

This legislation authorizes the Montgomery GI Bill full-time study allotment to \$985 by October 2002. Additionally, the legislation improves home loan guarantees for veterans to \$60,000. It increases the burial and funeral expense benefits for service-connected veterans to \$2,000. It improves automobile and adaptive equipment grants for severely disabled veterans to \$9,000.

Most importantly, this legislation remembers those who have often been forgotten. The legislation repeals the 30-year presumptive period for respiratory cancers and diabetes due to Agent Orange. It requires the National Academy of Science to conduct research to determine the effects of dioxin or herbicide exposure on Vietnam veterans. Finally, it changes the Gulf War programs to include fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue syndrome, chronic multisymptom illness and any other illness that cannot be clearly identified to the definition of undiagnosed illnesses, thus allowing veterans to receive compensation.

I am grateful for the work done on this legislation by my House colleagues concerning veterans' issues. I hope that the House will join me in supporting this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 310.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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HONORING JOHNNY MICHEAL SPANN, FIRST AMERICAN KILLED IN COMBAT IN WAR AGAINST TERRORISM IN AFGHANISTAN, AND PLEDGING CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 281) honoring the ultimate sacrifice made by Johnny Micheal Spann, the first American killed in combat during the war against terrorism in Afghanistan, and pledging continued support for members of the Armed Forces.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 281

Whereas as part of the war against terrorism, United States military personnel and agents from the Central Intelligence Agency were involved in combat with Taliban forces during a prison uprising in Mazar-e Sharif, Afghanistan, on Sunday, November 25, 2001;

Whereas Johnny Micheal Spann, age 32, an officer in the Central Intelligence Agency, was inside the prison fortress interviewing Taliban prisoners when the uprising began;

Whereas Spann was killed in this rebellion and is the first American known to be killed in combat in Afghanistan during this war;

Whereas Spann is the 79th employee of the Central Intelligence Agency killed in the line of duty;

Whereas the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, George J. Tenet, hailed

Spann as an American hero and will soon memorialize him on a wall of honor;

Whereas Spann, a former Captain in the Marine Corps, is survived by his wife, Shannon, and 3 young children; and

Whereas the thoughts and prayers of the Congress and the Nation remain with the families of Spann and all the soldiers fighting to ensure the Nation's freedom and safety: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—*

(1) honors Johnny Micheal Spann, a paramilitary officer in the Central Intelligence Agency, who was the first American killed in combat during the war against terrorism in Afghanistan, and recognizes him for his bravery and sacrifice;

(2) extends its deepest sympathies to the family of this brave hero; and

(3) pledges its continued support for the men and women who risk their lives every day to ensure the safety of all United States citizens.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 281.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise obviously in very strong and sad support of this resolution; sorry that we have to have it. It is authorized by my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT).

Johnny Micheal Spann, "Mike" as he was known, served in the Central Intelligence Agency for approximately 2 years, just long enough to complete his training as a paramilitary and an operations officer in the clandestine service, which is arguably the most challenging and dangerous job in the intelligence community.

Mike was up to the challenge. In fact, he humbly accepted the opportunity to serve his country as an intelligence officer. Prior to joining the CIA, Mike served in the United States Marine Corps; he loved the Corps. I think all Marines love the Corps and often spoke of the Corps as if it was a family. And it is a family. We all know that. He left the Corps and he joined the CIA because, in his own words, "Somebody's got to do the things that nobody else really wants to do."

His dedication to this country and his commitment to defending its values and liberties highlight the quality of the men and women who have decided to serve our great country. Mike did exactly what he set out to do. He served his country in a way many would not or could not. A relatively newlywed, with a newborn son and two

young daughters, Mike selflessly responded to the call to serve at the forefront of our Nation's war against terrorism.

Half a world away, in a dusty, inhospitable and alien environment, Mike confronted our Nation's fiercest enemy eye to eye. He did this not because it was his job, but because he was compelled to ensure that all people, regardless of their nationality or religion, could live without the fear of being victims of terrorism. That is what this is about.

Mike died fighting, trying to obtain information on terrorist plans and intentions so we could save others. Face to face against those bent on killing innocent men, women, and children, Mike stood strong, he stood tireless and fearless. That is the description of an American hero and Mike was one.

Up to the moment of his death, Mike never stopped being a Marine. "Semper Fidelis." He was always faithful. He was faithful to the countless, nameless millions of Americans, especially those incapable of defending themselves. Mike exemplified a breed of officer not normally acknowledged in the public sector. He readily accepted the risks of service, including the possibility of death, in order to secure the safety of his fellow Americans.

