

crew were killed when a grenade hit the tank that he was commanding. He left behind his family, his new wife and a baby, David Lee II, who he never got to meet. Staff Sergeant Nord was also the first member of the Ferdinand Post 124 of the American Legion to be killed in action. He showed outstanding bravery, courageous leadership and heroism which earned him nine medals that were awarded to his family, his wife and his son after his death. The awarded medals were the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Vietnamese Campaign Ribbon, the Good Conduct Ribbon, the Combat Infantry Badge, National Defense Service Ribbon, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Expert Badge with Rifle Bar and the Sharp Shooter Badge with Rifle Bar.

It is for those reasons that we name this post office for Staff Sergeant David Nord in his hometown of Ferdinand, Indiana. And, Madam Speaker, I hope that all of our colleagues will vote for this unanimously.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, I yield to my colleague from Indiana, Representative BARON HILL, such time as he may consume.

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, H.R. 3106 would rename the post office in Ferdinand, Indiana after David Nord, the only Vietnam veteran from Ferdinand who was killed in action in the Vietnam War. This idea first came to my attention because of the hard work of David's family and his friends. They called me. This bill represents what we, as Members of our Congress, are here for, and that is to represent our constituents back home. I'd like to thank and recognize a few people who have been influential in getting this accomplished. First I would like to recognize David Nord's brother Dan and the rest of the family David left behind, including his son, David Nord II. Dan has been very active in making sure his brother's life is remembered and honored.

Like Dan, Frank Begle, a fellow soldier of David Nord's in Vietnam, has been a driving force in getting the Ferdinand post office renamed to honor David Nord.

Also Kathy Tretter, the editor and co-publisher of the local paper in Ferdinand, population of about 800 or 900 people. The Ferdinand News contacted my staff about this effort after working on stories about David's life.

I would also like to thank my colleagues in the Indiana delegation for all cosponsoring this bill.

Let me take a moment to touch on why the post office in downtown Ferdinand should be renamed to honor David Nord. David Nord is the only Ferdinand native who was killed in Vietnam. He was drafted into the Army, and in talking to his younger brother Dan, David was not very excited about having to go to Vietnam. But he did his duty to his country, and for that we give him thanks.

David rose quickly through the Army ranks because of his hard work and skill. And when he returned home briefly in 1969, he came home to marry his long-time girlfriend. Unfortunately, and tragically, shortly thereafter, David returned to Vietnam and was killed on Monday, June 23, 1969, when a tank he was commanding had to stop because the rubber tracker which propelled the vehicle forward slipped from its drive wheels and David was hit by a grenade. He died instantly, as well as most of his crew.

David's son was born just a few months after his death, and David, I know right now, is trying to get to a television screen to see his father being honored here this afternoon.

A friend from Ferdinand who was stationed in the same unit as David tells stories about how David used to give starving Vietnamese women and children his Army rations. That was the kind of guy that he was.

David left behind his parents, his wife, his younger brother and a son he never met.

Staff Sergeant David Nord was honored with the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Vietnamese Campaign Good Conduct Ribbon, Combat Infantry Badge, National Defense Service Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal, Expert Badge with Rifle Bar, and Sharpshooter Badge with Rifle Bar.

His family still lives in Ferdinand, Indiana, as well as his son David Nord, Jr. Clearly, David deserves this recognition, and it's an honor for me to introduce this resolution. And I urge all of my colleagues to support this very important bill for David Nord and his family and for the city and town of Ferdinand, Indiana.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Indiana, and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3106.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DESIGNATING A PORTION OF INTERSTATE ROUTE 395 LOCATED IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, AS "CAL RIPKEN WAY"

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3218) to designate a portion of Interstate Route 395 located in Baltimore, Maryland, as "Cal Ripken Way".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3218

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The portion of Interstate Route 395 located in Baltimore, Maryland, beginning at the junction of Interstate Routes 395 and 95 and ending at Conway Street shall be known and designated as "Cal Ripken Way".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the portion of Interstate Route 395 referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Cal Ripken Way".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3218.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to rise in support of H.R. 3218, which was authored by my colleague from Maryland, Congressman JOHN SARBANES, to designate a portion of I-395 in Baltimore as "Cal Ripken Way."

Cal Ripken, Jr. played for 21 seasons with my hometown team, the Baltimore Orioles. Known as the Iron Man, he is perhaps most famous for playing in 2,632 consecutive games, breaking the record for consecutive appearances that was set by another legend of baseball, Lou Gehrig.

