

him. Sixteen years sounds like a long time of fond memories, but my dear friend and colleague, George Brown, has been making lasting impressions in this country for over 35.

From the depth of issues like fighting discrimination and segregation, to the brink of the AIDS epidemic and continuing world conflicts, George has experienced a changing country and world throughout his time in Congress. However, experiencing change is considerably separate from making change, which George Brown did much of. He has been a part of these changes, and for that reason, we honor him today.

As a college student in the 1930's, Brown began inspiring change when he began to fight for civil rights. At the University of California at Los Angeles, George helped to integrate the campus when he was the first white man to live with an African-American roommate. That strive for change continued as he graduated from UCLA with a degree in Industrial Physics and used it to serve the people of Los Angeles. He was elected to the Monterey Park, CA, city council in 1954 and became mayor of the city in 1955, just one year later. George moved on to the California State Assembly in 1958, where he focused on environmental issues. This drive to fight for the environment stayed with George throughout his entire career, including his 17 terms in Congress.

In 1962, George Brown ran to represent the 29th district in California and won his seat with an 11 percentage point margin. During his years in Congress, Representative Brown voted for the Civil Rights Act of 1964, served on the House Committee on Science as a ranking member, served on the House Committee on Agriculture, worked to integrate technology and education, spoke out on foreign policy issues and fought painstakingly hard to keep the environment safe, clean and healthy.

I would like to praise George Brown for who he was and how he contributed to this society. As a Congressman, as a family man, as an environmentalist and as a citizen, George Brown will be remembered.

THE LATE HON. GEORGE BROWN

**HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate having this opportunity to say a few words in memory of my friend and colleague George Brown and to reflect on his distinguished service to our nation.

Through his military service in WWII and nearly 35 years in the House of Representatives, George Brown established a record of public service matched by few others. Indeed, he has ennobled our profession through his example.

During his career, George showed himself to be a man of strong moral conviction and uncommon vision. In his early days in Washington, George continued his life-long work as a tireless advocate for racial equality and civil rights.

Later, as Chairman and Ranking Member of the Science Committee, he lent his scientific expertise and steadfast support to issues of science, technology, and aeronautics. He will be best remembered, perhaps, for his dedication to strengthening America's commitment to manned and unmanned space exploration. His efforts in this area have left an indelible mark on our space program, and have quite literally broadened our nation's horizons.

George also recognized the need to conserve our natural resources and protect the environment, long before such issues were part of the mainstream agenda. Time has shown just how right he was.

Throughout his many years in the House, George had a wonderful ability to work with people of all political persuasions. He was always willing to find common ground and form alliances with others, making him an extraordinarily effective advocate for the people of his 42nd District.

George Brown will be remembered as a man who challenged us to make our world a better place, while advocating exploration of worlds beyond our own. He was a great member of this institution. I will miss him. I extend my deepest sympathies to his family.

GEORGE BROWN, CONGRESSIONAL  
ICON

**HON. BRUCE F. VENTO**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to add my words of condolences to the family of George Brown, our late colleague. George was a friend and counselor to many members, including myself. He was a real worker and advocate for people in the House. Congressman Brown applied himself and invested himself in the pursuit of good policy, first for the people of this nation and California, and for the attainment of human kind.

Congressman Brown invested the time and energy to understand the intricacies of policy and often we stood up together and spoke for good, sound science as it affected our landscapes and natural resources. The United States Biological Survey, the man in the Biosphere program, and, of course, George Brown had a legacy of accomplishments to match similar efforts related to the National Science Foundation (NSF), NASA, and the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA).

I know that George felt if we had good information as members or as administrators we would be equipped to make the best public policy. George Brown's modest life and background working for a good education, which he obtained and used, says a lot about Representative Brown. George Brown did not forget how he got to where he was and the need to stand up for those without a voice in the political power structure. George Brown worked against housing discrimination, for the right of workers to win representation and fair compensation and eventually was elected to local office and to the United States House where he set off on a great career and journey.

George Brown, plain speaking and modestly attired, possessed the power of ideas and

knowledge. Congressman Brown didn't let political expediency interfere with what he thought was the right vote or the correct action. We will miss the warm friendship and special role that George Brown played in Congress on a professional and especially personal basis, but his spirit will live in our actions and memories. George Brown has set a very high mark and we surely stand on this shoulders as we look ahead to and try to see the future and hope for our great nation.

My sympathy to his wonderful wife Marta and to his family, you have our support and comfort. God bless George Brown and thank God for the service of this wonderful man.

IN HONOR OF THE WORLD PEACE  
BELL AND THE CITY OF NEW-  
PORT, KENTUCKY

**HON. KEN LUCAS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the city of Newport, Kentucky, where the World Peace Bell arrived at its permanent home this weekend. At 12 feet in diameter and 12 feet in height, the bell weighs 66,000 pounds. It is the world's largest swinging bell. I also rise to recognize Wayne Carlisle for his vision, commitment, and enthusiasm, without which the World Peace Bell would not have been possible.

The World Peace Bell is a powerful symbol of freedom and peace. It was cast in Nantes, France, on December 11, 1998, the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Bell has an inscription commemorating that document, as well as engravings marking the most important events of the past 1,000 years.

The World Peace Bell was first rung in Nantes on March 20, 1999, in a public ceremony, and it began a month-and-a-half-long sea voyage from France to New Orleans, where the Bell was made part of that city's July Fourth celebration. The Bell was transported by barge up the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, making stops in 14 cities along the way. The Bell arrived at its final destination on August 1st.

The World Peace Bell will officially open on September 21, 1999, the International Day of Peace, when it will toll to observe the opening session of this year's United Nations General Assembly. On New Year's Eve 1999, the Bell will be rung once every hour and broadcast so that people in every time zone around the globe will hear the new millennium rung in by our World Peace Bell. This celebration will include leaders of church and state from around the world, as well as participants performing native rituals and wearing traditional costumes.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the city of Newport and neighboring river cities on their successful revitalization efforts. The World Peace Bell is only one of a number of projects coming to fruition in the region. The success of these efforts is a testament to the spirit and hard work of the people of Northern Kentucky.