

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H. CON. RES.
362

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 362.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SESTAK). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on the passage of S. 2403, I was unavoidably detained. I would like the RECORD to reflect that had I been present I would have voted "yes."

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1619

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to have my name removed from H.R. 1619 as a sponsor.

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

There was no objection.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES TO FILE
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON H.R.
3667, MISSISQUOI AND TROUT
RIVERS WILD AND SCENIC RIVER
STUDY ACT OF 2008

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Natural Resources be authorized to file a supplemental report on H.R. 3667.

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

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
TIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE
HONORABLE STEPHANIE TUBBS
JONES, A REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE STATE OF OHIO

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening in order to consider the bereavement resolution in memory of our beloved colleague.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1415

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones, a Representative from the State of Ohio.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, it is with a profound sense of

sadness, as well as a deep sense of privilege that I rise this evening to commemorate and to celebrate the life of our friend, colleague, and sister, Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES of Ohio's 11th District. This evening, we do this with the deepest gratitude for her life, and on behalf of our entire Ohio delegation, the people of our State, her home city of Cleveland, and citizens far and wide, who were blessed to know and walk, work, worship and smile along with STEPHANIE.

On the day of her funeral, the Cleveland Plain Dealer, or actually it was the day after, the Sunday Plain Dealer, had a very large photo of the memorial service held in Cleveland, Ohio. And the headline read, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, 1949 to 2008: Tears flow, laughter rolls during memorial service. And the paper goes on to recount so many beautiful, beautiful remarks and remembrances that people across this country attributed to her life. We will be placing this in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, as well as I would like to read from my home paper, the Toledo Blade, way on the other side of the State from where STEPHANIE represented. It stated, a leader passes, the loss of her fighting spirit will be keenly felt, deeply mourned and difficult to replace.

I think particularly this evening of her son, Mervyn. We wish him comfort, and we wish him her strength as he mourns her passing.

We all know that when one met STEPHANIE, you knew you had met strength. You knew you had met someone who endured struggle. She had a keen intelligence, a high-minded idealism, and wow, her charisma just overflowed.

The other day I was in my district and I met a man from Cleveland who had gone to school with STEPHANIE. And I said, tell me, was STEPHANIE always that enthusiastic? He said, "Marcy, I went to law school with her. She never changed."

And from the time she was in her late teens and early 20s to her service here, she had the same boundless energy, drive and positive spirit.

She was a devoted wife, a beloved mother, a sister to us all, and an elected leader, in that order. And she relished all of her life's roles. Her drive and energy were genuine, and they were infectious. And she carved a nobler path for America with her election as the first African American woman from Ohio to serve in the U.S. Congress. We Ohioans were very proud of her.

I know that I, like my colleagues, have so many vivid lasting memories of STEPHANIE. Upon her first swearing in, I still recall a little table in a reception hall here where I was able to present her with a single red rose as she was sitting next to her predecessor, Congressman Louis Stokes, and how she poignantly responded. She knew the steepness of the climb.

I recall my efforts to comfort her on the loss of her husband, and she imme-

diately reciprocated as she shared with me, over my Blackberry, a favorite poem from which she drew succor.

Imagine how many memories each of us has, how many thousands of lives she touched, representing a district and State that tested her talents, her spirit, and her conscience daily. She served people well beyond her district, logging thousands of miles in freedom's cause.

I don't think I saw STEPHANIE too many times without that little valise in the back room here. She was always going somewhere. She held a hard job, and she put her entire being into it. She literally gave herself to us. And in her memory, we should dedicate ourselves to her unfinished work.

One can imagine how few women have ever served in the Congress from our State. To those afforded the privilege, there is a priceless bond that links our spirits and provides support.

STEPHANIE was such a valued sister. Though her years with us were far too short, her impact endures well beyond the years. She made history. She spoke her conscience, and she reveled in every step of the journey.

Thanks be to God, she did not suffer in the end. The Lord spared her that, perhaps as, through her life, she had endured too much personal sadness and loss that would have broken lesser spirits.

In loss, STEPHANIE's strength strengthens us. Her enduring personal legacy of character and endurance, beyond her milestone achievements, remain the portrait of her life. Our delegation is especially honored to fittingly commemorate her life and achievements here this evening.

[From the Sunday Plain Dealer, Aug. 31, 2008]

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, 1949-2008: TEARS FLOW, LAUGHTER ROLLS DURING MEMORIAL SERVICE

(By Tony Brown)

It was a moment that surely would have earned one of the wide, knowing smiles remembered so well by all the friends of Stephanie Tubbs Jones.

Rep. Tim Ryan of Niles, the man Tubbs Jones used to call her "white son," and fellow Congressman Kendrick Meek of Florida, whom she nicknamed her "black son," had just finished moving tributes to their congressional "mom."

That's when Mervyn Jones II, her real son, slipped out of his front-row seat to join his "brothers" in an intimate, tearful embrace in front of thousands gathered to bid farewell to the first black woman elected to Congress from Ohio.

The three remained locked in each other's arms well into remarks made by former Rep. Louis Stokes, the man whose seat Tubbs Jones inherited in 1989.

After the men returned to their places, Sen. Barack Obama—the son of a black father and a white mother who grew up to become the first black presidential nominee of a major U.S. political party—turned in his chair to console a still-sobbing Meek.

In that moment, amid the grieving and the laughter and the consolation and the stories and the campaign rhetoric of the celebration of a life well-lived, everyone under the vaulted ceiling of Public Hall—all friends of Tubbs Jones—shared in that group hug.

It was a hug that encircled the woman whose body lay in a flag-draped casket that rested on a square of red carpet in front of the stage: Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones, who died of a burst brain aneurysm on Aug. 20 at the age of 58.

Friend was a word heard over and over as the nation's most powerful Democratic leaders, fresh from Obama's nomination in Denver, joined religious leaders and Tubbs Jones' beloved constituents, family and sorority sisters in testifying to the immensity of Tubbs Jones' spirit.

Former President Bill Clinton, not scheduled to speak but unable to help himself, called his relationship with Tubbs Jones "16 years of astonishing friendship."

So astonishing that Tubbs Jones continued to support a failing presidential bid by his wife, Sen. Hillary Clinton, well after many of the congresswoman's constituents had voted for Obama.

"She was not a fair-weather friend," Hillary Clinton told the crowd.

"I certainly know what that means. Now, her friendship was not uncritical. When she was your friend, she felt it her responsibility to inform you of all the matters that needed improvement."

Obama, Clinton's opponent for the party's presidential nomination, also counted himself among Tubbs Jones' buddies.

"I am here today to pay tribute to an extraordinary American and a devoted public servant, a mother, a daughter, a sister, a wife and a dear friend to so many here in Cleveland, so many in Ohio and so many across America.

"And during the most recent contest, Stephanie and I were on different sides, and we would see each other, she would say to me, 'This is what it means to be a friend for me.' All I could say is, 'I understand.'"

There were more words of praise and prayer from elected officials, some quoting Shakespeare and Scripture, during the three-hour-and-47-minute marathon of tributes.

Speakers included Sen. Sherrod Brown, Mayor Frank Jackson, Cuyahoga County Commissioner Jimmy Dimora, Rep. Carolyn Kilpatrick of Michigan and Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland.

And they told plenty of funny and poignant stories.

Perhaps the funniest and most poignant was recounted by Bill Clinton, who recalled accompanying Tubbs Jones to Puerto Rico on a primary campaign visit for his wife.

