Cesar Estrada Chavez was born on March 31, 1927, near Yuma, Arizona. In 1962, Chavez founded the National Farm Workers Association, later to become the United Farm Workers—the UFW. With persistence, hard work and faith, Chavez built a great union that galvanized the spirit of all people through commitment to the struggle for justice through nonviolence. He devoted his life to his fellow farmworkers and to fire the conscience of the rest of us.

As my great fortune to work with Cesar Chavez as a colleague and friend. Cesar's efforts were critical in focusing public attention on our nation's deplorable treatment of migrant farmworkers. Through his leadership and his legacy, the United Farm Workers has grown in strength in its efforts to achieve a lasting justice for farmworkers.

On this anniversary of his birthday, it is appropriate to mention that today across the nation and in this Chamber there are numerous efforts to commemorate the life and work of Cesar Chavez. I am grateful for the opportunity to express my thoughts about Cesar and to be among the many to celebrate the life of one of the most heroic figures in American history.

Cesar Chavez was a great man who exemplified justice, love and humility. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Cesar, whose dedication to the plight of farmworkers has inspired us all. I salute him for his courage and commitment to La Causa (the cause).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE
By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:
Ms. BALDWIN (at the request of Mr. GEPhardt) for today on account of a death in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED
By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. RODRIGUEZ) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)
Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. LANG Eva, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. SKELTON, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. JACKSON-Lee of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. OSBORNE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)
Mr. GOSS, for 5 minutes, today.