him about the needs of the Marines, and the Marines loved him. I had a couple in my room tonight when this started and they were saying, "We've lost a great friend."

But tonight, for me personally, it was to come down here and say, "Mr. Chairman, thank you. Thank you for having the time for a person that's no more than a foot soldier in the Congress." I am talking about myself. It didn't matter who you were, what position you held in the Republican Party or the Democratic Party, it was a matter of his heart. His heart was "What can I do to help you. What does your district need? What do your Marines need?" And he would always find time to talk to you.

So, tonight, I wanted to come down for just a few minutes to say to the family that are here tonight that he was a great man, he was a patriot, and he was the kind of man that

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America needs to remember with great respect and also to thank him for being a man of humility.

I have always said that Christ was a man of humility, and he got so much accomplished because he was a man of humility. Chairman MURTHA was a man of humility. He had great power, but he did not flex the muscles of power. He walked and he worked with humility.

Tonight I close by saying, Mr. Chairman, thank you for taking the time for all of us. You were a man that probably slept well at night because you were overworked, but you are in a better place now, and I am sure God is listening to whatever advice you might have to make America a better country.

I thank you for giving me this time to say thank you and goodbye, and America will miss you, and the Jones family will miss you, also.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. Corrine Brown) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, to whom God has given much, much is expected. We are truly blessed that we have had the opportunity to work and serve with Mr. MURTHA.

Now, I have my Mr. MURTHA story. I was able to get Mr. MURTHA to come to my district, Jacksonville, FL, the Third Congressional District, which is a military district, but I knew that when he came that I would only have one shot. So I wanted to make sure I covered everything he needed to see in my district.

We started out at the Marine base, we went to the port, we went to Cecil Field, we went to Shands Hospital where we had the proton beam. Well, they had tried to get a proton beam in his area. I took the doctor in my area, so he was very shocked when he came to Jacksonville and found out that not only did I have the proton beam in Jacksonville, I had his doctor from his area.

Then I had a reception scheduled for him, and, of course, he said, "I don't work this hard. You have shown me everything that you want to develop in your district." Of course, the point is, he came, he saw, and we were able to get the services that the military people needed in my area.

I will never forget when I went to Normandy, they had just opened the visitors center there. It was a tribute to all of the people that had served and died in Normandy. And

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they had no place to go, it was all the crosses, but it was a center that Mr. MURTHA and the chairman of Appropriations had gotten funded. Yes, it was an earmark. It was an earmark and a tribute to the people that had served this country. I will never forget how proud I was to go to that visitors center. That should be Mr. MURTHA's name on that visitors center in Normandy because he did so much.

In closing, I want to say we always sing the song "God Bless America," and, yes, God blessed America because of Mr. MURTHA. To quote the Scripture, Paul, "He has fought a good fight and he has finished the course," but it is left up to us now to continue to work, to continue to work for our veterans, to continue to work for the military. This is the kind of tribute that we should pay to Mr. MURTHA. The work is not finished.

God did bless America with giving us the example of Mr. MURTHA.

[The prepared remarks of Ms. Brown follow:]

I was extremely saddened to hear about the passing of my close colleague and dear friend, Congressman JOHN MURTHA, chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. Elected to the House of Representatives in 1974, Representative MURTHA dedicated his life to serving his country, both in the military and in Congress. A former Marine, he was the first Vietnam combat veteran elected to Congress.

Ever since I came to Washington, Congressman MURTHA and I had always had a very close relationship; in part, because my district, Florida's Third, has a strong military presence, and because of our joint efforts in the arena of veterans affairs. Considered by most to be one of the most influential Democrats in the House, he was an expert and a leader on issues concerning defense, the military, and our Nation's veterans. Deeply respected by Republicans and Democrats alike, Congressman MURTHA's leadership and institutional knowledge of all aspects of our Nation's security policy will be greatly missed, as will his charm and leadership within the Democratic Party. My thoughts and prayers go out to the Congressman's wife, Joyce, and the entire Murtha family.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Capuano) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, out of respect for JACK, I will be very brief. Great American, great patriot, but for me he was a friend. He was my buddy.

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The truth is, he was my buddy not because we shared a philosophical view—we probably disagreed on more than we agreed on—but because we respected each other. In my world, the best thing you can say about anybody is he didn't forget where he came from. JACK never forgot. He represented working men and women to the utmost. Even when we disagreed, his motivation was pure.

He was the epitome of a politician. He liked helping people. I disdain politicians who think that we won't or that we shouldn't help people. That's what we are here for. JACK knew that from the day he got here to the day he left. He was my friend. I'm going to miss him. I think America will miss him, but I will miss him.

JACK, I will tell you that I am not looking forward to it, but when my day comes I'm going to be looking you up. My hope is that you'll be up there with a whole bunch of the good old boys and hopefully you'll welcome me then as you welcomed me when I got here.

I'm going to miss you, JACK.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Driehaus) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Madam Speaker, I just wanted to join all of my colleagues as we give our thanks to JACK and JACK's family. I am a new Member of Congress, and I didn't get to know JACK MURTHA until fall 2008 when I was running for Congress. JACK came down to Cincinnati and we visited the VA hospital. We sat down with some veterans and we sat down with the staff of the VA hospital and started talking about PTSD and the PTSD Program that we had in Cincinnati.

JACK had such a sincere interest, and he exuded care for those veterans. He wanted to see that what we were doing in Cincinnati was replicated across the country.

Every time I went to JACK and asked for something, every time I approached him, he was open. As I talked to or as I listened to the Members here tonight, there seems to be an underlying theme: Every time you approached JACK MURTHA, he was asking what he could do for you. What a great Congressman. What a great dad.

JACK was the type of guy that in his district, he was always asking that question: "What can I do for you?" And that's the right question. We had perhaps the greatest challenge that we faced in Cincinnati this year, on a jobs pro-

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gram. It was the Joint Strike Fighter, the competitive engine program.

I happened to be the Congressman for the district for GE-Aviation where that engine is made. We were worried. We were worried that we were going to lose 1,000 jobs. Now I know it to be a good program. I know it to be a cost-saving program, but the President, the administration, sometimes thinks a little differently about that program.

So I went to JACK, and I said, "JACK, I'm really worried about this. This is a lot of jobs in Cincinnati. I believe this is the right thing to do for the country." Without hesitation, he just looked me in the eye and he said, "Steve, don't worry about it, we'll take care of it."

I knew that it was taken care of, because I had JACK's word. He was that type of guy. He had that kind of strength and that kind of authority. Every time you approached him, he was always asking what he could do for you.

This House was a great place because of JACK MURTHA, and we are a lesser body because of his loss. I lost my father a little over a year ago, and he was a lot like JACK. I hope the two of them have gotten to know each other since JACK's passing, because he reminded me a lot of my dad.

You will be greatly missed, JACK. I thank your family, and I thank your community for sharing you with us and the American people for so long.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Stupak) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I will be brief. I have been tied up most of the afternoon and never thought I would have an opportunity to come down and join in this special order to our friend and our colleague, JACK MURTHA. I am very pleased and heartened by all of the outpouring of Members who have come down here for the last few hours, and it has also given me an opportunity to say a few things about my friend, JACK MURTHA.

JACK would be embarrassed about all of the attention being shown to him tonight, but for those of us who knew and loved and respected JACK MURTHA, it's been an especially hard week, especially those of us who hang out, as we say, in the Pennsylvania corner. When we always look on the corner to see JACK there, we see a folded American flag. I guess it's appropriate for JACK's service to his country, not

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only as a soldier, but also as a Member of this House of Representatives.

If you want to know more about JACK MURTHA, his courage, his love for this country, I would urge you to read the book that he wrote, "From Vietnam to 9/11: On the Front Lines of National Security." He really traced the history of this country, policy, and military involvement of this country since Vietnam to September 11. It is written by a true patriot who lived it and urged all of us to also see the world and our commitment and our dedication to the men and women in uniform through the eyes of JACK MURTHA in a book.

I said it's been a hard week, and I think everything that needs to be said about JACK MURTHA has probably been said. I am thankful for having known him, and I am thankful for the opportunity of being able to come down here tonight and just say a few words and to express our love and condolences for Joyce and the entire Murtha family.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. Welch) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, I think one of the qualities of a great person is that they don't see themselves as great. They really see themselves as ordinary.

If they value something about themselves, it's that being ordinary allows them to do generous and good things for other people. JACK MURTHA was a huge figure for those of us who were in my class, the class of 2006. People may remember that the big debate that year was about the war in Iraq.

I ran as a person who was opposed to that war, and I remember during the campaign being very dispirited wondering where we were going. Then a voice rose out of Washington, and it was a Vietnam veteran, it was a combat decorated Marine, it was the chair of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, it was a man who had the highest credentials as an advocate for the military. That voice, of course, was JACK MURTHA.

And he stood up and he said that this war was wrong. He said that his vote was a mistake.

What attracted me, I think my classmates, and all of my colleagues who have been speaking to this man, JACK MURTHA, was his generosity—he was always wondering what could he do for you today—his integrity, but he also

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had a quality of incredible strength. You gravitated to JACK because he was a strong man, strong in his convictions, strong in his will to carry on. He had strength of mind and was willing to experience and analyze what was going on. When he came to his conclusion about Iraq, it was through the eyes of the soldier on the ground in assessing what was going on and why.

Even as he changed his policy position on Iraq, no one was a stronger supporter of the troops getting what they needed to be safe and getting what they needed to be taken care of when they got home. And what he understood and he began to teach this Congress and this country was that if we respect the valor of these men and women who are willing to subordinate their own judgment to take an oath of allegiance to the flag of the Commander in Chief and to report for duty when and where ordered by the President, then Congress and he, JACK MURTHA, had a solemn responsibility to do every single thing in his body, mind, heart, and soul to provide those soldiers with a policy that was worthy of the sacrifice they were willing to make.

Like I think everybody here in Congress, when JACK would ask what he could do for me, I oftentimes had an answer. But the first time he asked me that question was the first day of my experience here in Congress. I said to JACK, I understand that you go out and visit the troops often at Bethesda and at Walter Reed. And he told me he did. He usually went alone, almost always went alone, always quietly, never any press, never any entourage. I asked him if in the course of my 2 years in Congress sometime he would take me with him, and it turned out that the next day he did.

I will never forget going through the Bethesda Naval Hospital with JACK MURTHA and seeing how, when he talked to our troops who suffered incredible injuries, he had that same directness, that same pride, that same confidence in engaging these soldiers—What happened? How did it happen? Was it an improvised explosive device (IED)? Was it tripwire? Was it pressure activated?

He knew everything about the experience of these soldiers. And he wasn't sentimental. He was direct. He was blunt. And in that strength he was warm and encouraging and respectful to the service of those soldiers. It is something only a person with JACK's strength of character could do.

We all know that JACK was endlessly challenged by the press for the so-called earmarks. I remember that he took the criticism as though it was a grain of salt, and when

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asked, he would hold up a document saying, this is my power. It is in the Constitution, and I take care of my people.

We lost a great man.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Cohen) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, many speakers have preceded me today in speaking about Mr. MURTHA—and I will always call him Mr. MURTHA because that’s how I referred to him here in the House and that’s how I will refer to him in memory.

I only had the opportunity to serve with him for 3 years, and I feel certainly inadequate in being the last person to speak, but this man was my friend. He was like a father figure to me.

When I was thinking about running for Congress, I came up here to view Congress and think about it. I wasn’t sure if I was going to run or not. I went up in that gallery and I sat on this left side of the aisle, Madam Speaker. I looked at the floor and all the people down here and I thought about whether or not I wanted to run. But coming up here, I was in Rayburn, and I walked up by the train that comes from Rayburn to the Capitol. And this man came up to me, this gentleman—I didn’t know him—and he put his arm around me and we talked on the way up and walked all the way down the path. And he said, “Young man, this is going to be like 1974. It’s going to be a great year for Democrats.”