"Now, how Stephanie became a native Puerto Rican in 15 minutes, I'll never know," Clinton said, warming to his subject.

They went into a shop, Clinton said, where Tubbs Jones admired a piece of locally made jewelry. Clinton bought it surreptitiously and presented it to her.

"She looked at me and laughed and she said, 'You know, I really like this,' she says. 'It's not often a man'll give a woman a piece of jewelry and not want anything for it.' I totally lost it."

So did Clinton's audience. As the laughter died down, the former president moved in for the kicker.

"I looked at her and said, 'Stephanie, you have given me and our family more, you have given your people and this country more than you will ever know.'"

In addition to the eloquent politicians who were gathered, there were plenty of just plain friends who laughed and wept and patted each other on the back to the rhythm of hymns like "Amazing Grace" and "Canaan's Happy Shore."

Some of the late arrivals almost didn't make it into the funeral.

At 11:30 a.m., about 30 minutes after the service began, Secret Service officers blocked the entrance. "The event is closed," one told approaching visitors.

Within minutes, the number lingering at the entrance grew to more than a dozen. They spoke in shared disbelief. "Stephanie would not want this," one woman said angrily.

Someone in charge agreed. Within minutes, the officers stepped aside. Newcomers flowed into the cavernous auditorium until well past noon.

One of the most moving speakers the Friends of Stephanie heard Saturday was no politician or preacher.

She was a 16-year-old named Tiffany Robertson, a member of an all-girls health careers class at Cleveland's Martin Luther King Jr. High School that Tubbs Jones took under her wing two years ago.

"This is the future," Tiffany recalled Jones telling the girls.

The congresswoman took time from her political and legislative schedule to visit the class and take them places. She took them to church one Sunday, but Tiffany had to work.

So Jones dropped by the workplace with Tiffany's classmates in tow.

"We're family," Tiffany told her classmates, who stood in a show of unity with their peer.

"We got to stick together. We got to carry on her legacy. She was steward, protector and advocate to us.

"I will miss her as a friend."

"There's a famous song a few years back . . . and the refrain of the song says, 'If you have a choice, to sit it out or dance, I hope you dance.' And we all know that Stephanie didn't sit it out, she danced."—Tim Ryan, U.S. Representative from Ohio.

"Stephanie was the kind of political leader who needed hours to go grocery shopping because everyone she saw wanted a moment of her time, and she willingly gave it. Because if you met Stephanie, she was your friend."—Ted Strickland, Ohio Governor.

"Oftentimes, late at night, on the campaign trail, whether the news had been good or bad, she would have a look in her eye. Sometimes she would grab my hand, and she would say, 'Oh, I miss my husband, I wish he were here.' Well, they are together now."—Hillary Clinton, U.S. Senator.

"That's not the air show. The rumbling you hear is the rearrangement of chairs in heaven."—Dennis Eckart, Former Representative standing outside Public Hall as a jet roared by.

"I considered her my congresswoman as well. We talked all the time about statewide issues."—Michael Coleman, Columbus Mayor.

"Whenever Stephanie came in contact with young people, she inspired them, she taught them, she mentored them, she stayed in touch with them. Her legacy is in their legacy."—Sherrod Brown, U.S. Senator from Ohio.

"Whenever we talked on the phone, she would say, 'Congresswoman, I love ya.' And I'd say: 'I love you, too.' She was a great congresswoman. She was a good friend. Thanks, Stephanie, I love ya."—Louis Stokes, former U.S. Representative from Ohio.

"For Stephanie, it wasn't enough to rise up from modest circumstances and break so many barriers herself. She had to reach back and pull others through the doors she opened."—Barack Obama, Democratic presidential nominee.

"I want to let you know, Cleveland, that you were represented by one of the best . . . Ladies and gentlemen, she lived a life that was worth living."—Kendrick Meek, U.S. Representative from South Carolina.

"I'll always know her as Aunt Stephanie. She had a big smile."—Erin Norton, 24, of Cleveland, whose uncle lived next to Tubbs Jones.

"All the good things she started, it's like she's still living."—Schuvar Murray, 37, of Cleveland.

[From the Blade, Aug. 24, 2008]

A LEADER PASSES

Society's' downtrodden, disadvantaged, disillusioned, and disconnected have lost an influential voice and ally in Washington with the unexpected passing of Stephanie Tubbs Jones, the first black woman to represent Ohio in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The 11th District representative from the east side of Cleveland died Wednesday after suffering a brain hemorrhage.

The loss to Ohio and the nation was described by one of her colleagues as "incalculable," and that was an understatement. It was a setback for the cause of impassioned, committed, gutsy leadership, especially for the district, made up of east Cleveland and its nearby suburbs, which Ms. Tubbs Jones served so tirelessly.

A decade ago, the 58-year-old Democrat was handpicked by U.S. Rep. Lou Stokes to be his successor after his legendary stewardship of that congressional district for 30 years. Over five terms, Mr. Stokes said, "she took it to a higher level, a new level. She made me so proud."

A gregarious leader, she also blazed trails for others with a resume of many firsts—the first black woman to become a judge of Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, as well as the county's first black prosecutor, succeeding the storied John T. Corrigan.

In Washington, she was also the first black woman to sit on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, where she was a force to be reckoned with. Fiercely partisan, but not necessarily predictable, she was that unusual politician who said what she meant and meant what she said.

In 2001, she endorsed an unknown black lawyer for Cleveland mayor over the more politically experienced Jane Campbell, who eventually won. This year, she perplexed—and provoked—her constituents with her unflinching support of Hillary Clinton for president over newcomer Barack Obama.

But her word was her bond, said the Rev. Jesse Jackson. "It didn't waver in the wind." Like all congressional Democrats, she was scheduled to serve as a super delegate at the Democratic National Convention in Denver next week to witness the formal nomination of Mr. Obama as the first black candidate for president of the United States.

Ms. Tubbs Jones, who once said she considered herself a voice for minorities across the country, would have reveled in the moment. The loss of her fighting spirit will be keenly felt, deeply mourned, and difficult to replace.

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Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield at this time to Congresswoman BETTY SUTTON from the Ohio delegation, the able Representative from Akron, Lorain.

Ms. SUTTON. I thank the gentlewoman from Ohio for yielding me the time.

And I, too, rise today with heaviness in my heart but also with a deep sense of gratitude and respect for my colleague, my friend, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. Her passing is truly a tragic loss for the people of Ohio's 11th District, whom she loved so very much, and for all of the people who she stood up for across this country.

STEPHANIE was truly an historic figure in American politics. She achieved

many firsts and she blazed many trails in a way that only STEPHANIE could. She was the first African American and first female prosecutor in Cuyahoga County, Ohio; the first African American woman to sit on the Common Pleas bench in Ohio; the first African American woman to be elected to Congress from Ohio, and the first African American woman to serve on the House Ways and Means Committee, a job she truly loved.

STEPHANIE attacked her job as a Congresswoman with passion and a contagious enthusiasm on behalf of those she served. She was effective and determined. Her strength exceeded courage. She was fearless. She lived her life and represented her constituents giving it everything she had. She had no time for fear.

Her amazing spirit touched and brightened so many lives, and with every first that STEPHANIE achieved, with every rung of the ladder she climbed, STEPHANIE always reached back to help others following behind. From encouraging the young women and men in her office who interned, to inspiring the young people from her hometown of Cleveland, STEPHANIE was a force. And she loved her staff and spoke of them as family. STEPHANIE was not pretentious. She treated all people as they should be treated, with dignity and respect.

