

was a long time coming; he'll be a long time gone."

Mr. President, on behalf of a grateful Nation, permit me to say thank you, happy birthday and may God bless you.

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

(Mr. STRICKLAND 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 California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

REMEMBERING THEODORE J. VOLLRATH, PHILIP JEHLLE AND R. LAWRENCE COUGHLIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD remembrances of three individuals who passed away in the last few months.

First, I want to recall the life of Ted Vollrath. Ted Vollrath was a Korean veteran who, because of the battles in which he was engaged, eventually lost both his legs. That did not stop him at all. He became active in many veterans entities and served the public in many different ways, but while he was doing that, he was learning karate. He became a black belt in karate; can my colleagues believe this now, a man without legs, earned a karate black belt.

In a wheelchair he was able to perform feats never before seen, and he performed in London and all over the eastern seaboard and actually made a movie called Mr. No Legs. I saw one of the premieres of it in my district when it came to town.

So he was a movie actor, an enthusiast for karate, a specialist, a black belt, and yet he found time to serve the various veterans organizations in our area, and then, on top of that, served me, our office, as chairman of our Service Academy Nominating Committee and did that for almost 20 years. He was someone who I could count on for advice not just on the service academies, but also on matters military generally, on national security and others.

He at one time, I am also ashamed to tell my colleagues this, one time he said he wanted me to, in one of his karate exhibitions and swordsmanship exhibitions, he wanted to put an apple on

the back of my head, have me kneel down, and then he would with one swift stroke of a sword cut the apple and hopefully not my neck. What I cannot understand is that I said, yes, I would do it, and I did. I put my head down on like a little table or bench there, he put the apple, we had an audience, et cetera, and he did it with his sword and cut the apple in half, did not touch any part of your speaker here, else I would not be here.

The point was that he fulfilled his life with four children and a wonderful church relationship and a community relationship, and overcame tremendous odds through his life. When we lost him, we lost a true contributor to our community.

The second set of remembrances are as to Phillip Jehle. We best knew him, we Pennsylvania Members of the Congress, as the director of the Governor's office in Washington. Governor Casey at that time appointed Mr. Jehle as the director, but he had a whole array of services to the State and to the country way before that. Let me read a couple of the salient features of his life.

He was a retired Washington lawyer. He had served as a chief counsel to a Senate committee. He had served as executive vice president of a pharmaceutical company, and then, as I said, the director of the Washington office of the Pennsylvania Governor. All of us who served in the Pennsylvania delegation knew him well, could approach him at any time to coordinate the solution of problems that were mutual to Members of Congress and to the Governor of the Commonwealth.

He upon his retirement from SmithKline, where he had worked, he spent the rest of his time in legislation that was important to Pennsylvania through the Governor's office.

His survivors include his wife of 52 years, Marcelle Auclair Jehle; five children, Philip F. Jehle, Christopher A. Jehle, Lawrence and Patricia A. Galasso of Morocco, and Kathleen M. Will of Elk Ridge; also a brother, three sisters and 12 grandchildren.

He was a public servant of a special breed, and he, too, will be remembered through our insertion of remembrances in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The third is as to our colleague Larry Coughlin, longtime member of the Pennsylvania delegation, a Member of Congress from southeast Pennsylvania, who served valiantly throughout the time that he was here after having served in the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

Larry was 71. He was from Montgomery County, and he was the fellow that, when he walked in here, was immediately noticeable for his gentlemanly stance and his posture, but, more than that, his elegant bow tie. He almost never came to this Chamber or to any function without a bow tie, and they were nice ones and colorful and fit the pattern of his gentleman qualities. So if we forget everything else about him, we will always be able to talk

about that bow tie presence that he had.

He served in Congress from 1968 to 1992. At first he represented just Montgomery County and then later part of Philadelphia. He endorsed funding SEPTA, which is a transportation authority in the southeast of Pennsylvania, and other mass transit agencies, housing efforts and antidrug education.