We got up the elevator—and I was so proud to be in this building—and we got to the top and he went to the left where you enter the Speaker’s lobby and come onto this floor and I went around the way to this gallery where visitors go. He said, “Next time you come up here, I hope you can come in here with me.” And it was the next time I got to come in here with him.

I was so proud every time I got to go over—I read about Murtha’s corner in the *New York Times*, and then I find myself over there with mostly folks from Pennsylvania, but also the different people that were fond of Mr. MURTHA. I was standing there and I thought, I remember reading about Murtha’s corner, now I’m in Murtha’s corner. And I was in his corner and he was in mine. When I needed help for my community and learning about appropriations, defense appropriations and how they could benefit this country and my community and my universities, he helped me. He always

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helped me. And I helped him when he was in need in his last election.

I made the trip to Johnstown for his funeral, and I am so happy I did and I am happy to be here. I could not let this opportunity pass to speak about this great American. It has been mentioned that he was a Marine and he was the first from Vietnam to be elected—he was part of that class—and he stood up and received the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award. All is true. But the bottom line is he was a good human being.

“Avuncular” is a word I learned when I was in high school, uncle-like figure, and I guess he was an uncle-like figure. He was just a grand, good human being. I will miss him. This House will miss him. And I am just fortunate that I passed this way at the same time he did and got to change time with him in life.

Thank you, JACK MURTHA.

MS. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a tireless champion for soldiers, veterans, and the middle class, a venerable lion of this body, and a treasured friend, Congressman JACK MURTHA.

The first Vietnam combat veteran ever elected to the House of Representatives, Congressman MURTHA dedicated his career to America’s fighting men and women, and always worked to put our troops and their safety first. I consistently relied on his wisdom and his insights on matters of defense and national security.

From his position as chairman of the Defense Appropriations Committee, JACK’s extraordinary dedication to the well-being of our troops and their families was evident in his actions every day. He knew that keeping our soldiers out of harm’s way meant providing them with state-of-the-art equipment, from submarines to helicopters. And with that in mind, he helped to maintain a defense-industrial base that brought high-paying, high-skilled manufacturing jobs both to his home State of Pennsylvania and my own State of Connecticut. His legacy will live on not only in his service to military men and women, but through the millions of jobs he helped to create in our region.

JACK was also concerned with the well-being of Americans waging another kind of battle, and he always supported critical funding for research on diseases such as cancer, AIDS, and diabetes. In short, he was a great ally to Connecticut, a great Pennsylvanian, and a great American, and he will be deeply missed. This House is smaller after his passing.

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Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I want to thank Representative Kanjorski for organizing this afternoon's special order to honor the memory of our friend and colleague JACK MURTHA.

Over the course of the hour many members of our delegation and the House will add their own personalized sentiments to memorialize JACK MURTHA, and I appreciate the opportunity to add my own remarks today.

JACK MURTHA will always be remembered for his extraordinary service to his country, both in and out of uniform. He always put the interests of his country, his State, and his constituents first and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Outside of Pennsylvania, JACK MURTHA will be remembered—and rightly so—for his skills in navigating the ins and outs of House rules and procedures. He will be remembered as someone who could get things done in Washington.

As a former colonel in the Marine Corps, JACK never forgot Congress' primary responsibility to provide for our common defense. His unceasing commitment to our national security will go down as legend in Washington, as will the work he did on behalf of our men and women in the military through his chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations.

For those of us from Pennsylvania, especially the western part of the State, JACK will always be remembered and greatly missed for the dogged determination he showed over his career to make sure the needs of the people he represented were met.

There is little doubt that JACK left an indelible mark on this House and his impact will still be felt long after he is gone.

Personally, I will always remember JACK as a friend to both my father and me over the 36 years he served the people of the 12th District of Pennsylvania.

JACK was an extraordinary person—a tireless advocate for his constituents, and a champion for our national security. We have lost a true patriot. I send my condolences to JACK's wife Joyce and their children. My thoughts and prayers continue to be with them and the people of the 12th District.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, thank you for allowing me to say a few words about our friend JACK MURTHA. First, I would like to advise Mrs. Murtha that I am her adopted son. I don't know if JACK ever told you (Mom). But, he did adopt me.

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He took me under his wing. It was warm in the winter and cool in the summer. He also taught me a few things. He taught me to be courteous to everyone and that everyone is special. He made us all feel special. He was more comfortable with the privates than with the generals. He made everyone feel important.

He would make the little people feel needed and appreciated. He had a great sense of humor and enjoyed telling his stories and jokes. He had a big heart and tremendous compassion for people.

Unfortunately, a whole lot of people—including our illustrious press—never knew that JACK MURTHA.

With the exception of his family, I was more fortunate than all of you. Every Thursday or Friday before we broke for the week, I would say goodbye to him. Because of his knee problem, I would help him down from his seat—the only reserved seat in Congress. Then, I would shake his hand and give him a kiss goodbye. I did not know Wednesday January 27 would be the last time I would kiss my friend goodbye.

JACK MURTHA was your friend. JACK MURTHA was the best friend of the men and women in uniform. He will be deeply missed. We will never see another JACK MURTHA.

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues today to express my deep sadness at the passing of our colleague, JACK MURTHA.

As I look around the floor of the House this evening, I see Democrats and I see Republicans. I see veteran members of the so-called “Pennsylvania corner” and I see freshmen Members—from California, from the Northeast, from the South. I see JACK’s fellow appropriators, and I see Members who, on other days perhaps, boast proudly of never seeking earmarks. JACK MURTHA was one of the few Members of this body who could draw together such an eclectic group.

That is not a surprise—for JACK MURTHA was truly a man of the House. He was a Member’s Member. He cared about his colleagues, and he respected his colleagues—even when he thought they were wrong. Being able to disagree civilly has—to the great detriment of our public life—become an uncommon quality in Washington. JACK practiced it better than anyone.

JACK was a legislator. His ability and willingness to work with almost anyone was one of the reasons JACK was so effective—if you’re a Democrat and wanted something done,

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you wanted JACK on your side. If you're a Republican and wanted something done, you wanted JACK on your side.

JACK was a Representative. He loved his district, respected his constituents, and worked as hard for them as any Member ever has.

JACK was an institutionalist. He believed in this House of Representatives, he defended its prerogatives, and he protected them. It has been my great privilege to work closely with two of the greatest defenders Congress has ever seen—the senior Senator from my own State . . . and JACK MURTHA.

JACK was a leader. His respect for his colleagues and his commitment to this House informed his role as chairman. JACK recognized the importance of what we do here, and JACK was always prepared. There was never a man more suited to the gavel than JACK MURTHA.

JACK was a Marine. If he had not been a Marine, he could have played the part—the man radiated strength and purpose in every action he took. But JACK not only looked the part, he was the genuine article. And there is, of course, no such thing as a former Marine—once a Marine, always a Marine. As fiercely as JACK defended the prerogatives of Congress, his commitment to our House took a back seat to his commitment to men and women in uniform. The servicemember—an infantryman outside Fallujah, a Marine in Afghanistan, an airman in Bagram, a sailor in the Persian Gulf—has never had a better protector than JACK MURTHA. JACK was one of them.

That is the chief reason he didn't hesitate when he came out so publicly against the war in Iraq—something that earned him the respect of many and the enmity of some. I don't know that he didn't care about either judgment, but I do know that neither applause nor condemnation guided his decision at all. His allegiance was to the men and women in the field.

To me, JACK was a friend and a mentor. In a sense that was a relationship I inherited. My father, who represented West Virginia's First District until he retired in 1982, worked closely with JACK. Shortly after I won election to his seat, Dad told me that I would never go wrong seeking JACK's counsel. He was right.

Finally, JACK was a family man, a loving husband and partner to his wife, Joyce, and parent to Donna, John, and Patrick. Their loss cannot be described by words. They have my deepest condolences.

JACK will be missed by all.

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Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of our former colleague, Congressman JOHN MURTHA. He died on February 8, 2010, at age 77, following complications of surgery. JOHN represented Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District for 36 years in Congress, longer than any Pennsylvania lawmaker.

JOHN PATRICK MURTHA was born June 17, 1932, in New Martinsville, WV, and moved to Pennsylvania as a child. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1962 with a degree in economics and did graduate work in economics and political science at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Congressman MURTHA dedicated his life to serving the Nation he loved, first in the military. He entered the U.S. Marine Corps in 1952, during the Korean war period, and served until 1955, joining the Reserves. Then, during the Vietnam conflict, he volunteered for combat and served as an intelligence officer in 1966 and 1967. JOHN received the Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts for this service, retiring from the Marine Corps Reserve as a colonel in 1990.

One of the first Vietnam veterans to sit in the House and a career Reservist, JOHN effectively applied this valuable insight to his work in Congress. As the chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, he worked tirelessly for the benefit of the Nation's troops and their families. For his political courage in speaking out against the Iraq war, and his dedication to principled public service, JOHN was awarded the 2006 John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award.

Congressman MURTHA has earned a well-deserved place in history as a patriot, war hero and statesman. The Nation will miss his dedication and vast experience in lawmaking, and we will miss him as a dear friend and generous mentor.

I express my condolences to JOHN's wife Joyce and their three children, and I urge everyone to honor and remember our colleague, JOHN MURTHA.

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to say goodbye to a friend.

New York City, and the rest of the world, lost a friend when JACK MURTHA died.

JACK MURTHA served his country in every possible way.

He served it in Vietnam as a Marine; he served in western Pennsylvania as a son, husband, and father; and he served it for over 40 years in Harrisburg and in Washington, as a legislator's legislator.

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He won respect for the honest, plain-spoken, compassionate way he played all of those roles.

But to me, he played those roles like a brother.

He spoke often of the strong women in his family being essential to his success in life.

His great-grandmother, he once recalled, told him at age 4, “You’re put on this Earth to make a difference.”

Boy, did he ever.

He volunteered as a Marine, first in the 1950s during the Korean war.

He reenlisted at age 34 and served in Vietnam—earning the Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts, and the Vietnamese Cross for Gallantry.

He became the first Vietnam combat veteran to be elected to Congress, in a February 1974 special election, starting a legendary Washington career as a member of the Appropriations Committee.

When I came to this Chamber for the first time, the “Pennsylvania corner” was in full flower. We grew close and even though we didn’t agree on everything, we worked together often—on issues ranging from breast cancer research funding to the Intrepid Museum on the Hudson.

When he decided that the Iraq war was unwinnable in 2005, he earned his stripes all over again, providing leadership on this crucial issue. He visited my district, and so many others, explaining how he came to his decision.

Madam Speaker, as a Congressman, JACK MURTHA won respect in these Halls and on this floor . . . but as a man, he earned our love. We will miss him.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Joyce, and the entire Murtha family.

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of my friend, JOHN MURTHA.

JOHN was an extraordinary man, patriot and Congressman. He served with distinction as the chairman of the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee where his knowledge and expertise on military issues was unparalleled. Our troops and veterans had no greater advocate than JOHN MURTHA and the country that he loved so dearly is better for his years of service.

His personal commitment to our troops was extraordinary. He visited our war zones to learn first hand about the need on the ground and always made time to visit with our soldiers. No matter how busy he was, he would always ask me about my two sons who served as captains in the U.S. Army,

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and I knew that he genuinely cared from the bottom of his heart.

We all know that JACK was a proud Marine, and their motto *Semper Fidelis*, was indeed the motto of his life.

Madam Speaker, I am a better Member of Congress for knowing JOHN MURTHA and Congress as a whole is richer for his many years of service. I am honored to call him colleague and friend, and I will dearly miss his strength, dedication and friendship. God bless you JOHN and Godspeed.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and loyal public servant, the Honorable JOHN MURTHA. He was a strong voice for the constituents in the 12th District of Pennsylvania and honorably served as the chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense.

I, like so many of my colleagues, am blessed to have known Mr. MURTHA on a professional and personal level. It is no surprise that Mr. MURTHA will be remembered as such an effective legislator. Given his proud service in the Marine Corps and passionate devotion for the greater good of our Nation, Mr. MURTHA consistently served as a moral compass for the U.S. Congress.

