

In his passion for these issues, he worked in common cause to bring together people who were often from totally different ends of the political spectrum. Many of us would refer to him as “the great convener” because he had the unique ability to bring together people of disparate beliefs on behalf of these issues he believed in and felt so passionately about.

DON’S career and accomplishments were exemplary. Before he was elected to Congress, he was an educator in the Newark and Passaic Public School Districts. He was the former national president of the YMCA. He became New Jersey’s first African-American Congressman, winning election overwhelmingly in 1988, and was serving, at the time of his death, his 12th consecutive term—this year. He was a senior member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, and he was a steadfast vocal advocate for early childhood education. He was instrumental in making K–12 education more affordable. He worked to cut in half the cost of the Stafford loans and increased the Pell grants. He was a tireless champion of working families, always an advocate of increasing the minimum wage, always enforcing workforce protections, because that is the kind of man DONALD PAYNE was. Through his life and service, he was a man of the people, and the people of New Jersey will never forget what he did for Essex, Hudson, and Union Counties or for the State as a whole.

In the end Congressman PAYNE will be remembered for the dignity and honor he brought to this institution and the Congress and the district he represented, always putting the interests of the community, New Jersey, and humanity first, because that is the kind of man he was. DONALD made New Jersey proud, and he will forever be missed by all of us who were touched by his warmth and compassion. I join my colleagues in mourning the passing of a great man.

I visited Congressman PAYNE on Saturday at the hospital and talked to his brother, who said leaders throughout the world had been calling to inquire as to how he was. Leaders throughout the world mourn his passing. They knew how he touched the lives of their citizens.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to DONALD’S beloved children and his entire family and all of those who were touched by him throughout his life. He will be missed and we certainly hope God will bless this great man who gave back much more than he ever received in life.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BENNET). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING JAMES LAWRENCE ROSE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an individual who worked tirelessly to strengthen Kentucky’s economy through his contributions to the coal and the banking industries. James Lawrence “Jim” Rose of Lexington, KY, passed away on December 19, 2011. He was 73 years old. Although Mr. Lawrence may not be with us today, the legacy he has forged throughout his lifetime will carry on for many years to come.

Jim Lawrence was born in Clay County, KY, but received his education in the small town of Berea, where he graduated from the Berea Foundation High School and Berea College before completing his education at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. Jim was passionate about education and made it a priority for himself, and he set out to make it one for the youth of the Commonwealth as well. He was in large part responsible for the project to construct Lexington Christian Academy’s 75-acre “Rose Campus” in Lexington, KY.

Although Mr. Rose was involved in all sorts of different business aspects, his most noted business accomplishments were those in the banking and coal industries. Mr. Rose returned to Clay County and started a small coal company in 1959. Over the next three decades, his business would receive numerous national awards for conducting the best mining rescues and operating the safest mines in the United States, and the company would eventually grow to be one of the top three producers of coal in the State of Kentucky upon his retirement in 1993.

Mr. Rose made tremendous strides in the world of banking as well. He formed a bank holding company in his hometown of Manchester, KY; the town served as the site where Jim would also open his first bank in 1978. He went on to open seven more banks throughout central and southern Kentucky. Mr. Rose was an exceptional consultant and manager, and under him the many banks he had acquired flourished.

We are all undoubtedly aware that Mr. Rose made a permanent mark on the economy of Kentucky, but let us not forget today that Jim was first and foremost a devout man of God and a beloved family man. Mr. Rose was a husband and a father who is survived by

his wife of 49 years, Judy Sizemore Rose, and by his son James F. Rose and by his daughter Sonya Rose Hiler. Jim also leaves behind eight grandchildren and three step-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Dwayne Scott Rose.

The legacy left by Mr. Rose is one that will not be easily forgotten. He was able to give so much to the business world, working tirelessly for the people of Kentucky, and he was also able to pour his heart into building relationships with his employees and his family members. Mr. Rose led a life that one could be nothing but proud of.

I would like to ask my colleagues in the United States Senate to join me in commemorating the life and works of Mr. James Lawrence Rose, an innovative, committed and truly genuine entrepreneur.

There was an article recently printed in the Laurel County-area publication the Sentinel Echo on the accomplished life of Mr. James Lawrence “Jim” Rose. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Sentinel Echo, Dec. 23, 2011]

BANK, COAL COMPANY FOUNDER DIES AT 73

(By Carol Mills)

James “Jim” Rose, 73, died Monday of complications from a heart attack in Lexington.

Rose, who moved to Lexington in 1988, was a former Laurel Countian. He began his career by starting a small coal company in 1959 in Clay County where he was born. He moved his family to Laurel County in 1975.

Over three decades he grew his coal business dramatically, founding Interstate Coal Company, which had several operations in eastern Kentucky, including one in Laurel County on Ky. 192 where College Park is now. The coal stacks are still on the property, which is owned by the city and the county. Rose retired from the coal business in 1993.

While Rose was still in the coal business, he entered the banking business by buying a bank in his hometown of Manchester in 1978. He formed a bank holding company, United Bancorp of Kentucky, and acquired seven additional banks in London (London Bank & Trust, now PNC), Danville, Nicholasville, Richmond, Versailles, Corbin, and Harlan. United Bancorp merged with National City in 1995.

Lawrence Kuhl went to work for Rose at the London Bank & Trust in 1983 as vice-president and two years later as president.

“He was an outstanding person,” Kuhl said. “He was so compassionate for humanity. He loved to help people in need. He hired a number of people throughout southeastern Kentucky to work in his coal mines as well as in his banks, and he was a very, very caring person. He helped a lot of individuals. His whole family is like that. He has given Cardinal Hill millions of dollars to help recuperate people. He was a super fellow, very intelligent, a good businessman.”

Charles Elza worked for Rose as president of London Bank & Trust for seven years from 1978 to 1985 before Kuhl took the helm.

“He was a great guy, a hard worker,” Elza said. “He was a great family man. He loved his kids. He and his wife really had a heart for people who had a hard time. He worked hard. Before he made a lot of money, I heard