

always took time to come by and visit her. She would always welcome them and provide services.

This is but one of the many organizations that will continue to honor her, I am sure. The others that will remember her that she came in contact with would be SCLC, as was mentioned by my colleague, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. This was the organization that Dr. King led. This was the organization that fought for human rights, civil rights, and human dignity across the length and breadth of this country. She was part of that organization. In fact, she was on the board.

She and Martin King, not Martin King the father but Martin King, III, the son of Dr. King, were the very best of friends—the very best of friends. He has traveled great distances to pay tribute to her. He was there in Mobile, Alabama. He came here for the services that we had. And he always, when he was in Washington, DC, would take the time to come by our office to say hello to Jacqui.

People who met her along life's way would also include the Links. The Links was an organization that she was affiliated with and that she took great pride in assisting as they were having their various events. She was always helpful to other people to make sure that they were able to be successful in their endeavors. When you travel the road of life, the highway of life, you meet many people. You don't remember them all, but there are some who are special, and these are the persons who will stand out in your mind and will be remembered in the very years to come of your life.

So tonight, I am grateful that the leadership has allowed us this time to pay tribute to Jacqueline Ellis, who was born in Mobile, Alabama, on October 22, 1957, a very difficult time in the life of the country, and who made a transition on September 21 of 2016. She is gone, but she is not forgotten. She will be remembered. We are grateful that we have had an opportunity to commemorate her life and celebrate the wonderful person that she was.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. 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 my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I join my colleagues to recognize a true pillar in the congressional community, Ms. Jacqueline Ellis. Jacqui began working on Capitol Hill when it was not common for a woman, let alone a woman of color to work here, but she never let that stop her. Her path in life is admirable and truly shows her resilience and dedication to public service.

During her tenure, she changed the lives of countless men and women, particularly those of color that she came in contact with. It was not uncommon for her to give her all to anyone that came through her door without asking for recognition. She stayed humbled and committed to her purpose to fulfill her life's mission of service.

Her love and dedication to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was felt with all her sorors, especially those who work on Capitol Hill. She assisted with hosting Delta Days at the Nation's Capitol and ensured that all who attended felt welcomed and loved. She also was the matriarchic for Deltas on the Hill, which gave members of her sorority a space to laugh, love and support each other on Capitol Hill. To my colleagues who are members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., I mourn with you all today for the loss of your sister.

She was a true humanitarian and her presence is missed throughout the halls of the Capitol. My thoughts and prayers go out to her family, Congressman AL GREEN's staff, her sorors, and all those who she impacted in her lifetime.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and Congressional Black Caucus colleague, Congressman AL GREEN of Texas, for leading tonight's Special Order Hour to honor and in memorial to beloved Congressional staffer, Jacqueline A. Ellis, known to most of us as Jacqui.

On September 21, 2016, the world lost Jacqueline Ellis, a beloved mentor, friend, colleague, and sister, and we, here in the halls of Congress, lost a legend.

Through her nearly 30 years of service in the people's House, Jacqui helped to expand diversity on the Hill and inspired countless young people to dedicate their lives to public service.

She served as a mentor for many young African-American staffers who came to Capitol Hill looking to make a difference in our nation.

When Jacqui became a House staffer in 1988, there were few people of color in the corridors of the Congress, but that did not dissuade Jacqui. Instead, it inspired her to assist and help numerous Black staffers thrive.

Upon her passing, hundreds of former and current Congressional staffers took to social media to share their stories and memories of Jacqui. Words like "good listener"—"wonderful woman"—"especially there to help young people"—and "enormously respected" were used.

As one of the first Black women to serve as a Chief of Staff on Capitol Hill, she was a trailblazer who opened the door so other that women of color could follow in her footsteps.

She founded the Organization of African-American Administrative Assistants for Chiefs of Staff in the House. And, she worked quietly behind the scenes to expand equality of opportunity and to strengthen our democracy.

Jacqui was also a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and one of my sorors. She was instrumental in planning and executing the annual "Delta Days" on the Hill.

She was also a proud member of The LINKS Incorporated and coordinated its Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Issues Forum.

Her charitable nature, her unbridled spirit, her selfless dedication to public service, and her strong faith will certainly be missed.

#### RECOGNIZING THE VIRGINIA DELEGATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. 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 my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, today I and other Members of the House, most especially members of the Virginia delegation, but other House Members who served with three of our Virginia colleagues, are here to express our thanks and pay tribute to their service, to the people of Virginia, and the people of the United States of America. We are saddened to lose three members of our great Virginia delegation, but we have the utmost regard for all of them, and we wish them well in their future endeavors.