About a year and a half after the Iraq war started, many wounded soldiers were transferred to Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Mr. MURTHA visited these soldiers and witnessed the horrific wounds they were suffering with, such as losing a limb or losing complete eyesight. Mr. MURTHA invited the veterans staying at Walter Reed, their families and Members of Congress to a restaurant meal where he wanted the Members to hear the stories of these courageous veterans. He wanted the veterans to express how they became wounded and what they believed Congress could do to help make sure our American soldiers were safe. Through legislation and appropriations funding, the stories from our veterans helped Congress push the military to improve their equipment. Humvees and protective vests were improved to keep our soldiers safe from roadside bombs and other forms of hostility.

In all his years as an appropriator and legislator, he has always advocated for the safety of our military and has fought to improve the quality of life for American soldiers and their families. It was typical of Mr. MURTHA to be modest about all of the care he showed the soldiers and veterans in times of war. After learning of the unacceptable conditions veterans were subjected to at Walter Reed Army Medical

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Center, Mr. MURTHA immediately reached out to Members of Congress. He knew it was our country's responsibility to bring justice to our Nation's wounded soldiers by ensuring that they received the proper medical care they deserved.

I extend my deepest condolences to his family, loved ones, and friends. Mr. MURTHA will be remembered as a man of honor, generosity, and strength. His unfaltering dedication and care is what made him such an extraordinary person. It is with great sadness that I say goodbye to a great man and friend. I will miss him dearly. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing the gratitude of the U.S. Congress for his long-time service and leadership as a U.S. Representative.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and honor the accomplishments of Congressman JOHN MURTHA who passed away on February 8, 2010.

America lost a great patriot with the passing of Congressman MURTHA, and I join the people of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District and countless other Americans in mourning his death. As a veteran, he never forgot the needs of our military and through his leadership as chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, he made sure that our military had the tools it needed to secure America's future. A frequent visitor to injured troops at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Naval Medical Center, Congressman MURTHA deeply understood the sacrifices that these men and women made for our country. His ability to empathize with our servicemembers and veterans was absolutely remarkable, and I will deeply miss his leadership in Congress.

Madam Speaker, today I join my fellow colleagues in mourning the death of Congressman MURTHA who spent his life serving our country in both the military and the Halls of Congress.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my great friend and our dear colleague, JOHN MURTHA. America has lost a true hero and patriot and the U.S. Congress has lost a giant. Madam Speaker, I submit for the *Record* Keith Burris' column from the *Journal Inquirer*. The *Journal Inquirer* is a newspaper serving my home district and is the hometown voice of northern central Connecticut. Keith's words capture the essence of JOHN MURTHA, and I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring the life of this humble man, dear friend, and great American.

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[From the *Journal Inquirer*, February 13, 2010]

MUCH MAN

(By Keith C. Burris)

In roughly 30 years in journalism I have met many politicians. In the beginning, this was exciting. But after a while, you realize that most of them are persons of exceptional ambition, not exceptional conviction, skill, or patriotism. Most people in politics are not very interesting.

But a couple years ago, U.S. Rep. John Larson, himself an exception to the rule, brought to the *Journal Inquirer* Rep. JOHN MURTHA, of Pennsylvania. MURTHA's back and forth with editors and reporters here made for one of the most fascinating hours of conversation I can remember.

MURTHA died this week at 77, of a medical mistake.

There aren't many like him in Congress. There never were.

First of all, MURTHA, [a former] Marine officer, was not the sort of fellow who needed a "handler" or a "focus group" to calculate the political tides. Instead he used three ancient tools—study, his mind, and his conscience.

As a fine essay, reprinted from *Politico* on these pages, documented, MURTHA was famous for the Washington rituals he did not observe. When asked a question, he answered it. He did not hang with lobbyists or flacks. He did not go to parties, but got up early and went to bed early. (According to *Politico*, he would sometimes go home in the afternoon to listen to the BBC to get a fresh slant on U.S. foreign policy.) He did not court TV people or the *Washington Post*, and didn't particularly know or care who those people were.

And he didn't back down.

He wasn't always right. And he knew that. He had the courage to change his mind.

But he was, as the saying goes, a "stand-up guy." You could not blow him down with a poll or a David Broder column.

MURTHA had the understated self-confidence that the rare greats in politics have. I met Mike Mansfield, briefly, once, and you felt it from him. Ditto John Stennis. I am sure that Eisenhower had it. And maybe Ella Grasso. I know I have seen and felt it in the presence of Eugene McCarthy, Ernest Hollings, and John Glenn. Some public men seem to shed their vanity as the years accumulate and they settle into their work. They begin to internalize their love of country. Instead of politics being more and more about them, it becomes more and more about service. And they go about their work with concentration and power, but minimal fuss. You felt that with MURTHA. There was no posturing in the man. He looked you dead in the eye and he told you what he thought was true and needed doing.

MURTHA was much in the news when he came to see us. He was known as the military's greatest friend in Congress and he had just come out for withdrawal from Iraq. I recall him as a big man in a dark blue suit. His hands were the hands of a working man. He might have been a machinist or a farmer instead of a soldier and statesman. Someone here snickered the other day that western Pennsylvania, from whence MURTHA came, was "not really Pennsylvania, but Ohio." It's true in the sense that MURTHA was from a hardscrabble world where people are still close to land and labor and where hard work and professionalism are what matter, not pretense, not birthright, not wealth or college degrees. It does not matter if you have a family name and an MBA from Harvard. If you want to invade Iraq, you better study the history of Iraq.

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Yeah, MURTHA was against abortion and for the Second Amendment and he was born in West Virginia and he owned a car wash before he got into politics. But that old Vietnam veteran could set Condoleezza Rice's head spinning and he took no guff from right-wing [k]no[w]-nothings. If we had 50 "Ohioans" like JOHN MURTHA in the House we would have health-insurance reform today.

MURTHA liked fellow pros. But pros who were rooted in something. He got on well with the first George Bush and not at all with the second. He thought Donald Rumsfeld was nuts and Robert Gates a great man. He was a protege of Tip O'Neill's and practiced O'Neill's adage that all politics is local (MURTHA never got over the old and honorable idea that a congressman's first job is to provide for his constituents), but MURTHA trusted Rahm Emanuel about as far as he could throw him.

MURTHA spent his spare time visiting wounded soldiers at Bethesda Naval Hospital and Walter Reed. He did not take cameramen with him. When he traveled to Iraq, it was not a junket or a photo-op. He would tell the generals and ambassadors, "no PowerPoint," none of that stuff. Just talk to me, he would say, and tell me what is going on. And then he would go visit with the sergeants and the specialists. He took Larson under his wing, and to Iraq, early in Larson's congressional career because "he goes home at the end of the day and studies the CIA briefing books."

MURTHA did not love the military as a concept, but as people. Public servants like himself. His work for them in Congress was like his work for the citizens of the 12th District of Pennsylvania. He had a job to do. He was supposed to take care of his people.

He was much man, JOHN MURTHA.

What a loss to the Congress and the country.

FRIDAY, *March 12, 2010*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. Jackson Lee) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fallen hero, my friend, the late Congressman JOHN MURTHA. During the time of his memorial services and the special order hour that was rendered on this floor, my statements were not able to be submitted because I wanted to speak directly on the floor in his honor.

JOHN MURTHA was of course a husband, a father, a loved one, a Marine, and a patriot. What we loved most about JOHN MURTHA was his love for the U.S. military, unwavering and always steadfast. He was a family man that loved his family, and a Congressman who loved his people. Those he represented were so very important in his mind and in his heart.

He came to this floor and to this House, tall and recently from battle, having served in the Vietnam war on several oc-

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casions, knowing what it is to have been shot at and to be in battle on behalf of your Nation. That true lesson gave him a cause for life, and the cause for life was to be able to fight for the men and women of the U.S. military.

But he did not stop there. As the chairman of the Subcommittee on Defense on the Appropriations Committee, he fought for the families of the U.S. military, the wives and husbands and the children. He fought for a better quality of life in health care and housing. He fought for better standards, if you will. And yes, he recognized the importance of leave time, R&R coming out of battle. And there was no greater champion during the midst of the Iraq war, the most recent war, who fought to give relief to the soldiers on the battlefield who were doing tours of duty one after another.

He was a man of courage. He didn't step away from a fight. But he was also a friend. And if he gave you his word, he would fight on behalf of your constituents as he would fight on behalf of his. In fact, Mr. Speaker, he was an American's American, all-American. If it had something to do with bettering the lives of Americans, you can be assured JOHN MURTHA was there.

He took a very tough stand just a few years ago. The eyes of those who knew him as a champion of the military fighting for their cause, standing alongside of them, wondered what happened when he stood up with his eloquent steady voice, and spoke about the Iraq war, calling for the soldiers to come home. That is courage, because he had been a supporter of that war. But he saw it crumbling before his eyes.

Oh, yes, there has been an election over the last couple of days, but we always wonder what direction and how we could have handled it differently so that the lives that were laid down did not have to be laid down in a war in Iraq. The champion for the military saw that there was a crack in the system, and he chose to speak eloquently about it.

I miss JOHN MURTHA. This body misses JOHN MURTHA, Democrats and Republicans. America misses JOHN MURTHA. But the one good news about JOHN MURTHA's life is that his legacy will live on forever and ever. I thank him for serving, for living. And to his family, God bless you, and may he rest in peace.

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Proceedings in the Senate

TUESDAY, *February 9, 2010*

SENATE RESOLUTION 413—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF REPRESENTATIVE JOHN P. MURTHA, OF PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. McConnell, Mr. Specter, Mr. Casey, Mr. Akaka, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Barrasso, Mr. Baucus, Mr. Bayh, Mr. Begich, Mr. Bennet, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Bingaman, Mr. Bond, Mrs. Boxer, Mr. Brown of Massachusetts, Mr. Brown of Ohio, Mr. Brownback, Mr. Bunning, Mr. Burr, Mr. Burris, Mr. Byrd, Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Cardin, Mr. Carper, Mr. Chambliss, Mr. Coburn, Mr. Cochran, Ms. Collins, Mr. Conrad, Mr. Corker, Mr. Cornyn, Mr. Crapo, Mr. DeMint, Mr. Dodd, Mr. Dorgan, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Ensign, Mr. Enzi, Mr. Feingold, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Franken, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Graham, Mr. Grassley, Mr. Gregg, Mrs. Hagan, Mr. Harkin, Mr. Hatch, Mrs. Hutchison, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. Inouye, Mr. Isakson, Mr. Johanns, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kaufman, Mr. Kerry, Ms. Klobuchar, Mr. Kohl, Mr. Kyl, Ms. Landrieu, Mr. Lautenberg, Mr. Leahy, Mr. LeMieux, Mr. Levin, Mr. Lieberman, Mrs. Lincoln, Mr. Lugar, Mr. McCain, Mrs. McCaskill, Mr. Menendez, Mr. Merkley, Ms. Mikulski, Ms. Murkowski, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Nelson of Nebraska, Mr. Nelson of Florida, Mr. Pryor, Mr. Reed, Mr. Risch, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Schumer, Mr. Sessions, Mrs. Shaheen, Mr. Shelby, Ms. Snowe, Ms. Stabenow, Mr. Tester, Mr. Thune, Mr. Udall of Colorado, Mr. Udall of New Mexico, Mr. Vitter, Mr. Voinovich, Mr. Warner, Mr. Webb, Mr. Whitehouse, Mr. Wicker, and Mr. Wyden) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 413

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable JOHN P. MURTHA, late a Representative from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns or recesses today, it stand adjourned or recessed as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 413.

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The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 413) relative to the death of Representative JOHN P. MURTHA, of Pennsylvania.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I had the good fortune of serving with JOHN MURTHA in the House, as the Presiding Officer did. He was a brave man. He was the first to break away and was noteworthy in complaining about the Iraq war. As a result of that, it brought a lot of attention to that issue.

