

County together to form Team Monterey, showing the brochure indicating that over \$1 billion was spent in Monterey County for the DOD efforts there. You were going to see if this team effort could be done for your district and for the State of Pennsylvania.

“Jack, you were quite the Zeus. Everyone came to you, loved you, loved your good nature, your loyalty, your friendship, your laugh, and your wisdom. Remember how you would bet on how long the debate would take on the Defense appropriations bills? You always won. I was shocked that the biggest appropriations account in the Federal Government could be enacted with the shortest debate. You laughed and said, ‘All the problems were worked out in committee, we don’t need floor debate.’ At first I thought it was a fluke. But over the years, I learned you made it so.

“Jack, thanks for coming out to the Monterey Peninsula to visit the Naval Postgraduate School and the Defense Language Institute. You were a good listener, and always insisted no PowerPoints, no BS, just the problems. No one in Congress cuts to the issue faster than you.

“I remember your delight in hearing from an IED specialist just back from Iraq who asked you, ‘Why don’t we figure out what makes cultures set these things off in the first place?’ You loved that thinking. Thanks again for allowing me to ride back to D.C. on Mil Air. We brought Paul Stockton along and had a wonderful discussion on Iraq and how we might exit. By the way, Jack, Paul is now the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas’ Security Affairs. I know how much you respected his insight.

“Thanks, Jack, for always asking me for copies of photos I took, not of you, but of your staff. I remember the photo of John Hugya when he was your district director taken with President Clinton. You insisted I give it to you for him. Remember the time you hung up on a President when he called you? You had guts.

“I remember going to your district and being in a meeting with the area economic development folks. You were giving them the Washington update. It was cold and wet, but full of people. I admired how devoted they were to you. And I took pictures, which you wanted to pass on to them. Seeing the countryside and the poverty of the area made me realize how lucky I was to represent my district. You really helped people in need. That is why you are loved in your district and here on the floor of the House of Representatives.

“The House Chamber has a lot of famous fixtures and paintings, statues, reliefs, but you are going to stand out as one of our greats. You showed your profile in courage in taking a nationally profiled lead against the war in Iraq that you originally supported. And you were attacked by everyone except the military. They knew that you knew it couldn’t be sustained.

“When they attacked you with big campaign expenditures to defeat you,

your friends responded without even being asked. The word was out Jack was in trouble, and we responded.

“Jack, you shouldn’t have died. It is a real shock, not only to you, your friends, and this institution, but to your beloved family. You and Joyce had such a special partnership.

“I loved accompanying you both on the Appropriations Committee CODEL to California’s National Parks, the joy you got in seeing how a former army base in San Francisco could be turned into the Golden Gate National Park, and even Alcatraz is now a tourist site. You loved being a tourist in San Francisco and Joyce was so appreciative of NANCY PELOSI’s hospitality long before she sought leadership roles.

“While the Democratic Caucus was visiting Nemacolin Resort in your state you encouraged me to visit the two Frank Lloyd Wright homes there. Joyce led the tour. She was a model host and a good friend to all. I can’t imagine her life without you, nor yours without her. This has to be as hard for your children as it was for me in losing my mom at an early age. Time heals—unfortunately it is going to take a long time.

“Congress will miss you as a great member and, more importantly, as a caring, sensitive friend. We will try to fill in, but the credibility will be lacking and the outcome less successful.

“Just know you made a difference, a big difference—out here on the Central Coast of California—you helped launch a new university, upgrade the Naval Postgraduate School, and provided the programs that let our students learn foreign languages faster and better.

“You were the Captain of our ship, and Oh Captain, you will be sorely missed!”

I’d like to include the letters from the Naval Postgraduate School and the Defense Manpower Data Center in Monterey in sympathy.

NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL,
Monterey, CA.

Congressman Murtha was a true servant to the public, a throwback with few peers matching his length of service to the U.S. House of Representatives. Service to his nation was perhaps a constant throughout his life—not only is he one of our nation’s longest serving representatives, he was also a retired Marine Corps colonel, joining the service in 1952 during the Korean War out of a deep sense of obligation to his country.

Congressman Murtha also served as Chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee—and was the ranking Democrat on the committee for nearly two decades—which put him in a position to impact so many communities far beyond Pennsylvania’s 12th District.