I am going to start by recognizing my dear friend and colleague on the House Judiciary Committee, Congressman RANDY FORBES. I remember when RANDY arrived here. I had known him many years before he was elected to the House. I was, frankly, thrilled when he decided to run for the House of Representatives and got elected. Of course, his first priority, representing the Fourth Congressional District, was to get on the House Armed Services Committee.

Once he secured that, he was looking for a second committee. I encouraged him to seek a position on the House Judiciary Committee and helped him in his effort to do that. He is a fine attorney and someone who was a great value to me and my predecessors who have had the honor of chairing the House Judiciary Committee.

Born and raised in Chesapeake, Virginia, RANDY FORBES has never forgotten who he is or where he came from. Growing up as the son of a World War II Normandy veteran, RANDY was raised on the values of duty, hard work, family, and faith. He carried those principles with him to Randolph-Macon College, where he graduated as valedictorian of his 1974 class, and throughout his years at the University of Virginia School of Law.

Since first elected to Congress in 2001, RANDY's highest priority has been to protect and defend our Nation, the fundamental freedoms it was founded upon, and the men and women who fight for those freedoms. As chairman of the House Armed Services Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee, RANDY is one of the Nation's forceful advocates for a strong national defense.

As a result of his dedicated efforts, Chairman FORBES is one of the few individuals to be honored with the highest civilian awards offered by both the United States Army and the United States Navy. He is also a senior member, as I mentioned, of the House Judiciary Committee where he serves as a member of the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, as well as the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. And he is the founder and co-chairman of the Congressional Prayer Caucus and the Congressional China Caucus.

RANDY began his career in private law practice, ultimately becoming a partner in the largest law firm in southeastern Virginia. From 1989 to 2001, he served the Commonwealth of Virginia in the General Assembly.

He and his wife, Shirley, have four children and three grandchildren, which RANDY personally regards as his greatest achievement. And, no doubt, as a grandfather myself, I understand well that sentiment, and I wish him very well with his family and hope that he has much time to enjoy with them, but not too much time because he is too valuable to our country not to be afforded another opportunity to serve our country in some great capacity.

Congressman ROBERT HURT also served with distinction in the Virginia General Assembly, and then a little over 6 years ago came to visit me and my wife, Maryellen, in our home to talk about his possibility of seeking election to the Congress. We encouraged him to do just that, he did, and was successful.

ROBERT HURT is a member of the Financial Services Committee, which has jurisdiction over all aspects of the Nation's financial and housing sectors. Within the committee, he serves as the vice chairman of the Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises Subcommittee, and serves on the Housing and Insurance Subcommittee, as well as the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.

A native of Pittsylvania County, ROBERT began his time in public service in 2001, as a member of the Chatham Town Council. From 2002 to 2007, ROBERT served in the Virginia House of Delegates, representing parts of Pittsylvania County, Henry County, and the city of Martinsville.

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Starting in 2008, ROBERT represented the 19th district in the Senate of Virginia for 2 years, which includes the city of Danville, Pittsylvania County, Franklin County, and part of Campbell County. He received his college education at Hampden-Sydney College in the district that he now represents in 1991. He obtained his law degree from the Mississippi College School of Law in 1995. From 1999 to 2010, ROBERT was engaged in a general law practice in the courthouse town of Chatham, where he lives with his wife, Kathy,

and their three sons—Charles, Clement, and John.

SCOTT RIGELL also was elected to Congress in the same year that Congressman HURT was, and we were delighted to have him come and join us as well, being another strong advocate for our Nation's defense. He serves on the House Committee on Appropriations. Since taking office in January 2011, Congressman RIGELL has made creating jobs, strengthening our military, controlling Federal spending, and changing Congress his most urgent priorities. In representing the Nation's largest military district, Congressman RIGELL is working to preserve our region's unique military assets and to support our men and women in uniform.

He was instrumental in the successful effort to keep all East Coast aircraft carriers based in Norfolk, and he introduced language that improved the maintenance of military housing, including in the fiscal year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. With strong bipartisan support, the House and Senate passed Congressman RIGELL's Drywall Safety Act of 2012, which was signed into law by the President in early 2013. This legislation sets chemical standards for domestic and imported drywalls, establishes remediation guidelines for the disposal of all drywall, and expresses a sense of Congress that China must be held accountable for the damage this product has already caused in our community and across America.

Prior to his election to Congress, he was a successful entrepreneur, businessowner, and community leader—the founder of Freedom Automotive. Congressman RIGELL and his wife, Teri, previously owned automobile dealerships in Chesapeake, Hampton, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach. He served 6 years in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and rose to the rank of sergeant before receiving an honorable discharge. He earned his BBA from Mercer University and an MBA from Regent University.

