

extraordinary insights into politics, national security and international policy through the informative and lively column he has written in the paper each week.

Klurfeld's achievements in the news business have also extended beyond print journalism. For the past 12 years, he has asked the tough questions on *The Cutting Edge*, a weekly television program on WLNY/TV55 that focuses on Newsday's Sunday editorials, a show in which I have been honored to appear. I was also privileged to be part of some of his many appearances on Long Island's public broadcasting station, WLIW/Channel 21. In addition, he has provided exceptional analysis and commentary on other broadcast outlets including the CW11 in New York City.

James Klurfeld's exit from Newsday is the end of an era for journalism on Long Island, in New York City and across the Nation. We will miss his leadership, his quest for the truth and his shaping of local and national policy debates.

But fortunately, Klurfeld will not be going far. He will remain on Long Island, where he will pass on the craft he has mastered to the next generation of journalists as the interim director of the Center for News Literacy at Stony Brook University's School of Journalism. He will also continue to write his weekly column.

Although we are sad to see him retire as Newsday's editorial page editor, we are comforted to know that many students of journalism will learn the press trade from one of the best to have ever worked in the news business.

I know that Newsday's staff and readers will be forever grateful for all of James Klurfeld's exceptional and memorable contributions, which have made Newsday a stronger newspaper and have helped the Long Island-New York City area become a better place to live and work.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me now in congratulating James Klurfeld for nearly 40 years of outstanding service to Newsday. I am confident that he will prevail in his new endeavor and continue to enjoy success for many more years to come.

**THE LOSS OF NATHAN J.
SCHULDHEISS**

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, it is with profound sorrow that I rise to recognize the loss of a brave civilian in Iraq, Nathan J. Schuldheiss, a resident of Newport who served his country with dignity and honor. I join his family and the people of Rhode Island in mourning this great loss.

With a father in the Air Force, Special Agent Schuldheiss grew up traveling across the country. He graduated from La Cueva High School in Albuquerque, NM, received a political science degree from Gonzaga University, and received a law degree from the University of Rhode Island. Schuldheiss, 27, had dreams of one day working for the CIA or FBI and continuing his extensive traveling.

Schuldheiss volunteered his services to become a civilian counterintelligence specialist

with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, assigned to Detachment 204 at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska. He had spent 5 months in Iraq with his team seeking out insurgents that might pose a threat to servicemembers in the region. On November 1, Schuldheiss was on his way to interview a group of informants when an improvised explosive device was detonated. Schuldheiss and two other members of his team died of wounds suffered from the blast.

Those that knew Special Agent Schuldheiss remember his sense of humor, his leadership, his loyalty, and his sense of adventure. Most importantly, he had a positive impact on those around him. His loss certainly causes us all to reflect on the bravery demonstrated by our men and women who carry out their obligations in the face of danger. When Special Agent Schuldheiss's Nation called him to duty to preserve freedom, liberty and security, he answered without hesitation. We will remember him as a patriot who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

May we keep Special Agent Schuldheiss's loved ones in our thoughts and prayers as they endure this difficult period, especially his father, Jeff; his mother, Sarah Conlon; and his sister, Erin. May his memory live on forever.

We will also continue to hope for the safe and speedy return of all of our troops serving throughout the world.

FOUR DOMES FOR JIM KLURFELD

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give James Klurfeld four domes as he departs as the editorial page editor of Newsday and becomes a journalism professor at Stony Brook University. As a Member of this House for 7 years, Madam Speaker, I have often found myself in frightening circumstances. I have participated in corkscrew landings in Baghdad; I have been whisked in high-security motorcades through Islamabad; I have discussed energy policy with President Bush. But nothing, Madam Speaker, is more jarring, more intimidating, more perilous than an interview with Jim Klurfeld or waking up on the morning that Newsday publishes its infamous "Dome Ratings" of the Long Island Congressional Delegation.

Let me share with my colleagues an example of Jim Klurfeld's high standards. When I originally ran for this House in 2000, I coveted Newsday's endorsement. For days I prepared for the endorsement interview. In fact, I hadn't had as much "fun" since preparing for my SAT exams in eleventh grade. Finally, I sat down with Jim and his editorial board. One hour and the loss of three pounds of perspiration later, I left. As my campaign manager and I walked through the Newsday parking lot, I asked him: "How do you think it went?" His response: "We should have told Mr. Klurfeld that you're running for Congress, not President."

In fact, Madam Speaker, Jim Klurfeld's expectations were always high, his questions always probing, his depth great. He is a politician's worst nightmare: unspinnable and always a step ahead.

His departure from Newsday won't exactly let the Members of the Long Island Delegation sleep better at night. We will still stay awake in fear of those notorious domes and dreading those endorsements.

Nor will his departure change the basic premise of the relationship I have with him. I never mind disagreeing with Jim Klurfeld. I just hope never to disappoint him.

I know many of my colleagues in Congress who have known and read Jim Klurfeld well as a journalism professor. He will indeed forge a new generation of excellence in journalism, just as his father set a standard of excellence that Jim put on the pages of Newsday for so many years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, on November 6, 2007, I inadvertently failed to vote on rollcall No. 1043. Had I voted, I would have voted "aye."

STATEMENT SUPPORTING H.R. 3685, THE EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Chairman, throughout my career, I have fought for equal opportunity and rights for all of our fellow citizens. Today, I rise in support of H.R. 3685, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act because I believe that discrimination in the workplace on the basis of sexual orientation, race and religion has no place in the United States. Yet, the fact remains discrimination exists. Throughout our Nation, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Americans face discrimination without the protection of Federal law and as a result, hard working, skilled employees can be fired simply because of their sexual orientation.

I believe with every fiber of my being that this is wrong, that it is un-American. Performance at work should determine employment—not a person's sexual orientation which has no bearing on one's ability to do the job.

I applaud my good friends and colleagues, Representative BARNEY FRANK and TAMMY BALDWIN, for their tremendous leadership on this issue. While I support the bill before us today, I would like to take a moment to extend my sincerest regret that language from the original bill, which extended civil rights protections to transgender Americans, was excluded from the version we will vote on today.

When I came to Congress in 1999, I implemented an office employment policy that went beyond current Federal law to add sexual orientation and gender identity to existing protections. Many employers—private and public—have already taken this long overdue step. In my home town of Chicago and in the State of Illinois, we gave already have in place laws

that protect gender identity as well as sexual orientation.

We must work for a Federal law that ensures every American is guaranteed the ability to get a job or promotion based on his or her

ability. It has taken 33 years to pass legislation that bans discrimination in the workplace against individuals based on their sexual orientation. Today's vote is significant victory.

But we must not let years pass before we make more improvements to Federal law to give transgender individuals the employment protections they deserve.