That impact was felt here at the Naval Postgraduates School, where he was a friend to NPS. He believed in the value of graduate education for military officers and was consistently and particularly supportive of NPS over the years. Congressman Murtha recognized the value of the NPS MISSION in supporting our military forces and NPS unique contributions to national security.

LEONARD A. FERRARI,
Executive Vice President & Provost.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, HUMAN
RESOURCES ACTIVITY, DEFENSE
MANPOWER DATA CENTER,

Seaside, CA.

Chairman Murtha was a great American and a steadfast friend of the members of the Armed Forces and their families. He exemplified the best of our Nation’s values and was the iconic example of a patriot. As a

decorated veteran he identified closely with Service members and his tireless efforts to see that they were adequately compensated, well-trained, well-led and provided with the best equipment were legendary. As a direct result of his four decades of leadership in the Congress our ability to support and defend our Nation remains unsurpassed. His unwavering support for Defense organizations in the Monterey area was of enormous value to the Nation.

Every American owes him a great, great debt.

IN MEMORY OF JACK MURTHA

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues to sing the praises of a great man, Jack Murtha. Many of us had the honor of calling him colleague in this Chamber, and some of us here had the privilege of calling him friend. And when he was your friend, you had a true friend.

Last week, many of us traveled to Johnstown, Pennsylvania, to see Jack put to rest. It was wonderful to hear the stories of the thousands of people who showed up to pay their last respects to him in Johnstown, the people he knew so well, cared about so much, fought for in this Chamber. His family was gathered and surrounded by their loved ones and people. The former President of the United States, Bill Clinton, was there, the Secretary of Defense was there, the chairman of the National Security Council was there, representatives of the President’s cabinet, and planeloads of his colleagues who came from Washington or drove from home.

At that time we laughed and we cried, and we tried to understand why this had happened. Jack’s wife Joyce, who is very strong, said to me, “Jack would have wanted it this way. He went out at the top of his game.” Joyce is very strong. We went there to console, and we came back consoled by Jack’s strong family.

I told them in my remarks about Jack holding court in the Pennsylvania Corner in this Chamber. There isn’t another corner that I know of that has its own name and its own presiding officer. But Jack held court there, and Members from across the country and across the aisle came to visit him, to ask his blessing on their endeavors, and to just be encouraged, and sometimes supported by him. The cluster around him were Pennsylvanians and others, but he was never alone. He was a magnet, a personal magnet. People were drawn to him. He had this wonderful smile and cheerful, twinkling eyes.

To see him operate in the Appropriations Committee, many of us served there, was to see a master at work. But really to understand his character, it was more important to see him with our troops, whether it was just off the

battlefield or in a military hospital, Bethesda Naval Medical Center, Walter Reed, Germany, Afghanistan, Iraq, in the hospitals where our troops were taken.

From his own military experience, he would ask them questions very knowledgeably about their unit and what they had encountered and what they had seen. And they all loved seeing him. They knew he was their friend. And so to visit, on the occasions when I had the privilege of visiting with Jack Murtha, was to receive a special welcome from the troops and their families.

One time I remember in particular was we were visiting this young man, it was a second visit, and he managed somehow, when he knew Jack was coming, to get out of his bed. And as we went in the door, there he was standing at attention saluting Jack Murtha in a Steelers jersey. Pennsylvania, how he loved that State, how he worked for it, how we will miss him here.

He had a special way about him, as I have said, by dint of his knowledge, his courage. Imagine the courage it took for Jack Murtha to come to our caucus, to come to the Leader's office and tell me that day, "We have to begin removing our troops from Iraq." He went alone to the press to tell them that. It was like an earthquake in terms of opinion. People who had questions about the war felt validated. People who respected Jack began to question.

One thing was for sure. He was respected by the military. And when he spoke, they knew it was with no agenda except the national security of our country and the safety of our men and women in uniform.

Force protection. He was always talking about that. When we would travel to the war zones, whether it was the seats in the trucks, or the better radios, or whatever, up-armored cars, body armor, you name it, as soon as he saw the need he came back and delivered. So when he did speak out against the war in Iraq, it was really quite a stunning thing for our country. I think it was really historic. It wasn't just that episode, it was that event of national significance, historic significance.

He received, as has been mentioned, the John F. Kennedy Profiles in Courage award. Can you imagine for people of our generation, someone to receive the John F. Kennedy Profiles in Courage award? I will never forget that night. The Kennedy Library, he and Joyce, black tie, beautiful Joyce, proud Jack standing tall like a Marine coming down those steps, being cheered by Democrats and Republicans alike. It wasn't about any partisanship. It was about patriotism.

