

June 13, 2000

IN MEMORY OF JOSHUA MYRON

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow that I rise to inform my colleagues of the recent passing of a remarkable individual in my 20th Congressional District of New York who devoted his life to his work, family, and the Jewish community.

Joshua Myron was born in Rishon le Zion, Israel in 1897. He attended the Talmud Torah, where he received his Jewish education. Upon graduation, he moved to Jerusalem to enter the Secular Lemel School and the famous David Yellin Hebrew Institute, the best secular school for higher education.

In 1916, Joshua volunteered as a member of the first Jewish Brigade in the British Army to chase out the Turkish Army from Palestine. He persevered to become company sergeant in charge of transport. After his army service, he helped to get arms for the Jewish underground group so that they could effectively fight the Arabs at that time.

Upon his honorable discharge from the Army he moved to the United States to further advance his education. He entered the Albany College of Pharmacy and graduated with a pharmaceutical chemist degree. He stayed in pharmacy until his retirement in 1967.

He met his wife, Sybil, in New York City. Together, they had one daughter, Naomi, who has presented Joshua and his wife with three grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Although Sybil passed away many years ago, he never remarried. He resided in Suffern, NY, since 1938.

Joshua became an active member of The Congregation Sons of Israel 45 years ago. He held the job of Gabai, a Member of the Religious Committee Board of Trustees, a Member of the Chevra Kidisha (Burial Society) and received a testimonial award from Israel Bonds in 1985. He was a member for a long time in AIPAC, a congregational UJA chairman for 25 years, and a contributing member to many Jewish Organizations especially those which help out in the cause of Israel.

He was buried in Suffern, New York on June 11, 2000 by the Congregation Sons of Israel.

Joshua is survived by his daughter: Naomi Scheuer. He is also survived by three grandchildren, Marcus Lubin, Eve Lubin, and Abigail Scheuer and four great grandchildren, Caroline, Emily, Alexander Lubin and Ella Atema. While no words can ease the grief that his family and community must be experiencing, the deep sense of loss many of us are experiencing at the passing of this remarkable individual hopefully will provide some consolation.

Mr. Speaker, I invite our colleagues to join in extending our deepest sympathies to all of Joshua Myron's many loved ones, and the numerous individuals who were inspired and influenced by this outstanding human being.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD SIMMONS

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who is a dear friend of mine, Richard Simmons, on the occasion of his retirement from elected service to the constituents of State House District 84.

Richard Simmons has served the State of Arkansas and his country all of his life. He graduated from Rector, Arkansas High School in 1959 and later Mississippi State University with a degree in agriculture. In addition to Richard's schooling, he served six years in the Air Force Reserves. He is a lifelong resident of Clay County and has been active in farming since 1965.

Through his years in Arkansas, Richard has been active in state, civic, and community life and has always worked to represent agriculture, the greatest profession ever. He has served on the Clay County Conservation District Board for twenty years. He is currently Vice Chairman of that agency. Richard has also served on the Democratic Central Committee for twenty years and has been the Chairman of the Democratic Central Committee for ten years now.

Richard has been the State Representative from District 84 since 1995 and is unfortunately ending his elected career due to term-limits. He has helped make strides in agriculture and economic development all across Arkansas by serving on the Rules Committee, House Revenue and Taxation Committee, Game and Fish Funding Sub-Committee, and Chairman of the House Agriculture and Economic Development Committee. Richard is also the Chairman of the First District House Caucus.

Richard Simmons resides in Rector, Arkansas, where he grew up. He has devoted his life to agriculture and Arkansas and the world is a better place because of his service. I am proud to call him my friend and I wish him the best of luck in the future and many more years of happiness and service to this great country of ours.

CONGRATULATING RAY AND BETTY WELLS

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Ray and Betty Wells on their long record of contributions to community service and historic preservation in northern New Jersey. The Wells will be recognized this weekend as the honorees of the annual Rose Ball at the Hermitage, a priceless historic site they have been instrumental in helping preserve and restore. This honor has been prompted not only by Ray and Betty's activities on behalf of the Hermitage, but by their roles as leading members of our community through their church and many civic organizations as

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well. They are outstanding examples of the type of people who make Bergen County such a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.

Ray and Betty Wells have been active supporters of the Hermitage since they chaired the Hunt Breakfast fund-raiser in 1979. Betty has served as a trustee of the Friends of the Hermitage, as a docent and on a number of related committees. Ray has been a member of the Heritage Community Advisory Board and was the architect of the Hermitage Education and Conference Center completed last year.

Built in 1740 in what is now Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ, the Hermitage was the home of Theodosia Prevost, who invited George Washington and his officers to stay at the estate in July 1778, after the Battle of Monmouth. One of Washington's officers, Aaron Burr, became a frequent visitor afterward and eventually proposed marriage to the widow. Guests at the July 2, 1782, wedding included future President James Monroe, Alexander Hamilton, the Marquis de Lafayette, and New Jersey Governor William Paterson.

The Hermitage estate was purchased in 1807 by Dr. Elijah Rosencrantz, one of Bergen County's first physicians and an industrialist who built a cotton mill on the banks of the Hohokus Brook. Rosencrantz's son, Elijah Rosencrantz, Jr., enlarged and improved the original house, resulting in the Gothic Revival mansion we see today. The home remained in the Rosencrantz family until 1970, when it was bequeathed to the State of New Jersey by Mary Elizabeth Rosencrantz upon her death. Today, the estate has been restored as a museum by the nonprofit Friends of the Hermitage and is a National Historic Landmark. Through the Education and Conference Center designed by Ray Wells, the Hermitage provides extensive educational services for the public and through area schools.

In addition to their commendable dedication to the Hermitage, Ray and Betty have been leaders in a wide variety of community activities. Betty has served as an elder, deacon, choir member, Sunday School teacher and president of the Women's Guild at the Old Paramus Reformed Church. Ray has served as a Sunday School teacher, departmental superintendent and member of various building committees during their 46 years of membership in the church.

Betty has served as president of the Paramus Junior Woman's Club, the Paramus Garden Club, the Stony Lane School Parent-Teacher Organization and in several leadership roles with the Paramus Girl Scouts. Ray has been active with Rotary International, serving as president of the Paramus club. He has also been a member of the Paramus Board of Education, served as president of the Paramus Jaycees, a member of the Paramus Chamber of Commerce, with the Bergen County museum and as a member of the Oradell Planning Board.

Betty and Ray are the parents of 6 children, have 18 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. They made their home in Oradell.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating this wonderful couple for all they have done for their community and for the outstanding example they set for all.