

Past Commissioner of New York City's Community Development Agency.

Served on the Education and Labor Committee throughout his tenure in Congress (From 1987–1993 chaired the Education and Labor Subcommittee on Select Education and Civil Rights).

Served on the Government Reform Committee throughout his tenure in Congress.

Chaired the Congressional Black Caucus Higher Education Braintrust.

Floor manager and original co-sponsor of the American with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Sponsor of the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Authored legislation that prevented the Immigration and Naturalization Service from deporting the parents of American-born children under age 18 and legislation that extended citizenship to immigrant children under 12 who were in the U.S. without their parents.

Founder and organizer of the National Commission for African American Education.

Strong Organized Labor advocate—Championed the need for maintaining the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Lead sponsor of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act—Providing for major reforms in the Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) Program (Programs designed to aid community agencies in combating urban and rural poverty).

Past chair of the CBC's Haitian Task Force.

Has written several books including: "Roots and Wings", a semi-autobiographical book about his life.

In 2006 was named a distinguished visiting scholar at the John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress, where he completed a case study of the CBC and its impact on national politics.

Prior to his death, Congressman Owens taught at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, NY.

#### OBAMACARE CHOICE ACT OF 2013

(Mr. BARTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to announce to my colleagues in the House that I just introduced H.R. 3348, the ObamaCare Choice Act of 2013.

This is a simple 1½-page bill. It simply lets the American people choose for the next year whether they want to participate in what we commonly call ObamaCare. If it is as good as the President says it is, people will join and get the benefits from it. If, on the other hand, they can't get the software fixed, the policy mandates are unsustainable, and the costs are too high, the American people will choose not to participate. It is a simple bill that makes participation voluntary by suspending the tax for nonparticipation.

So I would encourage all of my colleagues to join as a cosponsor of H.R. 3348, the ObamaCare Choice Act of 2013.

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#### REMEMBERING THE HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased tonight to lead a Special Order in memory of the life and service of our dear friend, our colleague from Florida, Mr. Bill Young. We will hear from members of the Florida delegation and also from leaders from the committee on which he was a leader, himself.

To lead off tonight in our Special Order in that vein, I am very pleased to yield first to the chair of the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives, on which Mr. Young served so distinguishably, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS).

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Let me thank my colleague from Florida for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, I rise today with a very heavy heart to honor the memory and service of our dear friend and colleague, Bill Young.

Bill served in this House and he served this country for decades with compassion and distinction. I have not known this institution without him—most of us are in that same situation—and I believe it will take a long time to fill the hole that his absence has left. As an appropriator, he was a role model for all of us. When I became chairman of the committee, I knew I had some very large shoes to fill in following in the footsteps of Chairman Young, among others. He fought with determination and enthusiasm to make this country a better place.

Bill was a champion for our troops and veterans especially, both in the Halls of the Congress and outside. His fierce determination and dedication to our troops and veterans never wavered. As we all know, he and his dear wife, Beverly, were to be found very frequently at Bethesda or at Walter Reed in the city or at a hospital overseas where troops were sick, and they spent hours and hours helping those who were injured.

He was, of course, the chairman of the Defense Subcommittee on the Appropriations Committee for many years. He also served on the Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee, and his thumbprint is very visible in the improved medical care and in the quality of life of our troops, among the many other issues that he held dear to his heart.

Bill was a leader in this House who was able to make his mark with grace and fortitude. He was a lion about the things that he cared about; but he was a gentle lion, and he did things with grace and with a quiet voice until you crossed him on the betterment of our troops. Then Bill Young would let you know where to get off.

I will miss Bill Young greatly as I know all of us will. My prayers are with his family, with Beverly, with his many friends, and with all of those who had the privilege of knowing and working with Bill Young. He will be greatly missed.

Mr. MICA. I thank the gentleman.

We are also pleased to have with us tonight a distinguished leader of the Florida delegation and now the dean of the Florida delegation—our senior member—to pay tribute to Bill Young. I yield to the gentlelady from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Chairman, thank you for the time.

