

Congressman Hutto spent eight terms in the U.S. House before retiring in Pensacola. Today, he stays busy with his church, his Rotary Club, and participation on a number of charitable boards. He also sponsors golf tournaments to fund scholarship endowments at five area institutions through his foundation. As you can see, Mr. Hutto was and continues to be a trusted face and voice throughout northwest Florida. We are very fortunate to have such a distinguished gentleman with a genuine concern for local issues representing them in Washington, D.C.

So on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to thank Earl Hutto for his 22 years of public service in the U.S. House of Representatives and wish him an early happy 80th birthday.

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to declare my support for H.R. 5107, a House measure offered by U.S. Rep. JEFF MILLER, R-Florida, to designate the United States Post Office at 1400 West Jordan Street in Pensacola, Florida the "Earl D. Hutto Post Office."

Congressman EARL HUTTO proudly served Florida's first district from 1979 to 1995. He was a strong voice for his district on the House Armed Services Committee where he rose to the position of chairman of the Readiness Subcommittee. During Democrat and Republican administrations, he was an effective and reliable advocate for our military men and women and a credit to the U.S. House.

Earl and I go way back and it turns out we have a lot in common. In addition to having served in the House together, we both hail from a media background. He chose broadcasting and I worked for 30 years in print journalism. But even more unique is the fact that he and I both come from the tiny Dale County, Alabama town of Midland City. As remarkable as it may sound, and we did not realize it until we both came to Congress, but Earl and I even lived in the same Midland City house at different times.

I have missed Earl's presence here in the House since his well deserved retirement and I was pleased to speak at a ceremony honoring him last year at his alma mater, Troy University, in my district.

I wish Earl and his wife Nancy all the best as they continue to enjoy life back in Pensacola. This House and the people have not forgotten their contributions to our country.

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, in this chamber, even on the most partisan and bitter debates, it is both customary and a proud tradition to refer to our colleagues as the "distinguished gentleman" or the "distinguished gentle lady."

From time-to-time the American people actually see Members of this body who truly fit the description of their honorary titles. Today, we honor one such person—a distinguished gentleman if there ever was one—Congressman Earl Hutto of Florida's 1st Congressional District.

I wish to thank the gentleman from Chumuckla, my very good friend, Congressman JEFF MILLER, for bringing this resolution to the floor today and for finding this way—and a very appropriate opportunity that it is—to honor and pay tribute to Earl Hutto, a man of the House, a man of integrity and a man for whom many of us hold in the highest regards.

As Congressman MILLER and I have discussed numerous times, it is both a tremen-

dous honor—and at times it can be a little intimidating—to follow a real legend in this hallowed chamber.

Like my predecessor, Congressman Sonny Callahan, the name Earl Hutto is synonymous with all the good qualities of a truly outstanding public servant—honesty, trustworthiness, love of country, love of family, humility, faith, and integrity. I cannot imagine a more principled man has ever been elected to serve in this city, and I know—first-hand—that no one has ever worked harder or more tirelessly on behalf of his constituents than Earl Hutto.

A native of Midland City, a small town near Dothan in Alabama's Wiregrass, Earl knew that three qualities—honesty, hard work, and being a man of your word—were essential if you were to be successful in the game of life.

Early on, young Earl Hutto recognized that he had a duty to his country and he served in the U.S. Navy as a Seaman First Class. Later, he attended Troy State University on the G.I. Bill and graduated with a B.S. degree in Business-English-Education in 1949.

Although he had a brief stint teaching high school, Earl had a God-given talent for broadcasting, and in no time, Earl Hutto became a household name in places like Dothan, Montgomery, Pensacola, and Panama City. As sports director, of WSFA-TV in Montgomery, Earl was the host of Coach Shug Jordan's statewide telecast which—with all due respect to our work up here—may still rank higher in the eyes of the Auburn football nation than any elected office on the face of the earth.

After a highly successful career in broadcasting, Earl opened his own advertising agency and soon embarked on a path that led him into public service. He was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 1972, where he served three terms, and was elected to the U.S. Congress in 1978 where he served eight terms until his retirement in 1995.