I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to this matter be printed in the *Record* with no intervening action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 413) was agreed to . . .

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent it adjourn under the previous order under the provisions of S. Res. 413, as a further mark of respect for the late Congressman JOHN MURTHA.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:09 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, February 11, 2010, at 2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, *March 3, 2010*

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise in commemoration of the life of JOHN PATRICK MURTHA.

JOHN MURTHA gave nearly six decades to the country he loved. At the age of 20, he left college to join the Marines. As soon as he arrived, the Marines knew they had a gem of a young man on their hands. Routed to Officer Candidate School, he became a leader of his peers, earning the American Spirit Honor Medal during training.

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Although his duty to the Marines ended in 1955, his desire to serve did not. He remained in the Reserves for the next decade, and then volunteered for service in Vietnam.

There, he cemented his reputation as an American hero, earning the Bronze Star, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and two Purple Hearts.

JOHN's service in the Reserves lasted long into his political career. He didn't retire until 1990, at which time he was awarded the Navy Distinguished Service Medal. But when he returned from Vietnam, he decided that serving the people of the State of Pennsylvania was another way to give back to his country.

He came to Congress roughly a year before I did, the first Democrat to hold that seat since World War II. As long as I have been here, it seems like JOHN has been as much of a fixture in the House Chamber as the desks themselves.

JOHN being a Marine, it is probably not surprising that he never stopped fighting to give our troops in the field the resources they needed to do their jobs. He became the chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, and was a reliable advocate for our military—and for the people of his district.

His deep passion for our military and his commitment to making sure they had the resources they need reached as far as Connecticut, where we make the finest submarines and aircraft in the world. He knew that the products we make there are critical to the success of our military, and he was always there alongside me, standing up for our defense workforce and the fine products they make.

Many of us will remember with great admiration the courage JOHN showed when he came to the floor in November 2005 to call for an end to a war he had supported. Colleagues on both sides knew that JOHN MURTHA would never make a statement like that lightly, and his bold stance played a large role in bringing toward an end that misguided war.

Of course, most Americans never got to know JOHN MURTHA's soft side. But his beloved wife Joyce—they were married for 54 years—and his three wonderful children knew him as his colleagues did: as a funny, warm man who loved his job, loved his constituents, and loved his country.

A colleague of his, Congressman Bob Brady, said, "There will never be another JACK MURTHA." And he is right. But we can all carry on his work, impressed by his long record

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of service and inspired by his deep patriotism and commitment.

I was proud to know JOHN MURTHA, and we were all lucky to have him.

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I N M E M O R I A M



J O H N P. M U R T H A

J U N E 1 7, 1 9 3 2 - F E B R U A R Y 8, 2 0 1 0

*"We are put on this earth
to make a difference."*

*Mary Bell
Great-Grandmother*

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The Westmont Presbyterian Church
A Service of Witness to the Resurrection
for

JOHN P. MURTHA

February 16, 2010

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE *Aria and Fugue* Healey Willan
 Jesu, Joy of Man's De- J.S. Bach
 siring J.S. Bach
 Hark! A Voice Saith All Alexandre Guilmant
 Are Mortal
 Sonata in D minor
 Andante

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP—(RESPONSIVE)

Leader: I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord.

**People: Those who believe in me, even though they die,
will live, and everyone who lives and believes in
me will never die.**

Leader: Let us worship God.

*HYMN *Eternal Father, Strong* MELITA
 to Save (See insert)

PRAYER

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE:

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

*ANTHEM *Ecclesiastes 3:1-8* Father William George
 On Eagles Wings M. Joncas: arr. D.
 Chancel Choir Wagner

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

*Romans 8 (Selected
Verses)*
Revelation 21:1-4

*Those who are able are invited to stand.

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REMARKS AND REMEMBRANCES

THE MEDITATION

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and
forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*HYMN 561 *My Country 'Tis of Thee* AMERICA

*THE BENEDICTION

*CHORAL *The Lord Bless You* J. Rutter
RESPONSE *And Keep You*

*POSTLUDE *Toccata* Johann Pachelbel
 Prelude on St. Gertrude Andrew Clarke
 Onward, Christian Soldiers
 Trumpet Tune John Stanley

Participants in this service:

The Reverend Douglas W. Stevens, Jr., D.Min.,
Pastor, Westmont Presbyterian Church

Father William George
President, Georgetown Preparatory School

Directors of Music
Carl Miller Nathan Santos
Helen Dix, *Organist*

*The Murtha family wishes to express their deep gratitude
to everyone for coming today. May God bless all of you.
This service is followed by a brief private committal.*

*Those who are able are invited to stand.

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“It’s not the critic who counts. It’s not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or whether the doer of the deed could have done better.

The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by the dust, sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs, who comes short again and again because there is no effort without error and shortcoming.

It is the man who actually does strive to do the deeds, who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, who spent himself in a worthy cause who at best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement and who at the worst if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly so that his place shall never be with those cold and cruel souls who know neither victory nor defeat.”

“Citizen in a Republic,” *a speech given by Theodore Roosevelt, April 23, 1910.*

A SERVICE IN MEMORY
OF
JOHN P. MURTHA

JUNE 17, 1932–FEBRUARY 8, 2010

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I N M E M O R I A M

J O H N P. M U R T H A

J U N E 1 7, 1 9 3 2 – F E B R U A R Y 8, 2 0 1 0

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

U.S. Representatives in Congress

Hon. Jason Altmire	Hon. Jim Gerlach
Hon. Robert Brady	Hon. Paul E. Kanjorski
Hon. Christopher P. Carney	Hon. Tim Holden
Hon. Kathy Dahlkemper	Hon. Patrick J. Murphy
Hon. Charles W. Dent	Hon. Allyson Schwartz
Hon. Mike Doyle	Hon. Joe Sestak
Hon. Chaka Fattah	Hon. Bill Shuster

U.S. Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.

Pallbearers

Joint Services

Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy

Color Guard

8th and I Marines

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm has bound the restless wave,
Who bade the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea.

Eternal father, grant, we pray
To all Marines, both night and day,
The courage, honor, strength, and skill
Their land to serve, thy law fulfill;
Be thou the shield forevermore from every peril to the Corps.

Most Holy spirit! Who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease,
And give, for wild confusion, peace;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea!

O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee,
Glad praise from air and land and sea

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*This was Jack's favorite verse and he was
often heard quoting it to family and friends*

TOMMY

by Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936)

O it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Tommy, go away":
But it's "Thank you, Mister Atkins," when the band begins to play,
The band begins to play, my boys, the band begins to play,
O it's "Thank you, Mister Atkins," when the band begins to play.
For it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Tommy, wait outside";
But it's "Special train for Atkins" when the trooper's on the tide,
The troopship's on the tide, my boys, the troopship's on the tide,
O it's "Special train for Atkins" when the trooper's on the tide.
Then it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Tommy, 'ow's yer soul?"
But it's "Thin red line of 'eroes" when the drums begin to roll,
The drums begin to roll, my boys, the drums begin to roll,
O it's "Thin red line of 'eroes" when the drums begin to roll.
While it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Tommy, fall be'ind,"
But it's "Please to walk in front, sir," when there's trouble in
the wind.
There's trouble in the wind, my boys, there's trouble in the wind,
O it's "Please to walk in front, sir," when there's trouble in
the wind.
For it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Chuck him out,
the brute!"
But it's "Saviour of 'is country" when the guns begin to shoot;
An' it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' anything you please;
An' Tommy ain't a bloomin' fool—you bet that Tommy sees!

A SERVICE IN MEMORY

OF

JOHN P. MURTHA

JUNE 17, 1932–FEBRUARY 8, 2010

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Father William George.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

The writer of Ecclesiastes in today's context could have added "A time to make laws, and a time to change laws, and a time to earmark."

Making laws is sacred work. According to the New Revised Standard (Version Exhaustive) Concordance the word "law" occurs 583 times in Sacred Scripture. Law obviously is important to God, as are those whom God inspires to write the law, and for those who are intended to live the law.

JACK MURTHA never lost sight of God's purpose in the law. He was always thinking of the person it affected, the soldier, the worker, the poor and marginalized, the citizens of Johnstown, of the United States or the world. He understood how sacred was the task of making laws, laws that were just. Lawmaking should be sacred work and JACK knew that.

The world and our country feel his loss. I can't imagine how you feel, Joyce, or you his colleagues gathered here to honor JACK. May your faith fill you with the knowledge and truth that JACK was God's child and has been welcomed home where there is pure justice, the source of true peace.

We can all thank God for having JACK MURTHA as long as we did. He was a student and scholar of the military and of the law. We now have to decide what we are to do without him on this side of heaven. As you try to figure out what God's will is for you, pray, speak your heart to God and you may just find out what is best. May God bless and keep you. Amen!

Reverend Douglas W. Stevens, Jr. The New Testament readings are taken from Paul's Letter to the Church in Rome, the eighth chapter, selected verses, and also from the Revelation of John. Listen once again to the Word of God.

Romans 8:31-39

And also these words from a time that has yet to be:

Revelation 21:1-4

Let us pray.

We kneel in prayer O God to You from whom every family in heaven and on Earth takes its name. That out of the treasures of Your glory may You grant to each of us strength and power by Your spirit in our inner being. That through faith Christ may dwell in our hearts and love with deep roots and firm foundations may we be strong to grasp with all Your people, Oh God, what is the breadth, and length, and height, and depth of the love of Christ. And to know it, though it is beyond knowledge, so may we attain to the full-

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ness of being and even to the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or conceive by the power which is at work among us. To Him be glory and the church and in Christ Jesus from generation to generation forevermore.

Amen.

Donna Murtha, daughter. Good morning. I'm Donna Murtha. Thank you for all coming. My family appreciates you coming, your support, and your love, and your care.

My dad would be very overwhelmed by all this; we appreciate it. He would just be so overwhelmed.

You know him as a world leader, and as a Congressman, and as a recipient of the Profile in Courage Award. You know him as a "Mr. Chairman," hawk, and as a patriot and a Marine. I know him as dad, and as my buddy, and as my pal. He would talk to me every day. He did not talk politics, we did not talk economics. We talked about teaching and how to meet the lives of my children that I taught every day. We tried to meet the individualization of every child and he talked to me about that. And we also talked about health care and how it met my children's needs, their families, my friends, and our family.

We also talked about his marriage to my mother for 54½ years. He was very proud of my mother. Behind every great man is a great woman. He was very proud of my brothers. My brothers and I are not involved in politics, but my dad was very good about supporting our lives and the paths we led, and I think that helped him, because whenever he would go out and he listened to us and talked about our paths and what we followed, it helped him help the constituents and help the fellow citizens.

He was also very proud of his brothers because they were fellow Marines. *Semper Fi*, Dad. He also had a love of Sherlock Holmes, he loved Miss Marple, he loved an occasional "Murder She Wrote," because Mom would watch that. He also loved nature, and when Father was speaking about Ecclesiastes, he loved nature, he loved to watch the deer that would come into the yard. He would love to watch the goldfinches that were outside the kitchen window. He loved to outwit the squirrels when they were on the baffles on the birdfeeder. He just couldn't stand that, if they were outwitting him. He loved his garden, he loved the bounty of his garden, and the bounty of each season.

He was a world leader, he met many prestigious leaders. When they made Dad, they broke his mold.

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He lived by the motto, "One man makes a difference."
We love you Dad.

General James T. Conway, USMC. A lot of good Marines who join our Corps come out of Pennsylvania. JOHN PATRICK MURTHA was such a man. It was, of course, in his blood to be a man of action, a patriot, and a warrior. He had ancestors who had fought in both the Revolutionary and the Civil Wars—and his father and his three uncles served during World War II.

When the Korean war started, a young JACK MURTHA felt guilty that others were off to fight the war, while he was majoring, as he said, in football and basketball at Washington and Jefferson College.

