

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING SAMUEL WEBB SCALES

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, in March, Starkville, Mississippi lost a native son and a civic leader with the passing of Samuel Webb Scales. He served his family, our Nation's military, and achieved greatness in the world of international business.

After graduating from Starkville High School, Sam Scales went on to further education at the University of the South, Mississippi State College and the Vanderbilt Law School. For the past twelve years he has served as the Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, and was bestowed with the title of Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army Emeritus two years ago, which has the equivalent military rank of Lieutenant General.

Sam Scales served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1941 until 1945 and attained the rank of Sergeant Major. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve from 1948 to 1972 and retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. During his military career, he served in various assignments including Troop Commander (Calvary); Aide de Camp to Commanding General (Armored Division); General Staff Officer, Joint General Staff (Thailand); General Staff Officer (Australian Army).

Sam Scales served as Vice President of the Harlington National Bank (Texas); Chairman of the Board of Starr Associates (Bangkok, Thailand); Liaison Officer of Phoenix Assurance (Sidney, Australia); Chairman of the Board of Service Y Comisiones S.A. de CY (Mexico City); Senior Vice President of Continental Insurance Company and Regional Vice President for Latin America (Panama) as well as fourteen other U.S. corporations located throughout Latin America.

He was a member of the Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA), the Navy League and Sigma Chi Fraternity at Mississippi State University. He was a member of the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection in Starkville.

Mr. Speaker, Starkville mourns the passing of Sam Scales. Our prayers go with his wife Bette, his children Hunter, Twila, Bette, Walton, John and Jennifer as well as his five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. His accomplishments, like so many of his generation, can hardly be measured in words, but I am proud to have been able to take this opportunity to note his life's achievements and to remember this young boy from Starkville who grew to be a great man and leader around the world.

IN MEMORY OF PETER RODINO, JR.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Congressman Peter Rodino, Jr., a great American and distinguished member of this body. Congressman Rodino passed away recently, and the life he led is without question worthy of our praise.

In Congress, Peter represented the Newark area of New Jersey for over 40 years. In such time he would be associated with some of the most important events in American History. As Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee he presided over the Watergate Hearings that ultimately resulted in the resignation of a sitting President.

However, his stewardship during that trying process was executed with a humbleness and reverence that earned him the respect of a grateful Nation. In so doing, he demonstrated to his fellow Congressional colleagues the requirements of true leadership.

Peter Rodino, Jr. was born in Newark, New Jersey in 1909, to a hardworking immigrant family. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Newark and a law degree from Rutgers University before starting a law practice in the late 1930's.

He would later serve his country during World War II, where he earned the Bronze Star and would have the distinction of being one of the first enlisted men to receive a battlefield commission as an officer.

In 1949 he was elected to the U.S. Congress where he built his reputation through his work on veterans affairs and civil rights issues. In the 1980s, he fought against what he viewed as efforts by the Reagan administration to limit the reach of civil rights laws, as well as efforts to end school busing.

He supported landmark civil rights legislation in 1957 and was one of the primary sponsors of the Civil Rights Act of 1966. In the mid-1960s, he helped lead an effort to end immigration quotas and enact fair-housing standards. He also wrote the 1982 extension to the Voting Rights Act, and was House leader in making Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a national holiday.

Despite all this he was best known for his leadership on the Judiciary Committee during the Congressional hearings on Watergate. In a period that was so politically charged, Peter was seen as fair, objective, and dedicated to upholding the integrity of the Congress.

At the outset of the hearings he set the tone by stating "Whatever the result, whatever we learn or conclude, let us now proceed with such care and decency and thoroughness and honor that the vast majority of American people, and their children after them, will say: That was the right course. There was no other way."

He never wavered from the spirit of those words, as the hearings played out over the

coming months. In the end, though the country would see their President resign, they had confidence that the system had done its job, and that our government would endure.

This was due in large part to Peter's leadership. At that time, I was a young man just beginning my tenure in Congress, but having had the opportunity to observe Peter taught me lessons of leadership that I have never forgotten.

William Penn once said, "Sense shines with a double luster when it is set in humility. An able and yet humble man is a jewel worth a kingdom." If this is the measure of a man, than Congressman Peter Rodino is a jewel our nation will never replace. His spirit and the lessons his life provide will continue to guide us.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO SISTER GRETCHEN KUNZ

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a champion for improved access to healthcare, Sister Gretchen Kunz, president and CEO of the St. Joseph's Health System. I would like to extend my most sincere thanks and congratulations to Sister Gretchen for her principled service and dedication to the healthcare needs of Brazos Valley citizens. Since first coming to St. Joseph's in 1981, Sister Gretchen has shepherded St. Joseph's through many challenges while expanding access to the quality care that Brazos Valley citizens need and deserve.

On June 13th, Sister Gretchen will start a new mission for St. Joseph's, bringing her unparalleled energy to the hospital system's charitable organization, the St. Joseph's Foundation. There, Sister Gretchen will continue to serve the needs of the community as she has done so well for the last 24 years. We can rest assured that Sister Gretchen's legacy of passionate service and motto of "there is no end to getting better" will continue to inspire those who follow in her footsteps.

The career of Sister Gretchen Kunz is a model of selfless service and sacrifice. Her tireless efforts to improve the quality of life for the people of the Brazos Valley have undoubtedly touched countless lives.

It is my privilege to honor the work of Sister Gretchen Kunz and I personally want to thank her for the shining example to us all and wish her well in her future endeavors.

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