He graduated from the Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Connecticut, in 1946 and from Yale University in 1950. One of his Yale classmates was George Herbert Walker Bush, the future President and father of our current President, George W. Bush.

While attending Harvard Business School he was called to Active Duty by the Marine Corps in Korea, serving as an aide to the legendary Lieutenant General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller. After his discharge, he returned to Harvard, earning a degree in business administration in 1954.

He came to Philadelphia to attend Temple University Law School, attending classes at night and working as a foreman on an assembly line at Heintz Manufacturing Company, a steel company, during the day. He received his degree in 1958 and became a partner at Saul Ewing Remick & Saul.

During Vice President Richard M. Nixon's first Presidential campaign in 1960, Larry decorated an old mail truck with banners, and he took the Nixon campaign to the streets of Philadelphia.

By the 1960s he lived in Villanova and was involved in Montgomery County Republican politics. He worked for William W. Scranton's successful gubernatorial campaign in 1962. He himself won his first election in 1964, capturing a seat in the State house of representatives. Two years later he moved up to the State senate, and he was elected to his first term in Congress from the 13th District in 1968.

During his 24 years in Congress, he served on the Committee on the Judiciary and became a high-ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations and its Subcommittee on Transportation. As a member of the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control, he called for de-emphasis on efforts to interdict narcotics traffic and instead sought additional funds for destruction of cocaine processing labs, what he called the choke points in the drug trade.

□ 1815

He also supported funding for anti-drug education programs.

His two most competitive contests for reelection came in 1984 and 1986 against the then Democratic State representative JOE HOEFFEL. By the 1980s, Representative Coughlin's 13th District had been reapportioned to include Chestnut Hill, Roxborough, Manayunk and Overbrook in Philadelphia as well as Montgomery County, adding many more registered Democrats to his district.

By the way, that same JOE HOEFFEL eventually became the Member of Congress from that area and is serving even as we speak here today as a Member in this current session of Congress.

Representative Coughlin mounted successful campaigns against his younger opponent, however, and he won comfortably in both contests. And Joe, who finally won the 13th District after what we just mentioned, in 1998 said after learning about Larry's death, "Larry was a moderate who was not at ease with the aggressive wing of the Republican Party. He had a great record in mass transportation and urban matters. Even when his district was entirely suburban, he favored the regional approach." That was JOE HOEFFEL's tribute to Larry.

Unlike some of our colleagues in Congress, Representative Coughlin shunned the limelight. He told me there are workhorses in Congress and there are show horses, and he described himself as a workhorse. The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOEFFEL) is the one who recalls that statement that was made by Larry, and he added that he was a dedicated public servant. There was never a whisper of anything improper or self-serving.

When a magazine writer claimed that men who wore bow ties were not to be trusted, Representative Coughlin, who never wore anything but bow ties, said, "I have never known one who wasn't trustworthy."

After his retirement, Mr. Coughlin remained in Washington, joining Eckert, Seamans, Cherin & Mellott as senior counsel. Earlier this year, he joined the law firm of Thompson Coburn. He was president of the Friends of the U.S. National Arboretum, and he enjoyed gardening, hiking and boating.

Mr. Coughlin is survived by his wife of 21 years, Susan MacGregor Coughlin; a daughter, Lisa Powell, from his first marriage to the late Helen Ford Swan; and three children from his second marriage to Elizabeth "Betsey" Worrell. They are daughters Lynne Samson and Sara Noon; and son Lawrence. He is also survived by five grandchildren.

One other anecdote that is not part of the printed material that I will enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I remember an occasion, I believe he was still an incumbent at the time, or maybe he had just moved into the outer fringes of the House of Representatives, but an intruder entered his house and was doing whatever these intruders do, and Larry corralled him. He apprehended him and held him down until the police arrived.

