Mr. SPEARSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and public service of a great advocate for our nation's defense, a true gentleman in the finest Southern tradition, and my good friend, Floyd Spence.

For those of us who knew him only later in life, it may come as a surprise that this gentle soul spent his early life as a terror on the gridiron at Lexington High School and the University of South Carolina. It's less of a surprise that he had a distinguished 36-year career in the U.S. Navy and Naval Reserve, because his knowledge of our nation's military was rivaled only by his deep affection for it.

Mr. Spence was a leader with the courage of his convictions. He became a Republican in 1962, when Republicans in the South were still a rare commodity. That party switch cost him his seat in the South Carolina House of Representatives, but the people of South Carolina came to respect his courage and shortly thereafter sent him to Congress in 1970. By the time I first came to Capitol Hill in 1994, Southern Republicans had become relatively commonplace. That happened because people like Floyd Spence followed their conscience and accepted the consequences willingly.

When I met Floyd, he was then the newly installed Chairman of what was then called the House National Security Committee. He handled his considerable responsibility with grace and dignity, displaying fairness to all members, regardless of party, and showing considerable patience with us freshmen who showed up full of enthusiasm but short on experience.

Chairman Spence knew that freedom isn't free and deeply believed that lasting peace could best be achieved through unquestioned strength. He pushed for better funding for training, modernization, readiness and quality of life initiatives. His leadership was instrumental in finally stemming the tide of declining defense budgets and placing our military on the road to recovery. The soldier enjoying his new pay raise, the military families moving into improved post housing, the pilot stepping into a much-needed new fighter jet—each of these people, and many others, can thank Floyd Spence for fighting for them. We would be well-advised to continue along the path to recovery that this remarkable man worked so hard to put on us.

An old historian once noted that, “Great men are not often good men.” Well, Floyd Spence was certainly both. Those of us who have had the great opportunity to know him are far better for the privilege.
prices skyrocketed rather than skyrocketing prices becoming the justification for abandoning the market process. Of course, if one likes socialism and rejects the notion that freedom works, this type of an Act and improper of delegating and centralizing such powers is ideal. But why accept the notions of socialism when you really need an economy to provide products and services in the nation’s time of most dire need? This whole notion that the power is in this bill should be illegitimately granted to a President and then turned over to the head of FEMA is potentially one of the most dangerous things this body will ever do (or continue doing).

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the members of this body to begin thinking about the amount of false hope they place in the centralization of power in the hands of a central-planners and reconsider their apparent lack of confidence in the market process and a free society. I encourage a strict adherence to market principles and strongly oppose H.R. 2510.

The Museum, founded and guided in its early years by Springfieldian Kitty Lipscomb, is also the place where they can go to rediscover the roots of our past and benefit from lessons for the future.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an institution which for a quarter of a century has served an invaluable role in preserving and remembering our Southwest Missouri history and heritage. Twenty-five years ago The History Museum of Springfield and Greene County was created in honor of the Bicentennial of our great nation. The citizens of Springfield and Greene County established the museum to educate others about the area’s culture and open a new window on the history of day-to-day life in the region. A key local education resource was born.

Teachers and other educators in Southwest Missouri have been blessed to have such a historical museum readily available. Over the years it has become a favorite field trip destination, permitting thousands of young minds to experience some of the culture that nurtured their parents and grandparents as well as other generations before them. Many educational trips have been hosted by The History Museum for Springfield and Greene County in vintage photographs, clothing displays, maps and documents depicting how our communities grew and developed. With its home on the top floor of the Springfield City Hall, the Museum has dedicated itself to the reflection of our past with an eye toward our future.

This superb facility gives us the opportunity to memorialize our own stories of accomplishment, development and expansion as well as documenting how we overcame challenges and disagreements. Individuals, neighborhoods, community leaders and institutions joined together to forge a strong, diverse economy and society in the Ozarks.

I’m confident that my Colleagues join with me in expressing our thanks to the vision and foresight of community leaders a quarter century ago. Because of their dedicated work, the residents of Southwest Missouri have had a place where they can go to rediscover the roots of our past and benefit from lessons for the future.

Morton Marks

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, Coloradans are fortunate to have a man like Morton “Mort” Marks and his wife Edie as members of a great and civic leaders. Mort was born in Washington, D.C., and the political genes that accompanied him from his birthplace were never lost.

After graduating from Columbia University, Mort fought in World War II, and bravely par-ticipated in the Normandy invasion when he returned from Europe. Mort cultivated his interest in politics, which began to climax when he became a field director and delegate for Ronald Reagan’s presidential campaigns, and then a delegate to the Republican National Convention for the Bush/Quayle campaigns.

Coloradans have also benefited from Mort’s vast political experience as he worked or volunteered for Governor Bill Owens, Senator Bill Armstrong and Representative-Elect Jack Swigert, the first person elected to represent Colorado’s Sixth Congressional District.

Mort currently writes for several local publications, including the Villager newspapers, Colorado Expressions, and the Colorado Statesman, and has won awards for his writing from the Colorado Press Association. He and his wife have four daughters, Lori Marks and Elise Marks Grutch.

Thank you, Mort, for everything you have done for your state and your party.

The History Museum of Springfield and Greene County

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great man from my district who was recently honored by a society of his peers. At their annual meeting and convention in San Antonio, Texas, the Georgia Society of CPAs gave Nelson C. Westbrooks, Jr. their highest honor, the 2001 Meritorious Service Award. Please include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a copy of an article from a local newspaper, The Harbor Sound, recounting all of Mr. Westbrooks’ hard work and service to the people of Georgia. Certainly his dedication is an example for all to follow.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Orange County Rescue Squad, Inc. for its 50 years of service.

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