

WILLIAM S. RUPP

• Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of William S. Rupp of St. Peters, MO. I join his wife June, the rest of his family and his many friends in honoring and recognizing him on his 80th birthday, October 10, 2004.

A devoted husband, father of five and grandfather of 16, Bill's first 80 years have been rich and full. He has achieved a great deal and has contributed tremendously to his State and his country.

As a United States Marine in the Pacific Theater during World War II, Bill saw some of the fiercest fighting of the war. He served bravely for 3 years until he was honorably discharged in 1945.

Bill chose not to end his devotion to the military when he left the Pacific, and he has been a very active and highly effective veteran. He has served as chairman of the St. Peters Veterans Memorial Commission and helped design and coordinated the city's Veterans' Memorial site. He was also instrumental in the construction of St. Peters' Korean War Memorial. Bill is a member of Congressman TODD AKIN's Veteran Memorial Commission and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10838, where he has served as Commander, All-State Quartermaster, Safety Chair, Hospital Chair, Military Assistance Chair and Deputy Inspector.

In addition to veterans' affairs, Mr. Rupp has been involved in other important civic matters. While his children were in school, he served with distinction as president of the McBride High School Father's Club, president of the Rosary High School Parent Teacher Association and as a judge for the Amateur Athletic Union's 75th track meet. In addition, he is a past president of the Summerhill Association.

After his military service, Bill attended Washington University before becoming a marketing representative for Gateway Seed Company and a department manager for Famous-Barr Company. He attended St. Louis University High School and St. Roch's Catholic Grade School.

I am honored to congratulate Mr. Rupp on this special occasion. He has many accomplishments in his long life thus far, and I wish him many more years of happiness and success.●

COMMEMORATING THE INTEGRATION OF HOXIE SCHOOL DISTRICT

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, it has been 50 years since the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in the 1954 landmark decision of *Brown v. Board of Education* that separate was not equal when it came to our children's education. That ruling changed the way that Americans are educated and opened up countless opportunities for all children, both black and white, to learn about and from one another.

Hoxie, AR, is a small town in the northeast corner of my state, with a

population of just about 3,000 people. Prior to 1954, like many other schools in Arkansas and across the South, the Hoxie School District was segregated. To get an education, black children had to travel thirty minutes by bus to the neighboring town of Jonesboro where they attended Booker T. Washington School with other black students from around the region.

Following Brown, the Hoxie School Board unanimously voted to become one of the first schools in the South to begin integration. In the fall of 1955, Hoxie School Board members, faculty, students, and citizens stood together with 21 black children who enrolled and became the first black students to attend the Hoxie School system. This courageous step, in the face of opposition from around the state and across the Nation, helped open doors for future generations of students in Arkansas.

I recently had the honor of attending a reunion for the Hoxie Twenty-One, as they have come to be known in Arkansas. It was a wonderful event in which the community gathered to commemorate the integration of Hoxie School District. We paid tribute to the Hoxie Twenty-One and their families, as well as to the school officials and community leaders who paved the way for integration at Hoxie. The courage and resolve that the citizens of Hoxie showed in 1955 is an example of those who are willing to embrace the spirit of equality and to do what is right for every child in the community.

Today, Arkansas' children go to school in a different environment than that confronted by the Hoxie Twenty-One back in 1955. We certainly have more work to do to ensure that all of our children receive the best possible education, but I am pleased with the progress we have made over the last 50 years. It is my hope that America can continue to build on the foundation that Hoxie School District helped to create to ensure that all of our nation's children, no matter their race, are provided with the best educational opportunities available.●

RECOGNIZING THE MCLEAN GIRLS LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL TEAM

• Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I am very pleased today to recognize the 2004 McLean Girls Little League Softball team for their hard work and determination in representing both Virginia and the South in the 2004 Girls Little League World Series tournament.

These young athletes, under the strong coaching of Jamie Loving, devoted a tremendous amount of time and energy in their efforts to make it to the World Series tournament in Portland, Oregon. Throughout their season, they showed courage and fortitude in winning the State competition with a record of 5-1 and the regional competition with a perfect record of 5-0. The team then went on to compete in the World Series tour-

namment against teams across the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Europe and Puerto Rico. This is a great accomplishment for these Virginia girls, especially since this is the first time in the history of the tournament that a team from Virginia has made it to the World Series.

I would like to congratulate each of the members of the McLean Girls Little League Softball team: Brooke Brown, Sarah Eidt, Michelle Tilson, Lauren Sanata, Megan Sullivan, Brittany McCray, Lauren Sutherland, Madeleine Giaquinto, Adrienne Engel, Jamie Bell, Kukana Ho'opi'i, Shannon Engel, Lauren McColgan, Rachel Ing and their coaches, Jamie Loving, Darrell Tilson and Kurt Brown.

As a former student-athlete, I understand the impact that athletics play in the development of an individual's character and life. Sports teach us important lessons of self-discipline, perseverance, teamwork, sportsmanship and self-confidence. The benefits of participating in athletics can prove valuable in the daily lives of student-athletes whether at school or at work in their communities. I wish all of the members of the team and their coaches continued success in the future. Keep Winning.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. LINDA CRNIC

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Linda Crnic, of Denver, CO, who passed away unexpectedly on September 10, 2004.

Dr. Crnic was a professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and director of the Colorado Mental Retardation and Developmental Disability Research Center. She was also an inspiration to thousands of families across the Nation for her internationally recognized research on Down syndrome and Fragile X.

Down syndrome and Fragile X are the two leading genetic disorders causing mental retardation. Fragile X is an inherited disorder caused by a defect in one gene on the X chromosome. It is also the most common known cause of Autism.