He was a proud Marine, as we all know. Semper fi was their motto. Semper fidelis. Always faithful. And that was the motto of his life, faithful to God, faithful to country, faithful to his family, faithful to his district.

I can't talk about Jack, just one more moment, if I may, Madam Speak-

er, without talking about the funny stories he always told us about Tip O'Neill. Tip was his mentor. As he mentored so many of us, Tip was his mentor. And he loved Tip O'Neill. And he would tell us the stories of how it was to go to a baseball game with Tip, and this and that and the rest. I won't go into the stories now about peer review, Mr. OBEY, and those kind of appropriations matters. But Tip instilled in him, perhaps he had it innately, but still Tip strengthened in him a pride in this institution that he took very seriously. And he, in mentoring others, passed that pride on to others as well. He loved this Congress, he loved this institution. He left us at the top of his game. We will miss you, Jack Murtha.

Next week we will gather in Statuary Hall with many more friends who can join in, not as we are on the floor of the House, to once again pay tribute to this man. It is hard to believe he is gone. But as he said, "Soldiers can't speak for themselves. We sent them to war, and, by God, we are the ones that have to speak out."

His wife Joyce wants us to have the music God Bless America at the closing of his ceremony next week. God truly blessed America with the life, leadership, and service of Jack Murtha. I hope it is a comfort to Joyce and to the children and grandchildren, of whom he was so proud, that so many people mourn their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

PRINCIPLED LEADERSHIP OF JACK MURTHA

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

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about principled leadership that makes a difference. That best describes the Dean of the Pennsylvania delegation and its longest serving member, Jack Murtha. Yes, Jack Murtha was a Member's Member. He was a soldier's soldier. Always straight shooting, courageous, willing to defend this institution and all of us that work herein.

During my 33 years of service in this body and with Jack Murtha, very few individuals would I turn to for advice and counsel like I would Jack Murtha. Like so many of my colleagues, I have traveled to troubled spots in this world with Jack Murtha. I have read and learned from him not only on these hardworking, hard hitting CODELS, but also from his book, From Vietnam to 9/11. Words of wisdom for all of us here today and for the future.

Many of my strongest memories of Jack Murtha are from our congressional travels together. We traveled to Lebanon in the fall of 1982, following the deployment of U.S. forces as peacekeepers to that country. We stayed in the very same Marine barracks that 6 months later were blown to smithereens.

During our trip in June of 1987 to Angola, it was Chairman Murtha who was successful in securing the release of a downed U.S. pilot from his Congressional district. Later, in August of that same year, we traveled to the Persian Gulf during the U.S. reflagging operation of Kuwaiti ships. A few years later, in January of '93, we traveled on an inspection trip to Somalia, following President George Herbert Walker Bush's December of 1992 dispatch of our U.S. troops there in order to establish order and ensure the success of our humanitarian relief efforts.

The bottom line in all of these travels, of course, as so many of my colleagues can attest, is that around this world our service men and women knew the true character of Jack Murtha.

□ 1845

They knew the backbone of Jack Murtha, a veteran, a dedicated public servant, an individual who was never too busy or never too selfish to take time to regularly visit our military installations, our military hospitals, to visit our brave, wounded service personnel.

From Chairman Murtha's station atop our Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, our soldiers knew, they were secure in the knowledge that their sacrifices and their dedications were in the best hands in the United States Congress.

I will miss you, Jack. I will miss our true leader. I will miss his courage and his dedication. Our courageous American troops will miss you, Jack Murtha. Our veterans will miss you, and all of America will miss you.

Your family, Joyce, and your children and your grandchildren, to them I extend my thoughts and prayers and know that the memories of Jack Murtha will always instill in his family the inspiration, the pride, the strength, and the love that will carry you on to carry on the brave torch of Jack Murtha.

God bless you, friend.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN MURTHA

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

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. I want to make note, Madam Speaker, of the fact that the Speaker of the House is here and the chairman of the Appropriations Committee has been here throughout the entire time of this tribute, out of respect. That's old school. Jack was old school. That's what would matter to him. You'd never see him with a BlackBerry. Can you imagine Jack Murtha with a BlackBerry? I am sure he's never used the Internet once in his life.

You know, when we learned of Jack's passing, NORM DICKS and I were on the phone and, between sobs, we, at the