In June 1952, much to his mother's disappointment, he dropped out of college and enlisted in the Marine Corps. He never made it to Korea. He had orders in hand—but the armistice was signed before he could get there.

However, fate had already been at play: he had passed a college equivalency test, completed training, and as a result was commissioned a second lieutenant; he had met Joyce Bell, the love of his life, who lived near Camp Lejeune in North Carolina; and he had learned during boot camp and officer training that enthusiasm, aggressiveness, and attention to detail would carry him a long way in life.

The Vietnam war brought him back to active duty. By then he was 33 and the father of three children, he felt strongly, nevertheless, that it was his duty to serve. Joyce needed convincing—but ultimately she agreed.

On arrival in country, he was assigned as a regimental intelligence officer which proved to be a natural fit for his skills. Fitness reports showed him to be "forceful, energetic, and enthusiastic" and "at his best when in the field with his Marines." The words of his regimental commander were simple but elegant—"one of the finest officers I've ever served with."

His wartime experiences further shaped the man. He would believe for the rest of his life that sergeants understand the needs of the troops better than the generals; and that one man, indeed, can make a difference.

His Vietnam service earned him a Bronze Star with a Combat V and two Purple Hearts as a result of action in combat—before he returned home to his native Pennsylvania.

I never served with Colonel MURTHA and did not know him before he retired from the Marine Corps Reserves in

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1990. We met for the first time in 2006—he was the ranking member on the House Appropriations Committee and I was a new commandant.

During the session, we talked budget of course, and I remember that at one point he leaned in close to me and said “Commandant, you can’t have everything—but tell me the two or three things you have to have and I’ll get them for you.” I thought at the time that it was a Marine thing—and that it was good to have a fellow leatherneck in such an important position.

I have since come to realize that he had almost identical conversations with all the service chiefs. He loved his Corps—but his sense of duty and his love of country transcended all else.

During our subsequent meetings on the Hill, there was a pattern. Each meeting would have its serious moments where we talked requirements, the resiliency of the force, and how the wars were going.

There would usually be some uproarious moments where one or the other would tell a sea story or recount a humorous incident—the chairman was a gruff man but he liked to laugh—and then there was invariably what I would call his analysis of the mood of the Congress.

He would assess for me the probability of this program, or that one, going through the Congress and would use first names as he cited the positions of his fellow Congressmen. I normally had no idea who Jerry, or Norm, or Harlan might be—but I always nodded in the affirmative, as though I was right there with him. You can afford to do that when you have great respect and confidence in the man seated before you.

The chairman also had a way to get what he wanted. I recall one early morning visit when he was drinking coffee from an Army mug! He flashed it in front of me several times. Finally I took the bait and said, “why are you—a salty old jarhead—drinking from an Army mug?” He gave me a look like “thought you would never ask” and said, “Because the Marine Corps has not seen fit to give me one yet. And, by the way, I liked those we drank from at breakfast a couple of weeks back!”

Well—he had in his possession four new USMC mugs before the sun went down that day.

Folks, for those of you in the audience today who were his constituents—he loved you dearly. At our very first meeting he gave me a knife. He said he was presenting it on behalf

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of the people of Pennsylvania. I have been given a lot of knives in my line of work—probably 30 or more—but the knife he gave me was special and I have kept it in my top desk drawer.

My wife and I are now residents here, and I believe it truly is representative of the people of this State—because it is a good and sturdy knife, made of fine steel that keeps a sharp edge, and it performs a multitude of functions. It has a green camouflage pattern on the handle—fitting, as I have known few Pennsylvanians who don't hunt or fish.

Scrawled across the camouflage pattern is a name—written in white script.

From now on, and for the rest of my life, when I look at the knife, and the name that's on it: JOHN P. MURTHA, I will remember a fellow Marine, a patriot, a warrior—both on the battlefield and in the Congress—and a great American.

Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House. Dr. Stevens, thank you for welcoming us here today and giving us this opportunity to pay our respects to Joyce, to Donna, to John, to Patrick, to JACK's precious grandchildren and family.

It is with great sadness that I lead a very large congressional delegation to extend our condolences to you and our thanks to you for sharing JACK with us and to bid our friend a very sad farewell.

Jack was greatly mourned in Congress because of the respect and admiration which was accorded him there. Those who served with him were honored to call him colleague. Many of us were privileged to call him friend.

President Clinton, all of us who loved JACK in Washington and here extend our appreciation to you for the honor of your presence here to the family and to those who loved JACK. Thank you for your friendship and that of Secretary Clinton to JACK MURTHA.

The outpouring of accolades for Chairman MURTHA over the past week and in the thousands of people who have arrived here to pay their respects to him bring to mind the passage from Ecclesiasticus honoring the heroes of the Old Testament:

Now let us praise great men, the heroes of our Nation's history. Some led the people by their counsel and their knowledge of our nation's laws; out of their fund of wisdom, they gave instruction. Their bodies are buried in peace, but their names will live forever. The people will tell of their wisdom and the congregation will show forth their praise.

As this congregation shows forth its praise, it is fitting that JACK was escorted into this church by the Pennsylvania

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congressional delegation, because that is how JACK served in Congress, surrounded by the Pennsylvania congressional delegation. They were planning a celebration of JACK's service in the Congress. On Saturday February 6, he became the longest serving Member of Congress from Pennsylvania ever to serve. They were planning a celebration. Today, they presented him to us for a celebration of his life.

Many of you who are familiar with Congress know about the Pennsylvania corner. But for those of you who do not, let me just say in Congress JACK held court in that part of the House Chamber that was respectfully, sometimes fearfully, known as the Pennsylvania corner. Members from across the country and across the aisle would come to the corner to get JACK's blessing. His Great-Grandmother Bell would be very proud and satisfied that he constantly made a difference. Every day. It was a sight to behold. There was JACK, always smiling, twinkling eyes, flanked by his two lieutenants, Mike Doyle on the West, Bob Brady on the East. They had a twinkle and a smile too. Sometimes. [Laughter.] Depended.

Jack passed on to Mike and Bob and men and women with whom he served a pride in the institution that he learned from his friend and mentor, Tip O'Neill. JACK was known for his Irish sense of humor, as you know, but he was never funnier than when he regaled us of his stories as a lieutenant to Tip O'Neill. JACK loved Tip and continued his tradition of honor, authenticity, and loyalty to his constituents. Every Member of Congress thinks that he or she represents the best congressional district in the country and that they have the best constituents. JACK MURTHA was absolutely certain of that. He loved this district.

To watch JACK MURTHA legislate was to see a master at work. But more indicative of his character was to watch him communicate with our men and women in uniform, whether right off the battlefield or at their bedside at the military hospital. Many of us have had this experience traveling with him or visiting Walter Reed and Bethesda Naval Medical Center. He always answered their needs by responding to their call for body armor, up-armored vehicles or reliable radios. In this moment, he bonded with them from his own military experience but also as a father.

I will never forget the sparkle on JACK's eyes one day when we were visiting one of the hospitals and as we went into the room a wounded warrior was standing by his bed to welcome JACK MURTHA into his room, saluting him wearing a Steelers jersey. [Laughter.]

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The Nation saw JACK's courage and integrity when he bravely spoke out against the war in Iraq. In his opposition though, he taught us all to make a distinction between the war and the warrior. JACK was committed to our national security and measured our strength, not only in our military might, but in the well-being of our people. He was a much-decorated champion. Certainly he was decorated as the commandant mentioned, but he was a much-decorated champion in advancing scientific research to fight breast cancer, prostate cancer, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, the list goes on, so many more.

I know what JACK is thinking now: "Don't go on too much longer." JACK wasn't big on long speeches, right Joyce? In fact, one day when debate was going very long in the Congress and Members wanted to go home, I was the closing speaker as the Speaker. And I got up there and just said one sentence, "This bill is about jobs, jobs, jobs, jobs. Vote aye." JACK cheered. He came up, he said, "I think that was the best speech you ever made." [Laughter.] You remember that day.

But I will say this, that those of us who have seen him in action in the Congress and across the country, traveled across the country, he'd be cheered in airports for his courage, for speaking truth to power, for helping with health issues, bringing an almost Biblical power to cure to diseases that affected so many people in our country.

Semper Fi—the motto of the Marine Corps where he served for 37 years, was the motto of his life. Always faithful to God and country, to his hometown of Johnstown, most of all to Joyce, and to his children and grandchildren. Patriot. Champion. Hero. Giant. JACK Murtha. We will never see his like again.

Reverend Douglas W. Stevens, Jr. I want to thank all of our speakers for the warmth and the humor that you've brought. My task now is to try and place some of this within the context of our faith and God's presence in our lives. I invite you to pray with me if you will.

Loving and gracious God, speak to each of us. Deeply in our hearts we may hear not so much a human voice but Your voice for our living. Give us courage and give us will, and by your spirit show us the way to live. In the name of Christ, Amen.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted." Today there is great comfort in the memory of JOHN P. MURTHA's life, a

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life of service, a life lived fully, lived with courage and a strong will. We say that all good gifts come from God. What we have heard from our distinguished speakers and what we are remembering today are the gifts God gave to JOHN MURTHA, enacted, lived out in his life through his personality and character. They are in a very real sense God's gifts to us all.

Many this day may not have known the Congressman personally, but all of us have been touched by his life, his actions, his political skill, and the practiced art of his vocation. JOHN was able to bring people of different sides together as you have heard, able to compromise, and able to be firm. He lived his political life with the same courage that he showed on the battlefield. He did so for the people of his district and for the United States.

It is also comforting to know that one can live a very public life and still share deeply in the love of family. He and Joyce were married 54 years and they had God's blessing to see the generations come after them. They shared their love, their life, with Donna, John Mark and his wife Kathy, with Patrick and his wife Lynn, and grandchildren Jack, Anne, and Clayton. For JOHN MURTHA, family was the first love, always, and his family knew it. He found a way to spend time with them, to encourage them, and to give them his values, and himself.

Like many of us in western Pennsylvania, JOHN had an eclectic religious background, Presbyterian, and Methodist, and Catholic. And from that background, he had a sense of God's hand on his shoulder and you've heard that several times in several ways. Though he might not have phrased it this way, we Presbyterians sometimes refer to that hand on the shoulder as God's call.

Donna reminded us of the words on the bulletin cover this day, "We are put on this Earth to make a difference." Those words came from his great-grandmother Mary Bell, and JOHN heard those words when he was 4. She, by the way, was the wife of a Presbyterian minister. Those words helped shape his life and his religious background guided that shaping. JOHN MURTHA made a difference.

Colonel MURTHA made a difference as a Marine in combat and as a Marine for 37 years, a difference as the first elected Vietnam combat veteran in Congress. Wounded twice, he had a vested interest in wounded warriors. He visited the troops and cared about individual service personnel.

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As “Mr. Defense,” he made a difference in this Nation’s security. In that realm, especially, he spoke with courage and clarity. He spoke as a patriot.

Congressman MURTHA made a difference to the people of western Pennsylvania and the nine counties or parts of counties that make up the 12th Congressional District. He made a difference in people’s lives with jobs, with job training, insuring pensions, obtaining Federal aid, especially after the 1977 flood here, and with his tireless work to help create a favorable climate for strong economic conditions in western Pennsylvania.

He made a difference as the longest serving Congressman in Pennsylvania history. And JOHN MURTHA made a difference with his many humanitarian efforts working for the health of his constituents, the brain surgery, the brain injury program, fighting against cancer, to research, and fighting for good and affordable health care.

There is great comfort this day in JOHN MURTHA’s life; he made a difference. Comfort also comes to us from the Scriptures this day. The Apostle Paul wrote, “That nothing can separate us from the love of God.” Often I think that is what people fear the most, that some condition or someone or something can come between ourselves and God. I think that is why people sometimes do not try harder in this life, they worry that when they step forward in faith, God may not be there for them. But just the opposite is true. God calls us and gives us grace to go forward and never leaves us. JOHN MURTHA stepped forward many times and God never failed him.

