

IN TRIBUTE TO BILL NIX

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to my dear friend, and great Arkansan, Bill Nix. Bill spent his whole life in Arkansas as a cattleman, and was a friend to everyone he met. Regretfully, he passed away earlier this year and leaves behind a wonderful family, great memories, and a great many friends who will miss him forever. I ask my colleagues to stand with me and honor a man whom everyone was lucky to have known.

From the start, Bill was committed to Arkansas. He grew up in Ash Flat in Sharp County, Arkansas, which he would continue to call home for the rest of his life. After graduating from Ash Flat public school, Bill bought the Ash Flat Livestock Auction in 1958. To this day, the business continues to flourish.

Bill was always very involved in county and district fair boards, as well as the Cattlemen's Association. He always participated in Future Farmers of America livestock sales, where children would play the part of the cattle and hog sellers. Bill had a loving habit of always over-compensating the children for their cattle and hogs—he loved the livestock business and was always trying to encourage others to come into the business.

Above all else, family was the most important thing in the world to Bill. They stood by each other even in business. He and his wife, Alice, and their children worked side by side in the Sale Barn, which Alice continues to own and operate today. Through this labor of love, it is no wonder that this is the most successful business in the history of the city of Ash Flat.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH C. "PAPA JOE" SMIDDY

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, Joseph C. "Papa Joe" Smiddy is truly a legend in southwest Virginia and beyond. Known for his folksy humor, Dr. Smiddy is widely revered for his endeavors on behalf of the University of Virginia's College at Wise (formerly known as Clinch Valley College), the college that he guided through its infancy and through years of growth as it became the outstanding institution of higher learning that it is today.

Before Clinch Valley College was established in 1954, there were no public colleges in Virginia west of Radford, which made higher education out of reach for most residents of southwest Virginia. The only 4-year, state-supported college in far southwest Virginia, the University of Virginia's College at Wise is also the only branch of the University of Virginia in southwest Virginia. Under Dr. Smiddy's tutelage, the college became a 4-year institution in 1970 with the awarding of Bachelor of Arts degrees. Bachelor of Science degrees were awarded in 1973, and Bachelor of Science degrees in Nursing were first awarded in 1996. U.S. News & World Report ranks the college

as one of the south's top public liberal arts colleges. Dr. Smiddy's name and efforts will forever be linked to the success of the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

A native of Jellico, Tennessee, Dr. Joseph C. Smiddy began his career as an educator as a biology and chemistry teacher and band director. Later, he became a high school principal in Lee County, Virginia, after honorably serving his country as a member of the United States Army during World War II in New Caledonia and the Philippines. Dr. Smiddy was the first biology instructor at Clinch Valley College in 1954, continuing to teach there until 1984. He served as dean and director of the college before being named chancellor in 1968. Dr. Smiddy was forward-thinking in admitting African-American students to the college at a time when not many others were, and Clinch Valley College was co-educational a decade before the University of Virginia admitted women.

Since his retirement in 1985, Dr. Smiddy has continued to serve as ambassador for the University of Virginia's College at Wise and to work tirelessly on its behalf. Because of his efforts, innumerable students who would otherwise not have been able to do so have acquired a college education.

The numerous awards which Dr. Smiddy has received include the University of Virginia's College at Wise Alumni Association's Meritorious Achievement Award, the Wise County Outstanding Citizen Award, the Wise County Outstanding Educator Award, and the Kanto Award. He has been included in the Virginia Hall of Fame, and in 1981, he was named a laureate of the Virginia Cultural Laureate Center. Dr. Smiddy has received honorary doctorates from Lincoln Memorial University, his alma mater (1970); the University of Richmond (1975); and The College of William and Mary (1985).

Dr. Smiddy recently achieved an important milestone by celebrating his ninetieth birthday. He remains a vibrant member of the community of Wise where he lives with his wife, Reba. His daughter, the Honorable Elizabeth Smiddy Wills, is a juvenile and domestic relations court judge for the 30th judicial district of Virginia. His son, Dr. Joe Frank Smiddy, M.D., is a pulmonologist in Kingsport, Tennessee. An active Kiwanian for decades, Dr. Smiddy is also a lifetime deacon of Wise Baptist Church. He uses his gifts as musician and storyteller to share the music and history of the Appalachian Mountains with others not only in Virginia but across the United States and in several foreign countries. His renown as an educator will forever endear Joseph C. Smiddy to the citizens of far southwest Virginia and to all those whose lives have been touched by the institution to which he has dedicated himself, the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

HONORING MR. JOHN WERNER KLUGE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Mr. John Werner Kluge, who recently passed away on September 7, 2010, in Charlottesville,

Virginia. Mr. Kluge's lifetime of achievements included being a world-renowned businessman and philanthropist, as well as a key contributor to our national security during the Second World War.

Mr. Kluge created Metromedia in 1960, which was the Nation's first major independent broadcasting entity, a conglomerate that grew to include seven television stations, 14 radio stations, the Harlem Globetrotters, the Ice Capades, radio paging and mobile telephones. Although his success as a businessman supplied him with vast wealth, acknowledged as the wealthiest man in America in 1989 by Forbes Magazine, he believed some of his greatest achievements came from the benefits society gained from his wide-ranging donations.

Mr. Kluge gave a total of more than \$63 million to the University of Virginia throughout his lifetime, which has allowed one of our Nation's most prestigious Universities to maintain itself in the top-tier of colleges nationwide. His donations to medical programs provided crucial aid to disabled and chronically ill children, while his involvement in prostate cancer research has led to groundbreaking advancements towards containing the disease once being detected. He also believed in the need for better end-of-life care, which led him and his wife, Tussi, to provide funding to establish professorships in the field at the University of Virginia. In 2000, his generosity even reached the Capitol through his \$73 million donation to the Library of Congress, of which he will always be remembered by the Kluge Prize for the Study of Humanities.

But perhaps his most important contribution was one that he is least known for. Mr. Kluge enlisted in the United States Army in 1940. In 1942, during World War II, he was promoted to Captain and appointed as the senior officer at the top secret military intelligence post located in Fort Hunt Park, along the George Washington Memorial Parkway. The top secret post was known only by its mailing address, P.O. Box 1142. While there, Captain Kluge led the men and women at the post in reviewing top secret documents and performing interrogations of more than 4,000 important German prisoners of war. Through the efforts of his unit, our military was provided with crucial information that helped end World War II and give the United States an early advantage in the Cold War. Even more impressive were the tactics he used to obtain such information. Rather than physical torture, Captain Kluge honored the Geneva Convention by obtaining information from prisoners through earning their trust. It was a clear contrast from the approach we initially pursued with captured terrorists and suspected terrorists at Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib prisons. Through casual conversation, card games, and taking walks, he and his unit were able to extract vital information that led to the discovery of most of Germany's secret weapons programs that included research to develop the atomic bomb, the jet engine, and the V-2 rocket.

Madam Speaker, I wish to commend Mr. John W. Kluge on his lifelong accomplishments and contributions to society, as well as for the crucial service he provided our country with at a time of war. While he was a man of numerous successes, he was also a man of endless generosity. He refused to ask for recognition or acknowledgement for his numerous charitable donations, but instead preferred the