Mr. Speaker, when I first arrived in these hallowed Halls in January of 2007, I was very fortunate to have STEPHANIE here to help me. She was a colleague and a friend who I could turn to for advice not only on the many crucial issues that we face but also simply on how to navigate this body. And when I thanked her for helping me along, she would always wave a hand in the air and explain, "Hey, we're sisters." STEPHANIE'S friendship and mentorship were vital to me, and I am grateful that she touched my life.

STEPHANIE was honest and loyal. You could count on her word. She was the type of person who could lift up the spirits of those feeling down. She was willing to work with others for the good that was greater than just herself, but she was also tough and willing to fight as necessary to protect the rights of the people of this great country. Nowhere was this more evident than in the fight she led to ensure the integrity of our voting process. STEPHANIE also worked tirelessly to promote home ownership and to help keep families in their homes.

But with all of her achievements, nothing compared to that of the strong young man that STEPHANIE raised, her son, Mervyn. STEPHANIE'S face would beam when she talked about Mervyn. There could be no question beyond everything she gave in service, everything she accomplished, they all paled in comparison to how proud she was of Mervyn. She loved him and continues to love him beyond measure.

STEPHANIE also had a beautiful and strong sister who she loved and appre-

ciated so deeply. When STEPHANIE spoke of her sister Barbara, it was clear how special Barbara was to her.

Mr. Speaker, I could go on and on about the life of this amazing woman. I am so honored to have known her and to have served alongside of her. STEPHANIE was more than my colleague; she was my friend, and we were sisters. I will miss her greatly.

My thoughts and prayers are with her son Mervyn, and her very special sister Barbara, and the rest of her family.

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express deep sadness on the sudden passing of our colleague in this House and a member of the Ohio delegation, Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

August was a busy month for us. We have participated in events in our districts and meetings in our offices. Many of us participated in our party's presidential conventions. Unfortunately, too many of these tasks and goals were cut short and cut short too early for our colleague. We grieve her loss here this evening.

Throughout our time together in this House, the members of the Ohio delegation have been a congenial group and not a partisan one. We regularly worked together to share common responsibilities and actions to improve and strengthen our State. STEPHANIE brought energy and enthusiasm to our delegation and to our work, and we will miss her terribly.

As you will hear throughout this evening's remarks by my colleagues, Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES is a Member who held many firsts in our delegation. And I won't repeat those because many Members will touch on it.

To me, Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES was my friendly, outgoing, and upbeat colleague. We often traveled back and forth together in the same plane from Ohio to Washington for our congressional session. I will miss her wonderful personality and the energy she brought to our delegation and to this House.

This morning, when I was getting ready to leave for the airport, I said to my wife, "You know, I'm going to really miss Stephanie because we would always be on the plane together most the time, the same flight, and she was always so upbeat and she had the common expression, 'Well, how are you doing today? How are you doing today?'"

Well, we did well together, but I will miss her energy and personality that she brought to the delegation and to this House. I worked with STEPHANIE—her district was not far from mine—and we had a common interest in furthering the medical facilities in Cleveland, Ohio, some of the best in the United States; and it was a pleasure always to work with her and to enjoy her boundless enthusiasm and good nature.

And certainly on behalf of my colleagues in the Ohio delegation, we ex-

press our sincere sympathy to her son, Mervyn Jones, and to her sister, Barbara Walker, as well as to her thousands of constituents and to her devoted staff.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair understands the gentlewoman from Ohio to have yielded half her time to the gentleman from Ohio.

And the gentleman from Ohio reserves the balance of his time.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call on the distinguished Member from Cleveland, the colleague of Congresswoman JONES, Congressman DENNIS KUCINICH.

Mr. KUCINICH. I thank the gentlelady.

When I look at this Chamber this evening, there are so many Members of Congress here, each who wants to pay tribute to her. I'm going to keep my remarks brief, not in any way reflecting the depth of grief that I feel over Stephanie's passing.

We shared not only districts—because my district is mostly on the West side of the Cuyahoga River and hers is mostly on the east side of the Cuyahoga River—but we shared political careers, having worked with each other for the better part of three decades. And the STEPHANIE that we saw here in the Congress, the one of the 100-megawatt smile, the boundless energy, the telling sense of humor, the challenging approach when you may not agree with her, that was the STEPHANIE that I knew for 30 years.

But we also shared a friendship about family. And she went through it in the last years of her life with the loss of loved ones close to her, her father, her husband. And when we would have major events in our lives, like we do with close friends—and she was a close friend to many of us—we would share many of these things. And there was a lot of sadness to share. But there was also a moment when, for me, I had one of the biggest things happen in my life, and STEPHANIE was the first person I wanted to share it with.

More than 3 years ago, I met a woman who walked into my office as part of a meeting for policy, and even though I had a very brief conversation with her, I knew something had happened at that moment. And I just knew at that moment that this was somebody I was going to marry, and I didn't even have a discussion with her about anything except for policy for more than about half a minute. And I ran down to the floor to tell my friend STEPHANIE, because that's the kind of friend she was. You would want to tell her when you thought something big was happening in your life.

And so I said, "Stephanie, I met her." And she looked at me and her eyes widened, and she gave her big smile, and she went, "Shut up!" And she had that kind of way of assessing things brilliantly and quickly in a manner and a tone and a language that was STEPHANIE.

And she really brought the wisdom of a keen legal mind and melded it with a

street sense into this political persona that touched people all over this country and, indeed, in other countries as well. She had that magic.

Her presence is so powerful that I know I speak for other Members when I say that even at this moment, weeks later after her passing, we still can't believe it. That's how powerful a presence she was personally. And when she engaged you, you knew you were in a conversation and it was real.

When Members of Congress arrived to pay respects at the Bethany Church, we saw the sidewalks lined with her constituents. We saw a line to get into Bethany Church that was more than a block long. Hundreds of people waiting in line.

I had the chance to talk to some of them. You could see—you have to look into people's eyes, look at their faces, and you see the faces of people who are struggling with life, who are dealing with the kinds of problems that STEPHANIE came to Congress to address: trying to save their homes, trying to save their jobs, trying to keep their families together. And their eyes are searching today because they know they have lost a champion, and it puts such a great responsibility on all of us, a greater responsibility on all of us to uphold those things that she came to Congress for, the basic rights of people.

This was a loss for women who have strived for recognition in this body. This is a loss for African Americans who saw in her a champion, the first African American woman elected to Congress from the State of Ohio.

But what STEPHANIE did, her genius and her magic was she just broke all of the barriers. She went beyond gender and beyond race and emerged to a whole different political element. That's why she can't be replaced. And that's why, long after many of us have left this Chamber, people will still be talking about STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

STEPHANIE, we love you, and we will remember you.

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON).

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, it's been a tough term for the Ohio delegation. First we lost Paul Gillmor, and now we've lost STEPHANIE. Too early for both of them in their lives. But I think it's these times when people in the country need to know the friendships that happen in this House. We may differ politically on certain issues, but we don't differ when it comes to making friends and friendships here in this House.

STEPHANIE had that beautiful energy that you will hear about and heard about before about her that we will all remember. She never met a stranger. Wherever we traveled in the world, STEPHANIE always had that great smile on her face. Whenever we were in Cleveland together—I have a daughter who lives in Cleveland, and STEPHANIE would give me a ride when I would fly into Cleveland to my daughter's house.

She would stop and talk to my grandkids. Even though she was in Dennis' district, she was still working that side of town, too, because STEPHANIE worked wherever she was.