One of the many awards of his life, of which he was most proud, as has been mentioned, was the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award in 2006, for taking an unpopular stand when he could have remained silent. But he was brave and a patriot. The message of the Gospel is that in the resurrection of Christ, God has shown the world for all time the depths of God’s love. Paul said, “In every way possible nothing and no one can separate us from God’s love in Christ.” Not war, not loss, neither poverty nor want, not the past, not the future, nothing. This day we look to the promise of a new heaven and a new Earth, in God’s time and in God’s way, but until that time we are called to live faithfully as Christ has shown us. Take risks for good, love one another, and trust the results to the living Lord.

It is the revealed nature of God to help us to do what we cannot do. It is our nature by God’s grace to try. JOHN MUR-

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THA did try and by God's grace he succeeded. Let us trust JOHN and all whom we love near or far, in this life or the life to come, to God's gracious care, and to our Lord Who told us simply because I live, you shall live also. I invite you to pray with me and we will conclude with the Lord's Prayer. Let us pray.

Oh loving God from Whom we come, to Whom we return, and in Whom we live and move, and have the very being of life. We praise You for the good gift of life, for its wonder and mystery, its friendships, and fellowships. We thank You for the ties that bind us one to another. We bless You for Your loving and patient dealings with us, whereby You teach us Your way, for the meaning that lies in the heart of sorrow and disappointment and grief and for Your guiding hand along the way of our journey.

We give you thanks, O Holy One, for Your servant JOHN P. MURTHA, recalling in him all that made others love and respect him. We thank You for his friendly and personal nature, his integrity and determination, his courage and strong will, his warmth and love, love of family, love of the people of this district, and of the United States. We give You thanks gracious God for the goodness and truth that have passed through his life into the lives of others and truly made this world richer.

We bless Your name, O God, for the revelation of your love in our Lord Jesus Christ and for the hope set before us in the Gospel. We thank You that deep in the human heart is an unquenchable trust that life does not end with death, that the Father who made us will care for us beyond the bounds of vision, even as You have cared for us in this earthly life. We praise Your name that our hope has been so wondrously confirmed in the life and words, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Grant us now, we pray, the comfort of your presence and the ministry of the Holy Spirit renewing within us all gifts of faith and patience and enduring love. Help us to walk amid the things of this world, with our eyes open to the beauty and glory of the eternal. So that among the many changes of this life, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found. Through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us each and all to pray saying:

Our Father,
Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come.

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Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
As we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory for-
ever.
Amen.

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A Celebration of Life

John P. Murtha

Born:

June 17, 1932

At Rest:

February 8, 2010

IRISH BLESSING

May the road rise up to
meet you,
May the wind be always at
your back.
May the sun shine warm upon
your face,
And rains fall soft upon your
fields,
And until we meet again,
May God keep you in the
hollow of his hand.

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A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF

THE HONORABLE

JOHN P. MURTHA

Pennsylvania's 12th District

CHAIRMAN, HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

JUNE 17, 1932–FEBRUARY 8, 2010

Statuary Hall
United States Capitol
Wednesday, March 3, 2010
11:00 a.m.

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Order of Service

Prelude

United States Marine Band String Quartet

Welcome

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi

The Speaker of the United States House of Representatives

Invocation

The Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin

Chaplain of the United States House of Representatives

Tributes

The Honorable Paul E. Kanjorski

United States Representative, Pennsylvania

The Honorable Michael F. Doyle

United States Representative, Pennsylvania

The Honorable Tim Holden

United States Representative, Pennsylvania

The Honorable Robert A. Brady

United States Representative, Pennsylvania

The Honorable C.W. Bill Young

United States Representative, Florida

The Honorable Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

United States Representative, Georgia

The Honorable James P. Moran

United States Representative, Virginia

The Honorable Jerry Lewis

United States Representative, California

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur

United States Representative, Ohio

Musical Selection

United States Marine Band Vocalist, "God Bless America"

Tributes

General James L. Jones, USMC (Ret.)

National Security Advisor

The Honorable Robert M. Gates

United States Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi

The Speaker of the United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

The Vice President of the United States

Benediction

The Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin

Chaplain of the United States House of Representatives

Following the service, the Murtha family will receive guests in the Rayburn Room.

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The Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin. My brothers and sisters, we believe that all the ties of friendship and collaboration and affection which knit us together throughout our lifetime do not unravel at the time of death.

Confident that God always remembers the good that we have tried to accomplish, the love we have shown, let us together remember JOHN MURTHA and offer to God prayers of thanksgiving and petition for those who grieve.

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, our Redeemer, You willingly gave Yourself up to death, so that all might be saved and pass from death to new life. We humbly ask You to comfort those in grief in the loss of JOHN and to receive him into Your everlasting merciful arms.

You alone are the Holy One, we are Your instruments to accomplish goodness, peace, and security here in this world for those we love. You are full of mercy; by dying You unlocked the gates of life to those who believe in You.

Forgive JOHN his shortcomings and sins, and grant him a place of happiness, light, and peace in the kingdom of Your glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Honorable Paul E. Kanjorski. Madame Speaker, Mr. Vice President, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, we come together today not to have a ceremony of JACK's passing but a celebration of his life. There aren't many folks in this room or in the Congress of the United States that don't have a very personal story about JACK that if related would cause us to smile, chuckle, but also cause us to recall some seriousness in our lives and in the lives of this Nation.

Even today as I enter the floor of the Chamber and I can't help it, the first place that I look to is JACK's chair in the far corner of the Chamber, always expecting him to be there, even today. He'll never be there again, but he's there in spirit.

And I thought, "Who is JACK to us?" To me, and I think many of my colleagues here today throughout the House and the Senate, he is a validator. We wanted to check whether we were doing the right thing by him, had we had the right thoughts and had we analyzed something properly.

And then I thought to myself, because you have to see, that I spent more than 5,000 days with JACK MURTHA, about 3 to 4 hours every day, so probably more time than I've spent with any other human being on Earth, because he allowed me to have a little standing room next to his chair—(laughter)—and when there weren't 30 or 40 others around,

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he and I would talk about various issues, some of them very involved, others just passing time and having humorous thoughts.

But he was also a father confessor, and I used to listen to those confessions from many of the Members, and it was satisfying. I see some smiles of recognizing and missing that confession.

Well, we've lost our father confessor. We've lost our validator. But in his passing we haven't lost the treasure that JACK MURTHA gave to the House, gave to the Congress, gave to the Constitution. That will always hold in our hearts and in our minds.

And to Joyce and the family, we say thank you for the tremendous contribution you all have made to the United States of America. Thank you. (Applause.)

The Honorable Michael F. Doyle. So how do we pay tribute to our friend JACK MURTHA in 2 minutes? It's simply not possible, although JACK, I know you appreciate short speeches. (Laughter.)

Let me say these things about JACK. He loved his family. Joyce, he talked about you all the time, and his children. He was very proud.

He loved this country, and he especially loved the men and women who serve this country. He was their champion.

JACK MURTHA loved this institution. You know, a lot of Members get here by running against this institution. JACK MURTHA taught us to respect this institution.

So when I think of my friend JACK MURTHA, this was my mentor, this was my friend, this was someone who made me a much better person than I would have been without him.

Jack, I'll miss you every day for all the days that I'm here.

Pennsylvania will dearly miss JACK MURTHA, as will this country. (Applause.)

The Honorable Tim Holden. Today, we pay tribute to our departed friend and colleague, JACK MURTHA.

Over 17 years ago, I heard JACK say that his great-grandmother said to him, "You were put on this Earth to make a difference." And, boy, did he make a difference. He loved his country, and he served it with distinction at many levels.

He served stateside during the Korean war. When the Vietnam war broke out, he volunteered again for the U.S. Marine Corps, serving a tour, receiving a Purple Heart. He received a commendation from the commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps upon his retirement from the Marine Corps

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Reserves in 1990. He was the first Vietnam combat veteran elected to the Congress. He was the longest serving Member from Pennsylvania ever to serve in the House of Representatives.

He never forgot those brave men and women in uniform, and made sure that they had the resources and tools to do the job they do so well. He made sure our veterans had the care that they deserved, and visited them so many times in our military hospitals. And he helped so many of us in this House. Not one of us can say that we had not gone to JACK during our career for help. He will surely be missed by the country, but most notably by Pennsylvania.

So, Joyce, to you and your family, our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to you. Thank you. (Applause.)

The Honorable Robert A. Brady. Good morning.

First, I'd like to advise Mrs. Murtha that I'm your adopted son. I don't know whether or not JACK ever told you. Good morning, mom.

I was under JACK's wing and it was warm in the winter-time and cool in the summer. He taught me and showed me to be courteous to everyone. He made everyone feel special. When we visited the troops, he'd rather be with the enlisted men than with the brass or the generals. You knew that because you couldn't find him half the time.

He was compassionate. He had a great heart. He enjoyed telling stories. He enjoyed a good joke and had a great sense of humor. Some of us didn't know that side of him, especially the press.

With the exception of his family, I was more fortunate than any one of you in this room. Before we broke on any Thursday or a Friday, I would help him down because as you know, he had a knee operation. I would shake his hand and I would give him a kiss, probably a sight to see a guy like me kissing a guy like him, but we didn't care. Unfortunately, last January, this January 27th, not knowing it, that was going to be the last time I saw him and was to be the last time I gave him a kiss.

So I thank the Murtha family, thank you so much for sharing him with us, probably a lot too much and we know what that's like in our lives, how we sacrifice our families for this institution. He will be deeply missed. There will never, ever be another JACK Murtha.

So we had this flag flown over the Capitol and we put it on his seat, the only seat that is reserved in Congress and we had it there all week on behalf of the Pennsylvania dele-

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gation. It would be my honor and my pleasure to present this to you.

The Honorable C.W. Bill Young. JACK and I had a very special friendship and partnership based on mutual respect for each other and based on a strong commitment on both of our parts to make sure that the United States had whatever it needed to stay strong. That our troops who kept our America strong had whatever they needed to accomplish their mission and protect themselves while they were doing it.

Despite that great friendship, JACK and I never socialized. I don't think—I can't remember if we ever had lunch together, but we worked together every day. In his quarter or in my quarter or in the well of the House or in the Speaker's lobby or walking back between the Rayburn Building and the Capitol, we talked. We visited. We checked with each other on what we thought were the important issues of the day.

We traveled together. We went to far-flung places like the DMZ in Korea, Kuwait, Bahrain, Desert Storm, Bosnia, Kosovo, really exciting places like that. It was always there—JACK's question always was, "Is there anything you need that you don't have that we can provide for you?" The well-being of the troops were primary in his mind.

I know there's a great emptiness in the Murtha family. When I walked those same Halls today, I walked into the committee room that he and I shared, we presided, we took turns presiding. I have a tremendous emptiness in my heart because here was a big man in my life, a big man in the life of the Congress.

And so I know the emptiness that Joyce and the family experience is nothing that can be described. And I know that my emptiness is nothing compared to their emptiness, but just remember, Joyce, as Tim Holden said, "JACK MURTHA made a really big difference."

God bless you and your family.

The Honorable Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. Vivian and I thank you, Joyce, and the Murtha family for allowing me this time this morning.

Shakespeare wrote, "All the world is a stage and all the men and women merely players, each has his entrance and his exit, one man in his time may play many parts." So it was with JOHN P. MURTHA. He was son, brother, husband to you, Joyce, father, uncle, grandfather, a strong family man, the ultimate example to and of the Murtha clan.

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He was a student, soldier, Marine officer and a gentleman, a patriot warrior, the likes of which our Nation has seen far too few, a leader, mentor, counselor, encourager, advocate, helper, feared adversary, trusted ally, loyal friend, who always literally and figuratively stood taller than his peers, in courage, honor, dignity and service to others.

Though I could speak and master English, French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese, Vietnamese, Farsi, Sanskrit, and any of the other languages spoken by mankind, I would not have enough words combined to adequately express the positive impact that JACK MURTHA's life and service had on his family, friends, his congressional district, Congress as an institution, the men and women of our military, and indeed the world. He truly made a difference.