Earl Hutto was a "blue dog" before there was such a thing. He fought for a stronger national defense and was always a true friend to the men and women who wear the uniform of their nation's military.

On fiscal matters, Earl was a longtime proponent of getting our budget balanced and not spending more than we take in, and he was one of the early advocates of a biennial budgeting process—something many of us still believe would help restore some fiscal sanity to the process.

Whether there was a Democrat in the White House or a Republican, Earl Hutto always attempted to vote the right way and do the right thing. He always put his country first—well above any loyalty to a political party.

Mr. Speaker, knowing Earl Hutto as I do, I am sure the last thing he would want is some building with his name on it—that was never what motivated Earl in the least bit. However, in this day and age where there is so much partisan divide in our country, I can't think of a better time or more appropriate opportunity for those of us in this body to come together—Democrats and Republicans alike—and pay a lasting tribute to who made this House a better place—Congressman Earl Hutto.

Earl, may you and Nancy, Lori and Amy, and your beautiful granddaughters Ellie and Abbie know that your legacy is living on and your service to others continues to inspire a whole new generation of leaders.

Again, I thank my friend, JEFF MILLER, for bringing this matter before the House, and I urge unanimous adoption of the resolution.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 5107, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5107.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4811) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 215 West Industrial Park Road in Harrison, Arkansas, as the "John Paul Hammerschmidt Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4811

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 215 West Industrial Park Road in Harrison, Arkansas, shall be known and designated as the "John Paul Hammerschmidt Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "John Paul Hammerschmidt Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4811, offered by the distinguished gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), would designate the post office building in Harrison, Arkansas, as the John Paul Hammerschmidt Post Office Building.

Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt represented the Third District of Arkansas in the U.S. House of Representatives in the 90th Congress through the 102nd Congress. He was elected to 13 terms and served 26 years during the administrations of six Presidents. During his years in Congress,

John Paul Hammerschmidt became known for his attention to individual constituent service and communication, his high voting and attendance record during congressional sessions during the business week, and routinely working weekends in Arkansas. Also, his legislative expertise in highways, airports, water supply and distribution systems, as well as veterans hospitals, will continue to benefit from his diligent stewardship long into the future.

Since retiring from Congress, Hammerschmidt has continued to participate in Arkansas civil involvements as a private citizen, chairing the Northwest Arkansas Council and March of Dimes Arkansas Citizen of the Year Dinner. Because of his dedication to government at all levels, I ask all Members to honor his integrity and perseverance by passing H.R. 4811.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 4811, legislation naming a postal facility in Harrison, Arkansas, after John Paul Hammerschmidt. This measure was sponsored by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) on February 28, 2006, and unanimously reported by our committee on March 30, 2006. The bill has the support and cosponsorship of the entire Arkansas delegation and 112 Members of Congress.

A native of Arkansas, John Hammerschmidt was born in Harrison in 1922.

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He graduated from Harrison High School and attended the Citadel, University of Arkansas and Oklahoma State University. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1945, the U.S. Air Force Reserves from 1945 to 1960, and the District of Columbia Army Reserves from 1970 to 1981.

After holding senior positions in the lumber and construction industry, John was elected to represent the 3rd Congressional District of Arkansas. He was subsequently elected to 13 terms, serving in Congress from 1967 until 1993.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift passage of H.R. 4811, which seeks to honor the broad legacy of former Representative Hammerschmidt.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER).

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to be here to participate in this naming of the United States Post Office after John Hammerschmidt. It is a life that certainly is representative of a true American patriot and servant of the people.

He was a member of the United States Army Air Corps during World War II, a member of the Air Force Reserves, a member of the District of Columbia Army Reserves, the first Republican Member to represent Arkansas since reconstruction, also a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airport. These are just a few of the roles in which Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt has served; and, as I said, it truly is a life of service to his country.

First elected to the House of Representatives in 1966, John Paul Hammerschmidt was noted for his dedication and attention to constituent services. A native son of Harrison, Arkansas, Congressman Hammerschmidt went on to represent the region for 13 consecutive terms. In all of those elections, only two of Congressman Hammerschmidt's opponents were able to achieve more than one-third of the vote, and that included one candidate by the name of Bill Clinton.

