

just hours before his final Sunday strip ran. He personally drew the final strip, as he had every strip over the previous 5 decades, refusing to let anyone else draw the characters created, because, he said, "The strip is me and I am the strip."

In his farewell message printed in the strip, Schulz wrote, "I have been grateful over the years for the loyalty of our editors and the wonderful support and love expressed to me by fans of the comic strip. Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus, Lucy; how can I ever forget them?"

Well, we will never forget them either, and we are grateful to you, Charles Schulz, for enriching our lives with these wonderful characters.

I would like to add a personal note as well. First of all, Mr. Schulz was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, a few years, in fact 12 years, before I was born in Edgerton, Minnesota. I spent the first 14 years of my life there. Neither of us, of course, knew of each other's existence at that time, but our paths crossed when I was a student at the University of California at Berkeley, and I met him.

In fact, my first meeting was when he attended a Bible study that I was meeting with regularly, and he came to talk about his personal faith. He was a very devout believer and also, frankly, a rather good amateur theologian. He gave a very good explication of his faith and it was very inspiring to all of us there. He was a wonderful person in many different ways and part of the charm of his strip is that his characters also were amateur theologians and amateur philosophers.

I find that very fascinating. In fact, it was so fascinating that a young seminary student in the 1970s wrote a book entitled, *The Gospel According to Peanuts*. It was a charming little book written on the basis of the strips. The author reproduced a number of the strips, performed exegesis, and explained the theology of the Peanuts group.

He was a wonderful person. It was a loss for all of us that his life was cut short and we could not enjoy a fresh comic strip every day, Sunday, but the purpose of this resolution is to acknowledge all that he has done and to recognize his achievements by allowing the use of the Rotunda to present him a Congressional Gold Medal posthumously.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, further reserving the right to object, the Capitol rotunda has been the scene of many ceremonies in our Nation's history, some jubilant, others more somber. The rotunda has witnessed the awarding of Congressional Gold Medals to 34 worthy Americans who have distinguished themselves in various ways in service to our country. I think most of us can think of no American who has brought more smiles to more faces of

children and adults alike, and thus deserves to join the pantheon of distinguished gold medal honorees more than the late Charles Schulz.

In recognition of Mr. Schulz' lifetime of service, last year Congress enacted and President Clinton signed legislation authorizing this honor, which is Congress' greatest expression of national appreciation for civilians.

□ 1845

A gold medal, Madam Speaker, is entirely appropriate for a tireless man who drew every frame of his Peanuts comic strip for nearly half a century.

His cartoonist career followed his service in the infantry in World War II, during which he entertained his comrades with cartoons about military life. I am certain that his cartoons helped many soldiers endure the horrors and hardships that confronted them during that time.

I think all of us regret that Charles Schulz cannot be present to enjoy the honor that the Congress has bestowed. Although Mr. Schulz left us early last year, his work, of course, is timeless.

Fortunately for us and for generations yet unborn, Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus, Lucy, and the rest of the Peanuts gang will always be here to amuse us and, yes, to teach us. They have become, as last year's legislation noted correctly, part of the fabric of our national culture.

Madam Speaker, there could be a no more fitting use of the rotunda than to honor Charles Schulz in this way.

Madam Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield to the sponsor of the resolution and last year's legislation, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON), in whose district Mr. Schulz lived.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House to approve House Concurrent Resolution 149 to allow us to use the rotunda on June 7 to honor Charles Schulz, Sparky Schulz, who not only is an institution in this country and all the other countries where his comic strip was printed daily in all of the different newspapers, but also a very good personal friend and a constituent.

Scott Adams, who is the creator of the Dilbert cartoon, once remarked about Sparky's passing, "It's the end of an era, and it's hard to imagine that cartooning will ever be the same. In basketball, you can say that Michael Jordan was the greatest ever. In cartooning, Charles Schulz was the greatest ever and probably the greatest there will ever be."

I think it is most fitting that this Congress chose to bestow on Mr. Schulz the Congressional Gold Medal, and I think it speaks more to, than just to his cartooning. He was a great American, a great citizen. For 50 years, every day he drew his own Snoopy cartoon. He was also there, it was men-

tioned, in World War II entertaining the troops. It is also important to note that this great American was there on D-Day on the front lines.

Charles Schulz is most deserving of this recognition; and it is appropriate, I believe, that we allow the rotunda to be used for this purpose. I would ask all of my colleagues to support this effort.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON) for his remarks and for his personal observations with regard to Mr. Schulz.

Madam Speaker, I urge support for the measure.

Madam Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 149

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on June 7, 2001, for a ceremony to present posthumously a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Charles M. Schulz. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. EHLERS. Madam 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 H. Con. Res. 149.

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

There was no objection.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO SERVE ON JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 148) electing Members to serve on the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 148

*Resolved,***SECTION 1. ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY.**

(a) JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING.—The following Members are hereby elected to the Joint Committee on Printing, to serve with the chair of the Committee on House Administration:

- (1) Mr. Doolittle.
- (2) Mr. Linder.
- (3) Mr. Hoyer.
- (4) Mr. Fattah.