So, again, the kind of courage we knew was his wont throughout his life, particularly in Korea, manifested itself in his own domicile in apprehending a felon. And so he was a hero in many, many different ways was Larry Coughlin.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), who has been eager with me to have this

hour of remembrances of Larry Coughlin come about.

Mr. BEREUTER. I thank the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania, and I am very pleased to participate in this commemorative tribute for Larry, Lawrence, Coughlin, Jr., a terrific person, outstanding Congressman, and a real patriot. And I have to say that I am objective about that despite the fact that Larry Coughlin was one of my best friends in the Congress.

He provided a tremendous amount of leadership in this Congress in so many ways, but of course I guess the area in which he is best known is his leadership for the whole Congress on urban and mass transit issues.

Larry had a great set of priorities: family, the U.S. House of Representatives, and Marine Corps. He was such a courteous, cordial individual. He absolutely deserved and lived up to the title of "the gentleman from Pennsylvania."

We had great respect for him, a tremendous sense of humor, we all enjoyed his company, but his contributions in the Congress, of course, were only part of the contributions he made to the country. He provided incredible service to Chesty Puller, one of the most famous marines of all. And I have a hard time saying this as a former Army officer, but in fact he did remarkable things.

He provided real work, hard labor to put himself through law school, and he had an inspirational impact on his family. He motivated those children to bring out the best in their capabilities; a high value on education and patriotism, and it shows when you meet them today, and his grandchildren as well.

One of the things that most people do not know about Larry Coughlin is his love for plants, trees, bushes, all kinds of plants. Larry worked in the soil. He loved it, and he provided some real leadership to organizations like the Friends of the National Arboretum, where he served as the president for a number of years, and he was an inspiration to all of us.

He actually is responsible for involving a significant number of Members of Congress and their spouses in the work of the National Arboretum. It was one of his loves. But he took that love and you could see it on his own properties in Virginia, Pennsylvania, and elsewhere. He grew up in that agricultural vein. He tells stories about working with his father from the youngest years of his life, and he made a tremendous contribution in that area, and it is something that most people do not know about. I think there could be an opportunity for us to make a fitting tribute to Larry Coughlin by doing something in the future for the National Arboretum, one of his real joys in life.

We are going to miss him very, very much, and I in particular. I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS), for yielding to me. It is hard to itemize all the things in which Larry made contributions

throughout his life, and even here in the House of Representatives. It is hard to list them all because this was a man who reflected the best in the House of Representatives.

Mr. GEKAS. I thank the gentleman. And it occurred to me that we missed a golden opportunity to pay the ultimate tribute to Larry. We should have worn bow ties for this occasion while we did our remembrances of him.

Mr. BEREUTER. He not only wore them, he defended them; did he not?

Mr. GEKAS. Yes, he did, regularly.

And so, Mr. Speaker, that concludes our remembrances on this occasion, and we invite every Member who wishes to add any kind of sentiment or remembrance to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to do so, and to let us know so that we can coordinate the whole of the RECORD; and, as I indicated previously, I hereby submit additional biographical information on Larry Coughlin for the RECORD.

[From the Biographical Directory of the United States Congress]

COUGHLIN, ROBERT LAWRENCE, 1929—

Coughlin, Robert Lawrence, (nephew of Clarence Dennis Coughlin), a Representative from Pennsylvania; born in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pa., April 11, 129; A.B., Yale University, 1950; M.B.A., Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, 1954; LL.B., Temple University Evening Law School, 1958; attorney; manufacturer; captain, United States Marine Corps, 1950-1952, aide-de-camp to Gen. L.B. Puller; elected to Pennsylvania house of representatives, 1964; elected to Pennsylvania senate, 1966; elected as a Republican to the Ninety-first and to the eleven succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1969-January 3, 1993); was not a candidate for renomination in 1992 to the One Hundred Third Congress; is a resident of Plymouth Meeting, Pa.

