

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING ROGER GROSSMAN

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise with sadness today on the occasion of the death of my friend and constituent, Roger Grossman of Mill Valley, California, who died January 26, 2006, after an extended battle with prostate cancer.

Roger was relatively new to Marin County, arriving 5 years ago as the new publisher for the Marin Independent Journal, the IJ, the daily paper for thousands of residents. He quickly established himself as a forceful, astute leader and a caring contributor to the community, both as an individual and in his role as newspaper publisher.

Originally from Seattle where he got his start with the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Roger also worked at several radio stations, held publishing posts in San Diego and Michigan, and wrote, "Eleven Steps to Advertising Success." In 1989 he joined MediaNews Group, the parent company of the Marin IJ.

One of Roger's best-known activities was his crusade to bring attention to the issue of workforce housing. Realizing that the high cost of housing in Marin County was hurting the economy by driving workers farther and farther away, he ran a hard-hitting series highlighting the issue and championed the creation of the Marin Workforce Housing Trust by the County's large employers. He also spoke out on Marin's high rates of both breast cancer and prostate cancer, important public health issues.

A frequent presence at so many events that an IJ editorial opined that he "seemed to be everywhere," Roger's visibility was enhanced by his imposing physical stature, vibrant energy, and warmth of spirit. As an advocate for the many nonprofits that are the fabric of the community, he supported causes ranging from the arts to health care to youth services. He served on many boards including Dominican University of California, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Marin Ballet, the Novato Chamber of Commerce, United Way, the California Film Institute, and the School to Career Partnership and won several awards including Heart of Marin.

He is survived by his wife Cheryl and children Erik, Stephanie, Trent, and Elliott.

Mr. Speaker, Roger Grossman's passing will leave a hole in the fabric of Marin County. His compassion, resolve, and buoyant energy leave a legacy for us in how one person can make a difference to his community, his colleagues, his family, and his many friends.

HONORING JUDGE MARIO J. ROSSETTI

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor a respected jurist, a dedicated public servant and a trusted friend upon the occasion of his retirement from the New York State Court of Claims.

Born in Worcester, Massachusetts, to proud immigrant parents, a long-time resident of Buffalo and Williamsville, New York, Judge Mario J. Rossetti began his public service when he joined the Niagara Frontier Port Authority early in his legal career. Rossetti also served as a confidential lawyer to the Erie County Surrogate's Court through 1981.

Judge Rossetti's dedication to public service culminated when he was nominated by Governor Mario Cuomo, and confirmed by the New York State Senate, as a New York State Court of Claims Judge in 1987. The day Judge Rossetti swore the oath of office was one of the proudest days of his life, though he lamented that his deceased father could not witness it. Upon reappointment to the post by Governor George E. Pataki, Judge Rossetti has served as a Court of Claims Judge and Acting Supreme Court Justice since 1987.

Mr. Speaker, in the cases that have come before him, Judge Rossetti has dispensed justice with great compassion and firmness of judgment. Judge Rossetti's deep love of the law and his regard for the highest potential of the legal profession deepened his sense of fulfillment while on the Court. Attorneys practicing before Judge Rossetti often remarked that they enjoyed trying cases before him because he let them try their cases as the advocates that they are supposed to be, with the Judge enforcing the rules of the court.

Mr. Speaker, Mario Rossetti's involvement in a variety of civic and community organizations have made their mark on the community. Most of those endeavors also bore the unmistakable mark of Helen Rossetti, nee Pacini, Mario's dear wife who passed away in June. Married in Buffalo in 1958, the couple had six children, Michael, Thomas, Ann Marie, Barbara, David and Renee.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of and in gratitude for his service, leadership and patriotism, I ask that this honorable body join me in honoring Judge Mario J. Rossetti upon the occasion of his retirement, and wish him great health and happiness in the days and years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE COOPER EVANS

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Representative Cooper Evans, who passed away on December 22.

Representative Evans served in the Iowa General Assembly from 1975 to 1979 and continued his service to Iowans in this Chamber representing from 1980 until 1986. He was a friend and colleague to many Members who still serve in the U.S. House of Representatives today.

One of the reasons I made the decision to enter public service was because of Cooper Evans. As a young student at Luther College volunteering for Congressman Evans, I was able to see firsthand his dedication to improving the lives of Iowans.

Following his service in Congress, he served as a policy advisor to President George H.W. Bush beginning in 1991. In that capacity, Representative Evans continued his service to Iowa by bringing his agriculture experience and offering his voice as a Midwesterner within the administration.

Representative Evans led an impressive life. He served our country during World War II in the Army Corps of Engineers, using skills he learned at Iowa State University. When the United States began to strive for its goal to land an astronaut on the Moon, Cooper Evans continued his work as an engineer, as NASA's Director of Lunar Missions.

In more recent years, Representative Evans worked to promote agriculture throughout the world and bring food to those in need through his work with Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance. This effort helped bring better nutrition and stability to those living in the former Soviet republics.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to pay my respects to Cooper Evans. He led a life of service to the people of Iowa. My thoughts are with Jean Evans and her family and friends, as they grieve for their loss, but also celebrate the life of Cooper Evans.

ARTICLE BY RABBI ISRAEL
ZOBERMAN

HON. THELMA D. DRAKE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share the following article written by a constituent, Rabbi Israel Zoberman.

This is a time of critical crossroads. Israel's Prime Minister Sharon's serious health condition would have been a cause for concern, nationally and internationally, at any time. The current timing, however, is bound to offer a host of challenges.

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