


Charlie Norwood
LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
GEORGIA

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES
AND OTHER TRIBUTES

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD  1941–2007

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Charlie Norwood

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Memorial Addresses and Other Tributes

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND SENATE
OF THE UNITED STATES
TOGETHER WITH A MEMORIAL SERVICE
IN HONOR OF

CHARLIE NORWOOD

Late a Representative from Georgia

One Hundred Tenth Congress
First Session



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*Compiled under the direction
of the
Joint Committee on Printing*

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BIOGRAPHY

CHARLES WHITLOW NORWOOD, JR., a seven-term Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1995 to 2007, served most of east Georgia at some point during his congressional career due to redistricting in 1996, 2002, and 2006, representing counties extending from the North Carolina border in the north Georgia mountains, to the Macon and Dublin area in middle Georgia, and halfway to Savannah in south Georgia. He won re-election every year since 1998 by landslide margins, and was elected to the 110th Congress in November by a 68-percent margin.

Representative NORWOOD achieved national recognition after introducing the first comprehensive managed health care reform legislation to Congress in 1995, which subsequently passed the House of Representatives in both 1999 and 2001. Dr. NORWOOD's patients' bill of rights legislation became a key issue in the 2000 Presidential election, and will likely be revived in the 110th Congress.

Dr. NORWOOD was instrumental in health care reform for military retirees and veterans as well as patients at large. The former Army dentist was co-author of the Keep Our Promises to Military Retirees Act in 1999, which provided fully funded health care for life for the Nation's military retirees. The majority of the bill was enacted as part of the Defense Authorization Act of 2000.

In addition to his long-time national advocacy for patients, Dr. NORWOOD succeeded in passing reforms across a broad range of public policy areas, spanning education, private property rights, telecommunications, and environmental regulations.

He reformed the Nation's special education system by authoring the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Discipline Reform Amendment in 1999, which passed the House of Representatives and became law in 2003 as part of the Improving Education Results for Children with Disabilities Act, protecting disabled students and their teachers from violence in the classroom.

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Dr. NORWOOD is further recognized as the father of the Nation's current class A broadcast television service, by authoring and passing into law the Community Broadcasting Protection Act in 1998.

In Federal issues with direct local economic impact, Dr. NORWOOD played the pivotal role in reforming U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dealings with local government and private citizens, through Federal approval for restoration of the New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam, and reform of the Corps' Lake Management Plan regulation of private property owner rights. In addition, Dr. NORWOOD founded the Savannah River Water Quality Initiative in 1996, which succeeded in restoring the trout stocking demonstration project in the Savannah River rapids above Augusta in 1998.

Representative NORWOOD provided the driving legislative pressure in preserving Federal funding and missions of the U.S. Army's Signal Corps Headquarters and Eisenhower Army Regional Medical Center at Fort Gordon, and the U.S. Department of Energy Savannah River Site Project, staving off attempts to downsize or close both facilities during Federal funding cutbacks throughout his congressional career.

In congressional oversight action, Dr. NORWOOD played a key role in the 1996–1998 Teamster's investigation, the 1998–2002 investigations of theft and fraud at the U.S. Department of Education, and the impeachment of former President Bill Clinton in 1998.

Dr. NORWOOD was a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee throughout his congressional career. In the 110th Congress he served on the Subcommittees on Health and Oversight and Investigations. He was vice chairman of the Subcommittee on Health from 2001 to 2004, and a member of the Energy and Power Subcommittee from 1995 to 2000.

Dr. NORWOOD also served on the Education and the Workforce Committee from 1995 to 2006, where he was chairman of the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections from 2001 to 2006, and vice chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee from 1997 to 2000.

He was also a member of the Rural Health Care Caucus, the Army Caucus, and the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, and served on the Speaker's Task Force on Tritium Production in the 104th Congress and the Speaker's Working Group on Health Care Reform in the 105th Congress.

Dr. NORWOOD was born in Valdosta, GA, July 27, 1941, the son of the late Charles Whitlow Norwood, Sr. and Lola Parham Norwood. He attended Lowndes County public

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schools through the first year of high school at Valdosta High, and graduated from Baylor Military High School in Chattanooga, TN, in 1959. Dr. NORWOOD was a football standout throughout high school, played under legendary Valdosta High Coach Wright Bazemore, and was the defensive nemesis of later-NFL Minnesota Vikings quarterback great Fran Tarkenton during the 1958 battle between Valdosta and Athens High, and again in a 1959 Baylor-Athens High match-up.

Dr. NORWOOD received a bachelor's degree from Georgia Southern University in Statesboro in 1964, and a doctorate in dental surgery from Georgetown University Dental School in Washington, DC, in 1967, where he was elected president of the Dental School student body in his senior year. He married the former Gloria Wilkinson of Valdosta in 1962 while attending Georgia Southern.

After dental school he volunteered for the U.S. Army and served as a captain in the Dental Corps from 1967 to 1969, beginning with an assignment to the U.S. Army Dental Corps at Sandia Army Base in Albuquerque, NM. In 1968 he was transferred to the Medical Battalion of the 173d Airborne Brigade in Vietnam, and served a combat tour at Quin Nyon, Quang Khe, and LZ English at Bon Son.

During his tour, he participated in experimental military dental practices that became standard procedure for the Armed Forces after the war. He was one of the first participants in the Army outreach program that delivered dentists to forward firebases in lieu of transferring patients to rear treatment areas. Dr. NORWOOD also provided some of the first field-based dental treatment of military guard dogs, and assisted in non-dental trauma care in mobile army surgical hospitals (MASH units). In recognition of his service under combat conditions, he was awarded the Combat Medical Badge and two Bronze Stars. After Vietnam, he was assigned to the Dental Corps at Fort Gordon, GA, where he served until his discharge in 1969. Dr. NORWOOD was awarded the Association of the United States Army Cocklin Award in 1998, and was inducted into the Association's Audie Murphy Society in 1999. He remained a lifelong member of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Military Order of the World Wars.

Dr. NORWOOD began private practice dentistry in Augusta immediately after his discharge. During his dental career, he served as president of both the Georgia Dental Association and the Eastern District Dental Society, was a delegate to

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the American Dental Association, and was founder of the Augusta Dental Disaster Society. He was a member of the American Dental Association, the Georgia Academy of Dental Society, the Augusta Dental Society, was an Honorable Fellow of the Georgia Dental Association, and a Fellow of both the International College of Dentistry and the American College of Dentistry Sciences.

Dr. NORWOOD received the American Psychological Association's Outstanding Leadership Award in 1996 and the Association's Man of the Year Award in 1998; the American Medical Association's Nathan Davis Award for 1999; and the Guardian of Medicare Award of the United States Seniors Association in 1996 for his leadership efforts in health care reform.

In addition to his dental practice, Dr. NORWOOD also founded Northwoods Nursery in Evans, providing trees and shrubs to wholesale outlets throughout the Central Savannah River area, and Augusta Dental Laboratory, which manufactured dental devices for patients.

He became a stalwart supporter of small business and property rights interests in Congress, receiving the 1995 Fighting Frosh Award of the United States Business and Industrial Council; the Guardian of Senior's Rights Award of the 60 Plus Association, the Friend of the Family Award of the Christian Coalition, the Friend of the Taxpayer Award of Americans for Tax Reform, the Guardian of Small Business Award of the National Federation of Independent Business, the Spirit of Enterprise Award of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Thomas Jefferson Award of the U.S. Food Service Council, the Champion of Property Rights Award of the League of Private Property Owners, the Taxpayer's Hero Award of the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste, and the Taxpayer's Friend Award of National Taxpayers Union.

Dr. NORWOOD and his wife Gloria were long-time members of and taught Adult Sunday School at Trinity on the Hill United Methodist Church in Augusta. He was a past board member of the Augusta Opera Society, and a member of the Augusta Symphony Guild.

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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

AND

OTHER TRIBUTES

FOR

CHARLIE NORWOOD

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Proceedings in the House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, *February 7, 2007*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, before I begin my remarks, I would like to call on my fellow Members to keep the gentleman from Georgia, Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD, in your thoughts and prayers. As many of you know, CHARLIE has suffered from cancer for some time and has fought valiantly, just as he did when he recovered from a lung transplant several years ago.

Today CHARLIE announced that he is going to decline further treatment and return home to Augusta, GA, where he will receive hospice care in his home. CHARLIE NORWOOD has served the people his entire life. He has served his Nation as a soldier in Vietnam. He served Augusta, GA, but also as a dedicated father to his children, and a husband to his loving wife Gloria.

Since 1995, he has ably and some would say tenaciously represented the people of eastern, northern Georgia, but his service and his wisdom have benefited us all. To me he is not just a great Georgian and a great American, he is a great friend. He served as a mentor to me and to many others in this House. And I know that everyone here, Mr. Speaker, has CHARLIE and Gloria in their thoughts and prayers.

He said today that he is turning it over to the Lord's hands, and I know that he can be in no better place than that. I look forward to working with CHARLIE again. I look forward to him getting back. . . .

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding.

And I want to take just a second to join my colleagues from Georgia and particularly the two who are on the floor tonight, Dr. Price and Representative Westmoreland, in saying to our colleague CHARLIE NORWOOD that we are praying for you, buddy. All of us from Georgia, and every Member of this body on both sides of the aisle are praying that the mir-

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acle of God's healing will deliver you back to us soon, and we think about you constantly. . . .

THURSDAY, *February 8, 2007*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, today we got word that a fellow Representative from the State of Georgia, Representative CHARLIE NORWOOD, has gone home to Augusta after battling cancer here in Washington, DC, at various facilities. He has handled his affliction bravely, and he has been an example of a great fighting spirit. We wish his family the best, and he is in our prayers as he continues his battle. . . .

TUESDAY, *February 13, 2007*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I have been informed by House leaders that our colleague, Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD, has passed away. I would ask our colleagues to join me as we rise in a moment of silent prayer for CHARLIE.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues and visitors.

Congressman NORWOOD was a proud Vietnam veteran, and his service to our Nation will be sorely missed. Mr. Deal will soon come to the floor to make a statement on behalf of his State's delegation. . . .

MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE
CHARLIE NORWOOD

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that we recognize the Members of the Georgia delegation to make the sad commentary on Congressman NORWOOD's passing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Moran of Virginia). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman.

On behalf of my colleagues from the State of Georgia, it is with great sadness that I announce that our colleague CHARLIE NORWOOD passed away at approximately 12:45 today.

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CHARLIE was a great Member of this body and a friend to all.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that this body observe a moment of silence in his memory.

Amen.

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I have got one speaker left here, Mr. Franks of Arizona, but let me just say one thing before he speaks. I appreciate the debate. I think we have had a good discussion this evening.

I wanted to say one thing about CHARLIE NORWOOD. He passed away. He was a member of the 173d Airborne Brigade. I was a member of that brigade. I had a very average tour, a very easy tour in Vietnam. I did nothing special. But CHARLIE NORWOOD was a real hero who won the Combat Medical Badge and two Bronze Stars in Vietnam.

I thought to commemorate CHARLIE, I have my copy of General Douglas MacArthur's farewell speech that I quoted earlier, and let me just quote a paragraph about duty, honor, and country that Douglas MacArthur thought so represented the fighting man in this country.

He said these words about duty, honor and country:

They teach to be proud and unbending in honest failure, but humble and gentle in success; not to substitute words for action; not to seek the path of comfort, but to face the stress and spur of difficulty and challenge; to learn to stand up in the storm, but to have compassion on those who fall; to master yourself before you seek to master others; to have a heart that is clean, a goal that is high; to learn to laugh, yet never forget how to weep; to reach into the future, yet never neglect the past; to be serious, yet never take yourself too seriously; to be modest so that you will remember the simplicity of true greatness; the open mind of true wisdom, the meekness of true strength.

I think that largely represented our great friend CHARLIE NORWOOD.

Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. Franks).

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Thank you, Mr. Hunter. I certainly add my own feelings toward the words that you just spoke on behalf of CHARLIE NORWOOD. None of us know when we have to step from this floor for the last time. This man, while he was here, maintained a sense of honor. He was always committed to doing those things that would bring better hope to future generations. He was honorable

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among us, and we can certainly salute that kind of brotherhood that he represented to all of us.

I certainly pass along my own condolences and also congratulations to his family, because in a sense CHARLIE NORWOOD's dreams were fulfilled in that he dreamed to be a statesman, and he certainly rose to that occasion in every way.

I suppose it is in a sense a little bit of a statement to all of us that the brief moments that we have here should be spent debating those things that would truly make a difference, not only for this generation, but for whatever generations remain to America. . . .

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to the following resolution.

S. RES. 79

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the honorable CHARLES W. NORWOOD, JR., late a Representative from the State of Georgia.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns or recesses today, it stand adjourned or recessed as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative.

WEDNESDAY, *February 14, 2007*

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 159) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 159

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable CHARLIE NORWOOD, a Representative from the State of Georgia.

Resolved, That a committee of such Members of the House as the Speaker may designate, together with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of applicable accounts of the House.

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Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Deal) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 minutes of time to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis) and thank him for arranging for this resolution to be heard at this time today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, we lost a true champion in the House of Representatives yesterday—CHARLES NORWOOD from Georgia. CHARLIE, as he was known by most of us here, was truly a friend across party lines and across State lines. He was a true patriot. He served by offering dental services in the U.S. Army in the combat zone of Vietnam.

He returned to a private dental practice in Georgia, and then in the election cycle of 1994 was elected to this House of Representatives. He came with a passion for many things. Health care was at the very top of his list. Education followed closely. And he worked on both of those issues with all of his heart.

He inspired many people in this House because he was indeed passionate about everything that he did. If he was your friend, you knew he was your friend. If you were on the opposite side of an issue from him, he let you know that as well, but he was still your friend.

All of us watched as we observed what had been diagnosed in 1998 as an incurable disease. And following that diagnosis, he underwent lung transplant surgery. That was a process that most of us probably would have had great difficulty undergoing. But CHARLIE did it with courage. He rebounded with the same kind of determination and willingness to go forward in spite of the inconveniences that brought to him.

We saw him with his oxygen tank, and we saw him on his little scooter as he rode around the Capitol on his way over here and back and forth to votes. Throughout it all, he maintained his good humor, he maintained his zest for life. CHARLIE NORWOOD is someone who will truly be missed.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. Deal and members of the delegation for bringing this resolu-

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tion before us as a tribute to our fallen colleague, Mr. NORWOOD.

More than anything else, Congressman NORWOOD was a warrior. He fought for his beliefs with passion and conviction, and he fought for the people of his district and for the people of Georgia who loved him.

He was awarded two Bronze Stars for his bravery on behalf of our Nation during the Vietnam war, and he fought courageously for patient rights right here on the floor of the House of Representatives.

In fact, his last official act was to reintroduce the patients' bill of rights on Monday, a bill he coauthored with John Dingell. CHARLIE NORWOOD, this good man, this son of Georgia, fought a good fight. He was a warrior to the end.

The thoughts and prayers of all of the Members of Congress, and especially the members of the Georgia delegation, are with his wife Gloria and his two sons, Charles and Carlton, their family and his many grandchildren. I hope they will find comfort in knowing that Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD made a lasting contribution not just to the State of Georgia, but to the Nation and to all of us as Members of this body. We are more than lucky, we are very blessed to have known him as a friend and as a colleague. He will be deeply missed.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would yield 3 minutes to our Georgia colleague (Mr. Gingrey).

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, CHARLIE NORWOOD was a very successful dentist in my hometown of Augusta, GA. I didn't know CHARLIE at that time because I had long since moved away.