Though we continue to grieve his loss and know that Murtha's corner on the floor of the House will never, ever be the same, the pain we share must melt into joy for we have all been truly blessed to know, love, and benefit from having shared the stage of life with this very exceptional man. All the world is a stage and all the men and women merely players, each has his entrance and his exit. One man in his time may play many parts, but thank you, JACK, for playing so many roles in so many of our lives.

The Honorable James P. Moran. Leadership is about character. JACK had it. He led with it. He led us in putting our families first with his devotion to Joyce's love for his children. He led us in respecting this institution, people in it, the people who lead it, Madame Speaker. And he led us in recognizing that the strength of our military comes not so much from the weapons we equip our men and women to kill with, as the values we equip them to live with.

JACK lived by those values—courage, discipline, compassion. He was a man of few words who didn't mince his words. And so to sum it up, JACK MURTHA—you were a great man. We can't afford to forget you. And we couldn't help but love you.

The Honorable Jerry Lewis. Madame Speaker, Mr. Vice President, friends of JACK.

Joyce, we are very proud to have this moment to express our love and appreciation to you and your family. JACK was an amazing experience for me over some three decades that we worked together on the Appropriations Committee.

I'll never forget a very special moment, it was the earmark of earmarks. We found a program in the Intelligence Com-

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mittee. That program involved a new asset involved known as the UAVs. JACK immediately, even though the Air Force could not imagine our ever wanting an asset where somebody wasn't sitting in the seat. JACK recognized the potential of that future asset and if it were not for his work and his support for our effort, that \$40 million earmark would never have gone forward and the Predator never would have been in Bosnia.

On another occasion, a demonstration of incredible foresight and leadership, JACK MURTHA joined me in the committee taking a look at tactical aircraft. We decided that we could not go forward with the F-22 and we pulled the procurement for the first seven of those aircraft. You would have thought we blew the top off the Pentagon, and to say the least, there was lots of consternation out there. But JACK foresaw that unless we tested the software and the wings before we started to fly this baby, it never would fly. Always willing to lead.

Charlie Wilson's war would not have been Charlie Wilson's war if it had not been for JACK Murtha. It was his effort that helped us and allowed us to force the Russians out of Afghanistan, laying the foundation for a future for freedom in that entire region. All of us know that JACK was there to make a difference, but indeed, he couldn't stand those who wouldn't get to the point. He always said, "Let's get it done."

Any general, admiral, secretary, or otherwise who decided that they wanted to have a PowerPoint in the committee might as well take their charts and go home. Indeed, few people have ever impacted the House of Representatives and our country's freedom as JACK MURTHA has.

Thank you.

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur. Madame Speaker, Mr. Vice President, what a privilege to be here this morning to pay tribute to a great man. From his days as a Marine drill instructor at Parris Island, JOHN P. MURTHA knew how to lead. He formed a league of his own, husband, father, family man, man of the House, Congressman, colonel, chairman, cardinal, dean, beloved by townspeople, comrades, colleagues and staff, man of his word, trusted, expeditionary son of Johnstown.

From Korea to Afghanistan, rough-hewn from hard-scrabble America in deer hunter country, brave, bold, direct, ready, bipartisan, volunteer for Korea and Vietnam, intelligence officer, two Purple Hearts, Bronze Star, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. Irish eyes always smiling unless fixed on

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the enemy. He taught us—oh, did he teach us—victory is knowing your enemy. Support unit cohesion. Pay attention to detail. Consult the ranks. Get to the front. Work the troops. He mused to Charlie Wilson, “You don’t say. Is that so?” Achieved both career goals, Marine colonel and Member of Congress who won his first race by 122 votes.

His beautiful wife, Joyce, wears a golden medallion today presented to her by her husband from that race. No one could have done more.

Lasting friends, enduring lessons, a giant oak. A lion now rests in the Allegheny foothills. America’s defense is the best in the world because JOHN MURTHA lived to leave that legacy.

At Tip O’Neill’s memorial, JACK gave an Irish blessing from which we quote, with love to his strong wife, Joyce, children, Donna, John, and Patrick and their beautiful families, with the full heart of this House led by his Speaker Nancy Pelosi. “May the sun shine warm upon your face and until we meet again, may God keep you in the hollow of His hand. We know when love is real it endures and grows stronger even beyond time.”

Thank you.

[United States Marine Band vocalist Gunnery Sergeant Kevin Bennear sings “God Bless America.”]

General James L. Jones. Madame Speaker, Mr. Vice President, Joyce, members of the Murtha family, when I think of JACK MURTHA, I think of leadership. I think of a lifelong commitment to this Nation and all that it holds dear.

On the leadership, there’s no question about his qualifications for high office. He achieved the rank of Eagle Scout when he was a young man, left college in 1952 to join the Marine Corps and became, as was mentioned, the drill instructor at Parris Island, SC, the Marine Corps recruit depot, where he no doubt developed the finer aspects of his sense of humor. (Laughter.)

His leadership was recognized early on, and from there he went to officer candidate school; was selected to compete for a commission as a second lieutenant, which he achieved; and left active duty in 1955; stayed in the Marine Corps Reserve, always faithful to the corps, always serving whenever called for.

In 1966, he volunteered for duty in the Republic of Vietnam, where he served with great distinction as a battalion intelligence officer on the front lines, for which he was recog-

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nized with some of our Nation's highest awards for valor: the Bronze Star with a Combat V for Valor, two Purple Hearts, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and a Combat Action Ribbon. He retired as a full colonel in 1990.

Those of us who have been privileged to serve with Congressman MURTHA over the years, in uniform and out of uniform, will always remember his concept of the citizen soldier; that in his elected capacity, he always went to the dangerous spots where men and women were serving their country.

I accompanied him to Sarajevo in 2003 (sic), which was not a real good time to visit Sarajevo. As we were getting off a C-130 and hurrying quickly to the shelter, a piece of shrapnel flew past us and impacted on some sandbags about 20 or 30 feet in front of us, and he turned and looked at me and said, "Well, I guess they know we're here." (Laughter.)

He did this time and again. He did it quietly. He did it modestly. Wherever the danger was, he went there to see how the men and women were, to see how our Nation's interests were being protected, and he devoted countless hours to studying and learning about the situation that he was concerned with.

He worked tirelessly for the needs of women and men in uniform. He was at the forefront of the all-volunteer force in its establishment, for which those of us who have spent our careers in uniform will be eternally grateful. He was a counselor to Presidents, an adviser to senior military officers. He will inspire us for many years to come. We will miss him. We'll always be grateful to him for his sunny example of life—toward his family, toward his country, and toward humanity.

Thank you.

The Honorable Robert M. Gates. Madame Speaker, Mr. Vice President, Joyce, members of our family. Like General Jones, I had a slightly different perspective than most of today's speakers, since I was not one of JACK's colleagues here on the Hill. For nearly a quarter of a century, I worked with him from the executive branch, focusing on the great national security challenges our country faced.

From our earliest contacts, I will always remember and be grateful for JACK's personal efforts on behalf of the Afghan resistance fighting the Soviets, as Jerry Lewis talked about; efforts to help bring about the collapse of an evil empire and bring about the end of the cold war.

Over the last 3 or so years, I had the opportunity to work with JACK on Defense Department appropriations. We met

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privately on a regular basis, and had more laughs than you might have thought. One of his great qualities was that he was always candid about where he stood and what he thought. And you could always tell when he was getting ready to cut a deal, because his eyes would begin to twinkle. (Laughter.)

In October 2008, about a month before the election, JACK and I were meeting alone, and he showed me a press article he had marked up. It was a piece speculating about whether Senator Obama, if he won, would ask me to stay at Defense and, if he did, whether I'd agree. In his inimitable way, JACK put his hand on my arm and said, "If he asks, you have to do it. I say I want you to stay." Now, coming from JACK, that had a real impact on me, even though I've somewhat edited his language for this occasion. (Laughter.)

In all of our dealings, and over his entire time in Congress, it was always clear that JACK's first priority and his loyalty belonged to the men and women serving our country in the intelligence community and especially in the military. He would do anything to make sure that troops had what they needed.

I will greatly miss JACK, just as this Congress and the country will miss an uncommon patriot and one of the truest and most steadfast friends of America's men and women in uniform. Thank you. (Applause.)

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi. Mr. Vice President, members of the President's Cabinet, Members of the U.S. Senate visiting to our side, especially the two Senators from Pennsylvania, Senator Specter and Senator Casey, we're honored by your presence; to all the many friends and colleagues of JACK MURTHA, but especially to his family, to Joyce and the family.

Thank you, Joyce, for sharing JACK MURTHA with us. Mr. Young said he knew JACK very well and they worked together for a long time but they never socialized together. JACK never socialized. He went home—(laughter)—he went home to Joyce every night.

Many of us who are gathered here have had the privilege of calling JACK MURTHA colleague. Many also have the privilege of calling him friend. And so we gather today to mourn a loss of a friend, a dear friend, and celebrate the life of a person who was a great legislator, a courageous soldier, and a public servant to the end.

A couple of weeks ago, a couple of planes full of Members of Congress, family, and staff went to Johnstown to pay our

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respects to JACK Murtha. We went there to console, and we were consoled. We saw the tremendous outpouring of love and respect for JACK MURTHA. Thousands of people stood in the snow in line to wait their turn to say goodbye. Again, members of the President's Cabinet came to the service. And the President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton, was there. I hope it was a comfort to the family that so many people at every level of our society appreciated JACK's contribution, mourn your loss and are praying for you at this sad time.

I had the privilege of speaking at JACK's service, and I told people of Johnstown about the "Pennsylvania corner." It's important to note that there are no other named locations in the House Chamber. (Laughter.) "Pennsylvania corner" was a place where JACK held court. He was flanked by his two lieutenants—on the west Mike Doyle, on the east Bob Brady—senior member Mr. Kanjorski, then all of his pals around him. Members came from across the country and across the aisle to pay their respects, to get JACK's blessing on what they were up to. He always gave them friendship. He always gave them advice. Sometimes he gave them support. (Laughter.)

For 2 weeks since he left us, the flag that Brady gave to Joyce and the family has been sitting there in memory of JACK, his leadership, especially of his patriotism.

Seeing the outpouring of support in Pennsylvania and seeing it here today recalls to mind a passage from the Book of Ecclesiasticus that I mentioned in Johnstown:

Now let us praise great men, the heroes of our nation. They have led the people by their counsel and their knowledge of the laws. From their fund of wisdom, they gave instruction. Their bodies are buried in peace, and their names will live forever. The people will tell of their wisdom and the congregation will continue to sing their praise.

Wouldn't JACK MURTHA's great-grandmother be proud of the difference that JACK MURTHA made, that he would meet that standard, make it here—on this Earth to make a difference. Others have referenced that.

He made a difference in so many ways. But it was interesting, as we all traveled with him, whether it was abroad to the theaters of war or to Bethesda Naval Medical Center or Walter Reed, as Mr. Young has referenced, he was so interested in these soldiers. He could identify with them and speak to them, as one who had served in the military. But also, his affection for them was as a father.

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My favorite time was—when they knew he was coming, they'd be all excited and this or that. And one day they—the door was closed, and they said, “The patient is not ready yet,” and then we waited a moment. Then the door opened. The door—they opened the door, and there was the patient, standing in full salute of JACK MURTHA, wearing a Steelers jersey. (Laughter.) JACK loved that.

JACK was a man of great courage, recognized so by receiving the prestigious John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award. He won that for the courage it took for him, a person committed to our national security, a person who loved every one of our men and women in uniform—the courage it took for him to speak out against the war in Iraq. And in doing so, he taught us very clearly to make the distinction between the war and the warrior.