He and his wife are the proud parents of four children and four grandchildren. They are competing well with the Forbes family in the grandchildren department, and I know they also will enjoy more time with those grandchildren; but I hope we see Congressman RIGELL serving his country in another capacity in the future as well.

At this time, I am delighted that we have Members whose districts adjoin Congressman RIGELL's, Congressman HURT's, and Congressman FORBES'. I know that Congressman ROB WITTMAN, who served on the Armed Services Committee with Congressman FORBES, has to be somewhere else; so I am going to turn to him first, and then I will turn to Congressman SCOTT. I am happy to yield to the gentleman.

Mr. WITTMAN. I thank the chairman.

Mr. Speaker, it truly is an honor and a privilege to reflect on the careers of

three dear friends as the gentleman spoke so eloquently about Congressman RANDY FORBES, Congressman SCOTT RIGELL, and Congressman ROBERT HURT. They have been true Virginia leaders. They are all statesmen in the truest sense of the word. They are all servant leaders in their putting others before themselves, and they have done that throughout their tremendous careers in public service.

RANDY FORBES is a dear friend. RANDY is one of those unique individuals who truly, truly puts others first in everything that he has done. I have known RANDY through the years, back to his days in the Virginia General Assembly, where he created great opportunities for folks, not only in the district that he represented, but he also made an impact on the State of Virginia. He was a very thoughtful and eloquent legislator. He understood what government's role was. He wanted to make sure that that was done properly. He also played a critical role in his party. The Grand Old Party was better off in Virginia because of RANDY FORBES' leadership. We were blessed to have him in that capacity there for a number of years. I have known RANDY as a dear friend but also, truly, as one of the most effective legislators whom we have seen up here on Capitol Hill.

His time, Mr. Chairman, on your Committee on the Judiciary is marked by many great accomplishments there as well as by some very sound and thoughtful judgments and, most importantly, by some very probing questions when it came time to interview panelists or witnesses who came before the Judiciary Committee.

He was extraordinarily adept at that as he was—and still is—on the House Armed Services Committee. It was tremendous to watch RANDY as he would pick apart an issue and get critical information from witnesses or panelists who came before our committee. Whether it was in a briefing or whether it was to really ascertain the facts of a situation, he was extraordinary in his opportunities there.

He really cares passionately about our Nation's military, about the men and women who serve and what we provide for them to serve. He has done a spectacular job in efforts to rebuild our Nation's Navy. In fact, this year, for the first time in 8 years, our Navy is actually back to growing again. We are building more ships than we are retiring, and that is due in no small part to RANDY FORBES' leadership and the things that he has done to make sure that things like our new carrier program with the *Ford*-class carriers and with our new *Ohio*-class replacement submarines, termed the *Columbia*-class, are on track, as well as the *Virginia*-class with our new destroyers. He has been extraordinary in making sure that he has been an advocate to ensure that our sailors have what they need as well as our marines have what they need, and he has done that every minute that he has served there on the Armed Services Committee.

I have learned a lot from RANDY. I have valued his counsel, but I have also watched his leadership as he has done things for our Nation that I think are extraordinarily important. I believe those accomplishments are things that will be valued and will have an effect on this Nation, not just in years to come but for decades to come. He has truly had that type of influence.

Mr. Chairman, I agree with you. I hope that Chairman RANDY FORBES of the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee has an opportunity to continue to serve this Nation in another capacity in which he can use that expertise, that extraordinary history of leadership and legacy of leadership there on the House Armed Services Committee. I think our Nation will be better off for having RANDY there in a future capacity in leadership. I am hopeful that that will happen, and I truly value the things that he has done.

RANDY isn't somebody who just focuses on the Nation's military. He is also a fighter for our individual liberties and freedoms, specifically our religious liberties and freedoms. He has been the cofounder and co-chairman of the Congressional Prayer Caucus, where he has been a staunch advocate to make sure that we push back against those intrusions on our religious liberties and freedoms. He has done an extraordinary job there.

I value that relationship that I have with RANDY as a member of the Prayer Caucus and for the things that he has done. He has been unafraid to be out there in the forefront to make sure that he points out those efforts that are antifaith efforts and to make sure that he stands strong on the side of those folks who want to make sure that their religious beliefs are protected. He has done an extraordinary job there, not just here in Virginia, but also across the Nation. He has been seen as a true leader there. Again, it goes to the heart of that servant leader that RANDY truly is. We will miss him in those capacities. I know that he will continue to make sure that he is a beacon defending religious freedoms and liberties in whatever capacity he continues after his term here in Congress. We look forward to his efforts there also.