But as a practicing physician in Marietta, GA, as an OB/GYN, several years ago I went to the annual meeting of the Georgia OB/GYN Society to hear Dr. CHARLIE NORWOOD talk about the patients' bill of rights. Physicians across Georgia and across this country were concerned with managed care and HMOs and liability and that sort of thing.

And, Mr. Speaker, when I heard Dr. NORWOOD speak to my colleagues, physicians, about this issue, and then, in turn, when we gave him a standing ovation, I want to tell you, Mr. Speaker, and I never did tell CHARLIE this, but that was an inspiration to me to some day have the opportunity, and thank God that I did, to follow in that walk that he walked.

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What a great Member of this body and what a fierce competitor and a fair competitor, Mr. Speaker. As my colleague on the other side of the aisle, the distinguished John Lewis, knows well, CHARLIE would fight for something he believed in but in a very respectful way. And he thought about others before himself.

An example, Mr. Speaker, is that just in this last election cycle, when CHARLIE was suffering so much, as Representative Deal has just mentioned, he didn't think about himself. He won his reelection with 67 percent of the vote. And it wasn't that he couldn't campaign because of his illness. He was working all that time for another colleague in a very competitive district. He was essentially running that other campaign. That is the kind of guy CHARLIE NORWOOD was, and the kind of fellow that we will all remember here on both sides of the aisle in this great House of Representatives.

He was a friend, he was a colleague. He was a fighter. He was a fighter for patients' rights. He was a fighter for students, as his work on the Education and the Workforce Committee and the Energy and Commerce Committee attest to. He is somebody that we can all emulate.

And I just want to say to his wife Gloria, to his two sons, Carlton and Charles, Jr., and to the four grandchildren and to the Norwood family, we are praying for you. We want to uplift you. We will be with you tomorrow, but we know, as you do, that CHARLIE is in heaven right now, and God has accepted him with open arms saying, "well done, my good and faithful servant."

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Scott).

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, to my distinguished colleagues from Georgia and other Members of Congress who are here, this is indeed a sad occasion.

CHARLIE NORWOOD led an extraordinary life. He was a combat veteran. He was a dentist. He pulled himself up by his own bootstraps, truly a son of the South, a son of Georgia.

He is a person who cared about all the people of Georgia. Let me give you an example, if I may. I remember when I was serving in the Georgia legislature as a State senator, and we needed some help for the Morehouse School of Medicine's National Primary Care Center. The person that led the fight up here to secure the Federal dollars for the Morehouse

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School of Medicine's Primary National Care Center was CHARLIE NORWOOD. And we thank him for that.

Mr. Speaker, as I think of CHARLIE NORWOOD, and I think of so many of the great debates and the battles that we have had up here that we have shared, I am reminded of a great conversation that took place between two great men, Abraham Lincoln and Robert E. Lee. It was at a time when this Nation was going through its great Civil War and was about how to fix that. The conversation went like this. Robert E. Lee said, "it is not incumbent upon us to complete the task." And Abraham Lincoln said, "nor are we free to desist from doing all we possibly can."

That was the essence of CHARLIE NORWOOD. We might not have to complete this task, to make America a better place, but neither are we free to desist from doing all we possibly can.

CHARLIE, we appreciate you. You fought the good fight. You stayed the course. And for you, God has put up an extraordinary crown of righteousness. We thank you, and we thank God for passing our way.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to my colleague from Georgia (Mr. Price).

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, America, the State of Georgia and this House of Representatives have lost a great public servant, an uncommon leader, and a proud patriot.

I am profoundly saddened by the passing of Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD, a gentleman who selflessly served the people of Georgia and this House for more than 12 years.

CHARLIE spent his entire life helping others as a soldier, as a dentist, as a legislator. He served valiantly in the defense of our Nation in the medical battalion of the 173d Airborne Brigade in Vietnam. He returned home to serve his community in Augusta as a dentist. And for 12 years, he was a faithful servant to the people of Georgia in his district as a Member of Congress.

In Congress he was a passionate supporter of our military and of our veterans. He was a tireless advocate for patients and patient-centered health reform. And he never forgot for whom he worked in Washington, his constituents.

Congressman NORWOOD was a dear friend to me. His friendship and his perspective and his guidance in this House are things that I will always cherish. Anyone who knew CHARLIE knew that he was as tough as they come and he always stood up for what he believed in. Rarely, rarely in

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any walk of life are we privileged to come to know someone who stood for his principles as strongly as CHARLIE NORWOOD. His legacy in the House of Representatives will be one of integrity, vigor, and loyalty.

Congressman NORWOOD's devotion to this body and to our country will be sorely missed, but his legacy will never be forgotten. And I shall never forget that wry smile and that twinkle in his eye. What a hero.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in expressing our deepest sympathies to CHARLIE's wife Gloria, his family, and his friends.

And while we mourn the loss of this great patriot, we celebrate his lifetime of noble and heroic service and we thank God for giving us the gift of the life of CHARLIE NORWOOD.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. Capps).

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all of the fine colleagues that we have who are from Georgia for giving each and every one of us a chance to speak. I am not from Georgia, and I know he was your favorite son, but I do want to give this as my chance to honor this very distinguished Member of Congress, CHARLIE NORWOOD.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, with a heavy heart but also real admiration for the life of this dear colleague of ours, CHARLIE NORWOOD. And my heart as well as all of our hearts go out to his family members, to his community, and to all of the people whose life he has touched.

I had the privilege of serving on the Energy and Commerce Committee with CHARLIE for several years and had the opportunity to work with him on initiatives in the Health Subcommittee. And though he and I come from vastly different places on the ideological spectrum, we were often able to see eye to eye on health policy as two health professionals serving in Congress.

I was proud to work with him in co-chairing the School Health and Safety Caucus, where we used the opportunity to spotlight ways in which we could improve the health of children through school-based initiatives. I was also honored to work with him on legislation to promote children's dental health.

I think we can all agree that CHARLIE will be remembered as reliably conservative, but also as an independent thinker. His leadership in establishing a patients' bill of rights was

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exemplary of his willingness to go out on a limb for something in which he truly believed. He introduced that bill shortly before I came to Congress, and the momentum for passage of the patients' bill of rights was one of the main reasons that I was eager to serve on this Health Subcommittee, which he belonged to.

I admired his characteristic patient-centered approach to health care policy. It wasn't popular with some of our colleagues, and the President flat out warned that his bill would be vetoed. But CHARLIE continued forward and was looking forward to an opportunity to finally pass the patients' bill of rights in its original form in this, the 110th Congress.

So I want to take this opportunity to express again my condolences to the Norwood family and to thank them all for the tremendous years, 12 years, of service that they allowed their CHARLIE to serve with us all in Congress. And I thank my colleagues again.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to another Georgia colleague (Mr. Linder).

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding his time.

I met CHARLIE NORWOOD over 30 years ago. We were both young dentists in Georgia. He was the president of the Georgia Dental Association, and I was a young, newly elected dentist in the Georgia legislature. And his enthusiasm blew me away. Irrespective of what he was talking about, he only had two gears: neutral and full speed ahead. And his enthusiasm would capture you. And the bulldoggedness, the way he would put his teeth on an issue and fight for it without ever backing up was astonishing to me. CHARLIE did not have a coy bone in his body. From the day you met CHARLIE, you knew what he stood for on whatever the issue was.

Respectfully, he and I differed on the patients' bill of rights. We spent many hours talking about it. He was adamant that I was wrong and he was right. But at no point did he ever raise his voice or show any disrespect for a position that I had taken that was different from his.

CHARLIE loved this institution. He loved the give and take of it. He loved the formality of it. We talked one day if he ever had any notion of running for the Senate, and he said he would never survive there. He would never survive not getting something done every day.

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He treated this institution that he loved with great dignity. When he fought his fights, you knew he was going to fight fair. And for 30-plus years when I have been able to visit with him or know him on this issue or that, I always walked away from each encounter saying what a nice man, what a nice man.

For Gloria and the family, you are in our prayers. A psalmist has written that the Lord is close to the broken-hearted, and those who are crushed in spirit He saves.

May God give you peace.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Barrow).

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise this afternoon to remember one of our fellow delegation members, the Honorable CHARLIE NORWOOD. I know that many Members of this body served with CHARLIE much longer than I did, but unlike them, I think I may be the only Member here with the distinction of once actually having been represented by CHARLIE as one of his constituents.

CHARLIE NORWOOD was an accomplished and tireless legislator who had stands on issues that ran the political spectrum. And while I may not have agreed with him on every issue, I always admired his spirit, and I say that as a former constituent and as a colleague.

As anyone who knew him will tell you, CHARLIE cared deeply for the State of Georgia and for the people he represented in Congress for over 12 years.

In this Chamber and among this delegation, there is no question that CHARLIE NORWOOD will be missed and his absence will be long felt here in Washington and back home in Georgia.

My prayers remain with Congressman NORWOOD's wife Gloria, and with their entire family.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the minority leader (Mr. Boehner).

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Georgia for yielding.

And I come to remember my good friend and our good friend, CHARLIE NORWOOD.

I met CHARLIE in October 1994 when he was a candidate for Congress for the first time, and I had dinner with him one night before we went off on a 16-city tour. I didn't think

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it would ever end. But at dinner that night, I looked at CHARLIE and I asked, "Why are you running for Congress"?

He said, "That OSHA, that OSHA, they did this to me."

And for every day that CHARLIE NORWOOD served in this Congress, he was all over OSHA, to have rules and regulations that met the straight-face test.

I was the chairman of the Education and the Workforce Committee, and CHARLIE was one of my subcommittee chairs for the 5 years that I was the chairman. Clearly the most difficult member I have ever had to try to manage. And whether it was the patients' bill of rights, whether it was OSHA, or a host of other issues, when CHARLIE got that bone in his mouth, you could not get it out of his mouth. He was the most dogged, persistent Member I have ever worked with. As a matter of fact, I might even say he might be the most dogged persistent person that I have ever met with because when CHARLIE picked up a cause, he was never going to leave it alone until he accomplished his goal.

And I am sure that CHARLIE is watching over us today, wondering why the patients' bill of rights isn't law. Mr. Linder just talked about it. CHARLIE fought about this on more occasions than you can ever imagine, as did John and a lot of other Members. But CHARLIE truly believed in that piece of legislation. He put his heart and soul into it.

We are going to miss CHARLIE around here. We are going to miss that dogged persistence that he brought to this floor every day and in the committee rooms every day.

But to Gloria and his family, our prayers are with you.

And, CHARLIE, may your soul rest in peace.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Johnson).

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor CHARLIE NORWOOD, a great servant of the people of Georgia.

By now you have all heard about his life, so I won't spend much time on his extensive biography. But I do want to bring attention to what he would have wanted us to focus on above and beyond his legislative accomplishments, and that is his family.

I did not get an opportunity to get to know CHARLIE, but I do know enough about him to understand what was most important to him. He was a man of high character and values, and so his family was very important. I would like to mention and send my deepest condolences to CHARLIE's

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beautiful wife, Gloria, and his two sons, Charles and Carlton, who made it possible for him to serve so honorably, particularly at times when clearly he must have not been feeling well. But he still persisted with his duties and responsibilities as a Congressman.

It takes a lot to just walk these Halls from the office to the Capitol and back again, and he walked as long as he could, and then he started taking his wheelchair. So the man had a spirit to prevail over whatever obstacles might have befallen him. That is a spirit that each one of us can learn from and live by and do the best that we can, like he did.

So in addition to just being a great human being, there were a number of legislative accomplishments. I will not go over those either, but I will say as a member of the Armed Services Committee, that I want to bring attention to his military service. He was awarded the Combat Medical Badge and two Bronze Stars for his service in Vietnam. While I did not always or often agree with him on the issues, by all accounts he served his State and his district well.

Georgia and this Nation have lost a great man, and I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize his contributions today.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to yield 3 minutes to our colleague, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Westmoreland).

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Georgia for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, CHARLIE NORWOOD was a friend of mine, he was a friend of all Georgians, and he was a friend of every freedom-loving person in this world, because he fought hard for you.

He was one of the original Republican revolutionaries that was elected in 1994, and he never really lost that spirit, that conservative fever. He agreed with Jefferson that the government that governs least, governs best, and he fought for 12 years in this House to make sure that regulations on business and individual lives were at a minimum. In fact, sometimes he called the government's reach into our lives oppressive.

Once CHARLIE was quoted in the *Atlanta Journal and Constitution*, as saying, "If I want to put bad wiring in my house and burn my family down, that is my problem, not the government's."

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That was typical of CHARLIE. He was a witty warrior. When he joined me in the Voting Rights Act, trying to modernize section 5, the renewal of the Voting Rights Act, I had come up with two amendments. One of them had to do with putting the whole country under it, going through the same scrutiny.

I met with CHARLIE and CHARLIE said, “Lynn, I want the modernization amendment to be the Norwood amendment.” I said, “That’s fine, CHARLIE, but why?” He said, “Because I can do a better job than you can.” That is the way he felt, and that is exactly the way he was.

That is just one example of why I called CHARLIE my “fox-hole buddy.” When CHARLIE NORWOOD said he was with you, he was with you until the bitter end. You had his word that he would have your back, and his word was his bond.

His loyalty and love of country defined him throughout his life. The Valdosta High School football star went on to become a dentist who took his skills to the front lines of Vietnam, where he served his fellow soldiers and his Nation with valor. He served in Vietnam for 1 year and obtained the rank of captain and won two Bronze Stars.

For the next four decades, CHARLIE and his loving wife Gloria made their home Augusta, where they raised two children, Carlton and Charles, and he served his community with a smile on his face when he talked about his grandchildren.

So the thoughts and prayers of all Georgians go out to the Norwood family tonight, to let that family know that we are appreciative of the time that they allowed CHARLIE to come up here and to serve with us, to bring joy to our hearts and thoughts to our minds of what we could do to make this country a better place to live in.

The one thing that I want to close with is this, Mr. Speaker: In all the discussions I got into with CHARLIE NORWOOD about legislation, he constantly said, “Lynn, we have got to do what’s right.” That was his motto, to do what was right, and he did. It was an honor to call him friend.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Bishop).

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to stand this afternoon to give some remarks about our colleague and dear friend, CHARLIE NORWOOD.

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Shakespeare wrote that all the world is a stage and all the men and women merely players. Each has his entrance and his exit. One man in his time may play many parts.

So it was with CHARLIE. CHARLIE was a son, a son to Charlie Norwood, Sr., and Lola. He was a husband to Gloria. He was a father to Charlie and Carlton and a grandfather. And he was a cousin to two very, very wonderful ladies down in Valdosta who said that they often prayed for Cousin CHARLIE, because they just couldn't understand how he became a Republican.

CHARLIE was a student. CHARLIE got his bachelor's degree. He studied dentistry. He was a soldier. He served his country. He was in Vietnam. But CHARLIE was a public servant. CHARLIE believed in leadership through service, and he lived it.

CHARLIE really was great, because measured by the standards of Jesus, that he who is great among you shall be your servant, and he who is greatest shall be servant unto all, CHARLIE measured up.

CHARLIE was a fighter. CHARLIE fought hard for any principle in which he believed. He didn't give up, as you heard, on the patients' bill of rights. He was a fierce competitor. I often didn't agree with him, but I had to admire his tenacity, because he was a fighter. And all the way to the end, CHARLIE fought. He fought for life.

We are all blessed, really blessed, to have known CHARLIE. And Gloria was devoted to CHARLIE. She took leave from her duties as a member of the Congressional Club to attend to CHARLIE, to give CHARLIE her best efforts in his last days.

But CHARLIE served well. He really embodied God's minute. I have only just a minute, only 60 seconds in it; forced upon me, can't refuse it; didn't seek it, didn't choose, did it; I must suffer if I lose it, give account if I abuse it; just a tiny little minute, but eternity is in it.

