

was a quarterback on the championship team at the Catholic school he attended and earned a scholarship to college and just worked his way through the military.

But the issue that DAVE has really dealt with, I recall when I was in county government many years ago, we talked about a "bottle bill," and it was because DAVE sort of pushed that environmental concern ahead many years ago when he was in government in Michigan's State legislature. We talked about environmental protection for PCBs, in that DAVE was always worrying about people who might be afflicted by these diseases that many times went unnoticed because the big guys sort of kept things quiet, even though they knew they were injurious to the health of people, and it was DAVE who talked about these birth defects that were being created.

The statement of "let us separate the warrior from the war," taking the Vietnam era veterans and separating them from an unpopular war, and as people turned their backs, I think it was a disgrace the way Vietnam veterans were treated; but DAVE talked about that and sort of raised the issue, along with the whole question of the Nicaragua Contras in El Salvador, those brutal death squads, when we traveled down there together. It was DAVE always on the side of things that were for justice, for those who were down and out, the HOPE scholarships and increasing Pell grants, increasing minimum wage. These are the areas, the SAVE Act, which really went to help guidance counselors.

So I am just proud to say that I know DAVE. I had the opportunity to vote in 1991, and there was not even a question when he ran for his current position. I happen to pick winners in that, even in the new one too, DAVE; so one of my strengths in Congress is that I know how to pick the winners. It does not say much about me, but it does say that maybe I have good judgment.

I do wish the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) well. I appreciate the courage that he takes when there are difficult votes to give, unpopular votes. We have talked about many of these issues. I think some of the things that we have talked about in the past, now others are seeing that there are issues that we should have been talking about all along which might have made a difference in where we are today.

It has been my pleasure to know you.

Mr. Speaker, as we draw this, what has turned into a Special Order, to a conclusion, I am pleased to yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT).

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. I could not resist the opportunity to come over and say how much my good friend, DAVID BONIOR, has meant to me in my service in the U.S. House of Representatives. I came to Congress in January of 1993, and DAVID was certainly one of the people who

took me under his wing and taught me the process. He is a student of parliamentary procedure, and we had a little group called the parliamentarian group that we used to use, sometimes to our substantive advantage and sometimes to the chaos of the House, but when we wanted to try to get things accomplished that the leadership would not voluntarily accomplish.

It has been a great pleasure for me to serve with DAVID BONIOR. He has certainly been at the top of the list of principal people who have served in this House with strong beliefs in, and willingness to fight for, working people and the things that he believes in. This House is going to miss him immensely and wish him godspeed and the very best in the future.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield time to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for our excellent words about our colleague.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all of our colleagues for coming. This was intended to be 5 minutes. Our phone is ringing off the hook in the office saying, why did you not tell us that this was going to happen, so we will need many more days, Mr. Speaker, to accommodate the words that people want to say about the greatness of DAVID BONIOR. I thank him for the vision with which he has led us, with his knowledge, with his experience, with his integrity. Every one of us who serves in this body has a great privilege to do so. One of our greatest privileges, though, is to have called DAVID BONIOR colleague.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The Chair will recognize Members for Special Order speeches without prejudice to the resumption of legislative business.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may state it.

Mr. FRANK. What legislative business?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. If there is legislative business that comes from the Senate.

Mr. FRANK. Well, I wonder, is any contemplated? I think the minority would have an interest in that prospect. Does anyone know if any legislative business is contemplated?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has been informed that there may be legislative business.

Mr. FRANK. Well, I have checked with our staff here who usually have good channels of communication. We did not know about any, and I would express some hope that there would be some communication so that we would

have some idea of what legislative business might be transacted with everybody no longer in Washington.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would suggest consultation with the leadership.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, if many of us had our way, DAVE BONIOR would never leave this House. No one can or would begrudge a man of DAVE's multiple talents another high office, as Governor of Michigan, or deny the people of Michigan the extraordinary leadership he will bring. Yet, the place DAVE has carved out here in public service to his district, his state, and his country is an unique as it is lasting and unforgettable.