As well, the gentleman spoke of Congressman ROBERT HURT. ROBERT and I have a lot in common. ROBERT comes from the small town of Chatham in Pittsylvania County. He began there on the town council—the same place as I began in the little town of Montross. Both are very, very similar towns. ROBERT also has that heart of a servant leader by which he looked at where he could best serve his citizens there in the town of Chatham as well as going on to the general assembly there in Richmond, which is where he and I served in the house for a number of years. He went on to the State senate and then, later, here to the House of Representatives.

Mr. Chairman, just as you spoke of them, ROBERT and his wife, Kathy, graciously sat down with Kathryn and me to ask questions about what service would be like if he were to decide to run for the U.S. House of Representatives. Of course, we told him what the challenges were but also what he could accomplish in that role. I believe that he, again, put the Virginia way first in making sure that he was there to serve when he made that decision. It certainly was one that I know was a difficult one for him but was one that he came here with a lot of passion about as to what he could do to make a difference in the direction of this country, and ROBERT has continued that.

I have known ROBERT through the years. He has always been a man of deep personal conviction but also a man of deep passion. ROBERT is a lover of life, but he is also one who never backs away from an issue that he feels passionately about. As you know, I have watched ROBERT get up and give speeches. Boy, I will tell you, if it doesn't make the hair stand up on the back of your neck, nothing will. He is an effective standard-bearer for issues that are important to the Nation and to Virginia. He has been a real leader there on the Financial Services Committee, whereby he knows those issues backwards and forwards. Again, it is that background that he brings from his time in local and State government that, I think, makes him an extraordinarily effective legislator here.

We will certainly miss him, but I know that the next step in his career—with his wife, Kathy, and his three sons—will be one in which he will enjoy the time there in the small town of Chatham. I know he intends to go back and practice law there and get back to the important elements of what makes Chatham special and what makes Virginia special. We will miss him, but I know that he will be extraordinarily successful there.

I have known Representative SCOTT RIGELL for a number of years even prior to his coming to Congress. I will never forget the conversation that I had with him as he was—again, like ROBERT—thinking about running for Congress and how passionate he was about the direction this Nation was taking both in its deficit and its debt and as to what was happening to small businesses out there. As a small-business owner, he later went on to own some significant businesses there in the Tidewater area. He really saw what was unfolding in our Nation, and it caused him deep, deep concerns not only for himself and Teri, but also for his children and now for his grandchildren.

What a person of passion—and very eloquent. He was also a person who wanted to make sure that we reformed the way government conducted business. He and I had many, many deep conversations about what that would look like and how process is important and how doing the work of the Nation

was absolutely critical. Whether what we were doing was to help small businesses or what we were doing was to ensure that our Nation's military had what it needed or what we were doing was to address the Nation's finances, he was equally adept and well schooled in those subject areas. He was a quick study on issues but a thorough study. He was exhaustive in how he would look at information concerning legislation or what he could do on a particular issue, and I admired him for that because you knew, when SCOTT RIGELL came to the floor to vote, that he knew that bill and that issue backwards and forwards. In fact, many times, I would go to talk to him about a bill that was coming up, and I could guarantee that SCOTT knew it without limitations. He was very, very passionate about that.

That is the reason he came to Congress and what he came here to accomplish, and he did an extraordinary job in his years here. I deeply appreciate his service and the sacrifice that his family has put into this. As I know Teri will attest, there were long hours that were spent here. Teri came up here on the Hill many times and was by SCOTT's side; so, for the Rigell family, it really was a family affair in service. I know that he also has exciting things facing him in his next chapter of life and that his efforts will, indeed, continue to include public service; so we wish SCOTT and Teri and his entire family the best.

We all are changed for the better because of the service of these three Virginia gentlemen—three Virginia statesmen—and what they have done here to affect not only their communities, whether it is in Chesapeake or in Virginia Beach or in Chatham, Virginia, but what they all have done to affect our great Commonwealth of Virginia and the lasting mark that they have left here for our Nation. We are all indebted to their service, indebted to the legacies that they have left behind, and indebted in our making sure that we continue the legacies of passion for the issues that are important to our Nation, whether it is for our military, whether it is for our small businesses, whether it is for our Nation's financial predicament it finds itself in.

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All of them have brought lasting change to this body and will continue, I know, in further capacities in their life after. We thank them immensely. We are all better off for their service, and I know that we will continue to confer with them now as repositories of wisdom in the issues that we have to deal with going forward.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GOODLATTE, too, for taking the time tonight for all of us to be able to recognize their true servant leadership for the State of Virginia, their sacrifice, and truly the sacrifice of their families. As we all know, there is a sacrifice

of families, too, for Members that serve here in Congress.