Thank you, CHARLIE. You used your minute well.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. Wilson).

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Thank you, Congressman Deal, for coordinating this tribute to a patriot.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and remembrance of my dear friend and our colleague CHARLIE NORWOOD. Upon my election 5 years ago, two of the first people to offer guidance to me were CHARLIE and Gloria NORWOOD. As a Mem-

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ber of Congress from an adjoining district, I learned firsthand of CHARLIE's dedication to the public and his love of America. Gloria has been a model First Lady for the district, enthusiastically assisting CHARLIE in his life of public service.

CHARLIE was a committed health care practitioner, a loving family man and a passionate public servant. He spent his entire life fighting for the people of his beloved Georgia.

True to his character, CHARLIE fought to the end, despite debilitating health conditions. He was always in good spirits, even though we knew he was exerting extraordinary efforts to fully represent his constituents. He reminded me so much of my predecessor, the late Congressman Floyd Spence, a fellow courageous lung transplant recipient.

I had the pleasure of serving with CHARLIE on the Education and the Workforce Committee. I am honored to, this year, be the Republican ranking member on the Workforce Protection Subcommittee, which CHARLIE ably chaired for three terms.

In Congress, CHARLIE was an ardent advocate for health care reform and patients' rights. He was a good friend and strong supporter of the employees of the Savannah River Nuclear Laboratory. I was proud to work closely with him in our efforts to create a MOX facility for the transformation of plutonium waste at the Savannah River site.

CHARLIE is survived by his wife Gloria; his two sons, Charles and Carlton; and four grandchildren. Roxanne and I join with his colleagues in mourning his passing and send our prayers to his family, staff, and constituents. May God bless the Norwood family at this time, and may they know that he made a significant and positive difference for America.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield 1 minute to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the young lady from California, Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and having this Special Order to honor the life and service of our colleague Congressman NORWOOD.

It is with great sadness that we received the news first of his illness and then of his passing. We had hoped to have an occasion such as this before he died so he could hear the praise of his colleagues on the floor. I know that many conveyed their good wishes to him personally.

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He left us in a very dignified way. He decided that he would be, as he lived, surrounded by his family at home so that he could die in peace.

Congressman NORWOOD, as we all know, as our minority leader mentioned, he had his own particular style, plain spoken, very eloquent, and he was a passionate public servant. He served our country and his own community in Vietnam in service to our country and in the Congress of the United States.

Again, in this Congress he did his best to serve his constituents, his conscience, and his country.

Again, he faced the end of his life and his sickness with great bravery and dignity.

Our thoughts and prayers, I have conveyed to his wife Gloria, but I say again on this floor that our thoughts and prayers are with Gloria and his two sons, Charles and Carlton, and his four grandchildren. I know that I can speak for all Members of Congress when we convey our sympathy to them. I hope that it is a comfort to them that so many people mourn their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Barton).

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to read part of a letter dated February 8, 2007. It is from Congressman NORWOOD to me. It is the last official correspondence that I received from him. It says:

Dear Joe.

When you receive this letter, you will know of my return to Georgia after my decision to forgo further medical treatment in the Washington, DC, area for my ongoing battle with non-small-cell cancer. Needless to say, I hope things turn out for the best.

I expect to be unavailable for my duties for the foreseeable future. I do, however, expect my staff to continue working on several issues, even if I can't be there in person.

I will have my staff working on the Living Organ Kidney Donation Clarification Act (H.R. 710). This bipartisan, bicameral bill addresses the issue of paired transplantation, which is a way to solve the dilemma faced by people who want to become living organ donors for a family member or friend, but are unable to do so because they are biologically incompatible. In the process of kidney-paired donor transplants, a pair consisting of a kidney transplant candidate and an incompatible living donor is matched with another such incompatible pair to enable two transplants that otherwise would not occur. This bill is widely supported, has no known opposition, doesn't cost a dime, will save Medicare money, and will save thousands of lives. I urge you to work with Mr. Inslee, Chairman Dingell, and my staff to move this important bill forward.

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I have checked with Chairman Dingell. He has assured me that he is prepared to move the bill if it is as he says it is. Knowing CHARLIE, always telling the truth, it is. So hopefully, very soon on the floor of this body, we will have the Charlie Norwood Living Organ Kidney Donation Clarification Act.

There are so many stories, but I want to tell one NORWOOD story. CHARLIE asked me and now my wife, then my girlfriend, Terri, to go down to the Masters Golf Tournament. I am not a golfer and so I discouraged him from asking me. He said, "You may not like it but Terri will."

So we got to go down to the tournament, and on the first day we went to the tournament, CHARLIE was telling me how plugged in he was with all the folks at the Masters and how many people he knew, and he was really a major figure out there.

So we pulled up to the driveway to go up to the main clubhouse that you have seen on TV, and the guard at the gate said, "May I help you?" He said, "I am Congressman NORWOOD, and I have got Congressman Barton of Texas, and we want to go up to the clubhouse." The guard said, "Well, Congressman, you are not on the list." He said, "I am not on the list?" And the guard said, "No, Congressman, you are not." So I started giving CHARLIE a hard time from the backseat.

I said, "CHARLIE, I thought you were a big player around here; you cannot even get up to the clubhouse." So NORWOOD started giving me a hard time, and I started hoorahing the guard, and he said, "Wait a minute; he said you are a Congressman from Texas?" And I said, "Yes, sir." He said, "Congressman NORWOOD, you park right up there by the clubhouse."

So, for that one day, CHARLIE NORWOOD had a better parking spot than Tiger Woods or Arnold Palmer or any of the members of the Masters golf course.

He is in heaven now and my guess is he has got the best parking spot in heaven, too. God bless you, CHARLIE NORWOOD, and God bless you, Gloria, and God bless all your family members. CHARLIE will dearly, dearly be missed.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Gene Green).

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Georgia.

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I rise in support of the resolution and to pay tribute to my friend and fellow member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Dr. CHARLIE NORWOOD.

CHARLIE came to Congress after my first term as part of the class of 1994, and it seems a year did not go by that we did not serve on a committee together.

I honorably served with him at first on the Education and the Workforce Committee and then later on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

CHARLIE and I shared a passion for health care issues, and I particularly enjoyed our work together on the Health Subcommittee.

A dentist by training, CHARLIE was devoted to improving the health care system, not only for providers like himself but also for the patients who rely on our health care system to keep them well.

The phrase patients' bill of rights would not have been coined if CHARLIE and our chairman, John Dingell, had not teamed up to give patients an ability to fight back against the HMOs that too often make health care decisions based on the bottom line, rather than a physician's recommendation.

I note CHARLIE's last legislative act before leaving Washington and returning to Georgia was to reintroduce the patients' bill of rights in this Congress as H.R. 979.

There is no doubt in my mind that this legislation will be CHARLIE's legacy and will honor him and his work in this esteemed Chamber by finally making his vision of patients' rights a reality.

Last July 4 recess, CHARLIE and I joined two other members of the Health Subcommittee as we visited the impressive trauma facilities utilized by our brave military doctors to treat our wounded service personnel in Baghdad, Iraq and Kabul, Afghanistan.

I knew there was a good reason CHARLIE and I got along, despite being different parties, but I also realized that trip that CHARLIE and I shared a lot of interests, and one of them is firearms. I met few people with more enthusiasm for firearms than CHARLIE NORWOOD.

In fact, I will mention how he cared about people, and Chairman Deal understands that, he presented a book to those of us who went. It has a picture of CHARLIE NORWOOD with a .50-caliber machine gun in a helicopter we were flying in, but CHARLIE was not really happy because he was not sitting behind that .50-caliber machine gun.

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CHARLIE was a good doctor and honorable Member of Congress and a great friend. He always thought of others, and I will always remember him for his friendship for these years. Our thoughts are with his family, and his wife Gloria has become a good friend of my wife Helen through the congressional spouses group, and I will miss CHARLIE, and we all will. We honor his memory and his contributions to our country.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. Barrett).

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I too stand in favor of the resolution for my friend CHARLIE NORWOOD.

When I first started running in 2002, CHARLIE was one of the first guys to grab me by the hand, introduce me to people, and be my friend. I remember my first day in Congress CHARLIE came up to me and said, "Boy, you just hang with me, I will take good care of you." And he did.

He always told me that the Augusta side of Georgia was mine and the north Augusta side of South Carolina was his; that no river or border could keep us apart. And it was true. And the things he did for me, the things he did for South Carolina, for Georgia, for this Nation will always be remembered.

CHARLIE NORWOOD was a good friend of mine, and we will be sad and we will cry, but in heaven they are screaming, "We love you, CHARLIE." God bless you.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Marshall).

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I didn't know CHARLIE well; I only met CHARLIE once before I came to Congress and then had a few occasions to work with him in Congress. I certainly knew his reputation. He was a great advocate for veterans and a great advocate for patients' rights and, on some subjects, willing to buck his leadership in order to advance the cause of patients' rights, and it was something I appreciated a great deal.

As CHARLIE grew sicker, from time to time I would seek him out on the floor and ask him how he was doing. He was always upbeat about it, he was always positive about it. He was never down and sad. He would be very frank about what he was able to do and where he was and what his challenges were, but he was always positive about his circumstances.

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His circumstance was awful, as everybody knows. He fought this disease for years and gradually grew worse, and we were all worried about him.

So one of the things I did just trying to get to know CHARLIE a little better is I went to his Website and looked up a little bit about him, and was struck by the description that I found of his military service in Vietnam. And I thought I would like to just read that; and many people who are watching this won't have an opportunity to hear this about CHARLIE, though everybody knows, I think, that he served in the military.

But specifically during his tour in Vietnam, CHARLIE NORWOOD participated in experimental military dental practices that became standard procedure for the Armed Forces after the war. He was one of the first participants in the Army outreach program to deliver dentists to forward firebases in lieu of transferring patients to rear treatment areas. I am not sure if the rest of the dentists and the doctors appreciated that very much; it meant that you were going into harm's way a little bit more than they otherwise would.

NORWOOD also provided some of the first field-based dental treatment of military guard dogs, and assisted in nondental trauma care in mobile army surgical hospitals, MASH, units. In recognition of his service under combat conditions, he was awarded the Combat Medical Badge and two Bronze Stars. After Vietnam, he was assigned to the Dental Corps at Fort Gordon, GA, where he served until his discharge in 1969. NORWOOD was awarded the Association of the Army's Cocklin Award in 1998, and was inducted into the Association's Audie Murphy Society in 1999. He remained a lifelong member of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Military Order of the World Wars.

CHARLIE's family should be very proud of CHARLIE NORWOOD. As CHARLIE NORWOOD was slowly struggling with the disease that took his life, he had to look back on his life and realize that he helped an awful lot of people in a very positive way. We will miss him.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. Hastings).

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, today I mournfully lost not only a colleague but a very close friend. We all know that CHARLIE's unwavering dedication to his constituents and to our Nation in-

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spired us who had the privilege of serving with him. He was known and was well-documented as a principled lawmaker who was absolutely committed to his values and to his work in this people's House. He was never afraid to stand up for his convictions.

But, Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak on a personal note, because CHARLIE and I were elected in 1994, and I see several of my colleagues here that are going to speak after me. My wife Claire and his wife Gloria became friends during the orientation. And while my wife doesn't come back here as often as Gloria was here with CHARLIE, whenever she came back we always made it a point as often as we could to get together with the NORWOODS and have dinner. CHARLIE loved to try a lot of different venues: He was a steak man, and we ate steak. He liked Italian food, and we found several Italian places where we ate. He took me to a Korean restaurant. He liked Korean food after being in Asia. And we had great conversations. We talked about the patients' bill of rights; we disagreed. We talked about OSHA; we agreed. And so he and Gloria became good friends of Claire's and mine, and he even hosted my brother and I down at the Master's one year. My older brother and CHARLIE shared the same birth date, so they had a bond right off the bat.

If there is one legacy I think that CHARLIE will leave with all of us, it is the bulldoggedness and the determination with which he pursued legislation. But if there is one other legacy that will be left, it is the way he displayed the courage to fight this disease that he had. And I truly think, Mr. Speaker, that any lesser man would not have lasted as long as he did with the disease that he had.

CHARLIE will be very, very much missed, and our prayers go out to Gloria and the family.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time do we have left.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Frank of Massachusetts). The gentleman from Georgia has 12½ minutes, and the other gentleman from Georgia has 8 minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. I thank the Speaker. And I would ask the gentleman, we have numerous speakers, if there is a possibility of yielding time at some point, we would request it.

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Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. I would be pleased to do so.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. I thank the gentleman.

At this point I would yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. Blunt).

Mr. BLUNT. I thank all of my colleagues for the comments they have made today. The job of the whip in the House is supposed to be the job of organizing the Members, and many people think it is the job of convincing Members they should do something they don't really want to do. I will tell you that the Member that it would have been the most impossible to convince to do anything he didn't want to do was CHARLIE NORWOOD. He was here to do what he thought was the right thing to do. It wasn't always what I thought was the right thing, but it was what he thought was the right thing and he was going to do it. The toughness, the courage, the determination of CHARLIE NORWOOD was extraordinary among an extraordinary group of people. Just this struggle that we have witnessed with CHARLIE's health, a struggle that he faced uncomplainingly as he sat day after day over in that corner recovering from massive surgery, but, as Chairman Barton showed in the letter he got in recent days, never giving up on the job he was doing for the people he served.

The people that sent him here should be proud, the people who worked with him should be proud. The people of the United States would be proud if they knew the great and tireless job that CHARLIE NORWOOD did for them every day. And I am honored to have had a chance to serve with him and call him my friend.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. Coble).

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, thank you, sir.

I represent Pinehurst, NC, the golf capital of America. When I would say that CHARLIE took great umbrage, it was because he was from Augusta.

On one occasion, CHARLIE overheard someone ask me to describe my district. I replied, "I represent High Point, the furniture capital of the world; I represent one of the finest zoos in the country near Asheboro." And knowing that CHARLIE was listening, I said very condescendingly, "And, of course, the golf capital of America in Pinehurst."

CHARLIE jumped up from his chair—this is the sanitized version. He said, "Now, you son of a gun, I will let you have the furniture and zoo, but you ain't taking golf."

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I told that story, Mr. Speaker, to the Southern Pines North Carolina Rotary Club, and within 1 week that story was personally delivered to Doc NORWOOD. And CHARLIE said to me, "Howard, don't ever talk about anybody. It will come back to bite you."

CHARLIE NORWOOD, as has been said many times on this floor today, was one great guy, one great Congressman who will be sorely missed.

CHARLIE, I won't even say Pinehurst is the greatest golf capital of the world at least for a day or two in remembrance of you.

My condolences to Gloria and the entire Norwood family.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Gohmert).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it was truly an honor to know CHARLIE NORWOOD; I admired and respected him. And shortly after I got here to this body I was told by another Member from Georgia who was sitting by CHARLIE when I was up speaking and CHARLIE said, "Who is that guy? I like him." Well, the feeling was more than mutual.

CHARLIE NORWOOD, what was not to like? His dogged determination—some would say he was stubborn as a mule. But I think CHARLIE might more elegantly say he was persistent until it almost ceased to be a virtue. But with CHARLIE, it was a virtue.

Now, some gave him bad press, along with some others of us who worked together on the Voting Rights Act. Some falsely claimed that CHARLIE and others of us were trying to restrict the usage of the Voting Rights Act when a clear indication, everything CHARLIE did, everything we worked on, everything we talked about behind the scenes was, by golly, the Voting Rights Act has done good for the places it has been applied. It needs to be applied in every district in America until racial disparity has disappeared.