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She is a loss to all of us. She worked on issues that transcends this body, these human issues, and the people in her district are not going to forget that, and they truly do have a loss.

We traveled together many times to view the troops, and I just came back yesterday from Korea. In Korea, I talked about STEPHANIE to one of the general officers, and he said, I remember her. When we were in Bosnia, you came there in Thanksgiving and how she related to the troops in her own special way and talked to these young people about what they were doing, what they're going to do in the future.

But the most important thing about STEPHANIE, STEPHANIE never forgot who she was. She was a friend to all of us, but she never forgot her district.

One time, I talked STEPHANIE into going on a trip with me to Italy, and she said, "I can't go. It's our 25th wedding anniversary. Mervyn and I want to spend our 25th wedding anniversary together." And this was when you could do this. I don't even know if I want to tell this, but she's gone and I'm retiring. So maybe I can tell this story now without going to the Ethics Committee. But I said, "Stephanie, we're going to give you a party in Venice. You tell Mervyn it's going to be a very romantic time and it isn't going to cost him a cent." Guess what. They went on the trip.

And even after Mervyn's tragic passing—and I was there with her then—she would recall the great time we had together. And I'm not going to miss her because she's going to be here with all of us, but who's going to miss her is Mervyn, Junior. He's lost not only his mother and his father but his grandparents in a very short period of time, and this is a young man. I hope his aunt can help him, and I hope all of us don't forget this young man and his life. And we're not going to forget STEPHANIE.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished chairman of the Ways and Means Committee from New York City, our beloved colleague, CHARLES RANGEL.

(Mr. RANGEL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RANGEL. Thank you so much, Chairwoman KAPTUR, for giving me this courtesy and this opportunity.

I was a very long and dear friend of Louis Stokes. I loved him, I worked with him, and when he decided that he was going to retire, I did everything that I could to share with him how much he would be missed by his country and by this Congress. But when he had me to meet in Cleveland with STEPHANIE, I was convinced that—some of you may have met people that you

know that it really wouldn't make any difference what they decided to do. Their intellect, their drive, their personality would make them successful, and especially for a woman and an African American woman in Ohio or any other part of the United States, to be a prosecutor, to be a judge and then to come to the Congress, it had to be extraordinary, the same way Harriet Beecher Stowe, Fannie Lou Hamer, people of extreme resilience.

And so from then, she said that she wanted to get on the Ways and Means Committee, and boy, the Ways and Means Committee has never been the same since she's joined with us. She would come to the meeting where we would be fighting and arguing and, with a smile, light it up. But that didn't prevent her from getting involved in the argument and many times on a different side of the Chair. But at the end of the day, I knew that once she was convinced that was the way the committee was going, you couldn't stop STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

I say in conclusion, one of the reasons that so many of you must like her, love her is because I don't remember that many complaints that she had about the Chair not responding to the needs of her constituents, especially when the housing market fell in Cleveland.

But so many of you that she brought to the chairman of this committee, that was not on the committee, because you had convinced her that it was important to your community, and she, as a person on that committee, thought we should look into it, and there was never but never a frivolous request. Every time she came she had done so much homework that I just know that the gap that she leaves in my heart and our committee will never be filled by anyone else.

I thank you for this opportunity of sharing.

Mr. REGULA. I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES).

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio, the Ohio delegation, and the gentlelady Ms. KAPTUR for allowing me to be a part of this.

STEPHANIE was a special friend. I am terribly saddened by the untimely passing of STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. She was someone who cared deeply about helping others, especially those who couldn't help themselves. TUBBS JONES was a wonderful philanthropist and friend. I will miss serving with her as cochair on the House Philanthropy Caucus.

Representative TUBBS JONES and I began our work in the House the same year together in 1998. I was honored last year to have the opportunity to partner with her to establish the Congressional Philanthropy Caucus, an initiative that she was very passionate about. Her tireless and tenacious advocacy for the philanthropic field and commitment to, and leadership was

very inspiring and helped to forge new relationships and partnerships between and among law-makers and grant-makers.

The Caucus was formed at the behest of the Council on Foundations, a Washington, D.C., area-based nonprofit association of more than 2,100 grant-making foundations and corporations. The Caucus aims to educate and inform law-makers about the field of philanthropy.

As a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, STEPHANIE stressed the importance of reestablishing charitable incentives that have expired, emphasizing the impact such tools have on giving in the United States and around the world. She was a strong believer that charitable incentives help grow charitable giving to populations in need across the country. Demonstrating her commitment to her charitable values, Representative TUBBS JONES was an original cosponsor of the Public Good IRA Rollover Act of 2007, H.R. 1419, which proposed to expand the IRA charitable rollover. That Act is especially significant to the philanthropic field because it proposes to allow distributions to donor-advised funds, supporting organizations, and private foundations to qualify as charitable giving tools.

In addition, when given the opportunity on the House floor, Representative TUBBS JONES continually advocated for philanthropy, encouraged our colleagues to join the Philanthropy Caucus, and sponsor legislation promoting charitable giving. She met with her foundation constituents just a few weeks ago to discuss their work and contributions to her home State.

Representative TUBBS JONES was a champion for the philanthropic sector and will be greatly missed for her contributions to the charitable giving field.

On behalf of the members of the Congressional Philanthropy Caucus, and the many grant-makers that STEPHANIE supported around the country, specifically Ohio foundations, we wish to offer our sincere condolences and to extend her family, son Mervyn, colleagues, and staff, our deepest sympathies for their loss.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor to be able to stand in this House of Representatives and say a few words for my distinguished colleague, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

You know, on everybody's tombstone there are three things. There's first the date you were born and then the date you die, and in between there is a dash. And the question we all must answer at some point is what do you do with the dash. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES did an amazing amount with her dash.

Born to hardworking, loving parents—Mary, who was a cook at Case Western University in Cleveland; her

father, Andrew, was a sky cap—good, hardworking people, who gave love to STEPHANIE. She rose to become a prosecutor, a judge, a trial lawyer, all the way up to the Congress of the United States.

And I tell you, in between, Mr. Speaker, she learned how to play a mean game of Bid Whist, Mr. Speaker. But I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, she kept the faith, she finished her course, and she fought the good fight. And therefore, there is put up for STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES an extraordinary crown of righteousness that the Lord, the righteous Judge, appointed and has given to STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, and we thank God for sending STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES our way.

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlelady from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE).

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and thank the Members of the delegation for having this very important time to remember our colleague.

STEPHANIE was a force in our delegation, and she was also an inspiration to everybody here and everybody who knew her. Perhaps we'll never understand or totally accept the reasons that people are taken from us in such tragic and untimely ways; yet there is always some comfort found when we can look at a life and see the great purpose that dwelled therein. And STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES lived with such great purpose and made such a difference, and that will help those of us that she left behind.

The last time I talked to STEPHANIE was not unlike most of us right here, but it was not in this Chamber. It was in her outer office. It was the office right outside the door that is her car. And STEPHANIE was working in her outer office, and she was right by the door. And I passed there, and we were waiting for votes. I knocked on her window, and she said, "Come on in, Deb," and I crawled in her office. I was glad to see it looked sort of like my car. There were papers everywhere. There were books. It was just like an office.

And we started not doing business but just chatting, like so often we would do when we would find a minute together. We talked of such great things in life as my daughter's hair. Now, for those of you who don't know, I have an adopted daughter who's African American, who was born in STEPHANIE's district. And STEPHANIE took an inordinate amount of interest in the lack of quality hair care that I provided to my daughter, and STEPHANIE was great about always giving me good advice for Mia, and she wanted to become a greater part of Mia's life.