A good man, a warm friend and a true patriot, Bill Young was an example for all of us here in Congress, and it was an honor and a privilege to serve with him. Madam Speaker, the loss of Bill's experience and knowledge will be felt by everyone in this Chamber.

The consummate gentleman from Florida, Bill was always ready to listen to his colleagues on both sides of the aisle, greeting everyone with a smile. Both principled and honest while maintaining civility with his colleagues, Bill never allowed differences of opinion to devolve into partisan bickering, and he worked with Republicans and Democrats to balance our budget as chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

A tenacious public servant, Bill dedicated his life to his constituents. His number one priority was ensuring those who serve our country get the help and the services they need to be successful. Improving the quality of life for veterans and for all Active Duty personnel, including those in the Reserve and the National Guard, was Bill's mission. Bill was always there for those returning from combat, visiting and helping our wounded warriors with his wife, Beverly, and providing for our veterans at the medical facility in Bay Pines, which now bears his name.

As chairman of the Appropriations National Defense Subcommittee, Bill oversaw spending by the Pentagon and worked to ensure the readiness of our military in combat. His efforts helped not just those in his district but Americans across the Nation. His legacy will be seen around every corner, from the beaches of Pinellas County to our fighting forces around the world.

A genuine statesman, Bill's accomplishments are as varied as they are numerous. He fought to protect Florida's environment by blocking drilling close to our gulf coast and in helping to restore eroding beaches. With Beverly, Bill helped create a national bone marrow registry with almost 10 million donors registered thus far. Just as he fought for his own district, he could always be counted upon to help us with our constituent needs.

In 1991, in his district, he saved MacDill Air Force Base from closure; and a year later, he helped rebuild and protect Homestead Air Reserve Base in

my congressional district after the devastation of Hurricane Andrew. Through his vital efforts in my district, the Miami River dredging project was completed—a project that continues to generate billions for the shipping industry, to create jobs and to spur economic growth in south Florida. It couldn't have happened without Bill Young. Bill was instrumental in assisting Tampa Bay residents and those in my south Florida community and, indeed, across our country.

A true gentleman, a public servant and a friend, Bill Young deserves all of our thanks, Madam Speaker. He will be forever remembered as a champion not just for Florida but, indeed, for our entire great Nation.

I thank the gentleman for arranging this Special Order.

Mr. MICA. I thank the gentlelady.

Mr. Young was respected not only by his Republican peers and colleagues but by peers on both sides of the aisle. So I am pleased now to yield to a senior member of the Florida delegation on the other side of the aisle, the co-chair, Mr. HASTINGS.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Thank you very much. I appreciate you, Mr. MICA, my colleague, for arranging this Special Order, and it is special that we come here to speak about a gentleman who was special to us all.

Madam Speaker, obviously, we are here with heavy hearts and with great sadness tonight in our honoring of a friend and a colleague, Congressman Bill Young.

Bill was an assiduous public servant and a tireless advocate for all Floridians; but above all, he was a man of integrity and a true statesman. The House of Representatives will not be the same without him. He served in Congress for 42 years; and I, as well as others, am deeply honored to have had the opportunity to serve alongside him for the past two decades. He dedicated himself to providing for our Nation's servicemen and servicewomen and was a powerful voice for America's best interests at home and abroad. His distinguished career has left its mark on the lives of countless Americans.

When I first came to Congress in 1992, I met with Bill Young and Sam Gibbons. They were on opposite sides of the aisle, but were dear friends, dedicated to Florida and to making the Florida delegation strong. I remember vividly learning from both of them through the years. In addition, throughout all of the travails of hurricanes and disasters, Bill Young stood with all of us who suffered during those periods, and he did everything he could to bring resources to Florida and to this Nation during disasters.

My first experience with an earmark was when Bill became chairman of the Appropriations Committee. I didn't know much about the process, but I knew that I wanted to get money in the budget to contribute to the African American Research Center in Fort Lauderdale in my congressional dis-

trict. When I went to him, I was nervous because I wasn't sure how it would be handled, and he calmed me very easily by saying, It is done. For sure, he had had a hand in the development of that particular research center, which stands, and I honor him for having assisted in bringing resources there.