And although we lost on the floor temporarily, I do believe there is Scripture to support people in heaven to know what is going on here on Earth. They rejoice over one soul's salvation, they know that it isn't over yet. As a matter of equal protection, I think we eventually will get it extended to every district where there is racial disparity.

To Gloria, to the Norwood family, all we can say through the Speaker is, thank you for sharing this wonderful gift with us. And to God on high, thank you for sharing this gift with this House of Representatives.

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Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentlelady from North Carolina (Mrs. Myrick).

Mrs. MYRICK. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, as you have heard some of my other colleagues say, there was a group of us who came in in 1995 together with CHARLIE and got to know him very well and consider him a dear friend.

You have heard all the words, "perseverance" and "doggedness" and "determination" and "stubborn" and all those other things that describe CHARLIE, but there are also some other words that describe CHARLIE, and these are "loyal" and "friend," because he was a friend to all.

Gloria and CHARLIE and I became very good friends early on. You could always count on him. There was never any question, if you needed CHARLIE, he was there if he believed in what you were doing; if he didn't, he would always forthrightly tell you.

He also displayed that big word "courage," because we saw what he went through as he spent his last 3 years here, and he was always doing his job for his people. The other thing about CHARLIE was integrity. I think you have to look long and far to find someone who had more integrity than CHARLIE NORWOOD; if he gave you his word, he gave you his word.

All of our blessings go to Gloria and his family.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. Shadegg).

Mr. SHADEGG. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to mourn the loss of my friend, CHARLIE NORWOOD, and to pay tribute to him and his record, and to extend my sympathies to his wife and his family.

CHARLIE NORWOOD was an extraordinary human, an extraordinary soldier, and an extraordinary U.S. Congressman, and the Nation is better for his service.

You have heard it said here, over and over and over again, that he was passionate, that he was a fighter for the cause, whether that was in Vietnam, whether that was in his chosen field, dentistry, or whether that was here in the U.S. Congress.

I worked closely with CHARLIE on the patients' bill of rights. I believed deeply, as CHARLIE did, that individual human beings, patients, were being injured by the practices of managed care companies around the country, and that we needed to do something about that. CHARLIE injected himself

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in that fight with the kind of passion that CHARLIE brought to every fight. And I worked shoulder to shoulder with CHARLIE in that fight, and Dr. Tom Coburn, and learned what a great individual and what an inspiring principled human being he was.

But the best thing about CHARLIE was the twinkle in his eye. When CHARLIE got into a fight, he would literally light up, and light the room with a twinkle of being able to press forward with his fight and his belief and his passion.

We will all miss him. I consider it a privilege to have known him.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. Wicker).

Mr. WICKER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, CHARLIE NORWOOD and I were elected together in 1994, as were the two previous speakers. And we were part of that history-making, majority-making 73-Member class who came to office in 1995.

It didn't take us long to realize that CHARLIE NORWOOD was one of the wisest and steadiest and most dependable Members of that class. He was a conservative, and never wavered from that philosophy. He was trustworthy, as Mrs. Myrick said.

He was a competitor. When CHARLIE NORWOOD waged battle on this floor on your side, you knew you had a capable comrade at arms. And if he was on the other side, when it was over, you knew you had been in a fight. I remember at the end of the debate on the patients' bill of rights, right along the rail back here, CHARLIE NORWOOD and Tom Coburn embracing after the debate like athletes after a great contest.

Whatever he did, CHARLIE NORWOOD did it cheerfully, and that is one of the main things I will remember about CHARLIE. He was a patriot in every sense of the word. He was a credit to this House of Representatives. I am proud to have called him my colleague and my friend.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, how much time does the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Deal) have?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 30 seconds remaining.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 6 minutes to my colleague from Georgia, and I ask unani-

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mous consent to let the gentleman from Georgia in turn control that 6 minutes and yield to other Members.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Deal) now has 6½ minutes.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for his courtesy.

I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. Whitfield).

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, all of us join in wishing our condolences to CHARLIE's wife Gloria and his entire family.

Those of us who were elected in 1994 and had the opportunity to know CHARLIE, to work with CHARLIE, and for me personally I had the opportunity to sit next to him on the Energy and Commerce Committee for about 8 years, CHARLIE was many things. He was a soldier in Vietnam, he was a businessman, he was a dentist, he was a great U.S. Congressman. He also was a Sunday School teacher at Trinity on the Hill Methodist Church in Augusta, GA. And I know that church meant a lot to him because he is asking for donations to that church as a memorial.

Recently I attended a church service in a Methodist church in Kentucky, and the title of the sermon was "You Can't Make a Success of Life Without Making a Gift of It." And when I think of CHARLIE NORWOOD, that is really what I think about: He made a gift of his life. We will miss him. He has made a tremendous impact on all of us. We wish his family the very best.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Carter).

Mr. CARTER. I thank you for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about my friend, CHARLIE NORWOOD. I have prepared remarks, but I would really like to just relate like others have.

The first time I ran into CHARLIE I was a new freshman in this body. He sat behind me. And when you are brand new here, you are listening and you are trying to figure out what is going on. And when CHARLIE NORWOOD opened his mouth, he was saying things sometimes that others were

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not, and stood his ground to those things, even though they might be in conflict with both the other side and his party, both. CHARLIE had a way of standing up for his principles.

I also want to talk about Gloria, because Gloria took my wife under her wing and was kind to her. And I can tell you for this last year and a half, literally every week that I have served in this Congress, my wife has asked about CHARLIE's health because she fell in love with Gloria Norwood.

Everyone in this House sends out their hearts to Gloria at the loss of her beloved husband. We were proud to serve with him. He was a great American.

Today I rise to honor my friend and colleague Mr. CHARLIE NORWOOD from northeastern Georgia who passed away yesterday morning. As a man of strong character and unwavering convictions, his passing is surely a saddening loss to the American people.

CHARLIE NORWOOD served as a brave soldier during Vietnam as part of the Army Dental Corps in the 173d Airborne Brigade. He was honored for his courageous service with the Combat Medical Badge and two Bronze Stars.

Elected to Congress in 1994, CHARLIE was the first Republican to represent his northeastern Georgia district since Reconstruction. During his time in Congress he was known for his endless fight for the patients' bill of rights and his fight for stricter immigration policies.

CHARLIE bravely battled cancer and lung disease, and in his final days he returned to Augusta to be with his family. The Norwood family will be in my thoughts and prayers. Please join me, Mr. Speaker, in expressing our deep appreciation for the lifetime of service by CHARLIE NORWOOD and extending our sympathies to his wife, Gloria Wilkinson Norwood, and their family.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to one of our colleagues from Iowa (Mr. King).

Mr. KING of Iowa. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in profound sorrow and gratitude for the life of CHARLIE NORWOOD. I believe I had known CHARLIE long before I came here to meet him in person. I got to know him through C-SPAN and through the media. When I met him personally, he had matched up identically with the person that I saw through the television screen. CHARLIE had that light within him, as John Shadegg said.

I look back at a time when CHARLIE was not feeling well. He came here whenever it was physically possible for him to

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do that, and I remember a day when he looked poor, but when he spoke in that microphone right there, that light came back on again and the real CHARLIE NORWOOD again blessed this Chamber with his presence.

America will always be grateful. Gloria, Marilyn and I want you to know that you and your family are in our prayers. We will always look over to this place on this floor where CHARLIE always sat and recognize that as CHARLIE's seat in the People's Chamber.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. Buyer).

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express deep sorrow at the passing of our friend and colleague, CHARLIE NORWOOD. While most of us hope to make a difference in this world, CHARLIE NORWOOD certainly did that. He also made a difference in the lives of those who were fortunate enough to have known him.

CHARLIE was steadfast and did what he thought was right. He was an immovable object in the defense of principle, and when met with irresistible force, it wasn't likely that CHARLIE was the one who was moved.

During the development of the Medicare prescription drug benefit, I worked closely with CHARLIE and several of my colleagues to see if there was an alternative plan and how we were going to work this out. CHARLIE's contributions were insightful, they were valuable, and added considerably to the worth of our final product. During that process, he was constantly mindful of two things, and that was the need to help seniors who had no drug coverage and the need to be wise stewards for taxpayers.

Coming to Congress with a medical background, CHARLIE provided a point of view that enhanced any debate he entered. While witnesses before him at the Health Subcommittee may have cringed at times under his questioning, the responses that were drawn out always added an important dimension to our debates.

CHARLIE will be sorely missed: in Congress, in the Health Subcommittee, but more importantly in all our lives. I give my deepest sympathies to his wife, Gloria, his sons Charles and Carlton, and his constituents.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. Latham).

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Mr. LATHAM. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank the Speaker for this chance to say just a few words about my dear friend and classmate, CHARLIE NORWOOD.

To Gloria, to the family, we extend our most sincere, deepest condolences. Kathy and I will keep you in our prayers.

I just want to tell one short story about CHARLIE. When we came into Congress together back in 1994 and we had the Contract With America, the first 100 days, one of the very first votes that we had was H.R. 1. That was an amendment to the Constitution to balance the budget. I was standing right back here at the voting machine beside CHARLIE NORWOOD. I voted "yes." CHARLIE put his card in, he voted "yes," and he turned to me and said, "You know what. That's what I ran on. I can go home now. I've done my job. I've kept my promise."

That's what CHARLIE NORWOOD was all about. I just want to say, CHARLIE, you're home now, the Augusta, the Georgia that you love, and our thoughts and prayers will always be with you and the great honor that you have given all of us here to serve with you in this great body.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. I would say to my colleague, Mr. Lewis, I am prepared to close if you would like to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Lewis).

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, CHARLIE NORWOOD, the man from Georgia, not just a citizen of Georgia, not just a citizen of the American South, but a citizen of the world, a man who fought the good fight, who kept the faith. He was a good and decent man, and we will never ever forget his lasting contribution.

We pray for his family, for the people of his congressional district, and we pray for his soul.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to thank my colleague, Mr. Lewis, for his graciousness, for his assistance in bringing this resolution to the floor, and to express my appreciation to all of our colleagues who have spoken here today. Their eloquence, I hope, conveys to Gloria and to the family the esteem with which we held CHARLIE NORWOOD. Truly the gentleman from Georgia and the blue seersucker suit is going to really be missed here, but his legacy will live on.

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It is the responsibility of each of us to make sure that we have the same degree of commitment and passion as CHARLIE NORWOOD did. He set a great example we will all endeavor to follow.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in sadness to note the recent passing of a dear friend and colleague, CHARLIE NORWOOD. I want to extend to his wife Gloria and her sons, and their family, my deepest sympathy for their loss.

I know how much CHARLIE loved his wife Gloria and his family.

I join my colleagues today on the floor of the House to honor his service in the House of Representatives, and to honor his memory.

CHARLIE and I came to Washington with the class of 1994. We were elected to Congress in the same year and we came with the class that was going to change the way Washington operates.

In the seven terms that I have served with CHARLIE, I gained a lasting friendship and respect for him.

CHARLIE certainly made an impact on the House of Representatives. He always fought for the causes for which he believed, and many times we were on the same side.

In the last year of his service, as he was battling illness, he always had a smile for me when I would speak to him. And I know that he had a smile for anyone who came to say hello.

As a man of faith, I know that CHARLIE is in heaven. But for those of us who had the privilege to know him, we will miss him until we meet again.

He was an outstanding Congressman, and he will be missed.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, it is with sorrow, yet fondness, that I speak on the passing of our colleague and friend, CHARLIE NORWOOD. While in Congress, his dedication to Georgians, to patient advocacy, to business ownership and property rights, and to veterans are legendary.

Prior to his service in the House of Representatives, CHARLIE served his country as a captain in the U.S. Army Dental Corps in Vietnam, and he contributed to his community as a dentist, business owner, and active worshipper in his Methodist Church.

I first learned about CHARLIE in 1994 when he was running for his Georgia district. Struck by his pluckiness and

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quiet steadfast determination even then, I decided to campaign for him in his district-to-be, and met his wife Gloria. And when he was elected, he immediately became a player in health care legislation, not waiting to reach the echelons of seniority to make real contributions.

Through all his trials, CHARLIE NORWOOD had a sparkle, an ingenuity of how to get things accomplished. His passion would at times translate into defiance at another Member. In particular, I recall such a moment at the Energy and Commerce markup on July 27, 2006 of H.R. 4157, the Better Health Information System Act of 2006, or “Health IT” bill. Another Member, Representative Markey, was offering some language that would have the effect of governing relations between health care providers and their patients. Well, CHARLIE took great exception to this, and rather angrily erupted to Representative Markey that his profession has engaged in the highest ethical standards of patient privacy since the inception of dentistry, and therefore “I don’t need you to legislate my professional ethics.”

In the past couple of years, CHARLIE would ride in his scooter to the Energy and Commerce Committee on which we served together, and to the floor, for debate and hearings and votes. And notwithstanding his ailing health, I was always touched by his continued friendly, high spirits. CHARLIE, I am honored to have known you. Rest in peace.

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution honoring the life of our friend and a great Member of this body, CHARLIE NORWOOD, who passed away after an 8-year battle with a chronic lung disease, and then lung cancer.

Elected in 1994, CHARLIE was a passionate public servant who will be remembered for his dedication to health care issues and his commitment to patients’ rights. A dentist by training, he had the unique perspective of understanding how health policy impacted him as a practitioner as well as his patients. His experiences were a driving force in his passionate advocacy for a patients’ bill of rights, and he helped lead the effort to pass that legislation.

CHARLIE also served his country in the Army for 3 years, and was a veteran of the Vietnam war. I had the privilege of getting to know CHARLIE when our offices were next door to each other in the Rayburn Building and enjoyed our friendly visits and candid conversations. He instantly gained my respect as a hard-working and eager gentleman willing to work across party lines in search of compromise.

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Mr. Speaker, while CHARLIE's presence will be missed, his valiant spirit will live on and I am grateful for the opportunity to have served with him in this Chamber. I send my condolences and best wishes to his family, and join my colleagues in supporting this resolution.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply saddened at the loss of a great American. CHARLIE NORWOOD was an honored Member of this House of Representatives and will be deeply missed. His work for patient and individual rights showed his intense compassion for the American people.

Congressman NORWOOD was someone who lived the American dream. He went to college, became a dentist, fought for his country in Vietnam, and was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He served his district, State and country with distinction in the U.S. Congress.

CHARLIE worked to leave the world a better place than it was given to him, and I can say that, because of his service to our country and work for health care issues, he did just that.

Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD was taken from this Earth too soon. My wife Diana and I extend our deepest sympathy to Gloria and the entire Norwood family at this difficult time.

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart today to remember a friend, and colleague—Representative CHARLIE NORWOOD of Georgia, who passed away yesterday, at his home in Augusta, GA.

CHARLIE and I came into Congress as part of the "Republican Revolution" in 1994. We shared a common vision with the rest of our classmates of what the Federal Government should be and how it should act. CHARLIE worked diligently to attain this vision while serving his constituents.

During this sorrowful time my thoughts and prayers go out to his family, friends, staff and loved ones. It was an honor serving with CHARLIE, and he will be sorely missed.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great American and a Member of this House. CHARLES NORWOOD was a veteran, dentist, small business owner, and Member of Congress from Georgia.

Congressman NORWOOD, who died on Wednesday, February 14, 2007, was a respected Member of this body and respected by all who knew him. His presence will be greatly missed and we all mourn his loss and extend our sincerest condolences to his family and friends.

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CHARLES NORWOOD was born July 27, 1941, in Valdosta, GA. "CHARLIE" as he was known, attended school in Valdosta throughout his first year of high school when his family moved to Tennessee, where he graduated in 1959 from Baylor Military High School in Chattanooga. He received his B.A. from Georgia Southern University in 1964 and a doctorate in dental surgery from Georgetown University Dental School in 1967 where he was elected president of the Dental School student body during his senior year.