During his tenure in the House, Congressman Hammerschmidt was known for his expertise regarding infrastructure and veterans-related issues. As the ranking member of the Public Works Committee from 1986 to 1993, John was influential in many of the improvements that have taken place on our Nation's highways, airports and waterway systems. John was a true steward of our Nation's infrastructure; and users of roads, water systems and the airways will all long benefit from his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, my father, Bud Shuster, had the pleasure of serving with Congressman Hammerschmidt both in the House and on the Public Works Committee for many years. I asked him to relate a few stories, reflections on John Paul Hammerschmidt, and he said he certainly was one of the experts on infrastructure in this country. And then he said quite simply, "He is a gentleman's gentleman;" and I think that is a very accurate assessment of Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support the measure offered by my colleague, Mr. BOOZMAN, to name the post office in Harrison, Arkansas, after Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he might consume to the distinguished gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER).

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, once again I have to call attention to the fact, while Mr. DAVIS is here today in his role as a congressman from Illinois, he is an Arkansas native; and we are proud to have him always in this body but particularly on these bills involving Arkansans.

I just want to take a minute and add my voice in praise of Congressman Hammerschmidt. This is not the first honor he has received. It will not be the last. He is a kind, intelligent man with good judgment, always very professional throughout his career in his

dealings with everyone, regardless of party or class or financial status. He certainly had strong opinions and had his own sense of what was right and wrong, but he always worked in a bipartisan manner.

After retiring from this body, he has continued to be very active both in Arkansas and nationally; and maybe with the passage of time, as buildings come and go and names come and go, at some point this facility may be renamed, or it may be torn down and a new facility built and some other name will be attached to it. But I can guarantee you it will not be anyone more professional or kind or with a better sense of treating people well than Congressman Hammerschmidt.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague from the State of Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN).

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I also would echo the fact that Congressman DAVIS is an Arkansan; and we are very, very proud of him and all that he has accomplished.

I rise today in support of H.R. 4811, the John Paul Hammerschmidt Post Office Designation Act. No one understands my congressional district like the kind and thoughtful gentleman who represented much of Arkansas in the Congress from 1967 through 1993. I consider John Paul Hammerschmidt a mentor and a friend.

During his 26 years in Congress, John Paul became known for his strong work ethic and attention to individual constituent service. His fellow Members came to rely on his legislative expertise in highways, aviation and waterway infrastructure. In fact, Congressman Hammerschmidt served as ranking member of the Public Works, now known as the Transportation and Infrastructure, Committee from 1986 through 1993.

During his tenure in office, Arkansas completed many of the infrastructure improvements, including highways and airports, that have allowed northwest Arkansas to become one of the major financial engines of our Nation.

Congressman Hammerschmidt is also remembered for his work on behalf of our Nation's veterans. Particularly in Arkansas, our veterans hospitals and facilities still benefit from Congressman Hammerschmidt's service.

Congressman Hammerschmidt served as ranking member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee from 1975 through 1986, and all of our Nation's veterans had a tremendous advocate in this good man.

As a combat pilot in World War II, Congressman Hammerschmidt flew 217 missions with the Third Combat Cargo Group over "the Hump" in the China-Burma-India theatre.

He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with three oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, three Battle Stars, the China War Memorial Medal by the Republic of China, and the Meritorious Service

Award. He retired from the Air Force Reserve as a major. Furthermore, he has been awarded the highest honors by eight national veterans service organizations.

Since retiring, Congressman Hammerschmidt has been named Arkansas Citizen of the Year; and he has remained incredibly active in the fields of business, education, aviation, community service, and his local church.

Many of Congressman Hammerschmidt's close friends continue to serve in Congress today, and several will be submitting statements that were unable to be here today.

Finally, I want to take a moment to honor Ginny Hammerschmidt, who served the people of Arkansas alongside John Paul during his many years of service. We lost Ginny last year, but this bill, in recognizing the service of Congressman Hammerschmidt, also recognizes the sacrifices and service of Ginny and the rest of the family.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers at this point. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to actually close, and I have no further requests for time.

But, in closing, let me just say, first of all, that I appreciate the kind comments and remarks made by my colleagues from Arkansas. As you can see, there is a tremendous amount of affinity for those of us who grew up in the land of opportunity.