Again, we wish SCOTT, RANDY, and ROBERT all the best. We wish them God's blessings in the years ahead. I know that they will continue to lead and to serve in different capacities, but in equally as effective capacities.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for sharing his personal experiences, his friendships with these three outstanding Members of Congress.

I turn to the other neighboring Congressman, the Congressman from the Third Congressional District who has served with me for many years on the House Judiciary Committee until he went to become the ranking member on the House Education and the Workforce Committee and has served here as long as I have. He has much knowledge about that part of the world and about these three gentleman. I thank him for taking time this evening.

I yield to Congressman SCOTT.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia for yielding and for organizing tonight's Special Order.

Tonight, we honor three retiring members from the Virginia delegation to Congress: Congressmen RANDY FORBES, ROBERT HURT, and SCOTT RIGELL.

Despite our differences from time to time on national policy, the Virginia delegation has a long history of being able to constructively work together on issues of importance to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Former-Senator John Warner, the longtime dean of our delegation, embodied this bipartisan work ethic, and we have already heard it referred to as the Virginia way of doing things.

During their service in Congress, RANDY, ROBERT, and SCOTT have each put their mark on this institution and on national policy.

ROBERT HURT has been a leader on the Financial Services Committee and focused on policies to expand economic opportunity in south side Virginia and communities around the Nation. A strong advocate for community banks and credit unions over his three terms in Congress, ROBERT has also worked to ensure that consumers are financially literate with the necessary information to make the best financial choices for their families. ROBERT has always fought for what he believed to be the best interest of his constituents, and so I wish him and his family well as he returns to his home in Chatham.

I have come to know SCOTT and RANDY very well as our congressional districts are adjacent to one another in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia. Along with our colleague, ROB WITTMAN, we have participated in countless joint appearances and events across Hampton Roads.

In both the private and public sector, SCOTT RIGELL has dedicated his life to serving the Hampton Roads community. In his three terms in Congress, he

has developed a well-deserved reputation as a pragmatic, bipartisan leader as he addresses the Nation's fiscal issues and reforming how Congress operates. We have been working together on many issues, but I especially appreciate his strong support and advocacy of the SAFE Justice Act, a comprehensive criminal justice reform bill that the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) and I introduced last year. I wish SCOTT, his wife Terry, and his children and grandchildren all the best as he transitions back to private life.

RANDY and I have become good friends during his time in Congress as we served together for many years on the House Judiciary Committee. Hampton Roads is the home to many military facilities, both private-sector defense contractors and military facilities, particularly those associated with the Navy. There is no Member of Congress who knows more about our Navy than RANDY FORBES. As chairman of the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee of the Armed Services Committee, he has been an important voice on defense and shipbuilding policy. Hampton Roads has been fortunate to have RANDY fighting for our region's military and shipbuilding interests over the last 50 years. I will also miss working with him on modeling and simulation. He was the founder of the Modeling and Simulation Caucus. He promoted the modeling and simulation technology as a way to increase efficiency and to save the taxpayers money.

I wouldn't count RANDY out just yet. I know he will find ways to continue to serve our men and women in uniform in the months and years ahead, and so I wish him, his wife Shirley, and children and grandchildren well as they start the next chapter of their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I, again, want to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) for organizing tonight's Special Order. The departure of Congressmen ROBERT HURT, SCOTT RIGELL, and RANDY FORBES is a loss for the House of Representatives and the Commonwealth of Virginia. Each of these men deserve our sincere gratitude for their service to our Nation and the civility that they have exemplified during their service.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his kind remarks about all three of these fine Representatives.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. WALORSKI), who knows them as well.

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we honor the exemplary service of three departing Members of this distinguished body. Congressmen RANDY FORBES, ROBERT HURT, and SCOTT RIGELL have served their districts and our Nation with honor and distinction, and they will be sorely missed.

I must take a moment and talk about the privilege I have had of serving

alongside my friend, RANDY FORBES, on the Armed Services Committee and on the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee he chairs.

Over the past few years, as the Obama administration has sought to shrink the size of our Armed Forces and reduce the number of ships in our Navy, it has been RANDY that has led with a strong, passionate advocacy for our servicemembers and a strong, informed defender of our Navy.

Article I of the Constitution states that Congress shall have the power to provide and maintain a Navy. No one has fulfilled that task more honorably or diligently than Congressman RANDY FORBES.