JACK believed that our national strength certainly was measured in our military might and the morale and well-being of our troops, but also that it was measured in the well-being of the American people. And so while many others have acknowledged how well decorated he was as a war hero, a serviceman, he was also well recognized and decorated, received many awards, for measuring the strength of our country, again, in the well-being of our country, our people. He showed leadership on investments in breast cancer, prostate cancer, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, you name it. JACK recognized the role that research played in making America healthier and stronger.

JACK's motto—I mean, the motto of the Marines, was a source of pride for him—right, Brian? We visited Brian in Iraq. And how proud he was of seeing you there, with all of our troops and all of his family—came together—and you. *Semper Fi*—always faithful—*Semper Fidelis*. That was not only the motto of the Marines whom he was so proud to be a part of, it was the motto of his life: Always faithful. Always faithful to his family. His love of Joyce was so palpable, it was so wonderful and it was so—such a joy to behold. That's why he was going home every night, not socializing with Bill Young—or the rest of us, for that matter. (Laughter.)

I feel quite certain that the caliber of person that he was, the specialness of his personality, the obedience to his great-grandmother to make a difference, his patriotism to his country, his love of his family, his mastery of the legislative process, made JACK MURTHA very special. I am quite certain that we will never see his like again.

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But I also mentioned, though, when I was in Pennsylvania, something about JACK that those of us who knew him here knew was very important to him.

He loved this institution. And he loved it as others have acknowledged.

I think that love was kindled by his friendship with Tip O'Neill. He loved Tip O'Neill. He loved telling us stories about Tip O'Neill. Tip was his mentor. Tip was his friend. Tip loved this institution. And together they made progress for our country, they made friends with each other. And it's a special part of who JACK MURTHA was.

I too have a flag. This flag was flown over the Capitol, Joyce, the minute that we heard that JACK had left us. On behalf of the Congress of the United States, I want to present it to you in recognition of JACK's leadership and patriotism. Every day that he was here, he honored the pledge we took in the morning: "with liberty and justice for all." How appropriate that "God Bless America" is the song that was sung today. God truly blessed America with the leadership and the life of JACK Murtha. Thank you. (Applause.)

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr. Joyce, thank you for allowing me to be here. To the Murtha clan, your dad was one hell of a guy.

I, in a strange way, having committed the cardinal sin of going straight to the U.S. Senate when I was 29 years old, not having had the honor of serving in the House, don't have the day-to-day connection with JACK that all these guys had. But I was there at the beginning and at the end.

I was a 31-year-old kid, and I was a sitting U.S. Senator for about a year, and I got a phone call from a guy named MURTHA who I didn't know, never heard of. And he told me that he was running in a special election in Johnstown. And he said he knew I was from Scranton, thought I understood the ethic of his district a little bit, would I come in and campaign for him? And I did.

There may have been others who campaigned then; I don't recall. But I remember when I went in he was ahead by about 5 points, and he won by 122 votes. (Laughter.)

My son Hunter is with me, and Hunter always hears me tell war stories and tell stories about JACK. I might add, the first guy I asked to visit me in the residence I now have, the Vice President's residence, to talk about Iraq and Afghanistan was JACK. JACK came over and spent about 2 hours with me sitting on the porch, because I wanted his advice.

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But I look around at the Congressmen that are here. The reputation of every one of the folks that I know, is written based on their personal courage, their guts, their gumption, their ethic, their—the fact that they’re fighters, their sense of personal commitment.

You know, it goes from Bobby Brady. You know, Bobby, I used to kid, growing up in Casey country, that Scranton would have been a hell of a neighborhood to grow up in if you and JACK lived in the neighborhood, because he could have lived in your neighborhood in Philly—and we could have lived in his. It was the same ethic.

It’s about an ethic, Chris, I think you have. It’s more than about character. A lot of people have character—not enough.

But few people have that intangible thing my mom called, Steny, the sixth sense. There’s something about some people who you just know, they’ll have your back.

I know I’m not supposed to be this informal as the Vice President. But the JACK that I knew, the JACK that I loved, the JACK that I respected—all the things that have been said about JACK today are all true. And I recognize this.

The part I liked about him the best, he’s just one stand-up son of a gun. He’s just a stand-up guy, man. He knew what it meant to give at the office.

He was the guy, Paul, when you made a deal, and his circumstances changed, and it would hurt him to keep it, he’d say, “I get it, I made a deal, a deal is a deal. It hurts me, but I’m keeping the deal.”

It’s a Scranton ethic. It’s a Claymont ethic. It’s a Johnstown ethic. You know, it’s the ethic of a lot of you sitting out here. Danny, I don’t know anybody with more personal courage than you. But JACK was kind of like you. JACK could stand up when it wasn’t popular. He’d stand up and defend individuals when it wasn’t popular.

You talk about how JACK was a great soldier. And he was. And I can remember—you know, think about it. I remember going out to campaign for him, General. And so I did a little bio on him. I wanted to know about this guy that was running this special election—who had been running Johnstown’s car wash before this time. What was the deal about this guy?

And I learned this guy, when he was playing football at Washington and Jefferson College, he got a starting berth. When he found out the reason he got the berth was because the guy who was an upperclassman to him was going to

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Korea, and that's the only reason he was going to get to start, he left and enlisted and wanted to go to Korea.

It's sort of the ethic that, if I'm getting this job because someone else is making a sacrifice, I sure in hell shouldn't benefit from his sacrifice. Kind of basic stuff that we don't talk about very much. It's that special stuff.

It's the stuff that makes so many of you so different from other people. Then he didn't get to go to fight in Korea. He became a drill sergeant, an experience that served him very well in the House. (Laughter.) And he decides he—the Vietnam war—he still wants to fight for his country.

Now, guessing—I don't know for a fact, Joyce, but guessing, I can picture the conversation going like, well, so-and-so's gone and so-and-so's gone and so-and-so's gone. And Mary lost her husband. And Mrs. Smith lost her son, and I'm sitting here.

You know, that's the stuff. We like to think of our country made up of men and women like that, and that was JACK. I was graduating into Vietnam in 1968, and there weren't a whole lot of people lining up ready to go, and here JACK, in the Reserves, decided he wants to go.

Well, you know, he had to file a petition. He got the petition and he showed his mettle. This has been spoken of here. He was a man that always was fighting, fighting for opportunity.

He fought for his country but he never stopped fighting when he got back here. It wasn't a fight out of anger and resentment. It was a fight about "this is just right."

It wasn't complicated. In my experience with JACK, it wasn't complicated stuff. It's right or it's wrong. If it's right, you've got to do something about it.

I also remember thinking that, when I was out there in 1974, if any man reflected his district, it was JACK. Marcy talked about deer hunter country. Well, that was JACK. I mean, he reflected, again, the ethic of his district. He was made of the same stuff as the people he served with and actually grew up with.

Throughout his career people tried to pigeonhole him. I remember people would say, because I had different views on some things, as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee—I actually served longer than JACK in the U.S. Congress; I served longer than most of you here in the U.S. Congress—and they'd say, "How can you be such good friends with JACK, this hawk? You know, this guy's a hawk."

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Remember, Ike, when I went out and almost lost your election for you in the beginning, the first time? (Laughter.) I was the first guy to campaign for Ike, too. (Chuckles, laughter.) It's no wonder they're so resilient. They made it through my campaigning for them the first time.

But all kidding aside, the thing that always struck me about JACK that people didn't really understand; it was, as Nancy said—as the Speaker said, it was about the warrior, not the war. It was about his country; it was about the warrior.

And what did JACK do? JACK came out against the war in Iraq. People were surprised when JACK called for the Marines to investigate what happened in Haditha, because he was such a defender of the Marines. I think what people didn't get about JACK, it was all about honor and duty and about protecting his Marines—not by just protecting them physically; protecting their honor. To JACK, it was about honor. To JACK, at least from my perspective, the JACK I met in 1974, that's what his opposition to the war was about. It was about this sense of protecting these kids that he cared so much about.

I remember recently spending Christmas at Walter Reed. As you all know, because all of you guys and women go there, there were about 14 kids who couldn't come down for Christmas dinner, so I went to each of their rooms. There was one kid, both legs gone, part of one arm, and he had one of those triangles above his bed. And I walked in and he was asleep, so I said to the nurse, "Don't." The nurse said, "No, he really wants to see you. He really wants to see you."

And the kid pulled himself up on this triangle and said, "Sir, I'm sorry I can't stand." And then he said to me, "Do you know Congressman MURTHA?" (Soft laughter.)

Well, let me tell you something. I think that the ethic that JACK MURTHA exemplified here is the stuff that is most admired by the American people and the stuff of which we sing songs about. You were talking about JACK's corner, Pennsylvania's corner. Like I said, the way I kind of looked at it, without knowing it—except on two occasions being able to come to the corner when I came over here to do some business, when you allowed those of us from the Upper Chamber to traverse into God's country—I always thought it was not so much who was in JACK's corner, but whose corner JACK was in.

You know, 1977, the Johnstown flood, I was head of the Public Works Committee, Chris, before it was Environmental

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Public Works, and I was head of the Disaster Relief Subcommittee.

So I flew to Johnstown. And there was only one man in America who could have gotten any notice, Chairman Obey, other than Dan Flood, at that moment, and it was JACK MURTHA. And everybody else was talking of what they were going to do, and I was holding hearings there about disaster relief and getting money, and I asked where was Congressman MURTHA, privately.

I was told that he had just commandeered a military helicopter, because he was told he could no longer wade through the water in places he wanted to go. He was going out, spot to spot, giving direct aid and trying to pull people out of trouble.

When the Bethlehem Steel plant closed, he was the first guy to convince Bethlehem Steel to keep the plant open for another year and fought like the Devil to find places for those 10,000 folks who lost their jobs, because to JACK, it was more than a steel plant closing, it was a way of life shutting down. It was an ethic that was being lost. It was about dignity. It was about respect.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, you all know and you could tell a thousand stories about JACK, more than I could tell. But I didn't have to be around him as much as you were to know the man that he was. I didn't have to be around him as much as you were to know that, as Nancy said, we're not going to see his like again.

You know, when I think of JACK, there's a Civil War poet, a guy named Richard Watson Gilder, who, like JACK's great-grandfather, fought in the Civil War. And he wrote something that could have been put on JACK's tombstone. He said, "Better than honor and glory, and history's iron pen, was the thought of duty done and love of his fellow-men." I don't know anybody who did his duty better than JACK.

I don't know anybody who cared about his neighborhood more than JACK, because at the end of the day, when I think of JACK, I think of neighborhood. I think he had a neighborhood ethic. I think of a guy who asked no quarter, gives none when people's interests are at stake and stood tall throughout his whole career.

If my dad were alive, guys, he'd look at all three of you and say, "You got good blood, kids. You got good blood." (Applause.)

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi. Before we adjourn, I hope that we could all join and express our gratitude, love, and

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appreciation to Joyce Murtha and her family for sharing JACK with us. (Standing applause.)

The Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin. Trusting in God, we have shared stories and memories of JOHN. Now we come to a final moment. Parting always moves the heart. The mind travels everywhere. The heart moves slowly.

This assembly will disperse with some sorrow and some regret but also with deeper commitments, deeper belief, because of JACK MURTHA.

The God of mercy who gathered us together today will again gather us in the joy of His kingdom. Therefore as we go forward let us walk with a commitment of peace, let us console one another with faith and let our charity and love for one another be known around this world.

Into Your hands, Father of Mercies, we commend our brother in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died, he will rise again on the last day.

We give You thanks for the blessings that You have bestowed upon him, his family, and his corps and our faith in this body in which he took such great pride: they are signs to us all of Your goodness and Your continued care for us.

Merciful Lord, turn toward us now and listen to our prayers: open the gates of paradise to your servant and help us who remain to comfort one another with assurances of faith, deeper dedication and service of others and our faith, trust that You will join us all together once again in Your Holy Spirit.

Merciful Lord, we know the anguish of the sorrowful, but You are ever attentive, most of all to the brokenhearted.

Hear Your people who cry to You in their needs and strengthen us, strengthen this Nation in our hope of Your lasting goodness.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May he rest in peace. Amen.

Peace to you all.

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