Last week, Speaker BOEHNER said:

It has only been a week since we began trying to imagine the House without Bill Young—an impossible task in its own right—and now he is gone. In our sorrow, we recall how not a day went by without a colleague seeking Bill's counsel as he sat on his perch in the corner of the House floor.

I certainly had the distinction of going to that corner and consulting with him.

President Obama said in his statement:

Congressman Young will be remembered for his advocacy and support for the armed services, servicemembers and their families, as well as for his statesmanship and his long history of working across the aisle to keep our country moving forward.

Defense Secretary Hagel said:

He will be remembered as a passionate advocate for the welfare of America's servicemembers and military veterans. Though his loss will be felt by many, his legacy and commitment to a strong national defense will always inspire us.

It is the height of irony that our friend would pass at Walter Reed Hospital. No one in this body spent as much time with our military at Walter Reed and around this country as did Bill Young. He, of course, has a legacy that is far excellent in that arena and also in bringing resources to the area that he served as well as to other areas around this Nation.

Tonight, I join with the people of Florida in keeping Beverly, Bill's sons, grandchildren, family, friends, and staff in my thoughts and prayers during this time of enormous sadness and loss.

Once again, I thank you, Chairman MICA, for arranging for us to have the privilege of honoring this great American.

Mr. MICA. Thank you.

Now, in continuing hearing from the leadership of our delegation, I am pleased to yield to the chairman of the Florida delegation, the gentleman whose district is adjacent to Mr. Young's, to the south, Mr. VERN BUCHANAN.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the memory of my dear friend, colleague and mentor, Congressman Bill Young.

For over four decades, there has not been a stronger voice in this Chamber for our brave men and women in uniform other than Bill Young. My district was just south of Bill Young's district, and we have almost 90,000 veterans. There is nobody who has benefited, I think, in terms of a district more than our veterans have in terms of Bill Young's leadership and in what he has brought to Pinellas County and

to the State of Florida. He was an inspiration to so many because he personified the most important virtue of public service—he did it for others.

As dean of the Florida delegation, Bill provided wisdom and counsel to Members on both sides of the aisle. He served this great institution with devotion, civility, and distinction. I am honored personally to have served with this extraordinary man. With his passing, the State of Florida and the Nation have lost an outstanding lawmaker, statesman, and public servant. My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

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Mr. MICA. I am pleased now to recognize another colleague across the aisle. Again, Bill Young's friendships and his service included everyone in the House of Representatives and in the Congress, so I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentlelady from Ohio, MARCY KAPTUR.

Ms. KAPTUR. I want to thank Chairman MICA so very much for the privilege of extending the deepest condolences of the people of Ohio to the Young family, to the constituents of Congressman Bill Young's district in Florida.

It was such a privilege to know him. Truly, he was not just a vigilant patriot, though that surely would have been enough, but he really was a man of the House. He belonged here, and his people knew that for over four decades.

When I think of Bill Young, I think of words like "courage," "perseverance," "insight," and "fair play." He had a gentlemanly demeanor at any time that I ever encountered him. He had a respect for regular order, for the gavel, and for seniority, which I share. He had a fortitude about him that people in my part of the country call real "spunk," and he had a sparkle in his eye and an easy smile and an understanding. He was such a real human being.

Part of that is the fact that he grew up very poor in Pennsylvania in a coal town in an old shack. He really knew what poverty was. He didn't have an easy childhood and he never forgot that. Yet he rose to be a master appropriator. In that capacity, he was not imperious but collegial, and he handled the gavel with fair play.

He loved his wife, Beverly, so much. I can still see her sitting in the gallery or coming unannounced into a committee meeting. He loved his family and he loved Florida.

He worked so hard for the men and women in our armed services and our veterans, certainly in his own State where right near him is the Bay Pines Veterans Medical Center, the fourth largest veterans facility in the country, but also all the operations of SOUTHCOM, as in his last decade of service dealing with all that we have to on the Defense Subcommittee in terms of the wars being conducted in Afghanistan and, of course, Iraq. He was engaged in all the intelligence at the

highest levels and kept his good measure. His endurance and his heroic battles in these years that all of us witnessed showed the true measure of the man.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I would just like to say I will be seeing Bill Young in all the old familiar places, not just here on the floor, but as we travel in codels to some of the most godforsaken places on Earth, as we visit some of the highest level research facilities in our country and our men and women in uniform. I shall always remember Bill Young and be grateful for having been able to serve with him.