His death acts as a reminder of the high cost we must sometimes pay in order to secure our pursuit of liberty and happiness. We hold the greatest debt to Mike and to his family. The memory of his deeds must be held forever dear in our hearts. We pray for Mike's family and ask God to give them strength and see them through these difficult days.

We also pray for Mike's fellow colleagues in intelligence and in the military, who are still standing, even now, as the Nation's vanguard in the war against terrorism.

There are many Mike Spans out there doing dangerous hard work for our country. God bless them all and keep them safe. But there is only one Mike Spann for his family and his loved ones.

□ 1730

Mr. Speaker, we share the burden of their loss today, and we want them to know we honor him before the world from this place.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT), who is the sponsor of the legislation, to control the time.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the legislation to honor Johnny Micheal Spann, who was laid to rest yesterday with other fallen men and women of great courage in Arlington National Cemetery. That an officer of the CIA

was the first combat fatality of the struggle against terrorism in Afghanistan is a stark reminder of how dangerous and difficult the mission of collecting intelligence can be. The gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss) spoke eloquently to that point. He also described Mike's role at the CIA, and the circumstances and the danger in which he was placed; and which, unfortunately, caused his demise.

Like 78 CIA officers before him, Mr. Spann gave his life to protect the freedom which we hold dear and which defines us as a Nation. As we mourn his death, it is well to remember the gifts he gave our country through a career of service, first in the Marine Corps, and sadly, finally, in the CIA. He went to Afghanistan because he knew that is where his country needed him most. Our ability to respond effectively to the events of September 11 is due in large measure to the willingness of people like Mike to put personal considerations aside and accept the risks inherent in their important work.

Mr. Speaker, we are joined by Mike's family in the gallery today, and want them to know, those of us who are speaking on this resolution speak for the entire Congress when we offer them our deepest sympathy and condolences. No words we can say will ever be adequate to relieve the agony that they are in. However, I would like to place in the RECORD some of the words of Mrs. Spann that she said in eulogy yesterday which eloquently describe Mike's contribution to our country. She said, "Mike was faithful in giving his life to God and to his colleagues, his friends, his country and his family." Mrs. Spann said her husband "was a hero not because of the way he died, but rather because of the way he lived. He served his country not only by risking his life, but by being good. It seemed like when Mike took an oath to protect the Constitution of the United States from all enemies, foreign and domestic, that he took that oath to our family as well. He just thought that it was really his duty as a father to protect his children from terrorism, just as equally as he thought it was his duty to provide a roof over their heads."

As we pay tribute to Mike Spann's sacrifice, Mr. Speaker, our sympathies and prayers certainly go to his family, his wife, Shannon, who is also a CIA officer; his daughter, Alison, who is here with us today; Emily, his daughter, who is 4, is not; and his infant son, Jake, who is with us. Their loss is incalculable. His father and mother are with us today, and our condolences go to them. As a mother of a son 32 years old, I cannot imagine the scale of their loss; but nonetheless, offer my prayers in sympathy.

To his children especially go our hope that they learn more clearly of their father's life in the years to come, that they will find it a source of pride and comfort, and that he will always be in our prayers and in our memory.

Mr. Speaker, as we sing the praises of Micheal Spann and mourn his death and try to comfort his family, I would like to pay tribute to those Americans who lost lives in the so-called friendly fire incident that occurred in Afghanistan. They have been memorialized as well, the three Green Berets. They were Master Sergeant Jefferson Davis of Watauga, Tennessee; Staff Sergeant Brian Cody Prosser of Frazier Park, California; and Sergeant First Class Daniel Petithory of Cheshire, Massachusetts. We lost two others in helicopter accidents in Pakistan. Every one of these losses is felt by all of us in our country.

Today we mourn and pay tribute to Johnny Micheal Spann, known as Mike, who would want us to recognize the others whose lives were sacrificed, to end terrorism in our country, to protect Jake and Alison and Emily, and all of the children of our country.

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

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

(Mr. ADERHOLT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring voice to my constituents, my State, and people around the Nation who mourn the loss of Johnny Micheal Spann, better known as Mike Spann. Mike Spann lost his life as has already been said, in service to this country during a prison uprising in Afghanistan on November 25, 2001. He is an American hero and I stand to honor him today.

There are few facts about the exact circumstances of his death that we currently know, due to the nature of the war. Mike Spann was serving as a paramilitary officer with the CIA and was at the prison in Mazar-e Sharif interviewing Taliban prisoners. It is believed that these prisoners smuggled guns and grenades into the prison and used these munitions to stage an uprising against the Northern Alliance and the American soldiers.