RANDY, your experience and your insights will be missed in Congress and on the Armed Services Committee, but I look forward to see where your commitment to service leads you. Until then, my friend, I wish you fair winds and following seas.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING), another valued member of the House Judiciary Committee who has served literally alongside Congressman FORBES.

I think you have sat next to him, if not close to each other, for many years on the committee.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to have the privilege to have been yielded to from Chairman GOODLATTE of Virginia, who I know laments the departure of three very esteemed members of the Virginia delegation and people I have had a privilege to serve with. I certainly tip my hat to, bow to, and salute all three of them: Congressmen RANDY FORBES, SCOTT RIGELL, and ROBERT HURT.

I came here this evening to focus a majority of my remarks on that of Representative RANDY FORBES because, as Chairman GOODLATTE said, I have had the privilege to sit next to RANDY FORBES on the Judiciary Committee—and our memories are never always exactly right—but it could be for the full 14 years that I have been here. We have been either next to each other or within one seat of each other all that period of time.

I have long viewed RANDY FORBES as my wingman on the House Judiciary Committee. He is the anchor. He is a man who we know is a man of faith. He led the Prayer Caucus here for a good number of years. We know that he is a constitutionalist. He served on the Constitution and Civil Justice Subcommittee also with me for many, if not, all of those years. When a man puts that kind of commitment and effort into defending the Constitution and defending innocent unborn human life and defending the values and the anchors of our faith, of our families, of our Constitution and—by the way, on the Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations Subcommittee—defending the rule of law and bringing about appropriate punishment for people who violate that law, that is the life of RANDY FORBES.

I may be wired a little tighter than RANDY. I would come and sit down on the Judiciary Committee, and I might be all wound up. RANDY was always the calming influence on me. I am sure Chairman GOODLATTE appreciates that; that RANDY would reach over and put his hand on my arm and he said: Now, Steve, here is where we are, here is where we are going.

There would also be times, though, he would turn his ear and he would listen to the arguments that I would make. We had hundreds and hundreds of conversations that helped shaped me as a Member of Congress, and they always were anchored in the right values. These are values you know come from a man who has demonstrated that here in the House of Representatives.

I thought, too, that RANDY was one of the best cross-examiners of a witness that I have seen in this United States Congress, and those among the best do serve on the Judiciary Committee. Those issues seem to come to us, and they refine your skill sets. RANDY would be sitting there. And as the line was coming down toward us on where we sat on seniority, I might want to talk about what is on my mind and chat with him a little bit on the other side.

I always knew that when RANDY had his pen up and he would have his research paper there and he would be taking notes in between that, what he was really doing, Mr. Speaker, was preparing himself to take—most of the times we only had 5 minutes—to take that witness down to the base facts that were necessary. RANDY did that as well as anybody that I have seen. It always was anchored in the rule of law, the Constitution, the faith, freedom, values and, of course, his strong support for the military and strengthening our military.

I wanted to put into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD tonight, Mr. Speaker, something that impressed me about RANDY. It was after Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans and RANDY FORBES went down in that area 6 months or a year afterwards. He came back with this data, which I wrote down and typed into my notes because it was something that just really gripped me.

The murder rate in New Orleans post-Katrina had risen to the point that it was 90 out of each 100,000 people who were victims of murder in New Orleans at that time. Only 1 out of 83.33 murders resulted in prison time, and only 1 in 10 murders resulted in an arrest. And of those total murders, only 1 in 8.33 resulted in convictions. So roughly 1 in 8 murders were solved. And that was a rate that is astonishingly high when you compare those numbers—90 of 100,000 murders, the violent death rate or the murder rate for New Orleans—where in the United States broadly it is around 6 per 100,000 as opposed to the 90 per hundred thousand. RANDY brought that kind of information back to me.

He was also a leader in the fight against gang violence and gang crime,

and he brought that case before the Judiciary Committee a number of times for us. Each time RANDY spoke, we did listen and it moved policy in the right directions.

One of the other things, Mr. Speaker, that I cherish is my perspective of this: Jo Ann Davis represented Virginia's First Congressional District at the time and passed away untimely in the year 2007. I went down to her funeral. I had, of course, served with Jo Ann and traveled overseas with her into the war zones. She was also on the Armed Services Committee.

RANDY FORBES gave the eulogy for former Congresswoman Jo Ann Davis. I remember sitting in that church in Virginia, and RANDY stepped up to speak about the life of Jo Ann Davis and, without notes, gave one of the most moving and deepest eulogies I have heard in my life. It would have been impossible for RANDY FORBES to give such a presentation had he not respected, revered, and loved Jo Ann Davis the way that he did and watched her moves. The things that she did in her life reflected upon him in a way that he could honor her life at a time like that that had to give comfort to the family and friends that were in that church that day.