We had plans to make that happen the next visit to Washington, and I'm sad especially for Mia that that won't happen because STEPHANIE is a wonderful mentor for so many people, women especially. I'm sorry that that relationship never took hold, but I will

never forget the impact that she had on me.

What a wonderful, strong personality. What a contagious smile, and her laughter and her buoyancy held me up many times when I needed just that extra shoulder.

She had such purpose in her life, and that is her lasting legacy. We will all miss her, especially her family. There are so many that became part of her family. There are so many that she loved and touched in such an important, meaningful way. She will sorely be missed, Mr. Speaker.

I offer my deepest condolences to her family, to her son who will miss her most of all. She was loved by so many, as she so rightly should have been.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to STEPHANIE's colleague from the State of Ohio, Congressman ZACK SPACE.

Mr. SPACE. I thank the gentlelady. I rise today to remember a dear friend and dedicated legislator, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. She was a tireless advocate for justice, a dedicated mother, and a terrific legislator and a fighter for the people of Ohio.

It will be very difficult for me to match the eloquence of someone like Chairman RANGEL, certainly the gentlelady from Toledo, the gentleman from Canton, or my friend Mr. KUCINICH from Cleveland. But DENNIS said something during his presentation that struck me as being extraordinarily accurate.

STEPHANIE did represent this magical, political persona that was meddled between her keen legal mind and her street sense. She had compassion, knowledge. She was just a great person and a great legislator. She was a trail blazer, as those from the Ohio delegation have pointed out, in many respects.

But something that many might not know is that STEPHANIE actually had an effect on the people in congressional district, which is, while sharing the same State of Ohio, a very long way from east Cleveland. STEPHANIE served as an inspiration for women in politics, as well as our African American community there as well. She fought for justice and equality at every turn in her career, and this was a tragic loss for the people of Congress and the people of Ohio.

Indeed, I still feel her presence here, and I suspect we will for quite some time. This has been a tragic loss for this body.

□ 2000

Mr. REGULA. I yield to the gentlelady from Ohio (Mrs. SCHMIDT).

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a great lady, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

Just over 3 years ago, I first saw STEPHANIE in this very room. As I was sworn into office, she came over and greeted me with a great big smile and an enormous hug, welcoming me to this wonderful body. Although we

share different political views, STEPHANIE understood that friendship trumped politics. I felt fortunate to call her my friend.

When I went to Cleveland last week to pay my respects, I was welcomed by her wonderful family—her sister, Barbara; her nieces, her cousins, and her wonderful son, Mervyn.

I learned something about STEPHANIE I didn't know. I didn't realize that she was involved in a very famous case, a case that spurred not only a TV show but also a movie, "The Fugitive." It was the Sam Shepard case. She was involved with that case, making sure justice was done.

I want to say thank you to the Lord for letting us have STEPHANIE as long as we did. We never know when the hour comes that he will come for us. I know that STEPHANIE was prepared for him because she was always prepared for her family and for her constituents, and she had that great big smile. I'm sure that it's there in heaven.

To Mervyn, to Barbara and to the rest of the family, you have my prayers. To the constituents of Cleveland, you have her heart.

May she rest in peace.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to yield a minute and a half to STEPHANIE's distinguished colleague from Ohio, our dear friend, Congressman CHARLES WILSON.

Mr. WILSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I'm sad to be here this evening, but I'm also proud that we can rise on this occasion to join my colleagues in paying tribute to the honor of STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. It's right that we express the condolences of the House of Representatives. I feel like she was a dear friend to all of us, and I know that I loved her and that so many of my colleagues did.

It came as a terrible shock a week ago Tuesday when we found out that STEPHANIE died, but it's appropriate that we have this resolution we're doing this evening to appropriately honor a devoted American, and STEPHANIE was a devoted American.

Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES was a champion for the residents in the Greater Cleveland area. She was a tireless voice for our State of Ohio. She always greeted me with a big smile and, many times, with a hug. It was just the way she did and the way she treated people. A colleague of hers recently said that he felt that STEPHANIE treated people that way because it was almost as if God were watching. She was taken from us way too soon.

Mr. Speaker, her work was not finished. She is counting on us to carry on. My deepest sympathy goes out to her son, Mervyn, to her sister, Barbara, and to her extended family. She will be sorely missed by the Ohio congressional delegation, by all of Congress, and I will miss working with her.

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, we have no further requests for time.

Ms. KAPTUR. Does the gentleman yield?

Mr. REGULA. Yes, I yield.

Ms. KAPTUR. Would the gentleman be kind enough to yield us any remaining time he might have so we can complete the speakers on our side.

Mr. REGULA. Yes, we'd be happy to yield whatever time we have left to your side.

Ms. KAPTUR. I thank the gentleman very much.

Mr. Speaker, would you please tell me how much time we have remaining then?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio controls the remainder of the time, which is 25½ minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Thank you very much.

I would like then to yield 2 minutes to our fine colleague from the State of California, who was such a close associate and friend of STEPHANIE's, Congresswoman LOIS CAPPs.

Mrs. CAPPs. I thank my dear colleague from Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in sad support of this resolution to pay tribute to our colleague, the Honorable STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

As so many have said, STEPHANIE had the gift of making us all her friends and, for me and for others, her sisters.

As has been said, she was a tireless advocate on behalf of working families and civil rights long before she came to Congress, and she continued her devotion to these causes over the last decade. I was proud to work with her in the last few years against a proposal that would have undermined the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Her leadership on this issue was exemplary of her commitment to protecting people against discrimination. I will cherish this opportunity to work with her.

She was also a wonderful and active member of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues. She cochaired the task force on Women in the Judiciary with her colleague from Ohio and fellow former judge, DEBORAH PRYCE.

She also led efforts to raise awareness and to fund greater research into uterine fibroids. This is a disease that affects as many as three and four women over the course of their lifetimes. Yet it's rarely discussed in public. She had the courage to bring this otherwise taboo subject to the forefront in the quest to bring relief to millions of women who have and who will suffer from fibroids.

The people of Ohio and of the entire Congress have lost a true champion. For me, there was a personal bond with STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. She lost her husband suddenly after she came to Congress, and I had lost mine recently, and so we had a bond, a sad one, but one that we both cherished. We made an agreement that we didn't need to talk. We just needed, when we saw each other, to give each other a hug, and I will cherish those hugs, and that bond still exists.

I send my condolences to her son and to her family members, and I hope they

know that the grief is shared by all of us, and our dedication to upholding the causes which motivated and for which she showed such great leadership will inspire us to continue and, in each of our own ways, to make that legacy that was STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES' live on.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to yield 2 minutes to the Representative from California who was a close colleague of STEPHANIE's, Congresswoman SUSAN DAVIS.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor not only one of my colleagues but a dear friend, the Honorable STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

As we all know, she served the 11th Congressional District of Ohio with dignity and pride, and she represented her district with compassion, always with compassion, fighting for justice and equality.

I was very fortunate because, when I arrived here in 2001, my office was right across the hall from STEPHANIE's, and so you can imagine how embraced I felt by her and by all of her staff, by all of the people who were so close to her, such a loyal group of people.