Mr. MICA. I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Miami, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART, another Florida colleague, who is also a gentleman who served with Mr. Young distinguishably on the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Chairman MICA, thank you for bringing us together today.

Madam Speaker, you have heard of Bill Young, the statesman, and that he was. We all know how he was, perhaps, the best friend and strongest ally of our troops, men and women in uniform, those in battle, those currently in uniform, and those who are veterans.

But those of us who worked with him and got to know him here know him, frankly, almost as like a godfather to all of us. There is not one time that we didn't go to him that he would not be helpful.

I remember after those storms in Florida, when we had a bunch of hurricanes, going to see Bill Young about getting help for the folks who had been hurt by the storms. His wisdom and his desire to help was always so present. He was always helpful, whether it was Everglades restoration, because he was also such a champion for the environment. Again, always with a smile.

Then I got to know him better when I, again, served with him in Appropriations and was able to see how he mastered that appropriations process like, frankly, potentially nobody before him and I think potentially nobody after him will again.

But I will tell you, Madam Speaker, the part that to me was a real privilege was that he was one of the people that I whipped. He was on my whip card. So I would go on different issues and talk to him about the issue and find out if he was leaning one way or another. Every time I went there, what I got from Bill Young was, frankly, a lesson. He instructed. I was never able to inform him about what the issues were; he informed me. He instructed me like he always instructed all of us. And always, Madam Speaker, with that incredible, warm smile, with that warm, firm handshake, which he had until the very end.

He never complained. We all know that for a long time he was in pain and yet never complained. He always wanted to make sure that you were feeling good, and he always wanted to know

what he could do for you, never asking for himself.

I said recently—and I have got to find out who said this—but I heard or read someplace that “to be a great man you first have to be a good man.” Madam Speaker, Bill Young was a great man for so many reasons: for all that he did for this country, for all that he did for the State of Florida, for all that he did for our troops and the environment, the way he helped his colleagues, or how generous and how humble and how caring and loving he was. He was an incredibly, an incredibly good man. And yes, if there is anybody that applies to, that before you can become a great man you have to be a good man, if there is anybody that that describes, it is our chairman, Bill Young.

To his family, to his constituents, to the troops, and the veterans who are, in essence, his family as well, our deepest condolences. Bill Young is irreplaceable. There will never be somebody like him again.

What a privilege and what an honor. One of the privileges and honors, the greatest privileges and honors of my life, was to be able to work with him, to get to know him, to be his friend.

So again, to his constituents and to his family, our condolences. We will miss him, and he will never be forgotten.

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I am now pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR), again, reaching across the aisle with the respect and esteem in which Mr. Young was held.

Mr. FARR. Thank you, Congressman MICA, for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I feel it is a very special privilege to be able to pay honor to our colleagues here. I think of Bill Young as being one of the lions, one of the giants of this institution, because he really used the institution for what we all get elected to do.

First of all, he loved public service. He was in an elective office for 52 years between State and Federal Government. He also served in the National Guard Active Duty and reservist for 15 years. His life was about service. He used his service here in Congress to be what I think this institution is all about: it is about leadership; it is about friendship; and it is also about accomplishment. I don't think anybody has had a better record of accomplishment in so many different fields.

I came here in 1993, and I had the largest military base in the United States close—Fort Ord, California. I got to know the people on the Defense Appropriations Committee. On my side of the aisle was Jack Murtha. It seems like Jack's best friend was a Republican on the other side of the aisle, Bill Young. Jack said, You better go tell Bill everything you have told me about needing some help.

We were trying to convert swords to plowshares by building a brand-new university to serve the underserved

population in Fort Ord, and we needed appropriations for it. Bill just jumped on it. He knew the purpose. Even though he was a strong warrior, he really realized that this was the future after a base was closed.

