honor. I’ve personally met Ryan and words cannot explain how impressed I was with this young man and his achievements. He is certainly a well deserving recipient of this honor and I am pleased to represent him and his family in Colorado.

Ryan attended at Central High School in Grand Junction, designed and built a glove that translates American Sign Language into text on a portable screen. This invention has taken him to the international level in Intel’s Science Talent Search, a competition that he won for the third time last year. This incredible invention is just the latest in a long list of electronic devices that Ryan has developed over the years. Ryan’s fascination with electronics began in the third grade on a simple circuit board, and he has been exploring new possibilities in electronics ever since. His curiosity and determination have certainly paid off. At age 18 years of age, Ryan has won over $192,000 in scholarships, $15,750 in cash, two laptop computers, and two trips to Sweden to attend the Nobel Prize ceremonies. Throughout all of his achievements, Ryan has maintained his integrity and modesty. He hopes to use his gift for electronics and inventing to improve people’s lives, particularly the lives of the disabled.

Mr. Speaker, the innovation and commitment demonstrated by Ryan Randall Patterson certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation. Ryan’s achievements serve as a symbol to aspiring science students throughout Colorado, and indeed the entire nation. The recognition that Ryan has received is proof that hard work, attention to your studies, and a passionate pursuit of your goals can lead to great rewards. The opportunities offered as a result of winning the 2001 and 2002 Intel Science Talent Search are incredible and they certainly are going to a well deserving individual. Congratulations Ryan, and good luck in your future endeavors. You are a future leader in this country, and I am quite confident that this will not be the last honor you receive.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER COUNTY JUDGE, KANSAS, SHERIFF FRED ALLENBRAND

HON. DENNIS MOORE
OF KANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to former Johnson County, Kansas, Sheriff Fred Allenbrand, who died on February 15th, at age 68.

Former County Sheriff Fred Allenbrand Dies
(By Tony Rizzo and Finn Bullers)

Fred Allenbrand, who served longer than any other Johnson County sheriff, died Friday at age 68.

Allenbrand took over a 23-member department in January 1967 and retired in January 2001, after building it into a law enforcement agency with more than 400 employees.

“His contributions to Johnson County law enforcement are too numerous to mention,” said his successor, John Foster. “But if there’s one thing he should be remembered for, it’s the integrity he maintained during his 34 years in office.”

Growing up on a Johnson County farm, one of 13 children, Allenbrand used to wave from horseback at passing squad cars. He was so enamored of police work that he took a $200 a month pay cut to the department as a deputy in 1958.

“I loved it,” he said of his early career in an interview before his retirement.

He quickly progressed through the ranks and by 1962 was a lieutenant, but he was demoted after backing the wrong man in the election for sheriff. The experience prompted him to run for sheriff in 1966.

After winning the election, Allenbrand moved to dismantle the political system that had led to his demotion. He worked for a civil-service system to protect deputies’ jobs, and he worked for better pay and benefits for employees.

“He totally removed any kind of patronage from the system. I’ve always said that was his one real accomplishment,” said his successor, John Foster. “But if you’re not willing to change, you’d better not live in Johnson County.”

Today the department runs a crime laboratory open to every police department in the county.

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