Mike and a fellow CIA officer drew their weapons and attempted to fight their way out of the prison fortress. While his fellow CIA officer was able to escape, Mike, unfortunately, became the first American killed in action in Afghanistan.

Before his death, he and his fellow CIA officer were able to alert outside forces who were sent in to squelch the uprising. The bloody battle continued for 3 days. Five other Americans were injured during the struggle. It was not until the prison could be secured that Mike's body was found.

Even without the full details of the prison riot during which he was killed, we can be certain that Mike Spann died doing what he loved, serving and fighting for his country. Since September 11, we have witnessed an outpouring of patriotism across this Nation. Mike was someone who overflowed with patriotism even during a time when it

was not popular. His father recently quoted Mike as saying, "Someone has to do the right thing that no one else wants to do."

From a young age, he wanted to pursue a career in the Marines and with either the CIA or FBI. After graduating from Winfield High School in Marion County, Alabama, he attended Auburn University where he earned a degree in criminal justice. He immediately pursued his next goal, serving in the Marine Corps from 1992-1999, and he earned the rank of captain. From there, he was recruited to work for the CIA in special operations.

Mike is survived by his wife Shannon and three children, Alison 9, Emily 4, and 6-month old Jake. Our prayers go out to them and the rest of the Spann family. Mike is also survived by his parents, Johnny and Gail Spann, and two sisters, Tonya Ingram and Tammy Dunavant. We are glad that they can join us in the Chamber today.

Mr. Speaker, I was proud to attend the burial of Mike Spann yesterday in Arlington National Cemetery. The cemetery is appropriate for a fallen hero. Full military honors were given, highlighted by the caisson, a 21-gun salute and a Marine honor guard.

It should be noted that a memorial service was also held last Thursday in Mike's hometown in the district I represent of Winfield, Alabama. Mike's daughter, Alison, wrote a letter to him just a short while back, and the words of this letter should echo in our ears and our hearts as we consider this resolution today. In her words, "Dear Daddy, I miss you dearly. Thank you, Daddy, for making the world a better place."

May we use this resolution today as an opportunity to thank Mike Spann and to honor Mike Spann and the rest of the men and women fighting the war against terrorism, and for making this world a better place.

Today as we commemorate the 3-month anniversary of September 11, the attack on this Nation, our hearts go out to all.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS), who is a strong supporter of this resolution.

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss) said it best when the gentleman said we are sorry that we are here. We are sorry that Johnny Micheal Spann had to die for his country. But we are very proud of him. We are proud of his family and the way that they have responded to this tragedy.

We honor the memory and the sacrifice that he made for his family: The first American killed in combat by our enemy in Afghanistan. Mr. Speaker, yesterday Mike Spann was given a well-deserved hero's burial at a place where many of our heroes are buried, Arlington National Cemetery. The Nation was focused on his death and on the ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, in that, the fact that the Nation has followed this event and

has paid respect to this fallen warrior, I think is good. It has not always been that way.

Mr. Speaker, I remember back in 1994 when two Army rangers were posthumously given an award at the White House after they fell in Somalia. I remember that weekend, there was a car chase in Southern California. Members may remember that. It led to a famous murder trial. Mr. Speaker, there was no coverage of that ceremony at the White House, no coverage of the burial. There was an article on page D5 of the paper in Washington, D.C., a short article.

Mr. Speaker, the Nation has changed in many ways since September 11; and one change for the better, Mr. Speaker, is that the Mike Spans, and the hundreds of thousands of young men and women like him, are finally given a priority, a priority they should have had.

Captain Spann reenlisted in the Marines. He served the CIA, and he did that, although his country did not make it a priority, but thank God he made it a priority to serve and defend his country. Shortly before his death he sent an e-mail to his family which read, "What everyone needs to understand is these fellows hate you. They hate you because you are an American. Support your government and your military, especially when the bodies start coming home." Little did he or his family or we know that the first body brought home would be his.

Mr. Speaker, my oldest son graduated from Parris Island. He is a Marine. I can understand the pride that this family has in Mike; but I cannot imagine what they are going through now. Their worst fears have been realized. To lose a son, it is the natural order turned upside down. We expect to die before our children, but the Spans have shown great character, great courage and great patriotism, and we can tell where Mike got a lot of his courage and bravery and patriotism. As the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss) and others have said, this is shattering experience for a young wife, two little girls and a baby boy. To the family I say, they can never take one thing away, and that is, that he was the best. I conclude by saying what the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) quoted Mrs. Spann as saying, Mike was a hero not because of the way he died, but rather because of the way he lived.

□ 1745

Mr. Speaker, he was a good son, a good husband, a good father to his young children, a good U.S. Marine, a good CIA agent, and a God-fearing, patriotic American.

