

A TRIBUTE TO SPENCER MARK  
RITCHIE

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2002*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Spencer Ritchie who is leaving the Hill this week to finish his last semester and pursue his degree at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, and then maybe even law school. The efforts and energy of Spencer will be missed dearly by all members of my office.

Spencer is a first-rate Southern gentleman with a keen understanding of people, poise and patience; the latter is most needed when juggling numerous tasks while managing the front desk.

He conquered the thankless jobs of being the gatekeeper, all the while supporting my entire staff and office guests. Because of his academic performance and student leadership, Texas Tech selected Spencer to represent the University as a Presidential Intern—and they could not have selected a more well-rounded young man who puts priorities like faith and family first.

Although he's only been with the office for a short time, he's left a lasting impression on many. Numerous constituents and visitors have commented to my staff and me that Spencer has an amazing way with making people feel welcome. Spencer has the unique ability to make every guest feel like family—and after meeting Spencer, they wanted to be Texans too!

His knowledge, insight, guidance and generosity have been inspiring to others. Though Spencer's good graces will be missed in Washington, I know that our loss is most definitely Texas Tech's gain.

He enjoyed a unique and historic experience and one which I hope will serve him well as he continues his education and begins his career. You name it—he's done it. No job is too big or too little for Spencer. He just does it—and he does it enthusiastically with a smile on his face and a laugh for others. He's given Capitol tours in the wake of September 11th. He's welcomed tired tourists from Texas! He's written letters and called constituents. I was proud to have him up front as an ambassador, if you will, for the people of the Third District.

So much of what we do in Congress is done for the next generation, for young people like Spencer. He can be proud that what we have done in this Congress has not only been done for him—but with him.

Like each Member of Congress, he is now a part of this institution. And as of Friday, he will be a part of its history. I wouldn't be surprised if he may even be part of its future, returning some day as a staff member or even a Representative!

Too many Americans do not have a full understanding of how hard the staffs of Members of Congress work, how conscientious they are and how much they care about doing the right thing for their country, regardless of whether they are conservatives or liberals, moderates, Republicans, Democrats or Independents.

Spencer has learned that lesson firsthand. So he will have something that many of his neighbors and friends and relatives will not have had: hands on experience of how the

greatest democratic institution in the world works.

He will have the opportunity to go back and tell our fellow citizens that the system works—and that it works well! And that they need to participate, not necessarily run for Congress, but to participate by voting. By speaking out. By writing. By communicating—by involving themselves in the democratic process that makes our great nation a beacon of freedom and liberty!

I wish Spencer luck and look forward to the day when I meet him again—as a proud Texas Tech graduate and SAM JOHNSON office alum!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2002*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Representative CAL DOOLEY's motion to instruct conferees to agree to Senate provisions that would lift a ban on private financing of agricultural sales to Cuba. Unfortunately due to reasons beyond my control, I was not able to vote; had I been able to vote, I would have voted in favor of lifting the ban on private financing of agricultural sales to Cuba.

The Dooley motion to instruct conferees, relating to Sec. 335 of the farm bill and agricultural trade with Cuba, permits only private financing of agricultural sales to Cuba, and maintains the United States ban on government financing. The Dooley provision says that that private enterprise should make lending decisions. The Federal Government should not be in the position of denying private entities the right to finance sales of agricultural goods to Cuba. Under current law, no provision of credit from a United States financial entity of any kind is allowed. United States agricultural exporters must either arrange for credit through an overseas bank, or must invest in cash in advance from the Cuban importer.

Even with these cumbersome restrictions, United States farmers have been able to realize more than \$35 million in sales to Cuba within the last 3 months, including Kansas wheat. Cuba has purchased a wide range of American products, including rice, chicken, soybeans, wheat, corn, and vegetable oil.

The Cuba Policy Foundation recently released a study showing the embargo of Cuba is costing United States farmers up to \$1.24 billion in annual exports to Cuba, and another \$3.6 billion in agricultural related output. Moreover, the American public supports agricultural trade with Cuba. In a 2001 poll, conducted for the Cuba Policy Foundation, 71.3 percent of Americans agreed that American companies should be allowed to sell food to Cuba. My State of Kansas' potential income from Cuban food exports is predicted at \$38,770,000 per year including the creation of 1,098 new jobs.

Today, the 40-plus year-old embargo against Cuba has failed to achieve the policy objectives of the United States. The cold war has been history for well over a decade; why continue to make the Cuban people and American farmers suffer for a war we won on so many other fronts?

