

community, there is solace in knowing that his life has made an impression that will transcend his death for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday September 4, 2002, I missed two votes due to flight delays. Although I received the appropriate leave of absence from the House, I wish to inform my colleagues and constituents of the 2nd District of Wisconsin on how I intended to vote on the roll call votes that I missed.

On Roll Call vote 371, I would have voted No. On Roll Call vote 372, I would have voted Aye.

MISSOURI'S #1 YOUNG BASEBALL TEAM

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to congratulate and pay tribute to the Blue Springs Indians baseball team of Blue Springs, MO. These young players have distinguished themselves, the Blue Springs community and the State of Missouri with outstanding conduct on and off the field.

The Blue Springs Indians are the #1 baseball team in Missouri in the 8 years old and under USSSA Missouri League. The team managed this feat by winning the Missouri State Championship Tournament. The Indians finished 11th in the World Series and are ranked #15 in the nation.

The Blue Springs Indians are Taylor "Tator Tot" Cross, Luke "Biscuit" Crabb, Cole "Little Man" Erwin, Nate "Bear" Goff, Nick "G-Man" Gulotta, Gehrig "Lou" Hudson, Landon "Boot" Mason, Steven "Sully" Sullivan, Logan "Mowgs" Taylor, Brett "T-Rex" Valentine, Trevor "T-Bone" Wescott, and Andrew "Action" Wright.

Mr. Speaker, these young ball players have played a wonderful season of baseball and have made their friends and family proud. I am certain that my colleagues will join me in wishing the Blue Springs Indians all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, due to unavoidable circumstances, I was forced to take a medical leave of absence from the House of Representatives from 12:00 p.m. on September 5, 2002, until 12:00 p.m. on September 10, 2002. I respectfully request that how I would have voted had I been able to be present for votes be submitted and accepted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at an appropriate place as follows:

On Rollcall vote No. 375, H.R. 5157 offered by Representative DON YOUNG, on Federal Transit Formula Grants Flexibility, had I been able to be present I would have voted "aye."

On Rollcall vote No. 376, H. Con. Res. 401 offered by Representative DON YOUNG recognizing the heroism and courage displayed by airline flight attendants each day, had I been able to be present I would have voted "aye."

On Rollcall vote No. 377, H. Res. 516 offered by Representative NORTHUP congratulating the Valley Sports American Little League Baseball Team from Louisville, Kentucky, for their outstanding performance in the Little League World Series, had I been able to be present I would have voted "aye."

On Rollcall vote No. 378, H.R. 5010 offered by Representative JERRY LEWIS to close portions of the conference on the Defense Appropriations bill, had I been able to be present, I would have voted "aye."

On Rollcall vote No. 379, H.R. 3210 offered by Representative OXLEY to instruct conferees, had I been able to be present, I would have voted "aye."

On Rollcall vote No. 380, on approving the Journal, had I been able to be present, I would have voted "nay."

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE WES WATKINS

HON. FRANK D. LUCAS

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, today Oklahoma's delegation to the United States Congress pays tribute to our friend and colleague, the distinguished gentleman from Oklahoma, WES WATKINS.

Following twenty years of service in the House, WES WATKINS is leaving Congress at the end of this term. His service on behalf of Oklahoma's Third Congressional District spans parts of four decades: From 1977 to 1991 as a Democrat, and from 1997 to the present as a Republican.

Those of us who have had the honor to serve and work with WES WATKINS know him to be one of the hardest working and most dedicated members of the Congress.

The Third District of Oklahoma has been one of the most rural, economically distressed areas of the nation, and WES WATKINS has made it his mission to lay the foundation for private sector economic development and job growth in his district.

Whether he was recruiting potential employers or seeking federal funding for basic infrastructure that most of the country takes for granted—like paved roads and running water—WES WATKINS has always placed the needs of his constituents first on his priority list.

When traditional financing couldn't be arranged for businesses to expand or locate in his district, WES WATKINS helped found Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, a non-profit economic development organization that in the past twenty years has financed more than \$200 million in business loans for rural Oklahoma. When a potential business recruit told him there was not an ample water supply to locate a coal-fueled electric power plant in his district, WES WATKINS obtained federal funding

to raise the level of a local lake to accommodate the plant's needs.

WES WATKINS led the effort to help fledgling rural businesses succeed by helping create the nation's first rural business incubators in his district. And he worked with Oklahoma's career and technology education system to create rural distance-learning centers to help bridge the digital divide between urban and rural areas by bringing technology training directly to his rural constituents.

Thanks in large part to WES WATKINS' efforts, southeastern Oklahoma—once known for its welfare dependency—is now developing into one of the fastest growing areas of our state.