After completing dental school, CHARLIE NORWOOD enlisted in the U.S. Army, and was commissioned a captain in the U.S. Army Dental Corps from 1967 to 1969. He was first assigned to the Army Dental Corps at Sandia Army Base in Albuquerque, NM. In 1968, he was transferred to the Medical Battalion of the 173d Airborne Brigade in Vietnam.

While in the Dental Corps, CHARLIE pioneered dental practices that became standard procedure after the Vietnam war. In addition to assisting the soldiers, he also provided some of the first field-based dental treatment of military guard dogs. For his distinguished service to our Nation, CHARLIE received the Combat Medical Badge and two Bronze Stars. He was discharged in 1969 after which he entered the private practice of dentistry in Augusta, GA. For many years, "Doc NORWOOD" provided great service to all his patients.

In 1994, CHARLIE NORWOOD was elected to represent the 10th Congressional District of Georgia in the historic 104th Congress. We were classmates because that same year I was elected to represent the citizens of the Eighteenth Congressional District of Texas. CHARLIE represented his district so well that he was reelected by his constituents six times and always by substantial margins.

In Congress, CHARLIE NORWOOD was a strong proponent for health care reform. He introduced legislation calling for a patients' bill of rights. He also championed more and better health care for veterans. In addition to his work in health care reform, NORWOOD introduced legislation and worked on various other public policy issues.

Throughout his congressional career, CHARLIE NORWOOD served on the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Education and the Workforce Committee. He was vice chairman of the Subcommittee on Health from 2001 to 2004 and a member of the Energy and Power Subcommittee from 1995 to 2000.

Mr. Speaker, a dear colleague has fallen but he will not be forgotten. We are all saddened by our loss but we are happy

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to have served with him. Our prayers and condolences are with his family and loved ones. CHARLIE NORWOOD—Vietnam veteran, dentist, small business owner, and Member of Congress—was a good Representative, a good legislator, and a good man. He will be missed.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time has expired.

Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the resolution.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, it is with great sadness that I rise today to recognize the passing of my esteemed colleague and friend, the Honorable CHARLES WHITLOW NORWOOD, JR. of Georgia's 10th Congressional District.

Yesterday we lost an inspiring public servant to complications from his 8-year battle with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. All who knew him and worked with him recognized and appreciated his hard work. Throughout his seven terms in Congress, CHARLIE served on the Education and the Workforce Committee as chairman of the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections. He also served on the Committee on Energy and Commerce, which included two terms as vice chairman of the Subcommittee on Health. Fueled by a sincere interest in helping others, his colleagues knew he was not working for himself but for the people.

CHARLIE is well known for introducing the first comprehensive managed health care reform legislation to Congress in 1995. He truly left his mark in legislation with reforms on patient's rights, education, private property rights, telecommunications, and environmental regulations.

CHARLIE was dedicated to public service throughout his entire life, not only as a Member of Congress, but also as a dentist, a Vietnam veteran, a small businessman, and a man of great faith. He and wife were active in their local United Methodist Church, as well as members of the Augusta Opera Society and Augusta Symphony Guild. In every aspect of his life, he was recognized with countless awards and honors

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which illustrate how his contributions to his community were limitless.

We have not lost a colleague—we have lost a good friend.

The Honorable CHARLIE NORWOOD is survived by his wife Gloria, sons Charles and Carlton Norwood, and four grandchildren, all of Augusta. We will continue to hear of his service well into the future as CHARLIE's legacy will, without a doubt, live on.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, I am proud to honor the life of the Honorable CHARLES WHITLOW NORWOOD, JR. and his living legacy.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I mourn the loss of my friend and colleague, Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD. CHARLIE was a tenacious fighter in Congress who would not back down from his beliefs. More important than his work in the House of Representatives, he was a dedicated husband, loving father of two sons and a grandfather of four.

CHARLIE served his country proudly in Vietnam and was a decorated veteran. Upon his return to the States, he practiced dentistry and helped countless Georgians. In 1994, he brought his compassion and conservative values to Washington. I soon learned that CHARLIE NORWOOD was a man of impressive character and conviction, with a Southern charm and heart of gold.

CHARLIE NORWOOD was a fervent believer in tackling the problem of illegal immigration, and I enjoyed working with him to pass immigration reform. CHARLIE made a valuable contribution to the House's immigration bill in the 109th Congress by including parts of his CLEAR Act, H.R. 842, in the legislation. I shared his belief that we should direct local law enforcement to help us apprehend the illegal immigrants in this country who are criminals.

CHARLIE courageously battled cancer for a number of years, and he was an inspiration to many, including his colleagues on both sides of the aisle. I am pleased that I had the opportunity to work with CHARLIE, and my wife Cheryl and I extend our deepest sympathies to Gloria Norwood and their entire family.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my fellow colleagues in mourning the passing of Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD. My friend and the Honorable Representative for the people of the Ninth District of Georgia passed away on Tuesday after his long battle with lung disease and cancer.

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This Chamber, and the State of Georgia has lost a friend and one of our most capable and dedicated Members. Even before CHARLIE came to Congress in the election of 1994, he was a courageous individual and public servant. The former Army dentist was a decorated officer serving in Vietnam, having been awarded the Combat Medical Badge and two Bronze Stars for his service.

Words cannot fully express the sorrow that is felt by those who have known and loved CHARLIE. My heart goes out to CHARLIE's wife, Gloria, their two sons, Charles and Carlton, and their four grandchildren. I also will be keeping CHARLIE's staff in my thoughts and prayers, as I had the pleasure of working with Dr. NORWOOD on a variety of issues, and his staff was always a delight to work with. I can only imagine how tough it is for them, and all of CHARLIE's family and friends right now during this difficult time. I will be keeping CHARLIE's memory in my thoughts and prayers. He was always a dear friend of mine, someone who I looked to for his opinion and judgment.

CHARLIE is now leaving us for a better place, but he leaves behind a lasting legacy, and shoes that can never be filled. We have lost a hero and a champion. God bless.

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in mourning the passing of CHARLIE NORWOOD. As a Member of Congress from the neighboring State of South Carolina, I was fortunate enough to serve with CHARLIE and see firsthand his dedication to public service. Coming to Congress with a medical background, CHARLIE championed issues regarding a patients' bill of rights which was designed to give people better access to health care. As a decorated Vietnam veteran, CHARLIE was a fighter. He fought for 12 years as a Member of Congress on behalf of his constituents. I worked with CHARLIE on a number of issues including education, military, and veterans' issues. As Subcommittee chairman of Health on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I had the pleasure of participating in a town hall meeting with the veterans from his district.

Diagnosed with cancer in 2006, CHARLIE continued to serve the people of Georgia bravely and honorably in the House of Representatives despite his ill health. He fought to the end, and in his final days, he returned home to be with his family.

CHARLIE will be sorely missed, but his legacy will never be forgotten. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Gloria and his two children during this sad time.

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Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the memory of former Georgia Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD and his lifetime of dedication to the people of Georgia and the United States. I was deeply saddened to learn our colleague passed away earlier this week. We have not only lost a wonderful friend, but an individual who during his lifetime made countless contributions toward the betterment of our Nation.

CHARLIE, a native of Valdosta, GA, began his career of service by volunteering for the U.S. Army, serving as captain in the Dental Corps. He served in Vietnam, where he distinguished himself under combat conditions, and he was awarded the Combat Medical Badge and two Bronze Stars. Immediately after his discharge, CHARLIE opened his dental practice in Augusta. He was highly involved in many professional organizations, serving as president of both the Eastern District Dental Society and the Georgia Dental Association.

In 1994, CHARLIE was elected to represent the 10th District of Georgia in the U.S. House of Representatives. Throughout his six terms, CHARLIE was a champion of patients' rights, introducing his patients' bill of rights. He also fought for health care reform for military retirees and veterans. CHARLIE also served with distinction as a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Education and the Workforce Committee.

We are privileged to have known and worked with such a passionate and loyal individual. CHARLIE will be greatly missed and always remembered. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated statesman. Dr. NORWOOD will be deeply missed by his family—his wife, Gloria Wilkinson Norwood, and his sons, Charles Norwood and Carlton Norwood—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, this week our country lost a fine American with the death of Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD. Congressman NORWOOD was a tireless advocate for his district and the State of Georgia and an icon in the field of health care. His dogged determination to improve life for the average family and improving health care in this country for the patient that confronted overwhelming bureaucracy, increasing costs, and diminishing access was a hallmark of this great man's career of public service.

Before I was elected to Congress and during one trip to Washington where I met with my Chamber of Commerce as

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a private physician, I was asked which Member of Congress I would most like to meet. I responded that I would most like to meet with CHARLIE NORWOOD. To my surprise, they were able to set up a meeting for me with Congressman NORWOOD. Now at the time, I was a constituent of Majority Leader Dick Armey who represented the 26th District before he retired and I succeeded him here in the House of Representatives. At that time, the Majority Leader was basically playing traffic cop to one of CHARLIE's many bold health care initiatives. Unfortunately, when Congressman NORWOOD figured out I wasn't visiting him as an emissary of Congressman Armey he listened to my gushing praise and then quickly exited the meeting graciously. It was 6 years later that I would have the chance to meet again with Congressman NORWOOD, this time as a freshman Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. The first question he asked me then was, "are you with me or against me," then referring to his long battle for the patients' bill of rights.

Well, I've been with CHARLIE ever since. During my early tenure in office, he was a gracious mentor and even more so when I joined him as a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee during the 109th Congress. CHARLIE's strong defense of medical providers and patients, his tough stances on border security and national security, defined a man dedicated to his country. Even during his failing health, Congressman NORWOOD was as persistent as he ever was.

My thoughts and prayers are with Gloria and his family. America lost a great man. I lost a friend and a mentor. CHARLIE, we won't forget you.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow that I rise to remember the life of CHARLIE NORWOOD. I know CHARLIE had an impact on everyone that he came into contact with and we are all grieving the loss.

I had the privilege of serving with CHARLIE on the Energy and Commerce Committee. CHARLIE loved a robust discussion of the issues. He loved the ability to debate an idea and he loved espousing his conservative beliefs. When his microphone went on in committee, you could see the gleam in his eye as he readied for a hearty exchange. His love of engaging the issues was appreciated by all his colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

CHARLIE was a man of deep conviction and integrity. He will be deeply missed, not only by this body but also by his constituents and his family.

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Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life and accomplishments of Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 159, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. today, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable CHARLIE NORWOOD.

Thereupon (at 12 o'clock and 1 minute a.m.), pursuant to House Resolution 159, the House adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable CHARLIE NORWOOD until today, Thursday, February 15, 2007, at 10 a.m.

THURSDAY, *February 15, 2007*

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

God, ever mindful of those who place their trust in You, You bless our comings and our goings, for You are "God with us" and guide every step of the way.

Today we ask Your blessing upon Lorraine Miller and Dan Beard as they enter this Chamber to be sworn in as officers of the House of Representatives. May they faithfully fulfill the duties that are about to be laid upon them and serve this noble institution and its Members with diligence, prudence and right judgment. May they be welcomed with sincerity and gratitude.

Today, Lord, we also pray for the Honorable CHARLIE NORWOOD, who will be carried from Your Church here on Earth and laid to rest. May the modest smile on his face come to full expression as he hears You say, "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Come, enter the joy of your Master."

Grant his family and friends the consolation that comes from faith. May he and all those who serve and love others and work in public service through Your mercy rest in peace.

Amen.

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APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE TO ATTEND
FUNERAL OF THE LATE HONORABLE CHARLIE NORWOOD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 159, and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the committee to attend the funeral of the late Honorable CHARLIE NORWOOD:

- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Lewis
- The gentleman from Ohio, Mr. Boehner
- The gentleman from Missouri, Mr. Blunt
- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Bishop
- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Deal
- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Kingston
- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Linder
- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Gingrey
- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Marshall
- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Scott
- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Barrow
- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Price
- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Westmoreland
- The gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Johnson
- The gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. Sensenbrenner
- The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Barton
- The gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. Coble
- The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Gene Green
- The gentleman from Michigan, Mr. Hoekstra
- The gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Manzullo
- The gentleman from California, Mr. McKeon
- The gentleman from Florida, Mr. Mica
- The gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. Frelinghuysen
- The gentleman from Washington, Mr. Hastings
- The gentleman from Illinois, Mr. LaHood
- The gentleman from Iowa, Mr. Latham
- The gentlewoman from North Carolina, Mrs. Myrick
- The gentleman from Arizona, Mr. Shadegg
- The gentleman from Kansas, Mr. Tiahrt
- The gentleman from Mississippi, Mr. Wicker
- The gentleman from Alabama, Mr. Aderholt
- The gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Pitts
- The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Sessions
- The gentlewoman from California, Mrs. Capps
- The gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. Hayes
- The gentleman from Colorado, Mr. Tancredo
- The gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Terry
- The gentleman from South Carolina, Mr. Brown

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The gentleman from Indiana, Mr. Pence
The gentleman from Florida, Mr. Putnam
The gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Shuster
The gentleman from Florida, Mr. Miller
The gentleman from South Carolina, Mr. Wilson
The gentleman from Oklahoma, Mr. Sullivan
The gentleman from South Carolina, Mr. Barrett
The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Burgess
The gentleman from Iowa, Mr. King
The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Neugebauer
The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Conaway
The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Gohmert
The gentlewoman from Ohio, Mrs. Schmidt
The gentleman from California, Mr. Bilbray

TUESDAY, *March 6, 2007*

CHARLIE W. NORWOOD LIVING ORGAN DONATION ACT

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 710) to amend the National Organ Transplant Act to clarify that kidney paired donation does not involve the transfer of a human organ for valuable consideration, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 710

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Charlie W. Norwood Living Organ Donation Act”.

SEC. 2. NATIONAL ORGAN TRANSPLANT ACT; AMENDMENT REGARDING PAIRED DONATION OF HUMAN KIDNEYS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 301(a) of the National Organ Transplant Act (42 U.S.C. 274e(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following: “The preceding sentence does not apply with respect to the paired donation of human kidneys.”.

(b) DEFINITION.—Section 301(c) of the National Organ Transplant Act (42 U.S.C. 274e(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) The term ‘paired donation of human kidneys’ means the donation and receipt of human kidneys under the following circumstances:

“(A) An individual (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘first donor’) desires to make a living donation of a kidney specifically to a particular patient (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘first patient’), but such donor is biologically incompatible as a donor for such patient.

“(B) A second individual (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘second donor’) desires to make a living donation of a kidney specifically to a second

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particular patient (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘second patient’), but such donor is biologically incompatible as a donor for such patient.

“(C) Subject to subparagraph (D), the first donor is biologically compatible as a donor of a kidney for the second patient, and the second donor is biologically compatible as a donor of a kidney for the first patient.

“(D) If there is any additional donor-patient pair as described in subparagraph (A) or (B), each donor in the group of donor-patient pairs is biologically compatible as a donor of a kidney for a patient in such group.

“(E) All donors and patients in the group of donor-patient pairs (whether two pairs or more than two pairs) enter into a single agreement to donate and receive such kidneys, respectively, according to such biological compatibility in the group.

“(F) Other than as described in subparagraph (E), no valuable consideration is knowingly acquired, received, or otherwise transferred with respect to the kidneys referred to in such subparagraph.”.

SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE MEDICARE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANCE AND QUALITY INITIATIVE FUND.