TRIBUTE TO CHAPLAIN JAMES E.  
WALKER

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2002*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man of great principle and faith, U.S. Army Chaplain James E. Walker of Columbia, South Carolina. This is a man whose path I crossed 30 years ago to the month. He was a bright, young student at C.A. Johnson High School in Columbia then, and was selected to introduce me as the speaker of their Honors and Awards Day, when I was in Governor John West's office. The event was a memorable one for me, but I had no idea that my comments at the time would touch the soul of young James Walker. To this day, he still has the program from the event and remembers my urging to set goals and make plans to achieve them. These sentiments I have expressed countless times over the years when visiting school groups. Yet this is one of few opportunities I have had to join in celebrating with a young man who took my words to heart and achieved amazing things as an adult.

On Thursday, May 2, 2002, Chaplain Walker receives the promotion to Army Colonel at the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School at Fort Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina. On that day his story will come full circle to the place where it began. In his hometown, Chaplain Walker will officially achieve this well-deserved ranking as a reflection of his hard work and dedication.

On September 11, 2001, I was on Capitol Hill watching the smoke rise from the Pentagon in disbelief. However, Chaplain Walker had no time that day to stop and watch the tragedies unfold before his eyes. He, too, was in the Washington area. He was at Ground Zero—the Pentagon—ministering to those who were wounded and in shock. In the subsequent weeks, Chaplain Walker served tirelessly at the Pentagon's makeshift triage station for three weeks to "care for the wounded, minister to the living and honor the dead." For this service, our nation owes him a debt of gratitude.

This tremendous strength in the face of adversity is a hallmark of Chaplain Walker's career. He is one of 138 African-American Army Chaplains among the 2,000 Chaplains serving the Army worldwide. His military service has taken him to Desert Storm where he ministered to troops in Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait. For his skilled pastoral work in trying times, he was awarded the Saudi-Kuwait Liberation Medal. Chaplain Walker has received numerous other commendations including the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Southeast Asia Service Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon.

This outstanding service record was built on the strong foundation he received growing up in Columbia. He graduated C.A. Johnson High School and earned a Bachelor of Science from my alma mater, South Carolina State College. He served seven years in the Army as a Signal Officer before becoming a chaplain. He received his Master of Divinity and

Doctor of Ministry from Andover Newton Theological School in Newton Center, Massachusetts. His thirst for knowledge also led him to attain a Master of Business Administration from Western New England College and Master of Arts degrees from Boston College both in Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, although my duties here in Washington prevent me from sharing this memorable day with in person, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in congratulating Chaplain James E. Walker for his outstanding service and well-deserved promotion. He is a fine example of what can be achieved in life with a strong desire to learn and a willingness to serve others. It is fitting that he receives this promotion while in his hometown. I wish him good luck Godspeed as he returns to service at the Office of the Chief of Chaplains in Arlington, Virginia.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF A GREAT MAN

**HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2002*

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, on April 11, one of our area's most beloved citizens passed away—former Congressman J. William Stanton, who served in the House of Representatives from 1965 to 1982. I am honored to have known Bill Stanton, whom I considered a dear friend and mentor. In fact, I know that I would not be a Congressman today had it not been for his unparalleled guidance and support.

Bill Stanton was born in Painesville in 1924, and was a longtime resident of my hometown, Madison. Bill was a graduate of Culver Military Academy, and was the institution's Man of the Year in 1994. He also was a graduate of Georgetown's School of Foreign Service. In addition, he was a proud veteran and was the Army's youngest commanding officer in the Pacific Theater during World War II—attaining the rank of captain at the age of 21. He returned from war with the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Purple Star, and other decorations.

When Bill came home, he ran a Lincoln-Mercury dealership, making him the youngest franchised dealer in Ford history in 1948 at the age of 24. He also had the distinction of giving legendary football coach Don Shula his very first job—selling cars. Don Shula and Bill Stanton remained lifelong friends.

Bill got his political start in Lake County, and served as a Lake County Commissioner for 8 years starting in 1956. He often called those years the "happiest time of his political career." He then proudly represented Madison and the former 11th Congressional District in Congress for 18 years, from 1964 to 1982. He served his district with great honor and distinction, and was an amazingly popular Congressman. In one election, he lost only five precincts in his entire district.

Of course, it wasn't always such smooth sailing. When Bill was running for re-election after serving one term in Congress, he was campaigning down in Ravenna in Portage County, which then was part of the 11th district. Bill met an older woman at an event and introduced himself, saying: "My name's Bill

Stanton and I hope you'll vote for me in Congress."

The woman looked at him and replied, "I certainly will, young man. We've gotta get rid of that guy we've got there now."

When Bill retired from Congress, he devoted his time to causes that were important to him. He became an advisor to the World Bank, a post he held until 1993, and he also served on the board of Bread for the World, an organization devoted to easing world hunger. In addition, he was on the Board of Regents of Catholic University.

Bill's passing was unexpected and certainly too soon. Just a few weeks before his death, he returned home to attend an event where I was roasted to benefit the United Way. I was thrilled to see Bill, and was so honored that he'd traveled so far to be with me on that special night.

I also am pleased that a few years ago we were able to dedicate the Old Camp Isaac Jogues in Madison and rename it in Bill's honor. The Madison park was always loved by Bill Stanton, and his family had ties to it. Bill's father, Frank built the chapel that still stands at the park.

Bill Stanton was a great man and a great friend, and I miss him greatly. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Peggy Smeeton Stanton, his daughter, Kelly Fordon of Grosse Pointe, MI, and his three grandchildren—Jack, Charles, and Megan.

IN RECOGNITION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2002*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I commend Congresswoman CAROLYN KILPATRICK and Congresswoman DEBORAH PRYCE for their leadership and thank them for organizing today's statements in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

An estimated 302,100 women and 92,700 men are forcibly raped each year in the United States. There were 9,443 reported forcible rapes in California in 1999 alone. This number is undoubtedly low, since a majority of rapes and sexual assaults are never reported. Sexual assault is a problem of sweeping proportions across the nation.

One way that we can combat sexual assault is by raising public awareness, both here in Congress and in our local communities. California officially recognized Sexual Assault Awareness Month by resolution in 1987.

Sexual assault is a problem for us all. As legislators, we are responsible for letting women and families know that we take the problem of sexual assault seriously. The Violence Against Women Act provides funding to battered women's shelters, rape crisis centers, a hotline for domestic violence community programs on domestic violence, and rape education and prevention. With the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act in 2000, Congress reaffirmed this nation's commitment to ending domestic and sexual violence.

Full funding of the Violence Against Women Act will allow communities across the country to carry this legacy forward. Unfortunately, President Bush's budget falls \$111.3 million

short of fully funding critically important programs such as transitional housing for victims of domestic violence, shelter services, and rape education and prevention. As we recognize Sexual Assault Awareness Month, I urge my colleagues to dedicate the necessary resources to fulfill the mission of the Violence Against Women Act.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ALBERTS PLASTERING

**HON. MARK GREEN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2002*

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I offer these remarks before the House today to honor the 50-year anniversary of the establishment of Alberts Plastering, Inc., a fine family business in my district.

When Morris "John" Alberts founded Alberts Plastering 50 years ago in 1952, he set a high standard for his craft that is still maintained by Alberts Plastering today. Over the years, he and his son John worked very hard to build not just their business, but also our communities and our state.

Morris "John" Alberts passed away 12 years ago, but his legacy is now carried forward by John Alberts and a dedicated and hardworking group of over 100 professionals.

A business is only as strong as its people and its ideals. Alberts Plastering has lasted 50 years because it is made up of great folks and is built on a foundation of solid values. I'm confident those people and ideals are strong enough to carry it forward for another 50 years and beyond.

WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2002*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, April 28, 2002, American workers across the nation recognized the significant contributions of American labor to the founding and growth of our country. Every year, Workers Memorial Day gives working men and women an opportunity to acknowledge labor's great achievements and promote much needed improvements in working conditions.

While decades of hard work and struggle by workers and their unions have resulted in vast improvements in working conditions, the toll of workplace injuries, illnesses and deaths remains unacceptably high. According to recent figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 5,915 workers died from on-the-job injuries in 2000, while an additional 50,000 to 60,000 workers die each year from occupation-related injuries and diseases. Another 6 million workers sustain serious injuries every year while at work.

Workers Memorial Day is held on April 28 to commemorate the creation of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration [OSHA], which has dedicated itself to reducing workplace injuries since its inception in 1971. Over the past three decades, workplace fatalities have been cut in half and occupational injury and illness rates have declined 40%. At