

Dr. Ruth Gottesman has served as a distinguished faculty member of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine for over 30 years. In addition, Dr. Gottesman was a founding director of the Fisher Landau Center for the Treatment of Learning Disabilities, a division of Einstein's Children's Evaluation and Rehabilitation Center established to provide interdisciplinary services to individuals of all ages. Her exemplary effort on behalf of those with learning disabilities has earned her the respect and admiration of colleagues and friends alike. In her career, she serves the most vulnerable in our society with the highest level of compassion and commitment.

Dr. Gottesman has balanced this distinguished career with an equally impressive family life. Married to David for 57 years, she has also been a loving mother to three children—Bob, Alice, and Bill—and grandmother to seven grandchildren—Ben, Sarah, Alan, Clara, Zachary, Eleanor, and Jessica. While she and her family share a passion for traveling and learning about other people and places, Dr. Gottesman remains committed to a variety of causes in her own community including various charitable organizations, schools, and museums.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize my good friend Dr. Ruth Gottesman for an unparalleled career fighting for those who are unable to fight for themselves, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring her tremendous accomplishments.

IN APPRECIATION OF THE LIFE
AND WORK OF THE HILL'S JOSEPH CRAPA

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of a true patriot and committed public servant, the late Joseph Crapa. He boasted a litany of high posts and honors to his name, but it was as Chief of Staff to Senator CHARLES SCHUMER that he so ably served my native New York. Staffers like Mr. Crapa are the backbone of Capitol Hill, the too-often unsung movers and shakers who work feverishly on behalf of the American people.

Known as a fast-talking guy from Brooklyn, Mr. Crapa's magnetism drew a series of glowing compliments—solid, wise, shrewd. He loved politics and government, but remained loyal to his unwavering moral core. He was an intellectual powerhouse, relentless in his defense of the little guy, but with the practical political know-how to get things done. As the executive director of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, his last post, he agitated for a cause near and dear to his heart: the battle for religious freedom worldwide.

He is today—and always—remembered and appreciated as a man of conviction and a wealth of knowledge.

“SALT-OF-THE-EARTH” STAFFER CRAPA
MOURNED ON HILL

Joseph Crapa, the executive director of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, died Thursday from cancer at the age of 63.

Crapa, who had led the commission since 2002, previously worked for 25 years in various Capitol Hill-related jobs, including House committee offices, Member offices and in the Congressional relations shops of several executive branch agencies.

Immediately before coming to the commission, Crapa worked as chief of staff to Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.).

“Joe was a pure salt-of-the-earth human being,” Schumer wrote in an e-mail. “To know him was to love him.”

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.) noted in a statement that she knew Crapa during his service in the Senate and the Clinton administration. She lauded Crapa's “indomitable spirit and determination” during the fight to secure funding for New York in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Crapa also served as counsel and staff director in the office of Rep. David Obey (D-Wis.) for 10 years, before leaving in 1997 to become associate administrator for congressional and intergovernmental affairs at the Environmental Protection Agency.

Obey said he was dubious when he first interviewed Crapa for a job in 1987.

“I thought, ‘There's no way in God's green earth I can work with this fast-talking guy from Brooklyn,’” Obey said. “He was about three times as intense as I was. But his solidity, wisdom, and shrewdness came through, and we ended up not only working together for 10 years, but becoming close friends.”

Obey said Crapa was a “superb example” of the importance of the role staffers play on the Hill.

“There are a lot of people who never serve in elected office—staffers and people in various agencies—who love this country, are dedicated to doing things right and to advancing the cause of regular people,” Obey said. He said Crapa “loved politics, he loved government, he had a moral core to everything he did. He was an intellectual and, at the same time, a hard-nosed practicing pol in the best sense of the word.”

In a statement released by USCIRF on Thursday, Chairman Michael Cromartie said Crapa “had an unwavering, principled commitment to . . . protecting religious freedom worldwide.” He and Vice Chairwoman Preeti Bansal both commented on Crapa's “sharp political instincts,” which Barisal said were “crucial to him in this sensitive area.”

Over the course of his career, Crapa worked as the top congressional relations official at the EPA, the Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Agency for International Development, and in the No. 2 spot in the Department of Commerce's congressional relations office.

He also spent time at the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, where he was the executive director of the Speaker's Club, and as vice president at lobby shop Dutko and Associates. For 6 years during his time in Obey's office and at the EPA, Crapa taught part-time as adjunct professor of government at Georgetown University. He was a John C. Stennis Congressional fellow in 1995–1996.