However, his career was not only about his resilience but about the dedication and the hard work he brought, both to the field and to our community. He finished his career with more than 3,000 hits, an incredible achievement that is one of the most difficult to accomplish in baseball. These hits included 431 home runs, and they produced 1,695 RBIs.

He began his career by earning the Rookie of the Year award. He went on to receive two Golden Glove awards, and was twice named the American League's Most Valuable Player. He was also twice named as the Most Valuable Player at the Major League All Star Game.

In recognition of his achievements and of his importance to the game of baseball, he was elected to baseball's Hall of Fame this year, the first year in which he was eligible to be so honored. Cal Ripken represents the very best that we have ever seen in the game of baseball.

Since leaving baseball, he has come to represent the very best of our community and, indeed, of our Nation by finding new ways to help build the same dedication to excellence in our young people that he brought to his incredible career. He established and

manages the Cal Ripken Baseball Division, in which literally hundreds of thousands of youngsters have participated, learning not only the skills of baseball, but the work ethic that will help them succeed in whatever they choose to do in life.

□ 1315

With his brother, he also established the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation in honor of their father to give underprivileged youth the opportunity to participate in baseball and softball.

In recognition of his ability to motivate and inspire, he was recently selected to serve our Nation as a Special Sports Envoy for the United States Department of State. At the time of his appointment, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice noted that Cal Ripken brought "integrity to the game of baseball," and I think his personal integrity is truly his greatest legacy.

Cal Ripken is not only a sports hero who has achieved extraordinary accomplishments through hard work and sheer perseverance, he is a popular figure who has cultivated, in a way that increasingly few sports figures do, his ability to be a positive role model.

Cal has synchronized his personal character with his physical abilities and has consistently used his extraordinary gifts to make a difference in the lives of others.

As a Baltimorean, I thank my colleague Congressman SARBANES for his work on this legislation. I join all of my colleagues from Maryland in recognizing the incredible legacy that Cal Ripken has given not only to our city but to our Nation of excellence on the field and service off the field. I can think of no more fitting way to honor Cal Ripken than by naming the interstate that passes by Camden Yards, which is only a few blocks from my house, where he played his entire career in his honor, and I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 3218.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I would like to voice my very strong support for H.R. 3218. H.R. 3218 designates Interstate Route 395 in Baltimore, Maryland, as "Cal Ripken Way."

Cal Ripken, Jr. is a native son of Havre de Grace, Maryland, in Harford County, about 35 miles northeast of Baltimore. Cal Ripken, also known as "Iron Man," is best known for his record-shattering streak of playing 2,632 straight games for the American League's Baltimore Orioles over 17 years, from May 1982, through September 1998. An unbelievable record. He retired from Major League Baseball in October 2001, after playing 21 straight years for the Orioles, between 1981 and 2001.

On September 6, 1995, Cal Ripken, Jr. broke Lou Gehrig's record of 2,130 consecutive games played, a record that

had stood for 57 years. On that historic night at Camden Yards, Ripken not only broke the record but also hit a home run in the fourth inning of that game.

His father, Cal Ripken, Sr., was a former baseball player, coach, and scout for the Orioles. In 1987 and 1988, Cal Ripken, Sr. managed the Orioles, and both Cal Ripken, Jr. and his brother Billy played for the team that year, a first in baseball history.

Since leaving the game in 2001, Cal Ripken has dedicated his life and his work to youth. He established the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation, which uses baseball- and softball-themed programs to help instill leadership qualities, a strong work ethic, sportsmanship, and healthy habits. He also built the Ripken Youth Baseball Academy, the largest baseball academy in the United States, where thousands of young people learn the finer points of baseball and deepen their love for playing it.

He served as the first commissioner of the White House T-Ball initiative for President George Bush from 2001 to 2004. And on July 29, 2007, Cal Ripken was fittingly inducted into the baseball Hall of Fame.

When I was growing up, Madam Speaker, I served 5½ years as a batboy for the Knoxville Smokies baseball team. I served other seasons as ball chaser, scoreboard operator, clubhouse boy. In my freshman year at the University of Tennessee, I served as a public address announcer. I grew up in minor league baseball. My father gave Earl Weaver his first managerial job in Knoxville, managing the Knoxville Smokies in 1956, and we became a farm club of the Baltimore Orioles. People who later played with Cal Ripken or who he knew through the Orioles like Milt Pappas, Jerry Walker, Ron Hansen, Willie Tasby, Mike Cuellar, Dave Nicholson, and many other players who later played for the Orioles played in Knoxville.