Section 1848(1)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(1)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by adding at the end the following: “In addition, there shall be available to the Fund for expenditures during 2009 an amount equal to \$30,000,000 and for expenditures during or after 2013 an amount equal to \$470,000,000.”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in the heading, by striking “furnished during 2008”;

(B) by striking “specified in subparagraph (A)” and inserting “specified in the first sentence of subparagraph (A)”;

(C) by inserting after “furnished during 2008” the following: “and for the obligation of the entire first amount specified in the second sentence of such subparagraph for payment with respect to physicians’ services furnished during 2009 and of the entire second amount so specified for payment with respect to physicians’ services furnished on or after January 1, 2013”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. Inslee) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Barton) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered as the first sponsor of H.R. 710, a bill originally introduced by Representative NORWOOD of Georgia, only for the purpose of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we are here today to pass the Charlie W. Norwood Living Kidney Organ Donation Clarification Act.

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We do so both to honor Dr. NORWOOD, who provided such great service to his district and to the country for many years; of course, Dr. NORWOOD did so as the result of being a recipient of lung transplants himself; but also to honor the thousands of Americans who are today waiting for kidney transplants. This bill, we believe, will be a great step forward to hasten the day when those folks can potentially have kidney transplants.

It is a fitting tribute to Dr. NORWOOD for his tireless efforts to improve our Nation's health and his great work in fighting as a patient's advocate.

Second, I would like to thank the staff of both of the committees, as well as Dr. NORWOOD's office and personal staff, for their work to make this bill a reality.

This legislation would allow a procedure commonly known as paired donation to be legal, to make that clear, and to provide hope to patients waiting for kidney transplants. Paired organ donation will make it possible for thousands of people who wish to donate a kidney to a spouse, a family member or a friend but find that they are medically incompatible to still become living kidney donors.

This is very important, because, as of February 23, we had over 70,000 patients who are now on the waiting list for a kidney transplant, and yet we performed only 16,500 kidney transplants in 2005, of which only 6,500 were living kidney donors. H.R. 710 will take a significant step toward reducing the number of patients on the waiting list and giving many more the hope that their wait will not be endless.

Further, this bill is supported by numerous medical organizations, including the United Network for Organ Sharing, the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, the American Society of Transplantation, the National Kidney Foundation and the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology.

I have sort of a local person who gives me advice about this, Dr. Connie Davis, who is a transplant expert, a physician, and she says that this bill is a huge step forward for the transplant community as clinical efforts in the direction of paired donation have been severely hampered by concerns over the legal status of such activity.

I believe it is imperative that we make it clear that there is no intent by Congress to bar this procedure. It is my hope that the Senate will act quickly on this. Simply put, we want this legislation to save lives immediately.

So, for the 70,000 patients waiting for lifesaving kidney transplants, with time spent on costly and often arduous di-

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alysis treatment, their time on the waiting list can be significantly shortened with passage and implementation of this bill.

It is an honor to stand here working for the name of Dr. CHARLIE NORWOOD. I want to thank all those who have worked on this bill, and I hope very shortly we can have this on the President's desk and help those 70,000 people to a healthy future and great productive years, just like Dr. NORWOOD had in the U.S. Congress.

I submit for the *Record* a statement from Dr. NORWOOD in support of this legislation.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE CHARLIE NORWOOD

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 710, the Living Kidney Organ Donation Clarification Act. This bill will explicitly state that Americans in need of a kidney will have a greater chance of receiving one through the process of paired donation.

Over 70,000 Americans are currently in need of a kidney transplant. As a result of significant demand and limited supply, most transplantees wait for over 4 years before receiving a kidney. Four years for their lives to be saved or lost.

During this time, if their kidneys fail, end stage renal disease can set in. These patients must undergo dialysis. While dialysis extends patients' lives, their condition often prevents them from being fully engaged in their community and career. Dialysis is life-extending, but not life-bettering.

Sadly, in many cases, this is where patients lose their battle. In 2004 alone, 3,823 transplant candidates died awaiting a kidney. As our population ages, that figure is going to increase.

Mr. Speaker, medical science has enabled us to perform more successful organ transplants than ever before. These transplants give patients a new lease on life. Many Members in this body or their loved ones have been touched by the lifesaving gift of organ donation, myself included.

Kidney transplants from living donors tend to be highly successful, but in many cases, those who want to give a kidney to a loved one feel they cannot help because they are not biologically compatible with the patient in need.

H.R. 710 is very simple. It clarifies that paired donation is legal under the National Organ Transplant Act. As a result, a pair consisting of a kidney transplant candidate and an incompatible living donor can be matched with another such incompatible pair to enable two transplants that otherwise would not occur.

Remember those 3,823 souls and ask yourself—could you justify not allowing a process of simply cross-matching to save their lives?

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation in memory of those who have died waiting for a kidney as well as the thousands of Americans who are seeking a transplant or trying to become a living donor to save a loved ones' life.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

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Mr. Speaker, first, I want to thank Chairman Dingell and Subcommittee Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member Deal and Congressman Inslee for expediting consideration of this specific piece of legislation.

As I have pointed out earlier on the House floor after notification of Congressman NORWOOD's passing, he wrote me a letter the last day he was in Washington before he flew home to Georgia, and this particular piece of legislation was the primary issue in that letter. It is very, very heartwarming, and I am very grateful that the majority would move this piece of legislation as quickly as they have done. I want to thank them sincerely for doing that.

As has been pointed out, this piece of legislation will be called the Charlie Norwood Living Kidney Organ Donation Clarification Act, and it is in honor of Congressman NORWOOD, the late Congressman from the 10th District of Georgia.

There are over 78,000 Americans who need kidney transplants. The average wait is over 4 years. Paired donation can create greater access to kidney transplants. A paired donation consists of a transplant candidate and an incompatible living donor who are matched with another similar pair so as to enable two transplants that would otherwise not occur.

The legislation before us today clarifies the ability to perform paired transplantations through the National Organ Transplant Act, or NOTA. This legislation clarifies that paired donations are not considered a valuable consideration.

This legislation has received the strong support of all the major transplant organizations, including the United Network for Organ Sharing, the American Society of Transplantation, the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations, the National Kidney Foundation, the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology, the Cedars Sinai Health Systems, Johns Hopkins, and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons.

As a consequence of the legislation that Congressman NORWOOD and Congressman Inslee have crafted, we assume that at least an additional 2,000 organ transplants a year will occur. That is truly a gift of living that will keep on giving for many, many years to come.

This legislation, unfortunately, will be the last of many great pieces of legislation that Congressman NORWOOD helped to pass when he was a colleague of ours in this body. He was a true statesman and sincerely a warm, personal friend of mine. I will miss him greatly.

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Before I yield back, I want to tell a story about CHARLIE and then read something into the *Record*.

Congressman NORWOOD always considered himself to be very prepared. He was always ready for almost any contingency.

The night that we voted the Medicare Modernization Act part D prescription drug benefit on this floor will be a time that will long be remembered because it was such a close vote and it took so long to get it passed. CHARLIE and myself and three other members of the Energy and Commerce Committee on the Republican side had been a part of a group to craft an alternative program for the part D prescription drug benefit. Some of our alternative program was in the final legislation, but not all of it. As a consequence, CHARLIE was listed as a “lean no.” He was in reality a “hard no,” but he listed himself as a “lean no.”

As we all know, when the climactic vote occurred, there weren’t enough yeses on the board to pass it. So I went to one of the senior leaders of the majority party, I am not going to say which one, but I went to one of the senior leaders and I said, “I think we can get CHARLIE NORWOOD to vote for this bill.” They said, “No, you’re not going to get CHARLIE to vote for the bill.” I said, “I think we can, if you’ll talk to him.”

So I went to CHARLIE and I said, “Would you talk?” CHARLIE said, “I don’t want to talk to anybody. I’m going to vote against the bill.”

I went back and forth. I finally arranged a meeting back in the Republican Cloakroom where CHARLIE would discuss this particular piece of legislation.

Now, he had been a no, no, no, no, no for the last 2 weeks. So when I finally got the two parties together, NORWOOD immediately pulled out a list from his pocket. Now, he is deceased, so whatever the statute of limitations is has expired. And this Congressman, who had been a lean no, lean no, lean no, had a list of 10 things, 10, that if the senior leadership on the Republican side would consider, he would consider voting for the bill. Ten.

Obviously, that discussion didn’t go too far, so he ended up voting no. But he was prepared, and he had a list of things.

Now, in that same sense of being prepared, Mr. Inslee has already put into the *Record* a statement on this bill by Congressman NORWOOD. Isn’t that amazing? I am going to read another one into the *Record*. This is the floor statement in

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support of this bill by the late Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD of the 10th District of Georgia.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also offer a sincere thank you to Ranking Member Barton, Chairman Dingell and Mr. Inslee for all of their help moving this bill. Committee staff, including Katherine Martin, John Ford and Peter Goodloe should be acknowledged for their aid as well. A special thank you to Nick Shipley with Mr. Inslee's office who worked with J.P. from my staff from day one as a tireless advocate to get this bill into law.

It has been said that common sense is the knack of seeing things as they are and doing things as they ought to be done. Well, let me tell you how things were being done. For years, people missed or were delayed in an opportunity to have a life-saving kidney transplant simply because a member of the executive branch couldn't grasp the true intent of the National Organ Transplant Act's valuable consideration clause. The valuable consideration clause was meant to outlaw the buying and selling of organs, which everyone agrees is proper.

Now, there are two types of transplant donors, living and cadaveric, or deceased. As a lung transplant recipient, I benefited from the latter, but in the case of the first, a friend or a relative wanting to spare their loved ones from death or dialysis graciously offers to give up one of their kidneys. Regardless of the method, both patient and donor must be biologically compatible.

In recent years doctors discovered that by using the simple database methods that we use in our everyday lives and business, a paired donation could take place with these living donors.

In the process of a kidney paired donor transplant, a pair consisting of a kidney transplant candidate and an incompatible living donor is matched with another such incompatible pair to enable two transplants that otherwise would not occur.

Now, I'm just an old country dentist, but isn't this just common sense? I want to give to someone, but I'm not compatible, but I can give to another patient. Their willing, yet also incompatible, friend can give to my loved one. As a result, two people live; two more slots are opened on the list for even more transplants to take place. Common sense, Mr. Speaker.

However, instead of every single transplant center undertaking this commonsense approach, some folks were denied the chance to be cross-matched and, instead, their loved one suffered and even died while awaiting a transplant.

Seventy-three thousand six hundred fifty-two. That is roughly the number, Mr. Speaker, of people waiting for a kidney transplant. I can't imagine looking at any of those people and telling them "I am sorry, some bureaucrat 10 years ago inspired fear around the simple process to save you today, so you will have to languish on the list and hope for the best."

I will tell you what: That is hogwash. Times have changed. Paired donation is saving lives today and will save even more once we get this bill done. H.R. 710 has the support of every major transplant organization, from the United Network for Organ Sharing, who will manage the national list, to the surgeons who will perform the transplants, to the patient advocates to the hospitals.

In fact, a study published in the *Journal of Transplantation* predicts a 14-percent increase in the live kidney donor transplants performed each year if paired donation were allowed. Moreover, for each patient who receives a kidney, Medicare will save \$220,000 in dialysis costs.

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In fact, Johns Hopkins just did a five-way paired donation where five people were saved instead of being put on the waiting list. Now imagine the good a national list will do. Thousands will be saved through simple common sense. Paired donation is the way things ought to be done.

How often can we stand in this well on this floor and know what we are doing will save the Government money, improve patient quality of life and save lives? Not too often, Mr. Speaker. I can testify to that.

What the bureaucracy has failed to correct, this Congress will now step up and take care of, unfortunately for all of those who have not been able to benefit, not a minute too soon.

I yield back the balance of my time.

That is the floor statement of the late Congressman NORWOOD on a bill that, at the time he prepared this, he wasn't sure would get to the floor.

Yet because of his tenacity and preparedness and the willingness of Mr. Dingell and Mr. Inslee and Mr. Pallone and Speaker Pelosi, the bill is on the floor. I would urge all of my colleagues to support this bill. I do intend to ask for a rollcall vote and let us leave a living legacy of life for the late Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. Barton for reading Dr. NORWOOD's eloquent statement into the *Record*.

I want to note that kidney donation is not just for the recipients. It is for their families and the places they work, and even the U.S. Congress. The reason we had the benefit of Dr. NORWOOD's wisdom for years in the U.S. Congress was because of a lung transplant. I want to note that what we are doing today is not only helping those 70,000 people, but also their families and workplaces and the whole U.S. economy.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Deal), the ranking member of the Health Subcommittee.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding me this time.

I too wish to express appreciation to the sponsor and all of those who have made it possible to bring this bill to the floor today. It is certainly altogether fitting and proper that we name this bill after the late CHARLIE NORWOOD.

This bill does two very important things that CHARLIE really believed in. The first is he believed in organ transplant. As Mr. Inslee alluded, he was the recipient of a lung transplant that extended his life. He believed in organ transplants.

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The second thing that it does is something that he really believed in as well, and that is overcoming bureaucratic red tape that made no common sense. And that is what this bill does. Pairing of donations for kidneys makes all of the common sense in the world. It will save lives and money. Certainly in the tradition of CHARLIE NORWOOD, it will perpetuate the importance of organ donations and do so in the memory and in the honor of a great Member of this body.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I would yield to the dean of the House whose leadership helped bring this bill to the floor today, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Dingell), for such time as he may consume.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues have said strongly why this is a good piece of legislation and why it should be enacted. I strongly support it, and I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 710, the Charlie W. Norwood Living Organ Donation Act. I am delighted that the Commerce Committee could report this good piece of legislation to the House floor, and I am pleased by the consequences of it because we will achieve more help to those in need of organ donation, something which is of great importance to the country and to those who are in such grave and serious need.

CHARLIE NORWOOD wanted this bill very badly. It is a good bill. We are delighted that we could bring to the House floor a good bill which not only does good but which honors its author, CHARLIE NORWOOD, by carrying forward his goals, his purposes, and his intentions with regard to helping his fellow Americans. I am delighted we can do this for CHARLIE NORWOOD who was a valuable member of the committee and who will indeed be missed by his colleagues in Congress on both sides of the aisle.

I have a longer statement which will appear in the *Record* which I believe sets forth some of the things already said by my colleagues. I thank my good friend, the manager of the bill on this side, and the former chairman of the committee, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Barton), my dear friend, for their leadership on this matter.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 710, the “Charlie W. Norwood Living Organ Donation Act.”

Representative CHARLIE NORWOOD was a dear friend and colleague of mine. Beginning in 1995, CHARLIE served the people of the 10th District of Georgia admirably and honorably in the House of Representatives. Sadly, CHARLIE lost his long battle with cancer on February 13, 2007, but he shall

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not be forgotten and we will pass this legislation in his honor.

H.R. 710 would modify the National Organ Transplant Act (NOTA) to clarify that “paired” kidney donations do not violate a clause of the act regarding “valuable consideration,” which outlaws the buying or selling of kidneys and other organs.

A “paired” donation occurs when a donor who is willing to give a kidney to a family member or friend, but is biologically incompatible, donates to another patient who also has an incompatible donor. By cross-matching two or more incompatible donor-recipient pairs, more patients can receive kidneys and more donors can give them.

Currently, an estimated 6,000 individuals nationwide have offered kidneys to family members and friends, only to have the donation rejected because they are incompatible. Many providers will not perform paired donations, however, for fear of violating NOTA. If paired donations were allowed, a study published in the *Journal of Transplantation* by Johns Hopkins Hospital and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology predicts that there would be a 14-percent increase in the number of live kidney donor transplants performed each year.

The controversy over paired organ donation began with an interpretation by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) stating that paired donation MAY be in violation of NOTA’s valuable consideration clause. The clause was intended to outlaw the buying or selling of transplantable human organs. This stigma against paired donation elicits concern within some areas of the transplant community, which desperately wants clear legislative guidance on this issue.