There have been many stories told this evening, and many more will be told of her accomplishments; there have been many tributes that people have paid to her, but in this very brief time, I just wanted to talk for a minute about how her influence goes far beyond the district that she represented because, for years, Representative TUBBS JONES had been a special guest speaker before a group of young people from San Diego, the Aaron Price Fellows. She always came to those meetings at my request, and was always so enthusiastic. She would just captivate this room of high schoolers, who come from very diverse backgrounds, with warmth and humor. She would weave her congressional experience with her personal stories to excite the whole group, and she would encourage their discussion. She'd love their questions and really would be so energized, energized in that room of young people every year that she spoke to them just as she did every time she spoke on this very floor. I think it says so much about STEPHANIE that she shared her time and a lot of that time with students far from her district.

So, today, we remember her as such an inspirational leader, inspirational for so many—from high school students, to her constituents, of course, and to all of us here—to her colleagues. I am proud to say that I will continue to be inspired by her as I serve in Congress, and I can just think her saying today, "Hey, girlfriend." So I want to say to her "Thanks, girlfriend. Thank you for everything."

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlelady from Chicago, Congresswoman JAN SCHAKOWSKY, who was a real soul sister to STEPHANIE.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, STEPHANIE and I were in the same class. We came in in 1998, and immediately bonded as friends and classmates. She and my husband became very good friends. We would joke about it that my husband, Bob, was her boyfriend, and at their last conversation, it ended with his saying, "Love you, Stef," and her saying, "Love you, Bob." I'm jealous of that because they had that moment where they actually said the word that I feel so much tonight, that I loved STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

STEPHANIE was a force of nature. She was a big woman and she filled a room. I can just picture her now. Can't you just picture her coming down and speaking from this podium right now and just filling the space with her presence, with her sense of justice, with her passion, and with, of course, her smile? STEPHANIE was fiercely loyal. She was a supporter of HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON's. Some of us were on the other side, but that didn't challenge our friendship.

Connie Schultz, who is a Pulitzer Prize winner for the Cleveland Plain Dealer said, "Our friendship was forged by her to the bones understanding of what it means to be a woman, willing to stick your neck out for your beliefs."

STEPHANIE was fearless and she was loved. I loved her. I love you, Stephanie.

Ms. KAPTUR. I would now like to yield time to the distinguished Congressman from North Dakota, Congressman EARL POMEROY, a friend of STEPHANIE's for many years.

Mr. POMEROY. I thank the gentlelady for yielding.

I doubt our departed sister, STEPHANIE, would ever have imagined the impact she had. In fact, the Cleveland Plain Dealer referenced her essential humility even when mentioning her personal electricity in this editorial of August 22:

"I have no illusions about myself," TUBBS JONES told the Plain Dealer reporter Fran Henry in 1995. "It could all go up in a puff of smoke. I'll never lose sight of that."

STEPHANIE's presence on Earth has come so tragically to an all too early end, but her achievements—rising from the daughter of a factory worker and skyscraper to the positions of judge, county prosecutor, five-term Member of Congress—have made a lasting impact at each and every step along the way, especially with the many, many lives she touched.

I was privileged to sit by her on the Ways and Means Committee. You could probably call us the odd couple—a reserved, middle-aged man from the most rural part of our country, teamed with the most energetic, charismatic, bombastic, thoroughly urban STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

Over the years, on our committee together, I came to fully understand just how deep and how genuine her passion

for others was, especially for those less fortunate, for those needing help. We'd joke about taking turns keeping each other settled down even under considerable provocation sometimes in Ways and Means debate. My counsel of "take it easy, Stephanie" would be met in turn with "now settle down, Earl." In one hearing on inexcusable Social Security delays, we both just lost it entirely. I'll never forget that hearing; it's one of my favorites.

One of the greatest compliments I've had in this Congress, in any Congress I've served in, was when she'd call me her country boyfriend. She had the most incredible way of making those she met feel better. In the place where smiles, laughter and deep compassion are never in sufficient supply, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES will be deeply, deeply missed but never forgotten.

Ms. KAPTUR. I thank the gentleman for his remarks and presence this evening.

I would like to yield 2 minutes now to one of STEPHANIE's sisters here from the State of Texas, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE.

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I thank you very much.

This is such a wonderful story that I'm listening to as we honor STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, so I'm going to speak on some issues that showed her in her fullness and in her love of life.

□ 2015

And that was as a House basketball coach. She was that woman with a smile. She was a Good Samaritan. She was also like Ruth; if she was your friend, she was going to stick with you. She loved life, loved her family. How wonderful it was to be part of her family. And she allowed this Congress to be part of her family because everyone knew Mervyn, her husband; her son; her sisters; her mother and father, who I got a chance to know. But yet when she got on that basketball court and she was the coach, I tell you that was a winning smile, a winning coach, and a winning team.

And there was nothing more exciting than being at the 2008 House basketball team game. This was a game for charity. But you couldn't tell Coach STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES that she was out there for charity. She was out there to win, and I think it was the NBA championship, for she ran up and down that court. She gave the best coaching. She told the guys, who happened to be Members of Congress and others, what they could and could not do. And even though she wasn't the referee and she wasn't the penalizer, she'd penalize her team.

And what an exciting time to see in this year's 2008 winning basketball effort, Mervyn, her son, make the winning basketball shot. It was so exciting that those of us that were in the stands ran out onto the court, of course in

violation, but we were able to get away with that. And I was so excited, in my short stature of 5'2½", I asked the greatest coach that I knew that I work with her next year, and she gave me the greatest honor and said "yes." That was STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, the lover of life.

But yet as a prosecutor, one would think she would be hard nosed and she'd be running toward prosecution and incarceration. But she teamed up with her dear friend DANNY DAVIS, and they shed their light all around this campus, both the House and the Senate, to work on what we call the Second Chance bill.

So I rise today on behalf of the incarcerated whom STEPHANIE loved whom she gave an opportunity, through her work with DANNY DAVIS and those who cosponsored this legislation, to say to these individuals they could have a second chance.

May God allow her to rest in peace, but may her star shine continuously through us. We love her and we love her family.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to place in the RECORD the names of the very able staff of Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. This staff has endured great sadness, and they have tried to carry on with their leader being in spiritual guidance but not there personally.

And I would like to thank, from her district office, Betty Pinkney, her district director; Beverly Charles, her senior liaison; Theresa Lang Coaxum, her health liaison; Sharon Cole, business liaison; Saulette Reed, her office manager.

And here in Washington, Kimberley Alton, her legislative director; Lalla King Green, her scheduler; Eric Hammond, her staff assistant; Aaron Wasserman, her legislative correspondent; Darrell Doss, her tax counsel; Athena Abdullah, her health counsel; Nicole Y. Williams, her communications director; and Patrice Willoughby, dear Patrice, her chief of staff and counsel, who has tried to stand in STEPHANIE's place during these very difficult days.

And, finally, from the Committee on Standards, Dawn Kelly Mobley, the counsel to the chairwoman.

These are wonderful, wonderful staff people who have STEPHANIE's heart, and we want to do everything we can to help them through this very difficult time. And we thank them for their service to STEPHANIE and serving the people of the 11th District and the people of our country.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to place in the RECORD before I call on our final speaker this story: There were many tributes paid to STEPHANIE at the service in Cleveland. One of the most moving speakers, the friends of STEPHANIE, heard Saturday from no politician or preacher but from a young 16 year old named Tiffany, a member of an all girls health careers class at Cleveland Martin Luther King Junior

High School that STEPHANIE took under her wing 2 years ago. Tiffany recalled JONES telling the girls “This is the future. You are the future.” And the Congresswoman took time from her political and legislative schedule to visit the class and take them places. She took them to church one Sunday, but Tiffany had to work that day. So STEPHANIE dropped by to the workplace with Tiffany’s classmates in tow. STEPHANIE kept her eye on every one of them. “We’re family,” Tiffany told her classmates, who stood in a show of unity with their peer. She said, “We’ve got to stick together. We have got to carry on in her legacy. She was steward, protector, and advocate to us. I will miss her as a friend.”