Baseball has meant a lot to me and my family through the years, and it is a real honor and privilege for me to stand here before you today and announce my support for this very appropriate legislation to honor a truly great American, Cal Ripken, Jr.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland, sponsor of the legislation (Mr. SARBANES).

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding his time and for his support. I thank Congressman DUNCAN for his support of H.R. 3218, which it was my privilege to introduce in the House.

This legislation honors Cal Ripken, Jr. on his induction into the pro baseball Hall of Fame by renaming Interstate 395 in Baltimore, which runs into the city and ends near Oriole Park at Camden Yards, as "Cal Ripken Way." It is fitting that we would pass this measure today on the eve of the 12th

anniversary of Cal's setting the consecutive games record. I would like to thank Chairman OBERSTAR for his assistance in bringing this measure to the floor.

Cal's stellar career no doubt made him worthy of induction into the Hall of Fame. In fact, he was elected to the Hall with the highest vote total ever, the highest vote percentage for any position player, and the third highest vote percentage in history.

But the numbers don't even begin to explain what he means to our national pastime. Too often, our sports stars are famous for all the wrong reasons. But time and again Cal Ripken, Jr. has been a source of pride for baseball.

Cal was a spectacular player but not a flashy one. He played fundamental baseball, always doing the little things and setting the example for how a professional should perfect his trade. And he showed up every day.

From the heights of the World Series championship in 1983 to the depths of the 21-game losing streak that began the 1988 season, Cal was there every day. After the cancellation of the 1994 World Series, many fans mark September 6, 1995, the night Ripken played in his 2,131st game, as the night that America came back to baseball.

Ripken's commitment to working hard and playing by the rules became known as "The Ripken Way." He inspired the people of Baltimore every season with his quiet and unassuming dedication to his work and continues to do so in retirement through numerous charitable works and his youth baseball foundation.

In fact, I believe that Cal has inspired Americans all over the country. I think Tony Kornheiser captured this well in a column that appeared in the Washington Post on September 7, 1995. He wrote: "When I look at this record, I think I hear the rhythms of America. This celebration of Cal is the fanfare for the common man. Going to work every day . . . building a career, providing for our family like our fathers did before us is something we can all relate to."

Madam Speaker, if we pass this legislation, when travelers come to visit Baltimore or pass by on their way to another destination, they will not only be reminded of a terrific ballplayer whose name has become synonymous with the Orioles but also a model American and the promise of doing things the "Ripken Way." I hope my colleagues agree that this is a fitting tribute to one of the best loved and most enduring figures in the history of baseball.

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I will just close by saying that Cal Ripken is certainly a throwback to the old days in which little boys could look up to major league baseball players as real heroes and role models in their lives, and I can't adequately express my great admiration for Cal Ripken.

I urge support for this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First of all, I want to thank again Mr. SARBANES for sponsorship. I want to thank you, Mr. DUNCAN. I didn't know you had that kind of relationship to baseball and to the Baltimore Orioles.

As I listened to Mr. DUNCAN and Mr. SARBANES, Madam Speaker, I was just reminded that, sitting on the Government Reform Committee, in that committee we dealt with the whole issue of steroids. We saw players come before our committee, many of them having to put their heads down when asked certain critical questions about character. And it is so good to know that there is somebody like Cal Ripken around, somebody who does not mind accepting the role as a role model and being just that.

So many young people look up to sports figures, and they try to emulate them. All you have to do is go to a baseball game and you will see them with the jerseys on with names of players on the back. And if you go to Memorial Stadium, now called Oriole Park, you will see a lot of jerseys with little kids, trying to dream the Cal Ripken dream, with his name on their backs.

So it is with great honor that I ask all of our Members to support this resolution.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3218, to designate a portion of Interstate 395 located in Baltimore, MD, as "Cal Ripken Way."

Cal Ripken, Jr. was not only a remarkable baseball player, he was an outstanding role model for the youth of America. He exhibited the utmost in professionalism and sportsmanship in every aspect of his life.

Cal Ripken, Jr. was known to many as the "Iron Man" for tirelessly overcoming many minor injuries to always be in the lineup for his team and for the fans. He took the field for the Baltimore Orioles on May 30, 1982 and did not miss a game until September 19, 1998. On September 6, 1995, millions of fans worldwide tuned in to watch Cal Ripken, Jr. surpass Lou Gehrig for the most consecutive games played, at 2,131 games. He ended his streak having played in 2,632 consecutive games.