I would express this about RANDY—and I hope he has a long time to serve America—but he has affected my life in a similar way. He has made me a better Congressman, and he has done so with dignity and with class.

The time that RANDY spent in public life, Mr. Speaker, from the time he was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1990 until 1998, and then to the State Senate of Virginia in 1998 until 2001, when he came here midterm in June of 2001 and served in this Congress, and he will serve in this Congress until January 3 of 2017. That is going to add up to somewhere really close to 27 years—26½ years, at least—of service to the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States of America.

His wife, Shirley, is a class act and anyone that knows her knows that. Their four children—Neil, Jamie, Jordan, and Justin—I hope they know tonight that they hit the jackpot when they were born into the family of RANDY and Shirley Forbes.

I hit the jackpot when I had the privilege to be seated next to RANDY FORBES, and I hope that I can do my best to carry on that kind of legacy that he is leaving with us. He has made us all better. The United States of America is better, the Commonwealth of Virginia is better, and I appreciate the service that Congressman RANDY FORBES has given to our country.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Iowa for that heartfelt appreciation of these three Members.

I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Maine (Mr. POLIQUIN). He represents my alma mater, Bates College. He is just about to start his sec-

ond term in Congress, but he makes friends fast. So I am delighted that he is here to say a few words about these three outstanding individuals as well.

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Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GOODLATTE for yielding. We are very proud in our Second District of Maine to house Bates College, which I understand is the chairman's alma mater.

I would like to speak a little bit today, Mr. Speaker, about these three gentlemen from Virginia, from a slightly different perspective, as a freshman Member of Congress and someone who has a business background but not a legislative background.

RANDY FORBES has been a tremendous help to my district by giving me counsel when it comes to Bath Iron Works and the tremendous shipbuilding skills that BIW has, making the best destroyers that keep our country safe and the best shipbuilders in the world. RANDY FORBES' guidance on the Committee on Armed Services to help secure additional funding for BIW is something that I will never forget and something that the 6,000 workers at Bath Iron Works in Bath, Maine, have a debt of gratitude to Mr. FORBES for his help in that regard.

SCOTT RIGELL, as a businessowner here in Virginia in the auto dealership area, has also been incredibly helpful to me in sitting on the Committee on Financial Services, Mr. Speaker, that deals with credit when it comes to the auto dealerships extending that credit to consumers, and SCOTT's guidance in that regard has been very, very helpful.

I do serve on the House Committee on Financial Services with Representative ROBERT HURT, who has become a very good friend and someone whom I have turned to on many occasions to make sure I understand what the legislative process is, Mr. Speaker.

As a business professional, I understand what needs to be done to move our country forward, move our economy forward, and to create more jobs in Maine and throughout the country; but the gears of how Congress works is something that has been new to me, and I want to thank ROBERT HURT very much for the patience he has extended to me to answer questions I have had. He is a very thoughtful man. He is someone who knows this process inside and out, and he has been very helpful to me, along with Mr. FORBES and Mr. RIGELL.

I thank Chairman GOODLATTE for giving me an opportunity to salute these tremendous gentlemen from the Commonwealth of Virginia, for extending their help to me as a freshman, to our State, and to our country. Congratulations to all these wonderful Congressmen.

Mr. GOODLATTE. I thank the gentleman for his kind words and for taking the time to share them with us this evening.

I yield now to the gentleman from the Ninth Congressional District of Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH), my friend and neighboring Congressman. He served in the Virginia General Assembly with both RANDY FORBES and ROBERT HURT and was elected to Congress the same year that ROBERT HURT was. He knows all three of these individuals well, and I appreciate him taking the time this evening to participate as well.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GOODLATTE for yielding. It is my honor and privilege to be here to recognize these three Virginians who have served their Commonwealth so well.

SCOTT RIGELL and I were elected along with ROBERT HURT back in the same year, back in 2010. I got to know SCOTT when I got here. He is the one of the three who are retiring whom I did not know prior to coming to service in Congress. I learned that he was a hard worker, a dedicated public servant, someone who truly believed in trying to do everything the right way. Like myself every now and then, he was a little bit of a maverick and would cut his own way, but that is important in Congress, that we don't all walk in lockstep, that we work together but that we respect each other's opinions. SCOTT RIGELL is a gentleman who certainly does that, and as a Representative, he has done that very well.