Crapa was born Dec. 16, 1943, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He received his bachelor's degree from St. John's University in New York City and went on to receive a master's degree from Duke and a Ph.D. from the University of Arizona; all three degrees were in British and American literature. He married Barbara Vaskis in 1967; the couple had one son, Judd, and two grandsons, Sebastian and Baird.

A memorial service for Crapa is scheduled for 1 p.m. today at St. Peter's Church on Capitol Hill.

JAMES P. CHEEVER 100TH
BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate James P. Cheever, who will be celebrating his 100th birthday on Sunday, November 4, 2007, at Tony Reception Palace, in Hialeah, FL. Many of his family, friends, and church friends will be in attendance to celebrate this momentous occasion. He was born on November 7, 1907, in Sylvania, Georgia. He is the middle child of six siblings, with one remaining sister, Ruby Cheever.

He was educated in the Sylvania school system. At the age of 22, he met and married Edna Mae Striggles. They were married on December 22, 1929. They shared 58 years of marriage until her death in 1987. Their union was blessed with four children, James P. Cheever, Jr., Henry Richmond Cheever, and Margie Beatrice Mayes. Their daughter Fronita Cheever, died at a very young age.

He has 10 grandchildren, Gregory Cheever, Gail Washington, Glenda Jameson, Anthony Cheever, Aundrea Mayes, Carey Cheever, LaEatrice McMurray, Laketia Cheever, Vincent Cheever and Tonya Linde. He has 25 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great grandchildren.

As many others did during the early 1900s, he earned a living by farming land in Georgia. Although farming provided a modest living, he and his wife wanted a better quality of life for their family. In November of 1947, he moved his family to Miami, Florida.

After arriving in Miami, he worked several odd jobs to support his family and he started working for a major construction firm, Benidick and Jordan Construction Company, in 1950. He was the only African-American man hired at that time to tie steel for the company and became the top man for the construction company.

In 1962, he left the construction field to work for the Dade County Public School system. During his employment with DCPS, he worked as Lead Custodian at Brownsville Junior High School and Carol City Elementary. He retired from DCPS in June of 1973. After retirement, he launched his own Lawn Service and was known by many for the meticulous lawn care he provided his customers.

James is a God-fearing man who dedicated his life to the Lord at a very young age. While living in Georgia he was a member of Lawton Grove Missionary Baptist Church. When he relocated to Miami, he moved his membership to New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Liberty City, where he became a deacon on January 14, 1954, under the leadership of Rev. James E. Brown.

Several years later he moved his membership to become a founding member of Greater New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, located in Brownsville, under Pastor Rosco Jackson. He still attends services regularly and currently serves as the oldest deacon on the deacon board, under the leadership of Rev. Sherman Mungin.

James and his wife bought their first home in Florida, in what was known as Brownsville, in 1956. The property was acquired by the County, to build a public park, in 1969. They

then bought and moved to the home in which he still resides, located at 3801 N.W. 186th Street, Miami Gardens, Florida.

As the patriarch of his family, he loves attending family functions to see the four generations of his children. He is still very active, he enjoys fishing at the lake, vegetable gardening and watching baseball games. He always has a quick smile and something witty to say. He is a man of good report, full of spirit and the wisdom of years.

Madam Speaker and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring James P. Cheever today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live such a full life as he has. He is a great man and his family and friends are very proud of all of these achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF JACK FUCHS

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize long-time Tempe resident, chemistry professor, professional tympanist and friend: Jack Fuchs.

Jack Fuchs is a remarkable person with a lifetime of achievements. He recently retired after 55 years of teaching at my alma mater, Arizona State University. Those of us in the ASU community believe that he is the longest-serving faculty member in the history of the university.

After serving in Europe during World War II, he arrived back in the States 62 years ago today. Jack wasted no time in pursuing a doctoral degree at the University of Illinois, which he earned in 1950. Two short years later, he packed up his car and set out for a teaching job in Tempe, which was located in foreign territory for an Illinois native—the deserts of Arizona.

Rather than returning home, the Fuchs thrived and put down roots. In addition to his teaching duties, Jack played professionally as the principal tympanist with the Phoenix Symphony for 25 years. He shared the stage with the likes of Jack Benny, Pablo Casals and Andres Segovia, just to name a few. He extended his musical career by performing with the Sun Cities Symphony Orchestra for almost 20 years more, until just 5 years ago.