Semper fi, Mike Spann.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I am very moved by the words of the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) and extend condolences to them and the people of Alabama for the great sacrifice that they have all made as well as the Spann family.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP), who is a member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Mr. BISHOP. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me this time, and I rise, Mr. Speaker, in support of this concurrent resolution in honor of Johnny Micheal Spann, a fellow native Alabaman, the first known U.S. combat casualty in the war in Afghanistan. This is indeed a solemn time for all Americans as we realize the tremendous sacrifices made in our behalf by the men and women of the United States Armed Forces, our intelligence agencies, and by their families. We are all in awe of their bravery, their courage, their dedication to our national security and their willingness to endure great hardship and great risks in our collective behalf. We give great thanks for their service, for Mike's service to our country.

Mike Spann loved his country. He served his country. He was a friend to each and every American citizen. Because, as the Good Book says, "Greater love hath no man but that he lay down his life for his friends."

We honor his memory today and extend our deepest sympathy to his family. We are eternally grateful to him and to the brave men and women who risk their lives as part of our intelligence community to ensure the safety of all Americans and all freedom-loving people throughout the world.

God bless Mike Spann. God bless his family. May God continue to bless America.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF), who represents the district in which Mike Spann and his family were living.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today in support of H. Con. Res. 281, honoring Johnny Micheal Spann, the first American killed in combat during the war against terrorism in Afghanistan. I had the opportunity to attend the funeral yesterday, which was very moving.

Mike Spann was laid to rest yesterday with full honors at Arlington National Cemetery. He resided with his wife and family in Manassas Park, Virginia, in the 10th Congressional District which I represent. I wish these kinds of resolutions never needed to be introduced. I wish our world was a peaceful place where there was never any time of war, when we never had to call on the brave men and women of our Armed Forces and security agencies to fight for our freedoms. But I am thankful that when our freedoms must be defended, we have people like Mike

Spann who are willing to lay their lives on the line for us. Our Nation will forever be grateful to Mike Spann for his bravery and sacrifice and to all the men and women fighting to defend our Nation and willing to pay the ultimate sacrifice for their country and for freedom.

Mike Spann was a young man, 32 years old. I have four children in their thirties and one in their late twenties. He was a former captain in the Marine Corps. He was working as an officer in the Central Intelligence Agency. He was inside a prison fortress in Mazar-e Sharif, Afghanistan, interviewing Taliban prisoners when a prison uprising began on Sunday, November 25. He was brutally beaten and shot to death, the first American known to be killed in combat in Afghanistan during the war.

Mike Spann is the 79th employee of the Central Intelligence Agency killed in the line of duty and will be memorialized with a star on a wall of honor at CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia. Let us hope that his will be the last star that is ever necessary to be placed on that wall.

Words are so inadequate at this time in expressing our heartfelt sympathies to the family of this brave hero, his mom and dad and his sisters, his wife Shannon and his three young children. But they should know that the thoughts and prayers of a grateful Congress and Nation remain with them.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with the thousands of men and women in service to their country who risk their lives every day fighting to assure our freedom and safety.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), a member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding time under these very difficult circumstances, but I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 281.

Mr. Speaker, I did not know Mike Spann. I never had the privilege or honor of meeting him. But I have had the opportunity and the privilege and honor of meeting many in the Central Intelligence Agency, field agents like Mike, all doing their work in a very difficult and dangerous environment. I would venture to say tonight that if Mike were able to join us, he would say something along the lines of, "Just doing my job, sir." That has been my experience in meeting men and women of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The fact that his neighbors and friends never knew that he was working for the CIA is a testament to the fact that Mike, like thousands of other CIA employees all around the world, are defending this Nation, its citizens and its freedoms with no expectation of thanks, with no expectation of recognition.

We are here this evening under very difficult and sad circumstances, but we are here as grateful Americans honoring an American hero, the 79th that will be honored on that wall of honor. To Shannon and to his mom and dad and all the family and especially the children, we are all extremely proud of the true American hero that Mike was. And we are all mindful that the things

that we have, the freedoms that we enjoy, are there for us because of people like Mike.

God has blessed us with Mike. We hope that God blesses his family, and we hope that you know how grateful we as Members of Congress are for having had Mike Spann as a member of the Central Intelligence Agency. A grateful Nation joins all of you in grieving.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS), another strong supporter of this resolution who sought me out early on that he wanted to be a supporter of this resolution and to speak on it.