This legislation is supported by leading organ donation and organ transplant organizations such as the National Kidney Foundation, the American Society of Transplantation, the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations, the Organization for Transplant Professionals, and the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).

Paired transplantation is a way to solve the dilemma faced by people who want to become living organ donors for a family member or friend, but are unable to do so because they are biologically incompatible. And one of the added benefits of this bill is that it produces savings. Since Dr. NORWOOD was dedicated to making sure that physicians were treated

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right and paid properly, we will be using this savings to do just that.

I would like to sincerely thank Representatives NORWOOD and Inslee for their leadership, dedication, and diligent work on this important legislation. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in strong support of H.R. 710, the “Charlie W. Norwood Living Organ Donation Act.”

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Before I yield to Dr. Gingrey, I want to thank the gentleman from Michigan for his excellent leadership and his willingness to expedite this process. It is because of John Dingell that this bill is on the floor this afternoon. We on the minority are very appreciative of that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Gingrey).

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for recognizing me, and I have a longer speech that I want to submit for the *Record*. I think my staff must have been looking over the ranking member’s shoulder when they wrote it. He has already said those nice things about our good friend, CHARLIE NORWOOD.

I was touched, though, in the letter that he received and read, the phrases “hogwash” and an “old country dentist.” I was sitting here thinking, I can see CHARLIE saying those things on this floor. That is the way he was and that is the way we remember him. He wasn’t an old country dentist, let me assure you. He was a prosperous dentist in Augusta, GA, a population of 130,000, the home of the Masters; but that was CHARLIE.

Let me join Joe Barton, the ranking member, in thanking Chairman Dingell. I mentioned this bill to the chairman last week, and he looked at me and said, “Doc,” and he had a little mist of tear in his eye, he said, “Don’t worry about this; we are going to do this.” And I knew then that the chairman and Representative Inslee and others were fully supportive of what CHARLIE was trying to do.

If he was thinking just of himself, Mr. Speaker, this bill probably would say the Living Lung Organ Donation Act, which also would be possible; but that wasn’t CHARLIE. He was thinking about those 70,000 other people who are waiting for a kidney.

CHARLIE himself had to wait a long time to get that lung. Too long, we think. I don’t know if it would have saved his life if he would have had an opportunity for a paired living lung donor, but he was thinking of others who were suf-

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fering, and as others have said, to bring a commonsense solution to problem solving in a bipartisan way. They described CHARLIE as a dog that has got ahold of a bone and won't let it go. Well, we can say to CHARLIE today, as part of our legacy to him, that he has succeeded.

Mr. Speaker, let's support this bill as a legacy and tribute to the great Member, CHARLIE NORWOOD.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation honors a dear friend and former colleague in this body, the late Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD. CHARLIE worked tirelessly as an advocate for patients across our Nation, and this bill is a fitting tribute to the tremendous impact he's made on health care in America.

Mr. Speaker, in this country, there are more than 74,000 men, women and children on the waiting list for a kidney transplant. Unfortunately, if the current trend of kidney transplants continues, only about half of these candidates will ever receive a life-saving transplant. Tragically, in 2004, nearly 4,000 listed patients died while awaiting a kidney.

One way for individuals to avoid the kidney transplant waiting list altogether is to find a living donor, like a friend or family member who is willing to selflessly donate a kidney to save a loved one. The limitation on this compassion is that only compatible matches can donate kidneys; if your friends and family are not a match, they can't be your donor.

But those of us who knew CHARLIE know that he was an excellent problem solver, always turning challenges into opportunities. With the limited donor options individuals face within their community of family and friends, patient advocates and health care providers have pushed for living organ donors. CHARLIE was convinced of the unlimited potential that could be realized when the pool of living donors would be expanded beyond one's immediate family and friends. In fact, there have been success stories of hospitals doing just this—finding pairs of living kidney donors who aren't matches for their own loved ones, but are matches for someone else's loved one.

Unfortunately, due to conflicting interpretations of the National Organ Transplant Act, hospitals across the country are hesitant to make this type of procedure a rule—and this is where the Charlie Norwood Living Kidney Organ Donation Act will create miracles.

H.R. 710 would clarify in statute that this type of paired living kidney donation would be allowed under Federal law. This will alleviate the concerns of hospitals and health care providers that want to give all kidney patients the hope that

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transplants represent but ambiguity in law currently prevents.

Mr. Speaker this is a win-win situation. More patients would benefit from a kidney transplant, thereby reducing the number of individuals on the waiting list. In turn, more Americans—both on the waiting list and off—will have that miraculous second chance at life.

Mr. Speaker, passing this legislation will be a lasting tribute to CHARLIE NORWOOD's selfless efforts to help those in need. While we all wish our friend's lung transplant had saved his life, we can honor him by giving Americans across our Nation greater access to the potential miracle of an organ donation.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to another distinguished member of the Georgia delegation, Congressman John Linder.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I rise in support of the underlying legislation, and in support of the memory and legacy of its author, my friend and colleague, CHARLIE NORWOOD.

Many people may remember the story of Nicholas Greene, the 17-year-old boy who was killed during a family vacation in Italy. The tragic and sudden loss of this young boy was turned into a story of hope and love when his parents generously donated his organs. Out of his tragic death sprang life, as seven people received Nicholas' heart, liver, kidneys, corneas, and pancreatic cells.

If there is one lesson we can take from Nicholas' great gift to the world and from the strong humanitarian legacy of CHARLIE NORWOOD, it is that we must support life whenever we have that opportunity.

H.R. 710 specifically excludes kidney-paired donations from the National Organ Transplant Act's valuable consideration clause. The valuable consideration clause has a noble purpose, which is to keep people from buying and selling human organs. In the case of kidney-paired donation, which is held to the highest of medical ethical standards, that purpose is obstructing the ability to save lives. By supporting this bill, we can give countless people a better chance for survival.

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Let me be clear: paired-organ donation does not constitute the buying or selling of organs. If we believe as much, then we accept the idea that the gift of life has a monetary value. CHARLIE vehemently opposed this concept, and so should we.

Thousands of people die each year waiting on a transplant list, praying for the right match for a kidney. Paired donations will significantly increase the number of available kidneys each year, allowing even more people to live productive, healthy lives.

H.R. 710 honors the memory of our friend CHARLIE NORWOOD; it honors the memory of Nicholas Greene and his family; and it honors all those Americans who have lost their lives while waiting on a transplant list. As such, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in passing this critically important vehicle for giving the gift of life to others.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to make a point. I think this is a great bipartisan success, to try to improve organ donation prospects for these 70,000 Americans. But we have more work to do. This bill is not the end of our efforts. I worked for 2 years with Mike Bilirakis, a great Republican, to try to have people in hospitals work with families on transplant donation issues. We need to fund that bill, and I hope we can have a bipartisan effort to do that.

We have work to do to fund immunosuppressant drugs. Right now, we are not funding the drugs that donees need to suppress the immunological response to donation.

So I hope we can continue to work in a bipartisan fashion to help these 70,000 Americans. We will remember CHARLIE NORWOOD's efforts in this regard and on future successes.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to another distinguished member of the Georgia delegation, Jack Kingston from Savannah.

Mr. KINGSTON. Thank you, Mr. Barton, and I thank Dr. Burgess for letting a noncommittee member go first. I appreciate the courtesy; and I wanted to thank Mr. Inslee for his help on this bill and all of the work and leadership by both parties on this.

If CHARLIE NORWOOD were here today, he would be sitting there and he would be embarrassed. He would be deflecting all of these sweet things that are being said about him. But if this bill was controversial and was having a tough fight, CHARLIE NORWOOD would be right in the middle of it and pushing it along and making sure it got done and standing

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up for the folks outside the 70,000-plus folks who are in line for an organ transplant right now. That is who he always answered to.

I remember the Norwood-Dingell bill on the patients' bill of rights, how he did not appreciate the leadership in our party's position on it, so he went out and found alternative ways to get it done. And in that case, he cobbled together a bipartisan group of Democrats and Republicans to push his patients' bill of rights because CHARLIE NORWOOD was a fighter, and he was always a fighter for a good cause. So it is fitting and proper for him to be recognized in this bill.

A couple of weeks ago I was at the University of Georgia, which is located in Athens, my hometown, and in CHARLIE NORWOOD's district. And I met with Dr. Steve Stice. He told me he is doing a lot of work on stem cells, and he casually mentioned that the University of Georgia had cloned about 50 cattle and sheep. I could not believe they had cloned that many.

But as I listened to him and all of the technological breakthroughs that are happening in the world of science and medicine today, I think we have not even scratched the surface of what lies out there in organ transplants. There will be medical revolutions in the years to come because of the technology that is out there.

So our laws and what we are doing today is keeping the law current with the technology and with the science. That is why it is a good thing to do this. Think about Floyd Spence, our colleague from South Carolina, who had a lung transplant for 12 years, and our brave CHARLIE NORWOOD. Think about what they do; they educate the rest of us.

Our day in office for all of us will end. Either politically or biologically or for whatever reason, but what a great thing it is to have that service time in the House be used to hold a baton high that you can pass on to the next generation and have true national impact. That is what we are doing here today.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. How much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 1½ minutes remaining.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. I, unfortunately, can only yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Burgess), a member of the committee.

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Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Barton for the time, and I thank Chairman Dingell for bringing this bill to the floor. This is a wonderful legacy for CHARLIE NORWOOD. CHARLIE was all about clarification and common sense. We miss him on the committee. Personally, he was my mentor and had seen me through many issues on the committee. But I can think of no more fitting way to close out the legacy of CHARLIE NORWOOD than with this act that brings clarification to Federal law and allows paired donations to proceed apace.

CHARLIE NORWOOD, from life hereafter, has reached back to this House and delivered one last dose of common sense. Thank you, CHARLIE.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, could I ask unanimous consent for 3 additional minutes to tell one last CHARLIE NORWOOD story.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, before I close, since we have painted CHARLIE NORWOOD to be such a saint today, I have got to kind of get a little bit truer picture of him.

In the Energy Policy Act debate of 2005, there was a provision in the bill that was not controversial in the overall part of the bill, but it was very controversial in certain areas of the country. One of those areas was in CHARLIE's area of the Southeast.

I had been working with him all through the debate to try to get him to help me forge a compromise on this particular issue, and he agreed that the compromise was the best public policy, but it wasn't the policy that his region supported. So he was in a difficult position of agreeing with me, the chairman, on what the good public policy was, but knowing that was not a vote that he would be supporting in talking for his region.

I went round and round with him about how to convince him to support this particular item in the bill, and he just flat couldn't do it. But I finally got him to agree that, at the critical moment, he would not be there to vote against it. In other words, he would be absent, meeting a constituent or something, and he just couldn't be there. He and I agreed on this, and our staffs had worked it out so that when the time came to vote, Mr. NORWOOD would not vote "no," which would make me happy, but he wouldn't vote "yes" either,

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which would have made me even happier. He just wouldn't vote.

So, sure enough, the critical moment came, and the vote occurred. True to his word, CHARLIE NORWOOD was not around, but as soon as I gaveled the vote, he burst into the room, "Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman, could I be recorded?" I said, "no, the vote has already expired." He said, "what kind of hogwash is this" and just raised holy cane, purely for theatrical purposes, but you know, the point had been made.

So his constituency felt justified in his support, and I felt justified in that he didn't vote against me, and yet he had upstaged his chairman, but in some cases, that was CHARLIE NORWOOD.

We rise in support of this bill. It does save money. It saves \$30 million or \$40 million the first year and I think \$400 million to \$500 million over the 10-year scoring period. So we are going to work with the majority to find a way to put these savings to use so, once again, Congressman NORWOOD not only is doing a good thing, providing a gift to the living, but this piece of legislation, if it becomes law, will also save the taxpayers money.

I would strongly urge a "yes" vote on this bill.

MONDAY, *March 26, 2007*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to carry on a tradition started by the late Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD, whose death this year was a great loss to Georgia and the U.S. House of Representatives. Each year on the eve of the Masters Golf Tournament in his hometown of Augusta, GA, Congressman NORWOOD would honor a golfer of great acclaim before his colleagues in the House.

This year, that tribute belongs to Gary Player, a world-renowned golfer whose accomplishments extend far beyond the links. In April, Mr. Player will tee up at the Augusta National for the Masters Tournament for the 50th consecutive year, a remarkable achievement of longevity in any career. Few events in sports compare to the grace and beauty of the Masters Tournament, and for a half century, Mr. Player has played an important role in one of the most cherished and most watched sporting events in the world.

Gary Player's record is the envy of countless golfers. It includes 159 victories worldwide. He holds nine major championships including: three Masters, three British Opens, two

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U.S. Opens and one PGA Championship. In addition, he has won the World Match Play Championship four times.

Outside the game of golf, Mr. Player has dedicated his life to family—he is celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary this year—and to serving the underprivileged.

In 1983, he established the Gary Player Foundation to address the education crisis in South Africa. The Player family started the Blair Atholl School—complete with a primary school of 400 students, a pre-elementary school for 75, a community resource center and a sports complex. The foundation ensures high-quality education, a nutritional feeding scheme and basic medical care for each child.

Besides his foundation, Gary Player hosts the annual Nelson Mandela Invitational Golf Tournament, one of the largest charity events in South Africa. To recognize his many achievements, Gary Player was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws from the Saint Andrews University in 1995.

Gary Player has lived an incredible life and he doesn't take those blessings for granted. He has said, "I have been so lucky with golf, with my family, with my health. I am truly thankful." Let us wish him continued luck and thanks for his accomplishments on and off the course. Mr. Player, good luck in Augusta.

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Proceedings in the Senate

THURSDAY, *February 8, 2007*

Mr. ISAKSON. I rise for a moment to ask all Members of the Senate to join me in expressing their concern, their hopes, and their prayers for Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD. Congressman NORWOOD, of Georgia, yesterday notified the House and the Senate that he would be returning to his home in Augusta.

A little over 2 years ago, CHARLIE had a lung transplant to try to correct a degenerative disease which he had with him throughout his life. That transplant was successful and he returned to the House of Representatives and, as he always did, he represented the State of Georgia with courage, with dignity, and with tenacity.

Unfortunately, last year, cancer occurred in the lung and successfully was removed by surgery. But it has reappeared now in his liver. CHARLIE is fighting for his life.

His lovely wife Gloria is in Augusta with him, and his countless thousands of friends are there. But in this business that we go through in this Senate, there is always a time that all of us should reflect on the blessings we have, and that is the blessing of life. I pray now that the good Lord will look after CHARLIE and give him as much of that life as He possibly can.

I think it is also appropriate that we reflect a minute on how important his service in the Congress has been. We all know that domestically health care, affordability of health insurance, and the importance of the doctor-patient relationship are the concerns the American people look to us to help solve. CHARLIE NORWOOD and his cosponsorship of Norwood-Dingell laid a platform for which one day many of those problems will be solved. He has fought tenaciously for better health care, for better patient-doctor relationships, and a better relationship between the Federal Government and the providers of lifesaving health care around the country.

At this moment, while a champion of health care is in dire straits himself, I hope all Members will join me and pray

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that his recovery will be fast and swift and that God puts His blessed hand on his shoulder.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, in that remaining 1 minute 55 seconds [of allotted time], I will very quickly say a word of commendation about a good friend of mine, a good friend of all Members of Congress, who is now serving in the other body, Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD.

Congressman NORWOOD has been in a severe battle for his life for the last 3 years, and he is having a tough time. He has made a decision to now go back to Augusta, GA, and spend the rest of his time with his family.