(b) JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY.—The following Members are hereby elected to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, to serve with the chair of the Committee on House Administration:

- (1) Mr. Ehlers.
- (2) Mr. Hoyer.
- (3) Mr. Davis of Florida.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN, JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House a communication from the Honorable VERNON J. EHLERS, Chairman, Joint Committee on the Library:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 4, 2001.

Hon. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to Public Law 100-696 Section 801 (40 USC para. 188a(b)) the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee of the Library are provided positions on the Capitol Preservation Commission.

I am appointing Mr. John Mica of Florida to be my designee as provided for in Public Law 100-696 Section 801 (40 USC para 188a (c)).

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

VERNON J. EHLERS,
Chairman, Joint Committee on the Library.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES CAPITOL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection and pursuant to Section 801(b) of Public Law 100-696, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission:

- Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina;
Mr. LATOURETTE of Ohio.
There was no objection.

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT NEEDED

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, Congress needs to adopt a Medicare prescription drug benefit, rather than making false promises to American seniors.

The Republican plan will not guarantee affordable prescription drug coverage for our seniors. The Republican plan takes its first step toward privatizing Medicare, forcing seniors to deal with private insurance companies.

Those of us can remember what happened in California when they said that we would have plenty of energy. We deregulated, and yet we do not have the energy, yet the prices continued to go up.

We do not want prices to go up for a lot of our seniors. More than one-third of the 35 million Medicare beneficiaries currently have no prescription drug insurance coverage.

I did a study in my district that shows that seniors are being impoverished by drug prices. San Bernardino seniors pay an average of 90 percent more than seniors in Canada and Mexico.

Individuals should not be sacrificing their fixed income for the sake of protecting themselves instead of spending it on leisure or other items. What they have to do now is budget themselves. It becomes very difficult, and yet they do not want to continue to suffer.

I plan to have a press conference on prescription drugs on June 18 at the Rancho Cucamonga Senior Citizens Center from 8 a.m. to 12 noon to address these needs.

I ask that we adopt affordable, voluntary, reliable Medicare prescription drug coverage for all seniors. It is our responsibility to protect them. It is America's responsibility to see that they can all afford medical coverage.

WILLIAM HOLMES BROWN, FORMER PARLIAMENTARIAN OF HOUSE PASSES

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I am saddened today to announce to our colleagues the passing on May 27 of William Holmes Brown, who served as parliamentarian of the House from 1974 to 1994. He was 71 years of age. Not only did I have the pleasure of working with Bill Brown in the House, but I was also privileged to be his Congressman. He lived at Oakland Green Farm in Lincoln in Loudoun County, Virginia, property which had been in the family for more than eight generations.

Bill began his service in the Parliamentarian's Office in 1958 when he was appointed Assistant Parliamentarian by Speaker Sam Rayburn. In 1974, he was named to the position of Parliamentarian by Speaker Carl Albert. He succeeded the legendary Lewis Desch-

ler, with whom he had collaborated in volumes of "Precedents of the House of Representatives," referred to in the House as the Deschler-Brown Precedents. During his years in the House, he served under six Speakers. Besides Speaker Sam Rayburn and Carl Albert, he served under John McCormack, Tip O'Neill, Jim Wright, and Tom Foley. He retired from the House in 1994.

During his service in the House, he worked to develop parliamentary projects in newly emerging democratic republics in Eastern Europe, participating in seminars and training programs for representatives of other national legislative bodies. After he retired as Parliamentarian in 1994, he worked for the Agency of International Development on a parliamentary development project in the Ukraine.

Members today can thank Bill Brown and thank his staff, many here today, for organizing the Office of the Parliamentarian, moving it into the Computer Age and making the House precedents available online for all to access.

Bill was the ultimate professional and dedicated public servant. He was held in the highest regard by Members on both sides of the aisle because his work reflected his dedication to the proposition that the rules of the House should be applied and enforced without political considerations.

Bill was born in Huntington, West Virginia. He was a 1951 graduate of Swarthmore College and received his law degree from the University of Chicago. He served on active duty in the Navy from 1954 to 1957 and then served in the Naval Reserve from 1954 to 1974, retiring as a lieutenant commander.

He was director of the Conversations at Oatlands organization and the Loudoun Museum and a member of the Catoctin Farmers Club and Goose Creek Friends Meeting.

On behalf of the House, and on behalf of Members on both sides of the aisle, and on behalf of Members who served here many, many years ago, Madam Speaker, we send our deepest sympathies to Bill's wife of 30 years, Jean Smith Brown, and their daughter, Sara Holmes Brown.

RESIGNATION OF THE PARLIAMENTARIAN, THE HONORABLE WM. HOLMES BROWN, AND APPOINTMENT OF THE HONORABLE CHARLES W. JOHNSON AS PARLIAMENTARIAN

(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SEPTEMBER 20, 1994)

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives, which was read:

Hon. THOMAS S. FOLEY,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: In March of this year, I completed my thirty-sixth year with the House of Representatives. In July, I completed my twentieth year as Parliamentarian.

In the past few months, circumstances, both personal and professional, have focused