DAVE is a modest man who possesses large personal gifts. You can bet, therefore, that he is embarrassed by the spontaneous, maximum praise usually reserved for eulogies that is coming forward for him today. But, DAVE is going to have to grin, or blush, and bear it.

DAVE BONIOR has managed to lead the Democrats on issues when he agreed and when he did not by using his good head without ever losing his own heart and soul on issues of principle to him and his own constituents. Where DAVE got his bewildering combination of great calm and fierce determination I cannot say. Perhaps that kind of versatility is honed in the success DAVE has had in two very different games, basketball, and football.

The hallmark of the game DAVE played in the House was fairness, strategic skill, and devotion to principle. I am personally grateful for DAVE's strong support and action when the Democratic House voted to allow a vote in the Committee of the Whole for the people of the District of Columbia, the first time District residents who are second per capita in Federal income taxes have ever had a vote on the House floor since the Nation was founded. Members of every variety can quote countless examples of thoughtful, critical support for their districts or their issues DAVE has gathered. However, the affection and respect for DAVE is not centered in mere individual gratitude but fundamentally in the way he brought the best of this institution to bear.

DAVE BONIOR's tenure as a member of Congress from Michigan and as whip has prepared him well to be Michigan's next Governor. Between these two roles, DAVE has shown a mastery of both executive and legislative skills. Add this unique bonus to DAVE's extraordinary personal qualities, and the people of Michigan are guaranteed to continue to get from DAVE what they certainly deserve but much more than they bargained for.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE U.S. NAVY TO OUR VICTORY IN AF- GHANISTAN

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

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I requested this time to highlight the contribution of the United States Navy to our victory in Afghanistan.

After the September 11 attacks, the investigation quickly turned to Osama bin Laden and his al Qaeda training camps in Afghanistan. At first glance, a war in Afghanistan offered few options for the United States. Afghanistan has no coast line and is situated hundreds of miles from any shoreline. None of the nations bordering Afghanistan would permit U.S. strikes against Afghanistan from their own soil.

With few options, President Bush turned to the one asset in our military that can strike anywhere at any time, without needing permission from anyone, the United States Navy, which moved into action. In fact, September 11 fits the classic model of any crisis in our recent past. One of the first questions any President asks in time of national peril is this: Where are the carriers?

In this case, the USS *Enterprise* was in the Indian Ocean, heading home after a long deployment in the Gulf. Her crew saw the aircraft hit the World Trade Center and Pentagon on CNN; and without direction from Washington, the skipper ordered his battle group to come about and head for harm's way. Within minutes of this crisis beginning, the United States Navy, our Navy, was moving into position to strike back at our enemies in the heart of Central Asia.

The war against terrorism is unlike any war we have fought before. Of the approximately 60,000 U.S. military members currently deployed as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, more than half are sailors or Marines. The Navy and Marine Corps has served as the backbone of Operation Enduring Freedom.

From the very beginning, the Navy has been involved in power projection and combat operations against Osama bin Laden, the al Qaeda network, and the Taliban. Two weeks prior to the first shots of the war, the USS *Enterprise* was on station in the Arabian Sea, ready to launch strike aircraft against Taliban air defenses at a moment's notice. At the same time, Navy submarines were positioned near Afghanistan, gathering intelligence on the movements of Taliban and al Qaeda leadership and preparing to insert Navy Special Operation forces, namely, the legendary SEALs. These missions performed by the "silent service" are frequently cloaked in secrecy, but are vital to our efforts in Afghanistan.

More than 50 U.S. Navy ships have participated in Operation Enduring Freedom, including five aircraft carriers and two Amphibious Ready Groups, carrying the 15th and 16th Marine Expeditionary Units. U.S. Navy and coalition surface combatants continue to play an important role in ongoing interdiction missions in the Arabian Sea.

Navy ships operating in the Arabian Sea have demonstrated the adapt-

ability and flexibility of the modern Navy that is unprecedented. The USS *Kitty Hawk* is operated as a Mobile Offshore Logistics Base, serving as a launch platform and supply base for Special Operations forces operating inside Afghanistan. This large carrier did not launch strike aircraft, but adapted to the unconventional needs of the war ahead.