While I did not know Linda personally, many individuals have reached out to me in recent weeks with stories and tributes about the impact Linda made as a mother, as a colleague, as a friend, and through her research.

Dr. Crnic's research helped individuals with Down syndrome and Fragile X become increasingly integrated into society and live fuller and more active lives.

Through the efforts and outreach of professionals like Linda Crnic, all of us benefit as research about these disorders have also led to new medical insights and treatments.

According to those families, whose lives she touched so profoundly, one cannot begin to describe the high regard and affection in which Dr. Crnic

was held. She was a researcher to whom parents of children with Fragile X and Down syndrome could always go to with their concerns, regardless of whether or not their concerns were related to Dr. Crnic's area of research. She listened and responded. This loss, for the Fragile X and Down syndrome communities is incalculable.

I send my deepest condolences to Linda Crnic's family. I hope they are comforted with her memory and knowledge that their loss is shared by so many in her community and across this nation.

I ask that the following news story about the life of Linda Crnic from the Rocky Mountain News be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Rocky Mountain News, Sept. 22, 2004]

CRNIC, 56, CHAMPIONED DOWN SYNDROME CAUSES

(By Mark Wolf)

Linda Crnic addressed the National Down Syndrome Congress last month on The Dawn of a New Era in biomedical research, then spent the evening dancing with children with Down syndrome.

"She spent hours on the dance floor," said Lloyd Lewis, of Lafayette, father of a child with Down syndrome, who addressed the association from a parent's perspective. "There was a particularly moving moment when a 50-year-old woman was confused at not being able to find her purse. Linda spent an hour looking under every table for it."

Crnic, an internationally prominent Down syndrome researcher, died Sept. 11 from injuries suffered in a bicycle accident. She was 56.

She was a professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and, since 2001, director of the Colorado Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Research Center.

"A topic like (Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities) is never something you can approach with one particular line of investigation," said Dr. Doug Jones, chairman of pediatrics at the Health Sciences Center. "You have to look at genetics, what determines behavior, a whole range of things to understand how to help these children be as normal as possible."

"You have to have a psychologist, physician, geneticist. It requires a broad range of disciplines. Linda's great strength was that she saw how to do that, not just within the School of Medicine, but within the entire University of Colorado system and CSU, DU and ultimately across the country."

Born in Fort Wayne, Ind., she moved to Naperville, Ill., when she was 12. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago and master's and doctoral degrees in experimental psychology from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

She joined the CU Medical School as a postdoctorate fellow in 1975 and became a full professor in 1994.

"She was just the kindest, most loving person that you would ever meet in your life," said Stan Wilks, her husband. "She was actively involved and mentored a lot of people in their scientific careers."

Their son, Michael, 13, plays cello, and his mother would sit with him while he practiced.

"She made that commitment to him," said her husband.

The family loved hiking and camping and had just purchased an A-frame chalet in Hartsell.

"We spent two of the last three weekends up there. We bought it as a little family getaway to have some real private times," Wilks said.

The weekend she died, Mrs. Crnic had traveled to Bend, Ore., for a reunion weekend with several women with whom she had attended leadership training. During a leisurely bike ride she fell and fractured her skull.

"The tragedy of that is that she was an expert bike rider and practiced safety. She would never go biking without a helmet, and here she was without a helmet," Wilks said.

She was in demand as a speaker to professional organizations nationally and internationally and was a strong advocate for increased support and research for Down syndrome families.

"She took the time and was genuinely interested in parents and kids. She stimulated in me the notion that parents could be very active and influential in funding research from various avenues: the National Institutes of Health, Congress and private benefactors," Lewis said.

Surviving in addition to her husband and son are sisters Jacqueline Susmark, of Lakewood, and Janine Bisbee, of Warren, N.J., and brother Brent Smith, of Salida. ●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:30 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5185. An act to temporarily extend the program under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

H.R. 5212. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, for additional disaster assistance relating to storm damage, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment.

S. 2415. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4141 Postmark Drive, Anchorage, Alaska, as the "Robert J. Opinsky Post Office Building".

S. 2742. An act to extend certain authority of the Supreme Court Police, modify the venue of prosecutions relating to the Supreme Court building and grounds, and authorize the acceptance of gifts to the United States Supreme Court.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, with an amendment:

S. 129. An act to provide for reform relating to Federal employment, and for other purposes.

S. 1194. An act to foster local collaborations which will ensure that resources are effectively and efficiently used within the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

The message also announced that the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2828) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to implement water supply technology and infrastructure programs aimed at increasing and diversifying domestic water resources.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message further announced that Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 551. An act to provide for the implementation of air quality programs developed in accordance with an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the State of Colorado concerning Air Quality Control on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, and for other purposes.

S. 1421. An act to authorize the subdivision and dedication of restricted land owned by Alaska Natives.

S. 1814. An act to transfer Federal lands between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior.

S. 2319. An act to authorize and facilitate hydroelectric power licensing of the Tapoco Project.

H.R. 4850. An act making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4011. An act to promote human rights and freedom in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 2:14 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4232. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4025 Feather Lakes Way in Kingwood, Texas, as the "Congressman Jack Fields Post Office".

H.R. 4302. An act to amend title 21, District of Columbia Official Code, to enact the provisions of the Mental Health Civil Commitment Act of 2002 which affect the Commission on Mental Health and require action by Congress in order to take effect.

H.R. 4306. An act to amend section 274A of the Immigration and Nationality Act to improve the process for verifying an individual's eligibility for employment.

H.R. 4453. An act to improve access to physicians in medically underserved areas.

H.R. 4518. An act to extend the statutory license for secondary transmissions by satellite carriers of transmissions by television broadcast stations under title 17, United States Code, and to amend the Communications Act of 1934 with respect to such transmissions, and for other purposes.