I invited him out to the district. He came to Monterey, California, where we still had the Defense Language Institute. Bill went in there and saw that all the languages we were teaching were the old tape recorders where you had to wind and rewind. He said, My God, you need some modern equipment, and put in appropriations to get that equipment. He visited the Naval Postgraduate School and got a lot of really interesting feedback from soldiers who had just come out of theater.

But his and Jack's friendship—Jack Murtha, who predeceased him—was just remarkable in this House. If there is a legacy here, it is their legacy. It is how two people being on Appropriations Committee should—and we all need to go back to what we have been calling regular order, where we come here to accomplish things, to fix things that are broken. Bill Young was probably the first, if any, who would talk about needing to bring back the ability to help areas that just don't get formula money—earmarks. If you disclose of them and go through a process so that you don't have the client-assigned stuff, these things are good, particularly for rural Americans, and particularly for areas where people are really poor.

I think my favorite story is that when he came out to the Defense Language Institute, came on military air, Beverly, his wife, insisted, since I represent Carmel, that I get our former mayor, Clint Eastwood, to have lunch with them. So we arranged that at Clint's Mission Ranch.

On the way from Monterey over to Carmel, we passed by the beach, and there is a stranded sea lion there. Beverly gets out and says, We've got to take care of the sea lion before anything else, and had the entire crew of the airplane—because she insisted they had to come to lunch with her, they had to help get the sea lion. Well, we had marine mammal rescue, and they eventually showed up.

But when we got to the restaurant, I don't think anybody thought that the whole crew was going to come. Bill was insistent, no, everybody is equal here. It didn't matter whether you were a Congress member or just a crew member; you were going to get a chance to have lunch with Clint Eastwood.

We had a lot of laughs, a lot of discussion about things. Then that led to—and I hadn't realized it. Bill was a big animal rights supporter. He and I authored a bill with his friend, Bob Barker, who was here. I met Bob Barker through him. Bob Barker, “The Price is Right,” had dedicated a lot of his life to banning elephants in circuses. Bill said, I am going to author that bill. So we did a bipartisan author, and Bob Barker came. In fact, we

linked up with Kim Basinger, the movie star, who was very interested in that issue. We went on, and we didn't win that bill, but we won the puppy mill bill, and we won some other humane treatment of animals. He was really interested in that.

But best of all, I think he left a legacy that we need to get back to: a legacy of production, a legacy of comradery where we really like each other, and a legacy that takes care of not only all the soldiers—because they didn't care what rank you had; if you were a person in uniform, you were all equal and being treated in the most respectful way—but he also did that for people of less fortune and for animals who need a voice in Congress as well. What a wonderful man.

Beverly and your sons, I really am going to miss going to Appropriations Committee and seeing Bill there. So Beverly and your three adult sons, Rob, Billy, and Patrick, we all share your grief, and Congress will certainly miss Bill Young, a great man in this institution.

Mr. MICA. I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida, the Honorable GUS BILIRAKIS, another Florida colleague, and he also has a district that is adjacent to Mr. Young's.

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Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life and service of someone I admire greatly for his wisdom and humility, by dear friend and mentor, Chairman Bill Young.

While I always referred to him as "Chairman" because of the respect he commanded, he used to beg me not to use that term, insisting, in his typical humble fashion, as Mr. FARR alluded to, that we were all equal in this Chamber.

Over the past five decades, the Chairman graciously served Florida and the Tampa Bay area, leading many projects and initiatives to promote economic growth and create jobs back at home. His contributions to his district, the entire Tampa Bay area, and to the military in particular, are immeasurable.

He was instrumental in saving MacDill Air Force Base and helped grow Tampa Bay into a hub for our defense industry. In addition, he played a significant role in winning critical funding for Bay Pines Veterans Administration Medical Center, which supports a large number of veterans in our area. For his efforts, my colleague and I have joined together in support of renaming this valuable medical facility in his honor.

His contributions also extend to higher education with his role in developing centers of excellence in technology and marine science at the University of South Florida.

Finally, we will all remember his work on behalf of sick children in creating a national registry for bone marrow donors.