Jack also managed to keep his friends and fellow faculty members on their toes with a mean game of tennis. Playing with legendary coaches like Frank Kush, Bobby Winkles and Ned Wulk did not dim his competitive drive to win.

These other accomplishments might give the impression that his professional life took a back seat. Nothing could be further from the truth. Among other posts, Jack served as executive officer of the chemistry department for 14 years, as well as national president of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy.

But as a fellow teacher, I know Jack's true love was being in the classroom. Every year for almost 40 years he offered summer programs to young students to share with them the love and excitement of chemistry he discovered himself as a young boy. Who wouldn't love to spend their summers exploring the

wonders of infrared and ultraviolet absorption spectroscopy or modern industrial spectroscopy?

Even today, after 55 years in the classroom, Jack maintains an office at the university and can be found, as always, involved with students 2 to 3 days a week.

I offer my sincere thanks and congratulations on a job well done.

TRIBUTE TO THE ASIAN-AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with sincere admiration that I recognize the Asian-American Medical Association, which will be hosting their 31st annual dinner and charity ball on Saturday, November 3, 2007, at the Avalon Manor in Hobart, Indiana. Each year, the Asian-American Medical Association pays tribute to prominent, outstanding citizens and organizations for their contributions to the community. In recognition of their efforts, these honorees are awarded the prestigious Crystal Globe Award each year at this annual banquet.

The Asian-American Medical Association has always been a great asset to northwest Indiana. Its members have selflessly dedicated themselves to providing quality medical service to the residents of Indiana's First Congressional District, and they have always demonstrated exemplary service through their many cultural, scholastic, and charitable endeavors.

At this year's charity ball, the Asian-American Medical Association will present the Crystal Globe Award to the Indiana University School of Medicine—Northwest. Founded in 1972, the Indiana University School of Medicine—Northwest, which began with only four faculty members, has become the largest regional campus of the Indiana University School of Medicine outside of Bloomington and Indianapolis. Located on the campus of Indiana University—Northwest in Gary, Indiana, the school has received acclaim for its curriculum and innovation on a local, national, and international level. In particular, the Problem Based Learning Curriculum, which uses patient case studies as their primary educational tool, has received numerous accolades for the university since its inception in 1990. Since its founding in 1972 under the leadership of Dr. Panayotis Iatridis, the contributions of the Indiana University School of Medicine—Northwest, both in the education of its students and its commitment to the future, have been a source of pride and hope for the First Congressional District.

While the past 35 years have shown immense advancements in the school's curriculum, the future appears even brighter for the Indiana University School of Medicine—Northwest. Under the leadership of Dr. Patrick Bankston, the school has made plans to expand class size and to add the final two years of medical education to the curriculum. Once this plan becomes a reality, which may occur as early as 2011, northwest Indiana will, for the first time, allow students to complete their medical education within the region.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending the Asian-American Medical Association, as well as this year's Crystal Globe Award recipient, the Indiana University School of Medicine—Northwest, for their outstanding contributions to medicine and to the community. Their members' unwavering commitment to improving the quality of life for the people of northwest Indiana and throughout the world is truly inspirational. For these reasons, they are to be praised, and I am proud to serve as their Representative in Washington, D.C.

SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of International Education Week, which is sponsored by the Departments of Education and State. International Education Week reminds us of the value of learning foreign languages and learning about foreign cultures and traditions.

In an increasingly interdependent global community, it is important for America's students to be students of the world, and to have the opportunity to study abroad. While such cultural exchanges benefit the individual, they are equally important for America's international competitiveness and national security. Still, a survey from the Institute of International Education shows that during the 2004/2005 school year, fewer than one percent of American undergraduates studied abroad. This event reminds us that we can and must do better.

This week also reminds us of the importance of foreign language study. Studies have shown that early exposure to foreign language education in elementary school has been found to improve children's thinking processes, which help student achievement across all subject areas.

It is my great hope that this year, from November 12 through November 16, all those who recognize the importance of American involvement in the world will take part in International Education Week.

IN RECOGNITION OF RON MAY

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize State Senator Ron May and the contributions he has made to my hometown of Colorado Springs and the State of Colorado during his 27 years as a public servant. Senator May, who has honorably represented the 10th Senate District of Colorado since 2001, will officially step down today, Wednesday, October 31, 2007. A principled, capable legislator and a likeable, good-natured man, Senator May will be sincerely missed by those who served with him in the State Capital, including myself, and the residents of Colorado Springs.