STEPHANIE had friends of all ages. We thank her for her leadership and for the seeds that she planted in the new growth forest that is growing in Cleveland and growing across this country to which she devoted her life.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to call as our final speaker in this bereavement resolution STEPHANIE’s very good friend from the State of Missouri, Congressman EMANUEL CLEAVER.

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, when Congresswoman TUBBS discovered that I had three sons who had gone to college on basketball scholarships, she asked if I would bring them here for the annual fund-raising basketball game with the Georgetown Law School faculty. None of them could come this year; so I was drafted by STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES in language that I would normally not use during a sermon. But I did show up and immediately became angry because she pulled me out of the game just because I could not make it down the court in a minute in the transition game. So I cheered for the remainder of the evening for our team that Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE mentioned did win in overtime.

But the most significant moment for me came when we all saw the signs that the pages had made for us. They were cheering us on. And the pages sent me a statement that they asked if I would read on their behalf. And I quote:

“Ask any one of the pages from the spring 2008 class to list their favorite memories from the 5 months we spent working on the hill, an anecdote about Ms. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES will likely be included. For some of us it is the unwavering charisma shown when she was the Speaker pro tempore. For others it is the simple act of coming to say good-bye to us at our departure ceremony. For most of us, it is the night of the 2008 home court charity basketball game, where our chants cheering on the Hill’s Angels team and the Coach TUBBS JONES rang 10 times louder than the formidable Georgetown students cheering section and led our team to a surprising victory.

That night and for the rest of the time we knew Ms. TUBBS JONES, we weren’t just pages sitting in the back of the House. We experienced that

night the true strength, pride, and enthusiasm of STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, a strength rooted in her devotion to making things better, a pride in her job as a public servant evident every single day, and an unmatched enthusiasm for our service as pages. She was the type of woman you only dream of meeting at some point in your life and the friend we never expected to find in the halls of Congress last spring.

“Just as we will never forget our time as pages, we will never forget STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

“The spring 2008 page class.”

Mr. Speaker, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES was my friend. We had the opportunity to spend time together, and I don’t want to reminisce and say things that others have already said. Let me just say that I hate death. I hate it. And if I had an opportunity to erase it or kill it, I would. But death, unfortunately, is a part of life and we will all experience it. The issue is not death so much as it is life, and we are granted an unspecified period of time, and many of us deal with those moments with a kind of carelessness that certainly was not planned when we were given our time on this Earth.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES was exuberant. She lived her life. She lived it out to the fullest. And I can say that if you understand that life is not a time to just waste and then look at the time of STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, you know she understood that. And I would say that death is not a cul-de-sac for some. It’s not an end. Death is a beginning. And for STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, it was a comma for a new beginning. She lived her life and she lived it with zest and zeal.

She pulled me in Kansas City on the dance floor in front of hundreds of people and made me dance. I have a photograph of that that I had been hiding that I am now going to bring out with pride because I think when she did that, she was also saying live your life and live it to the fullest. Never ever allow cobwebs to cover you. If you rest, you rust. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES never rusted.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, in concluding this first hour this evening in honor of our dear colleague STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, let me just say that STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES was a true mother of this Republic. Let the record show that. Let the record comfort her son in years hence.

And I want to say to our dear, dear friend and colleague Congressman REGULA, whose district sort of held STEPHANIE’s up on the southern side, I want to thank him so very much, the dean of the Republican side of the aisle, for being here throughout this evening and through the wonderful participation of her colleagues of various persuasions here on the floor. The friendships went beyond party, and I thank the gentleman for his participation.

Mr. REGULA. Well, I would just comment that to know STEPHANIE was to love her. She just had that ebullient personality that you couldn’t resist.

I also want to comment on one other thing, and that is that thousands of people in East Cleveland, in her district, have better health care today than they would have without STEPHANIE. She focused on the health care assets of East Cleveland, some of the best in the Nation, and as a result, the people that she represented have a better chance to take advantage of the health care facilities. And that’s a legacy of STEPHANIE that most people aren’t aware of and yet touches the lives of literally thousands of people.

And I congratulate the gentlewoman from Ohio for having this Special Order tonight because STEPHANIE was special.

Ms. KAPTUR. Thank you, Congressman REGULA, and I want to thank all of our colleagues who have participated this evening. I can guarantee you that every word that is on the RECORD will come to comfort Mervyn and the Tubbs Jones family, their church family, her sisterhood, all the people of Cleveland, all the people who have known STEPHANIE across our Nation. I want to thank our colleagues for their generosity and for their good hearts.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that the Ohio delegation stands beside those from the Congressional Black Caucus, who will have the second hour this evening in remembrance of STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. We thank them very much for doing this. I know how very much their words will mean not just today but in future years to those who love STEPHANIE always.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight deeply saddened by the passing of my friend and colleague, Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

Congresswoman TUBBS JONES was an extraordinary woman, wife, mother, and leader.

Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES made history by becoming the first African-American woman to be elected to Congress from her State of Ohio.

Throughout her career, Congresswoman TUBBS JONES demonstrated a serious commitment to her constituents and represented them well.

She dedicated her life to uplift and inspire those around her. Her dedication, strong will, and spirit gave hope to so many people.

Congresswoman TUBBS JONES and her work will never be forgotten as she lives in us all. She has left her mark in history, in Congress, and in our hearts.

I will deeply miss her and my thoughts and prayers are with her family.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the untimely death of Republican STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES gives us pause. There was a great writer who once said that the death of one of us diminishes us all. As Stephanie’s friends and colleagues in the U.S. Congress, we all feel a little lost and a little less because one of our most fearless champions is gone.

Those who are voiceless in America today, who have been left out and left behind, have lost a warrior, a fighter, a crusader who did what she could to defend the dignity of human kind. There was not anything shy about Stephanie.

She had the courage, the ability, and the desire to speak up and speak out, to fight for

what she believed was right, what was fair and just.

As a fellow member of the Ways and Means Committee, she was very concerned about using the tax code to help lift the burdens of the least among us. I always enjoyed it when she made a statement or questioned a witness. She was a brilliant judge and prosecutor, and that helped make her a gifted member of Congress.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES will be deeply missed by the Cleveland community, by the people of Ohio, by the citizens of America, by her family, friends, and all of her colleagues in the U.S. Congress. Peace be with you STEPHANIE, my friend. May God Almighty grant you eternal peace.

Mr. JEFFERSON. Mr. Speaker, I first met STEPHANIE TUBBS-JONES through her legendary predecessor, Representative Louis Stokes, who described her simply as "full of life." Indeed, she was. And, to have heard her impassioned speech denoting the shortcomings of a housing bill the Congress recently passed, a speech made just before the Congress went on its August break, it is impossible to see her death foreshadowed. Her zeal for public service, her love for the members of Congress, and particularly of the CBC members, and her commitment to people who needed a hand up from government, defined her life here.

In a larger sense she was a devoted family person. She lost both her parents during her service here, and, I having also lost my mother and father over my years here, gave us the opportunity for quiet reflection on what our parents had meant to us, and helped to deepen our friendship.