While the Chairman came from humble beginnings, he has left behind a rich legacy that we, as Members of Congress and Americans, must all aspire to achieve. The Chairman was never afraid to reach across the aisle and always worked for the greater good.

I am extremely thankful that I was able to express my gratitude and admiration to him last week when I visited him at his bedside. I told him how much his colleagues and constituents loved him and appreciated all he did for them.

In closing, I wanted to share a few words from a final letter my father, former Congressman Mike Bilirakis, sent to his former colleague:

Dear Bill: Since we are roughly the same age (remember, I am 5 months older so we've joked about "respecting your elders"), we have expected that this day would come for both of us but first for me and not so soon. We grew up in the same Pittsburgh area at the same time—tough depression poverty, which made us tough. We didn't know each other then, but I guess our Lord decreed we would meet in Pinellas County, Florida, years later. We worked hard, climbed out of poverty and became successful—the good old American way.

Bill, you have earned eternal rest, but our world will certainly miss you. The Florida corner in the House Chambers will miss you as well. Thanks for being my friend and, in many ways, a younger mentor. Thanks for being a great American patriot. Thanks for the good you have done for all of us. Yours has been a life well lived. May your memory be eternal.

We will certainly miss you, Mr. Chairman.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, at this time I will yield back my time with the intent of relinquishing the balance of the time to one of the leaders from Florida and also a member of the Appropriations Committee, Mr. CRENSHAW.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues in paying tribute to my good friend and fellow Member of Congress, C.W. Bill Young.

More than four decades ago, I first met Bill when I served as a campaign aide to the late Congressman Bill Cramer. Bill Young was a Florida State Senator at the time who was seeking the St. Petersburg, West Florida Coast Congressional seat being vacated by my boss who was running in 1970 for the U.S. Senate.

Bill Young had already served as a Congressional aide to Bill Cramer and then was elected as Florida's first Republican State Senator since the Civil War. Bill Cramer when elected was the first GOP U.S. House Member since that era.

As fate would unfold, Bill Cramer lost and Bill Young took his seat in Congress.

I had aligned myself with Florida's West Coast GOP political operatives called the ICY Machine. Those were initials for Jack Insko, a top Cramer aide and political strategist, Bill Cramer and Bill Young, a Florida political powerhouse at that time.

While my boss lost his election, I gained great experience and wonderful friends. Among them, Bill Young, rising GOP star, and his two young aides, George Cretekos and Doug Gregory. Both George and Doug served with Bill Young for over three decades, during which I was privileged to count all among my friends and political allies.

As an aide to U.S. Senator Paula Hawkins from 1980 to 1985, I had the honor of working with two GOP leaders who worked tirelessly for Florida and our Nation.

I must say, two legends with two very different styles. Paula had a flair for the media and attention and Bill quietly pursued his legislative agenda. Both were highly effective in their own way. Paula championed missing children and Bill rose as a champion of our military. Now both have joined the ages and are part of the history of Congress and the State of Florida.

Having worked with Bill Young on military issues important to our State and Nation as recently as the past few weeks, I can tell you no one could be more effective. No one could be more respected or trusted.

While fond memories of Bill Young continue, his real legacy will transcend generations for our military and long benefit our national defense.

For his tireless work on behalf of all Americans and all citizens of the Sunshine State, I join my colleagues in this special tribute to C.W. Bill Young.

What a great privilege it has been to share part of my life and grow memories with Bill Young. I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife, Beverly, to the Young family and to his devoted staff and constituents.

#### REMEMBERING THE HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW) will control the remainder of the hour.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, before I introduce and call on a couple of my colleagues, I would like to say a brief word about my longtime friend and mentor, C.W. Bill Young. I first met Bill when he was in the Florida Senate. He was the Republican leader in the Florida Senate. He was the minority leader. I think my colleagues might be interested to know that he was the Republican leader, minority leader, not because he gathered all the votes of the other minority members, the Republicans; he was the Republican leader because he was the only Republican in the Florida Senate.

You might say maybe that diminishes that leadership role, and I would say just the reverse is true because Bill Young was such a great leader, such a man of courage and conviction that he would stand up for whatever he believed, even if there was no one there