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution to honor Johnny Micheal Spann, a Central Intelligence Agency officer who was the first American killed in the war against terrorism in Afghanistan. He was killed on November 25, 2001, during an uprising of Taliban and al Qaeda prisoners in northern Afghanistan. Yesterday he was buried with full military honors in the hallowed ground of Arlington National Cemetery.

Micheal Spann's life began in a small Alabama town and ended tragically on the other side of the world in an ancient fort near the city of Mazar-e Sharif. His death is a loss for his family, for the Central Intelligence Agency, and for our country. But his memory will live on as an example to all Americans of the values of patriotism, courage, and sacrifice.

Although I never knew Mike Spann, I knew many like him. He was a paramilitary officer with the Central Intelligence Agency. I also served as a paramilitary officer with the CIA from 1969 to 1974. He served in a war zone. I too served in a war zone with the CIA for 2 years in South Vietnam. I believe that he and I shared the view that operations officers for the CIA, and especially paramilitary officers, should serve on the front lines of freedom. We know that the work there is difficult and dangerous, even deadly. The stakes are high. But that is where a paramilitary officer needs to be if he or she is going to get the job done. Mike knew what the risks were. He was willing to take those risks. A grateful Nation now thanks him for his dedication and his sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I represent the second district of Connecticut. Over 200 years ago, a young man named Nathan Hale was born and raised in my district in the town of Coventry. He graduated from Yale College, taught school, and joined the Revolutionary Army as a captain. He volunteered for a dangerous espionage mission at the request of George Washington, was caught by the British, sentenced and hanged as a spy. Before his death, he is reported to say, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

Nathan Hale is now the official State hero of Connecticut. He is also the first intelligence hero in American history.

Johnny Micheal Spann is the most recent intelligence hero in American history. They both lost their lives in defense of freedom, democracy and the values of our great Nation. May God bless them and keep them, now and forever.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Maine (Mr. BALDACCI).

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentlewoman for yielding me this time and to recognize the family and to thank the family for allowing us an opportunity to honor Micheal and at the same time to honor all of you because you folks have endured the sacrifice and allowed for our country to have the foundation of freedom and liberties that we all enjoy, and that it does cost lives and that it does impact on families.

Thank you for allowing us to have this opportunity to do it. I would like to thank the Members from Alabama who put the resolution forward. I know all of my colleagues will be very supportive of this.

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

I urge the passage of this resolution to send a strong bipartisan message of solidarity with the Spann family as well as the men and women in the intelligence community and the armed services who are putting themselves at personal risk to defend this Nation and our people.

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

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

I want to join in thanking the Spann family for being with us tonight. You honor us with your presence. Mike Spann was an example of the best that our country has to offer. Again, I want to extend the condolences of all of our colleagues and certainly my constituents to his mother and father who are with us, his sisters, his wife, Shannon, their baby, Jake, and Alison and Emily. Mike Spann will always be in our memory and in our prayers. God bless him and God bless America.

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in honoring Johnny Michael Spann, the first American killed in combat during the war against terrorism in Afghanistan.

Mike Spann was born and raised in a small town in North Alabama called Winfield. Like most kids growing up in small town America, Mike grew up with a great love for his country. And it was this great love of country that led Mike first to the Marine Corps, where he rose to the rank of captain, and later to the CIA, where he fulfilled a lifelong dream. Duty, honor, integrity, and patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, to Mike Spann these were not simply words to be carelessly thrown about, but rather they were words that had real meaning and were words around which he ordered his life. Indeed it was the weight of these words that carried Mike to Afghanistan. For, Mr. Speaker, when duty called Mike Spann answered—without hesitation and with a quiet and steady dignity that came from an

unshakeable belief in the righteousness of his mission.

In a sand blown fort, in a war torn land far from the comforts of his home, Mike Spann stood on the front line defending our American values and our way of life. Unlike most, Mike Spann understood that the freedoms we all cherish do not come without a hefty price. Sadly, he paid the ultimate price and gave his life in defense of these cherished freedoms. But, as his wife Shannon has said, "Mike is a hero not because of the way that he died, but rather because of the way that he lived." So, while we mourn his loss, we all can take comfort and pride in the knowledge that he gave his life defending the values that shaped and animated his life.

Today, with this resolution we honor him for his bravery and sacrifice. And to his family, a grateful nation offers its deepest sympathies. This nation and the world are better places because of the sacrifice made by Johnny Michael Spann.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 281.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1800

#### MIKE MANSFIELD FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3282) to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 400 North Main Street in Butte, Montana, as the "Mike Mansfield Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3282

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

#### SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building and United States courthouse located at 400 North Main Street in Butte, Montana, shall be known and designated as the "Mike Mansfield Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

#### SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, may, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building and United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Mike Mansfield Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE)