

not in keeping with the spirit and ideals this nation was founded upon.

I urge my colleagues to support this motion and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROGERS of Michigan). All time has expired.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. BACA. 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, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to 15 United States Code 1024(a), the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Joint Economic Committee:

Mr. HILL of Indiana.

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 586 agreed to earlier today.

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

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. WELDON of Florida addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IN MEMORY OF SCOTT BILLINGSLEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to deliver a tribute to M. Scott Billingsley, legislative director for Colorado's Sixth Congressional District from December 15, 2001, to March 25, the day of his death.

First and foremost, I am honored today to share with you Scott's dedication to his career, his fellow man and his country. Mr. Speaker, my staff and I were given the great privilege of working with Scott for the last few months of his life. When Scott became my legislative director this past December, he instantly gained my respect and, more importantly, generated a sense of enthusiasm in his office which empowered my staff to reach their personal best and to strive to work toward perfection. Scott's infectious personality and poise drew people close to him. We instantly enjoyed getting to know him and were eager to learn from him.

Scott possessed a rare gift that allowed him to do his job thoroughly, in a way that nurtured the work ethic of his peers while at the same time enabled him to act as a mentor.

Mr. Speaker, we were blessed to have Scott in our lives. Scott will always be remembered as a person who lived life to the fullest, with a passion for knowledge and a sincere desire to make a difference in the lives of those around him and the people of Colorado's Sixth Congressional District.

The news of his sudden death saddened all of us beyond words. His presence is irreplaceable, his character exceptional.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit Scott's eulogy delivered by both his father and fiancée for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

It is important to let history know that Mr. Billingsley was a man who dedicated his life to improve the livelihood of his fellow citizens and America.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote a verse from the Bible. In the short time we were blessed with Scott in our lives, we believe he would say these words to help ease the hearts of all those who knew and loved him. The scripture is from Numbers 6:24-26:

"The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make his face to shine down upon thee and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee and give thee peace."

While losing Scott was tragic, his spirit remains with all of us.

EULOGY BY SCOTT'S FATHER, DR. MICHAEL L. BILLINGSLEY

(MARCH 30, 2002, GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, COLORADO SPRINGS)

To the Family and Friends of Michael Scott Billingsley:

This is the most difficult thing that a father ever has to do, but I must say a few words about our son. Most of you have known and loved Scott for some or all of his 32 years, and I know you are devastated by this loss. His mother and I, his sister, and our family are crushed beyond words, and I don't know if we will ever completely recover from this. Scott and Rebecca have always been our life and our joy. I have no words to express the pain his passing has caused.

We are comforted, however, by our firm belief, that only Scott's physical presence is gone. His spirit is everlasting, and is bound up in that mysterious force, that binds us all together, the Holy Spirit of God.

I will let others recount Scott's accomplishments and attributes. We all know that he achieved much in his short time with us. He was a gifted and talented young man, and contributed a great deal to the lives of all who knew him well.

I would like to focus for a moment on his spirit, the enduring essence of his being. Scott's spirit is fiercely independent. From the beginning, he asserted his uniquely individual style, never egotistical, but always assertive, and firm in his convictions. From his earliest use of words and phrases, Scott was an able debater and advocate. When Rebecca was only 2 years old, and Scott 5, she refused to talk, though able, because she had only to point at something she wanted, and Scott would instantly become her legal counsel, explaining in full sentences what Rebecca really meant to say. I don't remember a time, when he was at a loss for words. Blessed with a keen intellect, and once convinced of the merits of his position, he was a formidable partisan for his issue. His assertiveness was, more often than not, balanced with sincere sense of fairness, and respect for his opponent. His friends will tell you that he was always up to a debate on nearly any issue, and was even occasionally willing to consider other reasonable and well thought out points of view; that is, if he couldn't readily destroy their argument.

Scott's is a loyal spirit. His bonding to kindred souls, regardless of differences of opinion, was remarkable. Some of his best friends were often his polar opposites on world and political views. His spirit was able to transcend those differences and inspire comradeship in many of the "loyal opposition," as he might describe them. Finding and bonding with the essential goodness in others was one of his great strengths. Often through humor and wit, Scott could bridge strong differences in opinion and diffuse anger and confrontation. Scott's sense of humor was treasured by our family. He was always able to bring laughter to even the most contentious family matters. As many of you know, he could incite hysterical laughter in his sister with a mere gesture or an off-hand remark.

The real center of Scott's spirit is love. A great deal of this attribute certainly came from the unending love and nurturing of his mother, his wonderful relationship with his sister, his grandparents, his aunts and uncles, and his cousins. He was fortunate to have many long-lasting close friendships from high school, college, law school, and from his work experiences in Washington. My personal relationship with him was almost perfect. We agreed on almost every philosophical principal. Our last game, a week ago, was a tie. We didn't even have a

playoff. All of these life experiences helped develop in Scott a strong sense of compassion and justice. There is more, however, that came from Scott himself. In the past few years, he has developed a closer relationship with God, and had been at last, able to make many life shaping decisions. The most important decision was to marry Katie, his soul-mate, to whom he had dedicated his life. She brought him great joy, laughter, and fulfillment. His mother and I know that since meeting Katie, he had more direction and contentment than ever before. After a recent reunion with Scott, Rebecca remarked that she had never seen so much happiness and joy in her brother's life. Our hearts weep for you Katie, God bless you.

Something that I had not been able to verbalize before, has occurred to me over the past few days. It is the realization that Scott is a rare and very special person, who has the gift of connecting to people in a way that most of us can only wonder at and admire. Scott is one of the glue people that hold us together, who can transcend our differences and make us feel part of the same whole. I have known a few other extraordinary people like this, whose presence remains with me, and we all have these feelings for members of our families. But Scott had a special ability to connect with even those of short acquaintance, to build and maintain special ties. I believe that God was and is doing his work, through Scott, and continues to use his spirit to connect us. His mother, sister, Katie, and I have certainly felt his continuing presence, as I am sure many of you have also. Let Scott's life, and continuing presence, help us all understand this binding of our spirits, the inescapable conclusion that we are not alone, now and forever.

We will miss your person so much, Scott, but we will always be comforted knowing that your spirit lives. This is not the end, but only the beginning. We know that you will always be with us, by the grace of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

“SCOTT'S FAITH” BY KATIE MCNERNEY

(MARCH 30, 2002, GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, COLORADO SPRINGS)

I look out today to a group of people, most of whom have known Scott far longer than me. During the last 10 years in DC, he was physically quite far away, although I know he did a great job of staying in touch by phone and e-mail and occasional visits. I thought it would be helpful to take some time to share with you some of the more recent aspects of Scott's life. After 3½ years of spending nearly every day with him, I was blessed to witness the increasing growth of this remarkable man I called my fiancé, best friend and soul mate. I'd like to start talking about Scott by focusing on an area of his life that not many people knew about. His faith. When we first met, Scott and I were at about the same place in our spiritual lives. Scott's parents, grandparents, and other family and friends clearly influenced his strong value system and his faith. Similarly I was raised in a conservative Christian family, but neither of us felt very comfortable using Jesus' name in conversation and we were often wary of those who did. However, in the last few years, Scott and I together shared a number of experiences that introduced us to a new faith and began a relationship with Jesus that strengthened over time.

One of those experiences involved a routine surgery two years ago. After an adverse reaction to anesthesia, Scott's heart stopped and he had to be resuscitated, three times. When the doctor came into the waiting room and told me the news, my shock and fear quickly turned to relief and gratitude because Scott was going to be okay. And he was going to be

okay. Scott left the ICU with a new perspective on life. And it's not like what you see in the movies when people all of the sudden start giving away their worldly possessions or vow to find the cure for cancer. Instead, Scott started focusing internally on how he could become a better person. And as you already know he was starting from an excellent foundation. But he knew there was something missing in his life.

We began to pray together, sometimes in thanksgiving for having found each other, our soul mates, and sometimes out of pain for friends who we lost or family tragedies or even challenges at work. Scott started joining me for church regularly and began to like the weekly practice. Of course, the hours after mass were the times when Scott really loved to debate the sermon with me. And, of course, he'd always win. But I could hear the passion in his voice and see the changes he was making in his life. Over time, this was one of the many ways that Scott and I fell in love. We were putting Christ at the center of our relationship and, if you can imagine a triangle with Jesus at the top, and Scott and me at the other angles, the closer we each moved to Jesus, the closer we moved to each other. Scott loved that image, and he became increasingly committed to making sure he was growing spiritually individually and together with me. Last fall, Scott began meeting with a good friend on Capitol Hill for regular Bible studies. Scott and I also enrolled in the Alpha Course, a course on Christianity many churches offer for new Christians or ones that need some brushing up. For those of you who knew Scott, he mastered the art of arriving fashionably late to most things, but to the Alpha Course he was on time, every week. Even in the midst of some of the busiest months at his job, he would leave work right at 6:30, pick me up, and we would drive over to the Falls Church together.

Last Thursday, Scott asked me to meet him for lunch, something we didn't often have a chance to do during the work week. He wanted to attend a forum by the Faith and Politics Institute. Heather Mercer, the young woman who was held in captivity by the Taliban for 90 days last fall, was there to address a small group of Congressmen and aides. I got the invitation at 12 noon and by 12:30, Scott and I were in the Longworth Building listening in awe as Heather recounted the story of her heroic and faith-filled mission. At one point, when Heather was describing that she loved the Lord so much that she was willing to give her life, Scott reached out and took my hand in his. His eyes welled with tears, as did mine, and I knew then that Scott had truly accepted Jesus as his savior. I was blessed to have witnessed Scott's spiritual growth and his family and I are at peace knowing that he is now with his everlasting father in heaven.

On Tuesday night, more than 40 people back in DC gathered to pay tribute to Scott and shared remarkable stories. A recruiting theme was Scott's unwavering passion for everything he did. At work, his love for sports, and his love for his family and friends. Scott approached his work with more passion than anyone I knew. From the moment he arrived to work until he left at night, oftentimes late into the night, he was committed to making sure his government was doing the right thing. Scott never questioned the value of his work or contributions. As a lawyer, you'd think this conviction would have made him want to be a prosecutor. But Scott also had a deep passion for policy. Just last week, Scott spent days working on the new immigration legislation for his congressman. After just spending a day on the Hill watching the legislation being made, I asked Scott about his day. Of

course, he quoted Bismarck that you should never watch two things being made “sausage and legislation”. Despite his exhaustion, for the next three hours, he explained to me all the intricate details of immigration reform and why Congressman Tancred was so right. For “fun”, we spent the next Saturday morning watching a video on INS reform.

Prior to joining Congressman Tancred's office, Scott took on one of his most important professional responsibilities, to bring justice to the former Presidential Administration's irresponsible handling of the pardons for the House Government Reform Committee. The Final report, released just weeks ago, is a clear reflection of Scott's diligence, consistent commitment to the pursuit of justice, and his dedication to his job and his co-workers. The report is one of those tangible reminders that we have of Scott's intelligence and his love of public policy. The Committee often required long hours of wading through document after document and typing up pages upon pages of footnotes. Scott never complained and once, when a co-worker was staying late with the team, despite it being her boyfriend's birthday, Scott called her later to apologize. It wasn't anyone's fault. It was their job, but Scott felt compassion for his friend. Scott was a wonderful teacher and always shared what he knew about issues with people. I work in a mostly Democrat office, so as the lone Republican, I relied on Scott for material. He would often get e-mails from me two and three times a day saying “okay, how would you debate this issue and give me some facts to back it up” just so I could go back to my office mates with all my vast knowledge. No matter what he was doing or how busy he was, he would send two or three articles within two minutes, and he would add a line at the bottom of the e-mail saying “Go get'em, sweetie.”

Scott also loved to travel and learn about geography, languages, different cultures, and new people. There were few times, if any, where you didn't walk away from the conversation with Scott and not have learned something. The one book on his dresser that never collected dust was Scott's atlas. He loved looking something up and reading about places all over the world, places he hoped we would visit someday. This Christmas, Scott bought me an atlas, so he could have an extra copy at my place too! He would point out places he had visited like Brazil, where he lived in Germany, and where he visited in Italy for work in Dec. 2000. We joked with him that the trip to Italy was a boondoggle, but Scott genuinely felt that the trip's mission, to combat organized crime, was of critical importance. He also had fun stories when he returned, of being in the real town of Corleone. Isn't it ironic, he told me, that they stamped out crime in most of Sicily? In a weird way, Scott was saddened by this. The Godfather was his favorite movie.

Scott was so full of love, for his parents, Diane and Mike, whom he adored and whom he could not wait to return to Colorado to be near, for his sister Rebecca whom he so admired for her intelligence, strength of character, and sense of humor. Last night, I spent a few hours talking with Scott's high school friends. Of course, they were recounting stories that I had heard from Scott a hundred times before. I am in awe of the friendships that Scott created—life long friendships that Scott cultivated with great care. Steve, Joe, Mark and Mike were just a few of his closest high school friends. He had many others from college and law school, Andy, Rob, Vinnie, Adam, and Dan. His friends from Colorado and DC, Eric and Jen. If I've forgotten anyone, please forgive me. You know how much Scott loved you all, and he is honored here by your presence.

Of all the things that Scott gave me, the one thing I think will most sustain me is his sense of humor. We laughed hard. He had an array of talents in impersonations. He perfectly imitated the President's "I'm the governor of Texas" line. With his jokes, Scott could bring tears to my eyes. Mike Myers was one of his favorite comedians, and Scott did the best impression of Fat Bastard (Can I say that in church?) Please forgive me. He loved South Park, the Jerky Boys, and did a mean impression of James Brown.

Now, people pass away every minute of every day, but I find it especially fitting, that we are gathered here on Holy Saturday, the day the Christian faith weeps over the loss of our Lord's only son. We weep with God, but like Jesus, Scott is not sad. We are the ones that are sad. You see, Scott is already with God. The moment his last breath left his body on Monday, March 25th, was the moment that Jesus took his hand and brought him home to a beautiful place, to a place where Scott could be with his grandfather, uncle, Farfie, and Fritz and, as his friend Vin pointed out, all the philosophers and political theorists. In fact, he might not even be listening to us now because he's too busy telling off Rousseau.

Scott, we feel your presence with us, and we will love you and keep you in our hearts forever.

EQUAL PAY FOR WOMEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday was Equal Pay Day. That is the day when women rise to say they are not being equally paid. A year and 4 months into the next year is how long women had to wait this year in order to earn what the average man earned. I feel Equal Pay Day, I suppose, stronger than most. I feel like I have been working for equal pay for women at least half of my life. I am a former Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, where I administered the Equal Pay Act. It is amazing to see that this act has not been touched in 40 years. It was the first of the great civil rights acts to be passed. It obviously needs to be revised because it is a very different world with a very different economy from the 1963 economy.

There is a bill here pending, the Paycheck Fairness Act, that would modestly revise this bill. Did we know, for example, that if women and men discuss their wages against the wishes of the employer in the workplace, he can sanction them? The Paycheck Fairness Act would bar that. And did we realize that class actions under the Equal Pay Act are much harder to obtain because the act was passed so early? So it is an unequal civil rights law.

Actually there are two kinds of equal pay. One kind was violated right under our nose. A couple of months ago I went to the Ford Building to see the women who clean the House receive their checks from a class action they won against the Congress of the United States because women who clean our

offices were paid a dollar less than men who clean our offices. And they won. This was the first class action brought under the Congressional Accountability Act. All I can say is the women who clean this House and this Senate held us accountable. But then there is another kind of equal pay, and that is the kind that affects the average woman. Senator TOM HARKIN and I have a bill to go at that pay. It goes at jobs that are underpaid because they are stereotyped as female jobs.

Women work in only three sectors: factory, service, and clerical. Those jobs are often paid according to the gender and not the sex. The Fair Pay Act would allow women to sue when the job she is doing is equal in responsibility and in content to the job a man is doing even though that job is not the very same job. It is interesting when you poll, you find that equal pay is among the top one or two issues for the American public. Why is that? Because equal pay is no longer a woman's issue. Equal pay has become one of the great family issues of our time. If there is a working woman in your family, you lose \$4,000 annually because one of the breadwinners, or in some cases the only breadwinner, is a woman.

It is time we fixed the Equal Pay Act. It was a great breakthrough in 1963. Almost 40 years later it needs the kind of repair that you would need if you were 40 years old and had not seen a doctor since you were born. The EPA has not seen a doctor. It has not had us tend to it for 40 years. The Paycheck Fairness Act is certainly the place to begin; 194 Democrats have signed on. I am sure many Republicans also agree that this is the year to tell America that we understand that women and men work, that they are in the same families, that when they have been doing the same jobs, similar jobs or comparable jobs, they should be paid equally.

If we did not learn anything else on Equal Pay Day, I hope that is the message we sent. I certainly hope that before this session is out, this Congress will do more than rhetorically recognize the notion of equal pay. Let us pass the Paycheck Fairness Act.

PROTECTING AMERICAN INDIAN LANDS AND ALASKA NATIVE SACRED LANDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the congressional Native American Caucus, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2085, the Valley of Chiefs Native American Sacred Site Preservation Act, which would safeguard an area very sacred to a number of Indian tribes, and ask that my colleagues support this bill as well. In addition, I want to comment on the need to protect other threatened American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) sacred lands.

Our many democratic forums establish an opportunity for discussions to take place to

better understand the social, economic, legal and political complexity of AI/AN realities, before related legislation is brought to the House Floor for a vote. As Congressional history demonstrates, the decisions we make as Representatives can either positively or negatively impact AI/AN people, and their nations, tribes, bands, villages and communities.

For example, between 1887 and 1934, the U.S. Government took over 90 million acres of land from American Indians without compensation—including sacred lands. More recently, between 1945 and 1968, Congress decided that federal recognition and assistance to more than 100 tribes should be terminated. This termination policy created economic disaster for many American Indians, and their nations, resulting in millions of acres of valuable natural resource land being lost through tax forfeiture sales. This is a primary reason why AI/AN families have the highest poverty level of any group in the country, at a rate of 31 percent on some Indian reservations.

By holding hearings on the impact of legislation related to American Indians and Alaska Natives, Congress moved to rectify its prior decisions by passing self-determination and self-governance policies. As a result of such policies, AI/AN nations and villages have greater control over their lands and resources. They have made great strides toward reversing the economic blight that resulted from previous federal policies, and have revived their unique cultures and nations.

Congress must withstand pressure from those individuals and groups that call for backtracking to old AI/AN policies, such as termination and reduction of AI/AN sovereign rights. We must acknowledge and learn from our mistakes, and not repeat them in the future because AI/AN nations and people are relying upon our commitments.

The United States Constitution recognizes that American Indian Nations are sovereign governments. Hundreds of treaties, the Supreme Court, the President and the Congress have repeatedly affirmed that Indian Nations retain their inherent powers of self-government. In addition, the United States Government is committed to a trustee relationship with the Indian Nations. This trust relationship requires the federal government to exercise the highest degree of care with tribal and Indian lands and resources.

Sacred lands, and ceremonies associated with those lands, are a necessary expression of AI/AN spirituality, and often are key to individual and collective wellness. This necessity is situated deep in the ancient history of these Indian nations and maintains a prominent place in the fact-based stories handed down from one generation to another. Since the coming of the Europeans to these shores in the late 14th Century, these sacred lands have been subject to intrusions and disturbance as settlers laid claim to lands of the AI/AN peoples.

In 1978, Congress passed the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, recognizing the necessity of upholding the protection of AI/AN spirituality within the ambit of the religious freedom guaranteed by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Unfortunately, litigation in the courts since then to safeguard sacred lands, and the ceremonies associated with those lands, has, for the most part been unsuccessful.

Rather than safeguard sacred lands, these cases have upheld multiple intrusions upon