She was devoted to the memory of her husband, Mervyn, who died just a few years ago. When I chaired the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, I urged her to join the board, which she did. From that point, she launched the Mervyn Jones Golf Classic which has raised millions in scholarship funds for worthy and needy college students. She was awfully proud of her son Mervyn II, who often came to the gym to play basketball with us "old jocks" and often schooled us with his basketball skills.

Her service on the Ways and Means Committee with me over several years gave me insight into her caring heart for health care and human resource issues but also into her competence as an infighter in the legislative process. She made her points, stood her ground and quite often carried her position. She sought me out after Hurricane Katrina hit my district and my State, offering advice and real help. STEPHANIE identified with human suffering everywhere and wanted to do something about it.

I was stunned and saddened by her sudden and unexpected death as were we all. And it was the hardest thing not to take the plane ride to Cleveland to attend her funeral and memorial service. It was only after the sage and stern advice from my Chairwoman CAROLYN CHEEKS-KILPATRICK that I reluctantly canceled my trip to Cleveland to attend to the issues back at home with Hurricane Gustav bearing down on our people. I know I was well covered by the members who did attend and part of me will always regret not being there. But, looking at it from another vantage point—not having fully seen her in death—my memories of her will only be those of her in life—not

just in life but "full of life" as Lou Stokes described her.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mourn the loss of my friend and colleague STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES was a kind and caring friend, a hard-working and diligent colleague, and a committed representative. She was also a trailblazer—she was the first African-American and the first female prosecutor in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, the first African-American woman to be elected to serve Ohio in the House of Representatives, and the first African-American woman to serve on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES was an inspiration to me and to others who aspire to represent their constituents with passion, dedication, and integrity. A champion of voting rights, she stood up for those who lacked a voice to ensure that they are not denied the most fundamental right of our democracy—the right to vote.

In her role as Chair of the House Ethics Committee, she led the House of Representatives in ensuring that Members of Congress live up to high standards. She understood that increasing Americans' confidence in their government requires honest and ethical behavior by their leaders.

All those who loved STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, including her son Melvyn Leroy Jones II, and her sister Barbara Walker, are in my thoughts and prayers.

As we mourn the passing of this intelligent, hard-working, and caring representative, we celebrate her accomplishments. We are reminded that despite the tragedy of her passing, her life was a blessing for her colleagues, her friends, her family, her constituents, and so many who needed a champion.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in expressing great sympathy on the sudden passing of STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES was a pioneer her entire professional career: She was the first African-American and the first female prosecutor in Cuyahoga County, Ohio; the first African-American woman to sit on the Common Pleas bench in Ohio; the first African-American woman to be elected to Congress from Ohio; and the first African-American woman to serve on the House Ways and Means Committee.

As a first term member of Congress, my service with STEPHANIE was too short, but I will fondly remember her bright smile and vibrant personality. Her leadership and passion will be sorely missed.

I would like to extend my deepest condolences to STEPHANIE's son, Mervyn Leroy Jones II, and her sister, Barbara Walker.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today joining my colleagues in tribute, sharing kind words and memories of our colleague and dear friend Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

I was deeply saddened when I heard the news of her death. My sincerest thoughts and prayers go out to her son Mervyn, to all her family, and to her friends and supporters during this difficult time.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES was an inspiration and a tireless advocate for her constituents. She was a fighter. A strong woman of conviction and intelligence, whose values and experience guided her advocacy and fearlessness.

STEPHANIE broke molds, she broke glass ceilings, and then swept away the stereotypes. STEPHANIE was never one to be absorbed into the folds of a monochrome following. She was outspoken and proactive, bold in demeanor and action. Her always bright and powerful at-tire spoke to her outgoing personality, which never shied away from a challenge and approached every day with enthusiasm and confidence. Her skill in crafting intelligent and responsible legislation shows that she viewed the world through this diverse spectrum of color, dismissing the notion that solutions to complex problems can come from a world of simply black and white.

Justice and inclusion were at the heart of her work. In her 10 years in Congress and her lifetime of service she always put justice, opportunity, and equality atop all other pursuits. STEPHANIE did not come from a life of privilege simply to serve the privileged. She came from a working class community and put her heart and soul into lifting up that community with every step of the ladder she climbed.

I remember how highly coveted she was by the then members of the Ways and Means committee, when joining the powerful committee soon after her election. My husband Bob served on the then committee and recognized in her character the genuine desire to serve her Nation, her constituents, and those whose voices had yet to be fully heard. Her experience as a prosecutor and judge gave her arguments tenacity and her decisions finality.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES effectively represented her Cleveland district for over a decade. Yet she never dismissed the acknowledgment that her success as a groundbreaking figure touched many outside her district's boundaries. Her work looked beyond district lines and party lines to affect, inspire, and speak for those in need of justice and advocacy.

My heart goes out to her loved ones. I know that she will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her. Her impact will continue to be felt, not only in her Cleveland district and the U.S. House of Representatives, but by the many individuals who benefited from her service.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to mourn the passing of my good friend and colleague, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES.

While serving with STEPHANIE on the Ways and Means Committee, and more closely on the Health Subcommittee, I experienced firsthand what a fierce and effective advocate she was in Congress. She was an uncompromising champion for health care as a right for everyone. Her constant effort highlighting the disparities in our health care system and her tireless work on behalf of End-Stage Renal Disease patients made her an outstanding representative. She is, in a word, irreplaceable.

Her spirited advocacy and commitment to justice and fairness were accompanied by warmth and strong loyalty. Those who worked closely with her were privileged to see both her intense passion and joy for her work.

I extend my sincerest condolences to her son Mervyn and her sister Barbara, and the many women and men who counted her among their family and friends. As a colleague and friend, I am honored to have served beside her. She will be sorely missed.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of our dear friend, Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. Since her arrival here nearly 10 years ago as the first African-American woman elected to Congress by Ohio, she was a tireless advocate for the poor and our Nation's working families. Despite the tremendous personal losses she suffered, including the tragic loss of her sister, her parents, and her husband Mervyn of 26 years, she never wavered in her commitment to the people of Ohio.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES will be remembered as a role model, an ardent and bold voice for progressive causes, and a champion for the rights of the disenfranchised. She will be a tough act to follow. Her remarkable passion and bravery continue to be an inspiration to us all, and we will all truly miss her presence in this Chamber.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 2030

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE JOHN A. BOEHNER, REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable John A. Boehner, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
July 27, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: Pursuant to Section 4(a) of the Commission on the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade Act (P.L. 110-183), I am pleased to appoint Mr. Donald Murphy of Cincinnati, Ohio to the Commission on the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

Mr. Murphy has expressed interest in serving in this capacity and I am pleased to fulfill his request.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Republican Leader.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, August 1, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a grand jury subpoena,

issued by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, for the production of documents.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

DANIEL P. BEARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SUNSET MEMORIAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I stand once again before this House with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is September 8, 2008 in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun sets today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today, Mr. Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 13,013 days since the tragedy called Roe v. Wade was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Mr. Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common. First, they were each just little babies

who had done nothing wrong to anyone, and each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government." The phrase in the 14th Amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Mr. Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth.

It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Mr. Speaker, it is who we are.

And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

So Mr. Speaker, let me conclude this Sunset Memorial in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard it tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies; that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express; and that 13,013 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that it is time that we stood up together again, and remembered that we are the same America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust; and we are still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

Mr. Speaker, as we consider the plight of unborn America tonight, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each one of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of innocent unborn children. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny, little American brothers and sisters from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is September 8, 2008, 13,013 days since Roe versus Wade first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children; this in the land of the free and the home of the brave.