

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE
HONORABLE NAT PATTON

HON. JIM TURNER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2001

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of The Honorable Nat Patton, Jr., a man who embodied my hometown of Crockett, TX, in so many ways. Nat recently passed away on February 13, 2001, after the full life of 88 years.

Nat Patton, the son of former U.S. Congressman and Mrs. Patton, was educated in the public schools of my hometown of Crockett, TX. It was his love for the game of baseball that led him to attend Texas A&M University, where he played shortstop for the Aggie Varsity baseball team. During his days at Texas A&M, Mr. Patton was elected president of his sophomore class and yell leader—a high Aggie honor—for the student body.

Nat Patton was destined for public service from his early years. Following in his father's footsteps, Nat had a special interest in politics and received his law degree from Cumberland University in Tennessee.

After passing the State of Texas Bar Exam, Mr. Patton returned to Crockett to enter private practice. He set his law career aside to serve his country in World War II, where he fought under General George S. Patton's Third Army, 89th Division, European Theater. Following the war he returned to Crockett and resumed his law practice.

From 1950 to 1980, Mr. Patton served Houston County as county attorney. Upon retiring from public service after 30 years, Mr. Patton continued his private law practice.

Mr. Patton and his wife, Eleanor, were married for 60 years. Both were active members of their community, participating in the First United Methodist Church of Crockett. During his service to the church Mr. Patton had served as a Sunday School teacher and as a member of the administrative board. Mr. Patton was also a member of the Masonic Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion.

Nat's friendliness, his welcoming smile, and his warm spirit will be remembered by many of us in Crockett as the personification of the hometown that we love.

We all share his family's profound grief in his passing, just as we have joined them in the celebration of his life.

We'll miss you, Nat.

CONGRATULATING TWILIGHT
HAVEN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Twilight Haven for 40 years of service to the elderly in our community.

Twilight Haven was the first care facility for the elderly in the Fresno area. It was also one

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

of the first homes for the elderly in the state that provided independent and assisted living with nursing care at one location. Twilight Haven is a volunteer, non-profit organization with government assistance.

In 1957 a group of local leaders from the German community collaborated with a group of local churches to form the Twilight Haven Corporation. Over 700 people joined the organizers to form the initial corporation. Since the companies inception, 1,500 people have become members and the corporation presently has 550 members. Although the corporation was initially established by members from local churches, it is fully independent and not a subsidiary of any religious organization. The Twilight Haven facility was opened in November of 1960 in Fresno. Over the course of its 40 year history, the facility has gone through vast renovation. Today, the facility can accommodate about 255 residents. The facility has served more than 6,000 senior citizens and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Twilight Haven for serving the needs of the senior citizens in our community. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Twilight Haven for its many years of providing outstanding care to the elderly in Fresno.

IN HONOR OF RALPH STANLEY, A
MASTER FOR MASS TRANSIT

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2001

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Ralph Stanley. Mr. Stanley recently passed away, leaving behind him a legacy of outstanding public and private sector work in the transportation arena. Throughout his career Mr. Stanley established, among other things, a true expertise for mass transit projects.

Mr. Stanley was a graduate of Princeton University and Georgetown University Law School.

He joined the Transportation Department in 1981, serving as chief of staff to Transportation Department Secretaries Drew Lewis and Elizabeth Dole. He then served as the chief of the U.S. Urban Mass Transportation Administration for four years. During this time I worked closely with Mr. Stanley, particularly in the expansion of Metro for the Washington Metropolitan area. Had it not been for our working relationship, the vast system of public transportation we all enjoy today would not have been possible.

Mr. Stanley found the Virginia Toll Road Corporation in 1988 and spent four years as chief executive. In 1992, he became vice president for infrastructure and development for Bechtel. While at Bechtel, Mr. Stanley helped direct the expansion of the light rail transit system in Portland, OR, as well as the economic development of the land near the rail expansion.

Mr. Speaker, although Mr. Stanley and I did not always find ourselves on the same side of public policy issues, he was fair, forward looking and supportive of the transportation

June 19, 2001

projects on which we worked together. Mr. Stanley was dedicated to create a better and more efficient transportation system for that we are grateful.

HONORING THE FREEDOM TOWER

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2001

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, since its inception, the United States has been a safe haven for those less fortunate. A Nation built around those seeking religious or political freedom. A new chance. A fresh start. Opportunities for themselves, and for their children and their children's children. And so, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a symbol of our Nation's freedom; one that has already welcomed generations of new Americans to our shores: the Freedom Tower.

The defining landmark of the Miami skyline for nearly 80 years, the Freedom Tower has represented to Cuban exiles the principals upon which our Nation is based. And now the Freedom Tower is undergoing a well-deserved \$40 million transformation to become an interactive museum, library, and research center that will chronicle the experiences, hardships and triumphs of Cuban exiles on their journey to South Florida.

Originally the home to a Miami newspaper, the Tower became the Cuban Refugee Emergency Center in 1962 and remained so for over a decade. Known as "El Refugio," the Freedom Tower served as Florida's Ellis Island to the 450,000 refugees that made the journey.

Mr. Speaker, the Freedom Tower has already meant so much to the South Florida community. And a year from now this distinguished Miami landmark will take on new meaning. It will teach new generations of Americans about the history of Cuban refugees and how their bravery and belief in American ideals has shaped and bettered South Florida as well as all of America.

ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY HONORS PROVIDIAN FINANCIAL

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2001

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I have addressed the House on numerous occasions in recent years as a critic of the credit card industry and its marketing practices. Today, I would like to share with my colleagues a different story, of how two very different institutions have joined to recognize not only a significant business turnaround, but a change in practices that have enormous consequence for consumers.

One of these institutions is the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York, one of the world's outstanding centers of learning in the areas of business and technology. It is also located in Monroe County,