

word, from where NORM sat, to his sense of humor, to his character, to the comment about being a Member's Member, to the comment with regard to bipartisanship, every word, I can attest and I know that Members that are listening here, and every word that was said today was accurate.

NORM made a great difference, and he will be missed.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor my friend and colleague, NORMAN SISISKY, who served the Commonwealth of Virginia and our nation with distinction in the House of Representatives for the last 18 years of his life.

NORMAN's devotion to his country began right after graduation from high school. He enlisted in the Navy and served during World War II. After his release from active duty in 1946, he returned to his home in Richmond and entered what is known today as Virginia Commonwealth University. He graduated in 1949 with a B.S. degree in Business Administration.

All of NORMAN's House colleagues were well aware of his reputation as a businessman. He transformed a small Pepsi bottling company in Petersburg into a successful distributorship of soft drinks throughout southern Virginia. I know there are countless witnesses who have appeared before subcommittees and committees on which NORMAN sat that squirmed in their seats as they faced his probing questions concerning what struck him as the antiquated methods by which the Department of Defense acquired its equipment, services, and construction projects.

In 1973, NORMAN was first elected to public office, representing Petersburg as a Delegate in the Virginia General Assembly. He served five terms in the General Assembly before being elected to Congress in 1982. He was currently serving in his 10th consecutive term in the House.

A senior Member of the Armed Services Committee, NORMAN was Chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee in the 103rd Congress. He was the ranking Democrat on the Procurement Subcommittee in the current Congress, as well as a member of the Readiness Subcommittee and the Panel on Morale, Welfare, and Recreation. He was also one of the Armed Services Committee's "crossover" members to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

NORMAN was a valued member of the Armed Services Committee whose commitment to the security of this country was second-to-none—Republican or Democrat. He was also a proud member of the informal "Blue Dog" Coalition and one of its tireless advocates of increased defense spending—especially for aircraft carriers! I remember vividly NORMAN's handing out "Your Name Here . . . CVN 76" hats in an effort to get that carrier fully funded on schedule. I think he was as pleased as I when it was recently christened the U.S.S. *Ronald Reagan*!

I traveled abroad with NORMAN on several occasions, and I greatly enjoyed his friendship. He was an exceptional politician and a patriotic American. Not only shall I miss his wise counsel but also his sense of humor. I am thankful to have known and worked alongside him for the past 18 years.

I extend my deepest sympathy to his wife, Rhoda, his four sons, and their families.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues in expressing our deep sense of loss on the passing of our beloved colleague, the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. SISISKY.

NORM has served in this body for nearly 20 years, and beyond any doubt is one of those Members whose presence made a true difference. NORM was a "gentleman's gentleman", who earned the respect of all of us on both sides of the aisle.

NORM, prior to his Congressional career, was a soft drink and beer distributor. From that experience, he was able to share with all of us what it means to be a small business entrepreneur during the latter part of the 20th century. He shared with us the trials and tribulations of the American small business owner, his sincere belief that the bureaucracy was stifling free enterprise and initiative, and his contention that it was our responsibility to cut through red tape and other burdens upon the average taxpayer. NORM was a natural fit on the Committee on Small Business, and served with great distinction on that body for many years.

NORM SISISKY, as a Navy veteran, was also proud of his service on the Armed Services Committee, and was a font of knowledge and experience on that Committee. He was devoted to assuring our Nation's strong defense.

We extend our deepest condolences to his devoted wife, Rhoda, their four sons, Mark, Terry, Richard and Stuart, and most especially to the people of Virginia's 4th Congressional District, whose loss of a superb representative is shared by all of us as a loss to our nation.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 107.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OTTER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT, DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from RICHARD A. GEPHARDT, Democratic Leader:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER,
Washington, DC, March 29, 2001.
Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 228(d)(1) of the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Cen-

tury (P.L. 106-181), I hereby appoint the following individual to the National Commission to Ensure Consumer Information and Choice in the Airline Industry:

Mr. Thomas P. Dunne, Sr. of Maryland Heights, MO.

Yours Very Truly,

RICHARD A. GEPHARDT.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will now entertain 1-minute speeches.

HONORING REVEREND DR. THURMOND COLEMAN, SR.

(Mrs. NORTHUP asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize someone who has devoted his time and energy to his church and his beliefs. Reverend Dr. Thurmond Coleman, Sr., pastored the First Baptist Church in Jeffersontown, Kentucky for 45 years.

Upon his retirement, he was named Pastor Emeritus. Dr. Coleman has served as the Moderator of the Central District Baptist Association for the past 6 years, and his tenure will end in July 2001.

He is a community leader serving on the Louisville League, the NAACP, and the Kentucky Human Rights Commission. Dr. Coleman is also a civil rights leader bringing about reconciliation between black and white Baptists and among all races and religion.

On Saturday, March 31, 2001, Dr. Coleman will be honored for his hard work and dedication as Moderator of the Central District Baptist Association, which has a membership of 147 churches.

Individuals such as Dr. Coleman play a vital role in reconciling the divisions in our community and in building the hope of a better future for each person. I am proud to bring your attention to Reverend Dr. Thurmond Coleman, Sr., and all of his achievements.

□ 1600

MENTORING FOR SUCCESS

(Mr. OSBORNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, if we could create a program that would reduce absenteeism from school by 53 percent, drug and alcohol abuse by nearly 50 percent, teenage violence by 30 percent, and substantially reduce teenage pregnancy, gang involvement and dropout rates, would this be a desirable program? Obviously, the answer to this question is yes.

Next week, I will introduce the Mentoring For Success Act, establishing a national mentoring program through