I go next to RANDY. With the exception of, I think, probably Congressman SCOTT has known RANDY longer, having served a couple years in the State legislature before he came to Congress with RANDY. I think I have served longer with RANDY because I served with him first in the house of delegates, where he was a role model, one of the leaders on the floor in the Virginia House.

He then moved on to the Senate just before Republicans took control of the House for the first time in 120-some years. He was a feisty floor debater, one who was always prepared, and somebody that I looked up to and used as a role model in trying to figure out how I was going to behave on the floor and act as a gentleman and yet be determined and fierce in defending my positions. RANDY FORBES always did that in the Virginia House. He then went on to the Virginia Senate, where he, likewise, defended his positions and was known as a leader.

Then he came to Congress, where he kept saying to me: You would love it. There are so many policy issues that you would get into.

He enjoyed his time here very much, and not because he felt that it was just something that he enjoyed doing, but because he could take his talents and serve the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia with those talents and serve his Nation, the United States of America, with those talents as well.

I suspect that we will see RANDY doing other public service in the not-too-distant future, but I am so very glad that I had the opportunity tonight

to talk about his service to the Commonwealth of Virginia and to the United States.

Last but certainly not least, my friend ROBERT HURT. ROBERT came after me into the Virginia House of Delegates. He, too, made the error of moving over to the senate. I think Congressman SCOTT made that error, too. But ROBERT HURT and I got to be friends in the house of delegates. He was a newer member. He had to make some tough decisions early on. We didn't always agree, but I told him to stick to his viewpoint and that he would be fine.

He is just a fantastic individual, a good friend. I am sorry that he decided to retire. I welcome his successor, but I am sorry that he decided to retire because I really enjoyed bouncing ideas off of him and sitting in the back row and talking about everything from birds that we might have seen alive or dead somewhere along the highway or keeping notes on some of the flora and fauna of our part of Virginia. Our districts abutted. Where Congressman GOODLATTE and I share the Roanoke Valley, Congressman HURT and I shared Henry County and that area as well, and it was truly an honor to serve with him.

I didn't get to serve with any of the gentlemen on a committee. We have heard a lot of great testimony about what great committee members they were. I did not have that opportunity, but I did get to serve with them in the House for two of them and here on this floor for 6 years. It was an honor and a privilege to work with them and to learn from them and to watch as they behaved as gentlemen ought to do in a society and in a place where we may disagree, but we can be agreeable while we disagree on issues.

Mr. GOODLATTE. I thank the gentleman for his kind remarks as well. Does the gentleman have any further remarks? I want to thank all of the Members who took time this evening to honor these three colleagues. I know that there are many more who wish them well.

The RECORD is open, and I know some additional Members will put remarks into the RECORD, but I just want to close by saying that I was proud to serve with all three of them. They are strong advocates for their constituents. They have a strong love for their country, and they are fighters for limited government and individual responsibility and the free enterprise system. They believe very strongly in lower taxes and less government regulation.

They work hard for their families in passing legislation that strengthens American families and, most especially, they are all strong believers in a strong national defense and have worked hard for their Nation in this body. They deserve all of the accolades they have received this evening and many, many more. I wish them God-speed and great futures with their families and their future endeavors.

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three friends and colleagues from Virginia who have served the House of Representatives and the American people faithfully and with whom I have enjoyed working during our time together in the House.

Congressmen SCOTT RIGELL, RANDY FORBES and ROBERT HURT will be greatly missed, and I personally will miss them as they leave office at the end of this 114th Congress.

I have valued SCOTT RIGELL's strong faith and commitment to regular Bible study ever since we entered Congress together in 2011.

He regularly seeks God's wisdom as he serves his constituents. I have appreciated the way in which he models his faith and convictions as a servant of the people.

RANDY FORBES has also demonstrated that true wisdom comes from the Source of all wisdom.

His founding of the Congressional Prayer Caucus as a body to encourage Members of Congress as they seek the Lord in all things has been meaningful to me personally and an inspiration to many of our like-minded colleagues.

ROBERT HURT and I have worked together on the Financial Services Committee, and I have appreciated his role defending our community banks as Vice-Chair of the Capital Markets Subcommittee.

I've had the great opportunity to work with him on the Investment Advisers Modernization Act and his contribution has made it easier for private equity to invest in our economy and grow jobs.

As they return to private life, each one of these men should be proud of the service they have rendered to their constituents and their country and the mark they have left on this institution and on those, like myself, who have had the privilege to serve alongside them.

#### SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2944. An act to require adequate reporting on the Public Safety Officers' Benefits program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 3438. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a major medical facility project in Reno, Nevada; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4665. An act to require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct an assessment and analysis of the outdoor recreation economy of the United States, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 10 minutes