And, boy, what a great warrior CHARLIE NORWOOD has been. It was my privilege to be elected to Congress with Congressman NORWOOD in 1994. He is an avowed conservative. He does not back away from any of his positions in supporting conservative values. He is a strong supporter of our men and women who wear the uniform of the United States. He is a Vietnam veteran. He is a very professional dentist. And he is one of the greatest guys I have ever had the privilege of being associated with.

As CHARLIE and his wife Gloria return to Augusta to spend the rest of his time there, I want to say it has been a privilege to know him. It has been a privilege to serve with him. I hope to have the opportunity to spend some more time with him in the next several weeks, months, whatever it may be.

But he is a great trooper. He is a great American. And I hope all Members of this body, as well as all Americans, will keep Congressman NORWOOD and his wife Gloria in their thoughts and prayers.

Mr. President, I yield back the remainder of my time.

TUESDAY, *February 13, 2007*

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 79, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 79) relative to the death of Representative CHARLES W. NORWOOD, JR., of Georgia.

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Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable CHARLES W. NORWOOD, JR., late a Representative from the State of Georgia.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns or recesses today, it stand adjourned or recessed as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 79) was agreed to.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator Chambliss and I, from Georgia, be recognized for a few minutes to pay tribute to Representative NORWOOD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, first of all, I thank Leader Reid and Leader McConnell for bringing this resolution forward in a very timely fashion. We learned during the lunch hour today that Representative CHARLIE NORWOOD of Georgia passed away, a victim of cancer.

CHARLIE had been fighting that disease valiantly for over 3 years, having a lung transplant, and, unfortunately—after the transplant's success for a year and CHARLIE doing well—cancer occurred in one lung and then transferred to his liver.

His wife Gloria has been an absolutely wonderful human being, seeing to it that CHARLIE continued to do his work in the House of Representatives, even though suffering greatly from the effects of the cancer that reoccurred.

CHARLIE NORWOOD was elected in 1994 and was a classmate and fellow Representative with many of us here—Senator Coburn, Senator Graham, Senator Lincoln, Senator Chambliss, and myself.

On behalf of all of us who have had the chance to serve with CHARLIE NORWOOD, we today pay tribute to his life, the great accomplishments he made on behalf of his district, and

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his untiring effort to bring about quality, affordable health care within the reach of every single American.

He will be remembered for many things: his tenacity, his great sense of humor, his commitment to his district, and to his people. But from a political standpoint and a service standpoint, he will be remembered for Norwood-Dingell, the legislation that laid the groundwork for reforms in health care that even go on at this day.

So as a Member of the Senate from Georgia, as a personal friend of CHARLIE NORWOOD and his beautiful wife Gloria, and as one who is so thankful for the contributions he made to my State, to me as an individual, and to this body, I pay tribute to CHARLIE NORWOOD and pass on the sympathy and the condolences of my family to his wife Gloria and his many friends.

And again, I repeat my thanks to Senator McConnell and Senator Reid for their timely recognition of the passing of CHARLIE NORWOOD.

It is my pleasure now to, with unanimous consent, recognize Senator Chambliss from Georgia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. McCaskill). The Senator from Georgia is recognized.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, I thank my friend and colleague from Georgia for those very generous and kind words about our mutual friend.

I rise today to pay tribute to a guy who has been a great inspiration not just for the last 3 years when he has so bravely fought the deadly disease that ultimately got him—cancer—but CHARLIE NORWOOD and I were elected to Congress together in 1994.

CHARLIE was one of those individuals who came to Congress for the right reason; that is, to make this country a better place to live for our generation as well as for future generations.

CHARLIE worked every single day to make sure he could personally do everything he could as a Member of the House of Representatives to make this country better.

CHARLIE grew up a Valdosta Wildcat. Now, to people in this body that may not mean a whole lot, but to anybody who lives in our great State, growing up a Valdosta Wildcat and playing for the Wildcat football team is a very special asset.

Valdosta is a very unique town down in my part of the State, down in the very southern part of our State. The foot-

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ball lore of Valdosta is second to no other community in the country.

CHARLIE loved his Valdosta Wildcats. He and I used to sit on the floor of the House every now and then, particularly during football season, and talk about his days of growing up. My hometown of Moultrie is the biggest football rival of Valdosta.

CHARLIE loved life. He loved things like football. He also loved his family. He was the proud husband of Gloria Norwood, who is one more great lady, and he had two sons and several grandchildren.

CHARLIE used to take his grandchildren to Atlanta every year at Thanksgiving, used to take the girls. He would let those girls have the run of a very nice hotel in Atlanta to do whatever they wanted, including CHARLIE NORWOOD, a mean, gruff, old dentist from Augusta, GA, sitting down in the afternoon and having tea with his granddaughters. He was, indeed, a very special person, a guy who loved his country, loved his State, loved his family, and really cared about what is best for America.

One anecdote about CHARLIE I will never forget. He and I became good friends during the 1994 campaign. We both signed the Contract With America. We ran on the Contract With America. One provision in there was requiring an amendment to the Constitution calling for the Federal budget to be balanced. CHARLIE and I both felt very strongly about that. We were sitting on the floor of the House of Representatives one night together, as we were debating and voting on the amendment to the Constitution calling for a balanced budget, and as the numbers in favor of the bill grew and grew, the roar within the Chamber itself got louder and louder. It took 397 votes to reach the point where the balanced budget amendment would pass, and when it hit 350, the roar got louder. It hit 360. Finally, it hit 397. CHARLIE looked over at me and said: "Sax, that is why we came here." He was that kind of person who truly cared about his country and the principles for which he stood.

He was a man who will truly be missed, as my colleague, Senator Isakson, said, for his ideas on health care. He truly believed that every person who received health care treatment in this country ought to have the ability to look their physician in the eye and make sure they had the right to choose the physician from whom they were receiving medical services. It is only fitting that CHARLIE's patients' bill of rights was reintroduced in the House in the last several

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days. I look forward, hopefully, to Congressman Dingell taking up that bill and debating that bill. It was a controversial bill then. It will be controversial again. But just because CHARLIE NORWOOD felt so strongly about it, I am hopeful we will see some movement on that bill.

As I wind down, I have such fond memories about CHARLIE from a personal standpoint. But most significantly, the great memories I will always have about CHARLIE NORWOOD are about his commitment to America, his commitment to freedom, his commitment to the men and women who wear the uniform of the United States, of which he was one—he was a veteran of Vietnam—and about the great spirit CHARLIE NORWOOD always brought to every issue on the floor of the House of Representatives. He was a great American. He was a great Member of the House of Representatives. He was a great colleague. He was a great friend who will be missed. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

WEDNESDAY, *February 14, 2007*

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I want to take a few minutes first to talk about someone who was a very dear friend whom I think was emblematic of what our forefathers thought about when they thought about a U.S. Congressman. His name was CHARLIE NORWOOD. He died yesterday. CHARLIE was a “tell it like it is” guy. His motivations were always altruistic. They were never self-centered.

He had never been in politics. He was a dentist, and he got fed up. He came here and had a tremendous impact in terms of his voice of common sense, reason, and compassion. The House of Representatives is going to miss that voice, but more important, the American people are going to miss one of the few voices of common sense that we have in Congress today. He leaves a wife, Gloria, and two sons, all supportive of his sacrifice to serve here.

There are a lot of stories told about CHARLIE. I won't go into that. He was always fun to be around. He was always invigorating. And he never quit believing in this wonderful thing we call the American dream.

He fought hard for what he thought was right on immigration. He recognized that if we build a wall, it is not to keep people in; that the opportunities here are so great, what has been created by our Founders and grew through the years is

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so tremendous, that we ought to continue to take advantage of it.

What I really liked about him was that he was a true citizen legislator. He abandoned his practice and his easy life and came to do the hard work of representing the people of Georgia with common sense and down-home, plain family values. He will be sorely missed. But he leaves a legacy, a legacy to everybody who is out there today who thinks we need to change the Congress of the United States. The legacy he leaves is this: If you are willing to sacrifice and get into the fray, you can come here and make a difference. That is what he proved. His life was not that of a career politician—although that is a wonderful service, and we have dedicated people throughout both Houses of Congress who have dedicated their lives to public service. But he brought a freshness and he brought ideas because his experience was what everybody else in the country was experiencing, not what is experienced among the political elite in this country.

The challenge that CHARLIE leaves for all of us who are not in Congress, who do not like things the way they are, is to actually get involved. That legacy will live on for a long time—I know in his district in Georgia, and also through the State of Georgia—but also for those of us who will continue to remember him and the sacrifices he made.

Mr. GRAHAM. Madam President, I wanted to take this opportunity to say a few words about my close friend and colleague who passed away yesterday, Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD.

There is no doubt that with the death of CHARLIE NORWOOD the State of Georgia has lost one of her favorite sons. We were elected to serve in the House of Representatives the same year and represented adjoining districts in Georgia and South Carolina.

CHARLIE was a dear friend of mine.

I have never met anyone in politics with more passion about what they believe than CHARLIE NORWOOD. He was a great Representative for the people of the 10th District of Georgia, and in his years of service he made a real difference in the Congress.

There is no doubt CHARLIE's leadership, his wisdom, and his wit will be sorely missed.

Now is the time to keep CHARLIE's family in our prayers. But we should also celebrate a life well-lived. Knowing

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CHARLIE NORWOOD like I do, I am confident he would not have wanted it any other way.

THURSDAY, *February 15, 2007*

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I want to speak briefly on one other issue aside from the war effort, as that is the one that really needs to, and does, occupy our time. But a good friend of mine has just recently passed away, Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD. CHARLIE and I came in together in the House of Representatives in the 1994 election cycle. He recently passed away due to complications in his liver from a long battle that he had with pulmonary fibrosis and the difficulties that he had.

His legislative accomplishments are significant, and those are in the *Record* and well known. What I want to talk about is the person because he was a beautiful man. He served in Vietnam as a dentist. He had this beautiful, folksy way of presenting a tough topic. He would boil down the essence of a difficult topic in a folksy sentence or two, and you would listen to it and you would say: You know, I think that is about accurate.

He could take difficult things and boil them down. He cared a lot about health care issues, and he worked a lot on health care issues. What I remember is a kindly gentleman who was very active and involved in the issues of the day and who cared about other people. He taught Adult Sunday School classes. He worked as a small businessman. He was a dedicated public servant, even as he felt that the Government had grown too big and was taking over too much authority.

It reminds me that, as we leave these places—and we all will—when you look back on it, there is a legislative career, and there are a number of legislative items that each of us is associated with, and the cares and concerns and the passions that we have of the day, but there is also a person who is there, and the soul and the character of that individual. In this case, Dr. CHARLIE NORWOOD had a beautiful soul. He was someone who touched people in a positive way. I am not sure you can say a lot more at the end of our days than that.

Congressman NORWOOD is survived by his wife Gloria, sons Charles and Carlton Norwood, and grandchildren, all of Augusta.

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During his life, NORWOOD has served as a Member of Congress, longtime patients' and individual rights champion, dentist, Vietnam veteran, and small businessman.

NORWOOD, a seven-term Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1995 to 2007, served most of east Georgia at some point during his congressional career due to redistricting in 1996, 2002, and 2006. He won re-election every year since 1998 by landslide margins, and was elected to the 110th Congress in November by a 68-percent margin. His 10th District seat will be filled in a special election to be scheduled by Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue.

NORWOOD achieved national recognition after introducing the first comprehensive managed health care reform legislation to Congress in 1995, which subsequently passed the House of Representatives in both 1999 and 2001. NORWOOD's patients' bill of rights legislation became a key issue in the 2000 Presidential election, and will likely be revived in the 110th Congress.

NORWOOD was instrumental in health care reform for military retirees and veterans as well as patients-at-large. The former Army dentist was co-author of the Keep Our Promises to Military Retirees Act in 1999, which provided fully funded health care for life for the Nation's military retirees. The majority of the bill was enacted as part of the Defense Authorization Act of 2000.

In addition to his longtime national advocacy for patients, NORWOOD succeeded in passing reforms across a broad range of public policy areas, spanning education, private property rights, telecommunications, and environmental regulations.

NORWOOD is further recognized as the father of the Nation's current Class A broadcast television service, by authoring and passing into law the Community Broadcasting Protection Act in 1998.

In congressional oversight action, NORWOOD played a key role in the 1996–1998 Teamster's investigation, the 1998–2002 investigations of theft and fraud at the U.S. Department of Education, and the impeachment of former President Bill Clinton in 1998.

NORWOOD received a bachelor's degree from Georgia Southern University in Statesboro in 1964, and a doctorate in dental surgery from Georgetown University Dental School in Washington, DC, in 1967, where he was elected president of the Dental School student body in his senior year. He married the former Gloria Wilkinson of Valdosta in 1962 while attending Georgia Southern.

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After dental school, he volunteered for the U.S. Army and served as a captain in the Dental Corps from 1967 to 1969, beginning with an assignment to the U.S. Army Dental Corps at Sandia Army Base in Albuquerque, NM. In 1968 he was transferred to the Medical Battalion of the 173d Airborne Brigade in Vietnam, and served a combat tour at Quin Nyon, Quang Khe, and LZ English at Bon Son. In recognition of his service under combat conditions, he was awarded the Combat Medical Badge and two Bronze Stars.

After Vietnam, he was assigned to the Dental Corps at Fort Gordon, GA, where he served until his discharge in 1969. NORWOOD was awarded the Association of the United States Army Cocklin Award in 1998, and was inducted into the Association's Audie Murphy Society in 1999. He remained a lifelong member of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Military Order of the World Wars.

Dr. NORWOOD began private practice dentistry in Augusta immediately after his discharge. During his dental career, he served as president of the Georgia Dental Association and was a delegate to the American Dental Association.

In addition to his dental practice, NORWOOD also founded Northwoods Nursery in Evans, providing trees and shrubs to wholesale outlets throughout the Central Savannah River area, and Augusta Dental Laboratory, which manufactured dental devices for patients.

He became a stalwart supporter of small business and property rights interests in Congress, receiving the 1995 Fighting Frosh Award of the United States Business and Industrial Council, the Guardian of Senior's Rights Award of the 60 Plus Association, the Friend of the Family Award of the Christian Coalition, the Friend of the Taxpayer Award of Americans for Tax Reform, the Guardian of Small Business Award of the National Federation of Independent Business, the Spirit of Enterprise Award of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Thomas Jefferson Award of the U.S. Food Service Council, the Champion of Property Rights Award of the League of Private Property Owners, the Taxpayer's Hero Award of the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste, and the Taxpayer's Friend Award of National Taxpayers Union.

Dr. NORWOOD and his wife Gloria were longtime members of and taught Adult Sunday School at Trinity on the Hill United Methodist Church in Augusta. He was also a past

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board member of the Augusta Opera Society and a member of the Augusta Symphony Guild.

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*In
Loving
Memory*



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In Memory Of
The Honorable
Charles W. Norwood, Jr.

July 27, 1941
February 13, 2007

Funeral Service
Thursday, February 15, 2007
2:00 P.M.
First Baptist Church of Augusta
Dr. Steve Dodson
Officiating

*If so desired memorial contributions may be made to Trinity on the Hill
United Methodist Church, 1330 Monte Sano Ave., Augusta, GA 30904 or
INOVA Health System Foundation, 8110 Gatehouse Rd., Suite 200 E, Falls
Church, VA 22042*

Family

Wife

Gloria W. Norwood

Sons

Charles W. Norwood III and Denise D. Norwood
Klaris Carlton W. Norwood and Paige W. Norwood

Grandchildren

Kristen E. Norwood
Klaris Carlton W. Norwood, Jr.
Aubrey W. Williams
Kendall P. Williams

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