But, also, I note that Representative BOOZMAN's wife came from the town where my family lived, and her uncle was actually the postmaster, and my father used to visit in the post office, along with many other people, and that was kind of like a neighborhood gathering place. That is one of the reasons that we hope that many of the small post offices will be able to remain intact, because they are more than just letter-dispensing areas in many of these communities.

So I commend Representative BOOZMAN for seeking to honor this outstanding American.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my strong support for this bill to name a post office in Harrison, Arkansas, in honor of the Honorable John Paul Hammerschmidt, and I am pleased to be an original cosponsor.

I had the distinct honor and privilege of serving for many years with John Paul on what was then known as the Public Works and Transportation Committee—now known as the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. He completed his 26 years of service in the House as the ranking minority member of the Committee—and he provided steady leadership as we worked together to build the roads, airports and waterways needed to keep America competitive and prosperous.

He was the ranking member during the legendary ISTEA transportation bill in 1991, which moved us beyond the Interstate construction era and provided a new vision for transportation in the U.S. For many years he was ranking on the Aviation Subcommittee and has always had a keen interest in aviation issues. In 1998, after his retirement from the

House, President Clinton nominated him to serve as a Member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. John Paul led many Committee trips to his district in Northwest Arkansas—and that usually entailed having your photo taken sporting the famous Arkansas Razorback hog hat.

While many of us are familiar with his Congressional career, some may not know of his heroic service to our country during World War II. A member of the Third Combat Cargo Group in the China-Burma-India theater from 1942 to 1945, John Paul flew 217 combat missions—primarily in Burma and China. These missions included drop missions where he dropped supplies to our troops in the jungle, all in an unarmed plane flying low over the jungle in some of the worst weather conditions imaginable while frequently coming under enemy fire. He also “flew the hump” as it was called, dangerous missions high over the Himalayas.

Giving constant support to John Paul was his beloved wife Virginia, who sadly passed away earlier this year. Known to all as Ginny, she was recognized for her compassionate and gentle nature. Together Ginny and John Paul served their district well.

Through John Paul's decades of service to our country, first in the Army Air Corps in World War II, here in the House of Representatives, and even today as he remains active in his community, he is thoroughly deserving of this honor. He served this House with distinction and worked effectively with Members of both parties to move important initiatives forward. He is a true gentleman, and I am proud to call him a friend.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 4811.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4811.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GOVERNOR JOHN ANDERSON, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4674) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 110 North Chestnut Street in Olathe, Kansas, as the “Governor John Anderson, Jr. Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4674

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. GOVERNOR JOHN ANDERSON, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 110 North Chestnut Street in Olathe, Kansas, shall be known and designated as the “Governor John Anderson, Jr. Post Office Building”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Governor John Anderson, Jr. Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 4674, offered by the distinguished gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE), would designate the Post Office Building in Olathe, Kansas, as the “Governor John Anderson, Jr. Post Office building”.

John Anderson was born near Olathe, Kansas, in 1917. He earned his undergraduate degree from Kansas State University and from there went on to receive his law degree from the University of Kansas in 1944.

After serving on the staff of U.S. District Court Judge Walter Huxman for 2 years, John Anderson was successful in running for the position of Johnson County Attorney, a capacity in which he served for 6 years. He was a Member of the Kansas State Senate from 1953 to 1956 and was appointed Kansas Attorney General serving in 1956.

In 1960, John Anderson was elected Governor of the State of Kansas and worked tirelessly to revise the State's pardon and parole systems, to create a combined State medical and psychiatric hospital, and to restructure the State's public school system into unified districts.

The hard work and dedication of Governor John Anderson, one of Kansas's most important leaders, should not go unnoticed. I urge all Members to come together and honor a man who strived to achieve excellence in government by passing H.R. 4675.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he might consume to the sponsor of this legislation, Representative DENNIS MOORE from Kansas.

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation I introduced with my Kansas colleagues, TODD TIAHRT, JIM RYUN and JERRY MORAN, to designate the United States Post Office located at 110 North Chestnut Street in Olathe as the “Governor John Anderson, Jr. Post Office Building”.