[From the Washington Post, Dec. 5, 2001]

REP. R. LAWRENCE COUGHLIN, JR., DIES; REPRESENTED PENNSYLVANIA FROM 1969 TO 1993

(By Adam Bernstein)

R. Lawrence Coughlin Jr., 72, a moderate Pennsylvania Republican who from 1969 to 1993 represented the wealthy Maine Line area of suburban Philadelphia in the House of Representatives, died of cancer Nov. 30 at his weekend farm in Mathews, Va. He lived in Alexandria.

Rep. Coughlin, a lawyer, was known for championing urban and mass-transit issues nationwide. He served on the transportation subcommittee and the District subcommittee. He also was ranking Republican on the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control. On the District subcommittee, he was frequently critical of then-Mayor Marion Barry's leadership. At one hearing on the D.C. budget, he took Barry to task for "corruption and mismanagement" citywide. He did not pursue reelection in 1992 and became senior counsel to Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott in Washington. In April, he joined the Washington office of the St. Louis-based Thompson Coburn law firm and concentrated on transportation and international-commerce matters. He was on the board of the Friends of the U.S. National Arboretum, where he was a former president.

Robert Lawrence Coughlin Jr. was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and grew up on his father's farm near Scranton, Pa. He was a nephew of former representative Clarence D. Coughlin (R-Pa.). The younger Rep. Coughlin

was a 1946 graduate of the Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Conn., and a 1950 economics graduate of Yale University. He received a master's degree in business administration from Harvard University. He was a 1958 graduate of Temple University's law school, attending classes at night while a foreman on a steel assembly line during the day. He served in the Marine Corps during the Korean War and was aide-de-camp to Lt. Gen. Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller. Years later, in Congress, Rep. Coughlin chaired the Capitol Hill Marines, a group of congressmen who had been in the Marine Corps. He was practicing law at a Philadelphia firm when he was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1964 and to the state Senate in 1966. He won his U.S. House seat in 1968, when Richard S. Schweiker (R) left to make a successful bid for the U.S. Senate.

A tall, slender man with a patrician air, Rep. Coughlin was known for wearing—and defending—bow ties. When a magazine writer said in the 1980s that men who wore bow ties were not to be trusted, Rep. Coughlin was quoted as saying, "I've never known one who wasn't trustworthy." His first wife, Helen Ford Swan Coughlin, died in the early 1950s. His marriage to Elizabeth Worrell Coughlin ended in divorce. Survivors include his wife of 21 years, Susan MacGregor Coughlin of Alexandria; a daughter from his first marriage, Lisa Coughlin Powell of Plymouth Meeting, Pa.; three children from his second marriage, Lynne Coughlin Samson of Wayne, Pa., Sara Coughlin Noon of Bel Air, Md., and R. Lawrence Coughlin III of Seattle; and five grandchildren.

SICKLE CELL DISEASE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHUSTER). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I had the joy on Monday to visit one of the hospitals in my district, the Miller Children's Hospital located in Long Beach and within the Long Beach Memorial Hospital complex. What a joy it was, Mr. Speaker, to talk with the many children who had such hope and such enthusiasm even given the fact that they are sickle cell anemia children.

I was met, as I came into the hospital, by Kala, age 5. So much spirit, so vibrant, so eager to talk with me about the things that she does in school. I was absolutely pleased to see this youngster, who is really suffering from sickle cell anemia, to have such hope and such determination, something that we can all and should all emulate.

And then I went to the next ward and I saw Etan. Etan was with his mother and father, and he, too, is suffering from sickle cell anemia. I talked with Etan. He is an A student in school. His father and his mother hailed from Nigeria. He has to come in every so often for a blood transfusion.

I was so pleased to see these two young people, who are so vibrant, so much life, and yet their life can be taken in a moment's time if they are not given this type of blood that they have to have.

