Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Leon Brachman, one of Fort Worth, Texas’ finest sons, in honor of his upcoming 80th birthday.

While he was born and raised in Marietta, OH, Mr. Brachman moved to Forth Worth in 1938. He married a Fort Worth girl from an old Forth Worth family and never left.

Mr. Brachman has served his adopted city in almost every civic capacity imaginable. In his service as a founder of the Fort Worth Symphony and the Fort Worth Chamber Music Society, an original board member of the Van Cliburn Quadrennial Piano Competition, and president of Casa Manana, he has shown his profound love of culture and his belief that all should be able to share in its beauty. By his decades long service as the treasurer, president, and chairman of the board of All Saints Hospital, as well as his chairmanship of the Steering Committee of the Public Health School of the University of North Texas, Health Science Center, Fort Worth, he has shown his devotion to the provision of quality health care to all citizens of our community.

As the chairman of the Tarrant County Appraisal District, he devoted countless hours ensuring that Fort Worth and Tarrant County raised their required revenues in a way that was fair to all of its citizens.

To the Jewish community of our city and our entire country, Mr. Brachman has served in virtually every possible leadership role, giving of his time and his resources to keep their institutions strong, their communal needs met, their self-reliance vital. Having served as a vice chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, the president of Ahavath Sholom Synagogue, founder and president of the Hebrew Day School of Fort Worth, and countless other Jewish communal roles, each institution has been positively influenced by his involvement.

Whenever the community has called upon him, Mr. Brachman has never hesitated to take on the most thankless tasks. Wherever there has been an institution in a seemingly hopeless situation, Mr. Brachman has accepted the challenge to nurse it back to health. Our community is incredibly stronger for his presence. We are very lucky that he chose to adopt Fort Worth as his home.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Brachman, his wife of 58 years, Fay, his three children, nine grandchildren, and four great grandchildren and wish them all continued health and success.

It is important that the House of Representatives acknowledge and be thankful for the spirit of community responsibility embodied by Mr. Brachman. His life’s work to make our world a better place demonstrates the best our country has to offer.