In addition to his economic development efforts in rural Oklahoma, WES WATKINS has earned a reputation as a strong supporter of our state's agriculture and energy industries. He has worked to improve rural health care and education. WES WATKINS has been an outspoken advocate for our nation's veterans and for a strong national defense. He has obtained funding for countless economic infrastructure projects like road construction, airport improvements, and water development in his rural district. And WES WATKINS' efforts to ensure Oklahoma's former Indian lands were eligible for federal Indian land tax incentives have provided Oklahoma with one of the best industrial recruitment tools in America.

With twenty years of experience in the House, WES WATKINS is the dean of Oklahoma's House delegation. His leadership and wisdom will be greatly missed not just by his many admiring colleagues, but by his district, his state, and his nation.

Thank you WES, for your many years of service and for a job well done. Your friends in Oklahoma's congressional delegation wish you the best of health and continued success in the years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOE ULIBARRI

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Judge Joe Ulibarri of Pueblo, Colorado and recognize his contributions and service to his community. After twenty-three years in the Pueblo Municipal Court, Judge Ulibarri has retired. Throughout his tenure, Judge Ulibarri has made a number of important rulings, notably his 1991 decision that allowed the Municipal Court to accept juvenile citations and relieve the state Court of their backlog, leading to the expeditious handling of juvenile cases in Pueblo. The career and accomplishments of Joe Ulibarri are a testament to fine public service and most certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress and this nation.

Judge Joe Ulibarri was born on July 31, 1943 and was educated at Southern Colorado State College where he received an Associate of Arts degree in Social Studies and English. He went on to study law at the University of Denver School of Law, where he received his Juris Doctorate degree in 1970. Following graduation he earned a job as a staff attorney

working for the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund in Denver, Colorado. In 1979, Judge Ulibarri became the Assistant Municipal Judge for the City of Pueblo, and after ten years was promoted to the position of Presiding Municipal Judge. In retirement, Joe plans to spend more time with his new granddaughter, Noelle Elora, who was born January 3, 2002. Joe also hopes to travel with his lovely wife Juanita and perhaps even return to teaching part-time.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege that I recognize Judge Joe Ulibarri and his selfless contributions to our legal system and to his community. Joe has worked hard throughout his career and it is my honor to bring forth his accomplishment before this body of Congress and this nation. Good luck to you Joe in all your future endeavors.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO DONALD J. PEASE IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF OHIO'S 13TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, a long time friend of mine and former Member of Congress, Edward F. Weber, requested that I submit the following statement in memory of his friend and colleague, Donald J. Pease.

Mr. Speaker, the family, friends, and constituents of Ohio's 13th Congressional District mourn the passing of our former Member, Donald J. Pease. Don was elected to

Congress in 1976 and served until his retirement in 1992. Among other assignments he was a member of the Ways and Means Committee where he was instrumental in drafting certain significant changes to the income tax law.

It is probably very rare when two members of the same high school class serve together in this House, as Don and I did in the 97th Congress. It was my privilege to have been Don's classmate at Jesup W. Scott High School in Toledo, Ohio from which he and I graduated in 1949. Don was elected president of the senior class, a position he forfeited in favor of being the editor of the school paper, because school rules prohibited the holding of two major offices. I know that Don received many honors; among those was his election in 1981 as a charter member of the school's Hall of Fame. All of the '49ers will miss him greatly.

From high school Don went on to Ohio University and from there pursued graduate studies on a Fulbright Scholarship. When his formal studies were finished, Don established a business career in journalism, as the editor and co-publisher of the Oberlin News-Tribune. He combined this with service in the Ohio Legislature for 10 years before his election to Congress.

Don's friendliness and his humor, his keen mind and ability with words; and the integrity with which he approached each given task were distinguishing characteristics wherever he was and whatever he did.

A heart condition caused Don not to seek reelection in 1992, and it was his heart that suddenly took his life on Sunday, July 28, 2002 while at home in Oberlin. Regardless of our political persuasion, Ohio, especially the 13th Congressional District, is a better place because of individuals like Don Pease.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the life of a former colleague, Donald J. Pease. Our democratic institutions

and the American people are better served through the diligence and determination of public servants, like Don, who have dedicated their lives to serving the needs of others. I am confident that Don's life will continue to serve as a model for future generations on how one individual can serve his community and positively influence others around him. Our thoughts and prayers are with Don's family and friends during this difficult time. We wish them the very best.

IN MEMORY OF FAY LATHAM

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember my dear friend, Fay Latham.

Fay was a loving mother, grandmother, and servant of God, but to me she was first and foremost a trusted friend. If I can convey but one overriding memory of Fay, it is that she was always there for me from the earliest days onward. As I embarked on my career in government service, she was active in each of my campaigns, contributing even more than I could have asked. I owe her much.

While Fay's loss to the community will be considerable, her dedication and commitment to principal will continue to inspire. We must continue to remember and honor people like Fay Latham who steadfastly step in the breach when principle and duty call. Her husband Jesse and her family have my continuing gratitude and respect.