The Navy and Marine Corps tactical air assets have also remained flexible, agile, and adaptable. The ability to rapidly retask aircraft and Tomahawk missiles provides the combatant commander with the flexibility he needs to engage the enemy. For example, Navy F-14 fighters have been engaged in air-to-ground strike missions, missions the aircraft was not originally intended to perform. The ability to position aircraft carriers just offshore has allowed the coalition to strike targets for special operations in Afghanistan. The nearest base from which the Air Force has been able to launch strike aircraft in the region is Kuwait, leaving the bulk of close air support to the Navy. On any given day, naval aircraft have been flying 60 to 80 strike sorties as part of the campaign against al Qaeda. Naval strike aircraft have flown more than 4,000 strike sorties and dropped nearly 5,000 weapons against Afghanistan. While the Air Force has performed most of the long-range strategic bombing, the Navy and Marine Corps have provided all of the close air support and precision strike capabilities required by forces on the ground.

For many of us unfamiliar with the geography of Central Asia, the scale and scope of the task before the Navy is hard to understand. If you were to superimpose a map of Afghanistan on the eastern United States, our carriers would be based off the coast of Pensacola, Florida, and the aircraft would be striking targets near Milwaukee. That capability, providing global reach to our Commander in Chief, gives the United States options and influence far in excess of any other nation.

The capability to strike hard and deep requires a complicated ballet of personnel and equipment that is daunting, at best, from the many ships supplying and protecting the battle groups to teams maintaining the aircraft to the air crews of airborne control, tankers, electronic warfare support, fighter caps, and close air support. We have won another war from the air.

I want to note the contribution of the sister services, especially the Air Force's heavy bombers, that dropped most of the strategic ordnance in this campaign. They made a vital contribution to this effort. But the key support was provided by tactical aircraft, close air support for our troops, provided overwhelmingly by the Navy.

The tactical aircraft from the U.S. Air Force were very limited because, from Kuwait, 13 hours' flight from Afghanistan, gave permission for U.S. strikes from their soil. They had little

flexibility arriving over their targets. This diplomatic limitation meant that naval aviation had to carry the vast load of the work in Afghanistan.

I want to make special note of the Navy's electronic warfare aircraft and what they did.

With that, let me just close by saying that we want to take this opportunity to thank the men and women of the following battle groups: the *Enterprise*, the *Roosevelt*, the *Vinson*, the *Kitty Hawk*, the *Bataan*, the *Bonhomme*, *Richard*, and the many men and women of the 15th and 26th MEUs. To the men and women of Enduring Freedom, we wish you a happy holiday and the thanks of a grateful Nation; and in the words of the Navy, we would say "Bravo Zulu."

□ 1300

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS.
ULYSSES B. KINSEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I come to pay tribute to a couple that exemplifies strong family values and ideals, Ulysses and Christine Kinsey, who celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on December 28, 2001, in Florida.

Ulysses Bradshaw Kinsey, or U.B., as he was lovingly called, and Christine Teresa Stiles, met while attending college at the Florida A&M University, and married in Tampa, Florida. The wedding ceremony was performed on December 28, 1941, at the home of Christine's parents.

U.B.'s values of compassion, fairness, and integrity were instilled while working in his father's grocery store. He closely observed his father's treatment of people regardless of race, color, creed, or status. U.B. also admired his mother for her kindness and thoughtfulness towards others.

By watching her mother, who was an enterprising and industrious role model during the Depression, Christine learned the art of making ends meet and training others to do so. Christine epitomized both her parents in her development of compassion and values about hard work. These lessons helped for her to become an excellent homemaker, a caring mother, a resourceful wife, and are reflected in the way she and her husband raised their six children: Eula, Bradshaw, Bernard, Cassandra, Cheryl, and Linda.

The cultivation of U.B. and Christine's relationship over the years has given stability, guidance, structure, and a positive role model, and the results were shown in their children.

This husband and wife team, residing now in West Palm Beach, Florida, has far-reaching influence across the country and out to California, in California's 32nd District. My constituent, Bernard William Kinsey, is the former