By the time he retired from professional baseball, in October 2001, Cal Ripken had played 21 seasons with the Baltimore Orioles. During that time, Mr. Ripken had broken the team's record for career games played, at bats, runs, hits, doubles, homeruns, RBIs, total bases, and walks. He is a member of Major League Baseball's exclusive 3,000 hit club.

Cal Ripken stuck with his team through the good years and the bad years with a level of professionalism rare in sports today. He was a favorite among fans and holds the record for most All-Star votes received by any single player. He was voted to play in the All-Star game 19 times, and won the game's Most Valuable Player, MVP, honor twice. On Thursday, July 26, 2007, Cal Ripken, Jr. was inducted

into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY, with the third highest percentage of votes ever received.

After his storied baseball career, Cal Ripken, Jr. continues to make a difference in his community across the country. Along with his brother Billy, he formed the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation to give underprivileged children the opportunity to attend baseball camps around the country and to learn his beloved game.

Between 2001 and 2004, Ripken served as commissioner of the White House Tee Ball Initiative, in which he worked to promote the value of teamwork and volunteerism amongst young players. On April 9, 2007, Ripken announced a partnership with the recently formed "Reviving Baseball in the Inner City" program, with the donation of \$1 million in cash and equipment from the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3218, to dedicate a portion of our Nation's highway system to commemorate the tremendous career and outstanding leadership of Cal Ripken, Jr.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3218.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS, FIRST RESPONDERS, AND THE CITIZENS OF MINNESOTA FOR THEIR VALIANT EFFORTS IN RESPONDING TO THE COLLAPSE OF THE INTERSTATE ROUTE 35W MISSISSIPPI RIVER BRIDGE

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 606) honoring the city of Minneapolis, first responders, and the citizens of the State of Minnesota for their valiant efforts in responding to the horrific collapse of the Interstate Route 35W Mississippi River Bridge.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 606

Whereas the Interstate Route 35W Mississippi River Bridge located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, collapsed on August 1, 2007, during the evening rush hour;

Whereas Minneapolis police and fire officials have reported a rising number of fatalities and injuries resulting from the tragedy;

Whereas because rescue and recovery efforts are ongoing, the effect of the tragedy on the community and on Minnesota families is still unfolding;

Whereas the first emergency personnel on the scene responded to the tragedy without hesitation, risking their health and safety to rescue victims and to provide emergency care to the injured;

Whereas as there are questions that remain unanswered about the tragedy, it is clear that the commitment and heroism exhibited by first responders in the minutes and hours following the tragedy saved countless lives;

Whereas the people of Minnesota and the Nation recognize that the dedication of first responders will remain steadfast throughout the ongoing recovery, repair, and rebuilding efforts;

Whereas scores of ordinary people became extraordinary citizens following the tragedy by rushing to the aid of their fellow Minnesotans;

Whereas the residents of Minneapolis should be commended for their bravery and tireless efforts following the tragedy on behalf of their neighbors and their city;

Whereas there was an immediate outpouring of support and assistance from surrounding communities following the tragedy, including over 50 organizations and local units of government; and

Whereas the heartbreaking images coming out of Minneapolis have captured the attention and sympathy of the Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) honors the city of Minneapolis, first responders, and the citizens of the State of Minnesota for their valiant efforts in responding to the horrific collapse of the Interstate Route 35W Mississippi River Bridge;

(2) praises the people of Minneapolis and Minnesota for their great courage in this time of crisis;

(3) recognizes the leadership and passionate commitment of the elected officials representing the people of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, and the State of Minnesota;

(4) honors the emergency responders, within and beyond Minneapolis, for their bravery and sacrifice following the tragedy;

(5) extends its heartfelt sympathies to the families of all those lost in the tragedy; and

(6) reaffirms its support and commitment to all of the Nation's law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians as they selflessly serve their communities, regardless of the peril or hazard to themselves.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. WALZ) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 606.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I strongly support House Resolution 606, introduced by my colleague Congressman ELLISON, my friend and fellow Minnesotan. Congressman ELLISON represents the Fifth Congressional District of Minnesota, which includes the city of Minneapolis. I am grateful to Congressman ELLISON for his work in introducing this resolution and getting it to the floor in a quick manner.