

Henry B. Gonzalez than I have ever seen devoted to anybody, any elected official, non-elected official, and I know why.

It is the same reason I attended the services. He was a man of impeccable integrity. He was a very special human being who knew who he was and knew from whence he came. He was the Honorable Mr. Chairman of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, a man that had shown his commitment time and time again with the kind of legislation that he advanced.

He did not care about the perks, the ceremonies, the hot shots. None of that was what Henry cared about. He cared about the people. He helped me to become an active member of that committee.

When I came on to that committee, I did not want to be on that committee. I knew nothing about banking. But because of Henry B. Gonzalez, I was given an opportunity to advance amendments. He worked with me. He helped me to understand what the CRA was all about, he helped me to understand what the banking institutions of America were all about, he helped me to focus on the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

He was a learned man who displayed not only his historical knowledge, but his deep intellect on the floor of Congress time and time again.

He was honored in the most magnificent way, and he will be spoken about by many in the most magnificent ways that human beings can today because of who he was.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM).

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, a couple of years ago my wife, Cindy, and I sent out Christmas cards on which we signed it "Charlie and Cindy." We got a couple back saying, "Thank you for the Christmas card, but who are Charlie and Cindy?"

In San Antonio, no one ever asked the question, who is Henry B.? I have known and worked with many colleagues over the years, but none that had the absolute reverence shown to them by his constituency, and knowing him and favorably calling him Henry B.

CHARLIE, you had a great dad. I enjoyed 20 years of his life, getting to know him here on the House floor. We did not often vote together. In fact, more often than not we voted differently. But I found that at no time did I ever doubt the sincerity of the vote cast, the speech made, the point made, the dedication and the sincerity of his attempt to represent his people, his district and his views; and he articulated this in a way that this one more conservative Member never hesitated to say to those that differed, you might differ, but you can never doubt the sincerity.

This place, this Congress and this country, is a better country today because of the likes of Henry B. Gonzalez that comes to this body, represents the views and wishes of his district, and does it in a way that, not only his constituents, but the rest of us will never forget who Henry B. was and is today.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA).

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, although the occasion for these remarks is a sad one, I am honored to be able to participate in this special order paying tribute to Texas legend Henry B. Gonzalez. As he did for countless others since first being elected in 1960, Henry B. truly paved the way for my being here in Congress. His invincible will, demonstrated so many times during so many battles, served as an example to me, that while the fight may not always be easy, it is always worth waging.

His example set the bar for which all of us aspire. He was a great American, a selfless and principled public servant, the best of the best, a champion for the poor, a voice for the under-represented in Washington.

Only briefly did I have the pleasure of serving with him here in the House. During that all too short time, I can assure you I was eager to glean whatever I could from his treasured house of invaluable knowledge. In fact, not a day passes that I am not mindful of how he commented to me early on that he would never recommend I rope a cow as it is going down the mountain. It was sage counsel indeed, and it has served me well these past several years, as I know it will continue to do in the years to come.

To me, nothing is more important than standing up for what you believe in and having the fortitude to tackle the tough issues. Henry B. did exactly that, and he did it on his own terms and with the utmost integrity.

In closing, I have the greatest respect for all he accomplished, and I will always admire him. Henry B. Gonzalez represents not only the best that Congress can be, but I feel that the best that an individual can be. He was a true and caring representative of people, and I can think of no greater accolade.

I will miss him, Texas will miss him, America will miss him. His loss is truly immeasurable. CHARLIE GONZALEZ, his son, is my friend and my colleague; and I look forward to serving with him in this House of Representatives.

#### REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL TIME

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my Special Order be extended by 15 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). Another Member may make that request, but the gentleman from Texas may not.

#### REQUEST FOR SPECIAL ORDER

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, with the consent of the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE), I ask unanimous consent that we extend this special order for 15 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KANJORSKI) will control the 15 minutes, beginning at 12:35.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

#### TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN HENRY B. GONZALEZ

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES).

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, last week we lost an icon in American life. I, like all of my colleagues here, can reflect back on just exactly what Henry B. meant, not just to me and to my family, but to Texans and the Hispanic community at large.

We had the privilege of hosting a retirement dinner for him when he retired a couple of years ago, and I can tell you, everyone that attended that retirement dinner, which was, by the way, televised on C-SPAN later on, commented on the fact that Henry B., while a legend, was an individual that had the common man's touch.

It has been said that to truly make a difference in your lifetime, you have to have the ability to walk among kings but never lose the common man's touch, and Henry B. had that common man's touch. He fought for the things that were important for all of us.

A lot of us here today are here because we stood on Henry B.'s shoulders. A lot of us here recognize that we would not be here had Henry B. not been a pathfinder, had not been an individual that opened the road for the rest of us.

While on the one hand it is a sad time to lose a man, a legend, a Texan, an American, truly a hero for all ages and for all this world, on the other hand it is also a time to celebrate his contributions, celebrate what he means to each and every one of us. And let us never forget that as long as he lives in our hearts, he lives in this world.