Then I went down the hallway and I saw another young guy by the name of

Chris. He was in the hospital, again having this blood transfusion, and he was with his father, his mother, and his brother Maurice. They are a family of 10. It was amazing to me how this family was so close-knit there, pulling for Chris to come through. He, too, had to have this blood transfusion, and he, too, had just a wealth of energy, as much as he could put out; and so much love, so much compassion, smiling all the time, not knowing exactly whether he will be with us next year or not.

These are children, Mr. Speaker, that have been afflicted with sickle cell disease. And we, as African Americans, know much too often about sickle cell. We know that sickle cell and that disease is a disease that affects a special protein inside of our red blood cells called hemoglobin. The red blood cell has an important job. They pick up oxygen from the lungs and take it to every part of the body.

We also recognize, Mr. Speaker, that sickle cell disease affects 3 in every 1,000 African American newborns. Although in the United States most cases occur among African Americans, this disease also affects people of Arabian, Greek, Maltese, Italian, Sardinian, Turkish, and of Indian ancestry. Affected children are at an increased risk of mortality or morbidity, especially in the first 3 years of life.

This is why, Mr. Speaker, the Miller Children's Hospital at Long Beach Memorial is such an outstanding one because it treats these kids. It has an absolutely state-of-the-art clinic that has helped in so many ways with our children gaining their strength and being able to get back up and go to school and to monitor them. They monitor them to make sure that when there is a need for them to come back in for a transfusion, they come back in.

Sickle cell disease is an inherited disease of the red blood cells, as I said before, which can cause attacks of pain, damage to vital organs, and risk of serious infections that can lead to early death. This is why, Mr. Speaker, for infants and young children with sickle cell disease they are especially vulnerable to severe bacterial infections such as those that cause meningitis and blood infection. Infections are the leading cause of death in children with sickle cell disease.

I cannot say enough about the testing and the great physicians and nurses that are helping our children who have sickle cell. So I call on all my fellow colleagues to join me in the fight to support this universal patient access and research for sickle cell disease.

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BUSH ADMINISTRATION DOWNGRADES ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHUSTER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr.

PALLONE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this evening I would like to highlight the negative aspects of the Bush administration's environmental record. I do not come to the floor lightly. I am not here because I particularly want to be critical of the President or this administration; but it has been upsetting to me, particularly because I think in the aftermath of the September 11, because the Nation and I personally have focused so much on defense and the war on terrorism and homeland security issues, many times when efforts were made by the administration to weaken environmental laws or change agency rules in ways that weaken environmental protection, it has been difficult to get the public to pay attention to those issues or to even get the media's attention to the fact that in many cases environmental regulations have been watered down or changed in a way that is not good for the environment.

I was hoping that was just a coincidence and it would not continue, but it has continued. There are reports which have come out, one of which I would like to go into in a little detail tonight, which shows that this administration continues to downgrade, if you will, environmental protection.

When the President came forth with his budget last Monday, there was another strong indication of his willingness to downgrade environmental concerns because of the level of funding proposed in his budget for some key environmental programs.

I do not think that anyone really expected when President Bush took office that this administration would be strong on environmental issues, but many times there was rhetoric that suggested maybe we were wrong and maybe there would be some heightened concern over the environment. But the fact of the matter is that the administration's actions are very much the opposite. They continue, whether by regulation or through their spending policies, to take action which I think ultimately hurts the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I want to start out this evening by going through briefly a report that was put out by the Natural Resources Defense Council, the NRDC on January 23, just a couple of weeks ago. Basically what they looked at was agency actions over the spectrum of the Nation's most important environmental programs, whether that be protecting air, water, forest, wildlife or public lands. The report is actually entitled "Rewriting the Rules: The Bush Administration's Unseen Assault on the Environment." It basically provides a review of agency action since September 11, and it shows very dramatically that there, basically, has been an intensification of efforts after September 11 to downgrade environmental protection.

I think it is unfortunate that this is the case because I believe most Americans feel that not only is the environment an important issue, but it is a