

dies of a heart attack. Fortunately, research has determined actions we can take to prevent this disease and other heart conditions.

As a member of the Fitness Caucus here in the House of Representatives, I work to promote an active lifestyle as a preventive measure for many diseases, including heart disease.

High blood pressure often shows no signs or symptoms, which is why having your blood pressure checked regularly is very important. It is easy to get your blood pressure checked.

You can get it screened at your doctor's office and drugstores. You could even check it yourself at home using a home blood pressure monitor.

The CDC and their Million Hearts effort is aiming to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes in the United States by 2017. To do that, they are encouraging Americans to make control their goal. If you know you have high blood pressure, ask your doctor what your blood pressure should be and set a goal. Together we can raise awareness and save lives.

PHILLIP RIGGS RECEIVES MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARD

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

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand today to recognize my constituent, Phillip Riggs, who was the recipient of the third annual Music Educator Award presented by the GRAMMY Foundation.

The Music Educator Award was established to recognize current educators who have made a significant contribution to the field of music education. Phillip was selected out of 4,500 nominations submitted from all 50 States.

Phillip is a native of Mount Airy, North Carolina, and is currently the music instructor at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics in Durham, North Carolina.

Phillip was exposed to music in other traditional ways as well. His father was a leader of the church choir during childhood.

Phillip is also the recipient of the Exceptional Contribution in Outreach Award presented annually by the University of North Carolina Board of Governors.

Thank you, Mr. Riggs, for representing North Carolina honorably, for your tremendous career in music education, and for inspiring musicians across our State and our Nation.

GUANTANAMO BAY

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the safety and security of every single American, and I

stand in opposition to the President's plan to close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Let me be clear. Bringing the world's most dangerous terrorists to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, or anywhere in the United States is a request that Congress cannot and shall not honor.

The President, however, continues to try to move forward on this in spite of vocal American opposition and bipartisan legislation that this Congress has passed and that this President has signed into law which prohibits bringing these known terrorists onto American soil and closing the facility in Cuba.

Mr. Speaker, nothing changes today. We will not put our national security at risk. We will not unilaterally disarm ourselves in the war on terror, voluntarily giving up intelligence-gathering capabilities and putting our communities in the cross-hairs of terrorists.

What we simply ask is that the President, as Commander in Chief, execute the law and follow the Constitution. That's why, as a Congress, we must stand up and do everything in our power to stop the administration's transfer of these terrorists to American soil and to stop the President from closing the Guantanamo Bay facility.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ANTONIN SCALIA

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

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, this Special Order is meant to honor the life and three decades of service of Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court Antonin Scalia.

Justice Scalia was a person of great joy, great intellect, great wit, and great faith. Our Nation suffered a tremendous loss on February 13 with the passing of Justice Antonin Scalia.

My husband Chip and I, my parents, and our children are deeply saddened by the passing of our friend, our neighbor, and, of course, a legal legend. He was a courageous advocate for the rule of law and the Constitution.

Justice Scalia and his wife, Maureen, raised an incredible family of 9 children and 36 grandchildren, and we have been so privileged to know and love them.

Justice Scalia was both a larger-than-life Justice, who leaves a profound legacy in the law, as well as a down-to-earth husband, father, grandfather, and absolutely delightful friend who loved his Lord and God, his wife and family, the law, the opera, his country, hunting, and a good laugh.

We have all heard the stories of his friendship across the ideological spectrum, none more famous than his friendship with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Justice Scalia explained: "If you can't disagree ardently with your colleagues about some issues of law and yet personally still be friends, get another job, for Pete's sake."

Justice Ginsburg explained: "As annoyed as you might be about his zinging dissent, he's so utterly charming, so amusing, so sometimes outrageous, you can't help but say 'I'm glad that he's my friend or he's my colleague.'"

Justice Scalia was a shining example of fidelity, as he was ever-faithful to his oath to the law, to his family, and to his God.

He was celebrated by so many in the legal community. He was a revered mentor to the dozens and dozens of clerks who lined the steps of the Supreme Court last Friday in his honor. And every one of them, no doubt, had a story that had profound legal discussions in it but also ended with a good laugh.

He simply will be irreplaceable and leaves a legacy that will be consequential, discussed, and debated for the ages.

On the personal front, his life was also a great and consequential life. Justice Scalia married his wife of over 55 years, Maureen, in 1960. They were set up on a blind date. He told one author that Maureen was "the product of the best decision I ever made."

His nine children—nine, how appropriate for a Supreme Court Justice—were split five and four, five boys, four girls. They became lawyers, a priest, a poet, an Army major, and parents themselves of those wonderful 36 grandchildren.

Justice Scalia proudly gave the lion's share of the credit for raising this large brood to the resourceful, talented, and very smart love of his life, Maureen, who, as her son Paul said in the homily, matched him at every step. Justice Scalia said about his children "and there's not a dullard in the bunch."

His son, Father Paul Scalia, was the celebrant for his father's beautiful funeral mass with the assistance of dozens of priests at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception this past Saturday.

Father Paul began his moving homily saying: "We are gathered here because of one man, a man known personally to many of us, known only by reputation to many more; a man loved by many, scorned by others; a man known for great controversy and for great compassion. That man, of course, is Jesus of Nazareth."

□ 1930

Father Paul continued: "In the past week, many have recounted what Dad did for them. But here today we reflect what God did for Dad, how He blessed him."

Father Paul explained how his father understood that the deeper he went into his Catholic faith, the better a citizen and public servant he became. That faith now inspires his children and grandchildren and generations to come of the Scalia family and the so many lives he touched and influenced.

Justice Scalia also had a rich tenor voice that intimidated many who came before the Court in front of him, but as his son Christopher explained, it was also perfect for reading stories to his grandchildren. His rendition of "The Night Before Christmas" was an annual tradition. He also led many sing-alongs at parties, played the piano, and also that singing would go on and on for their long car rides.

Pictures with his children and grandchildren cover the walls and the end tables and the piano of the Scalia home, and in any picture with one or more of those children or grandchildren or with his beloved Maureen, Justice Scalia would always be beaming whenever he was around his family.

An only child himself, he loved that he gave his children the gift of many brothers and sisters. No doubt that is a great solace to all of them now, as well as a source of great strength and support for their mother.

May God bless Justice Antonin Scalia, a good and faithful son, and may God bless his wife, Maureen, and their entire family, and the scores and scores of their friends and his colleagues and the millions more of admirers, and may God bless the country that he so loved.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I especially thank Congresswoman COMSTOCK for leading this tribute to Justice Scalia.

The Nation's legal lights faded recently with the loss of the great Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, but they will not be dimmed for long, for Justice Scalia left a legacy of illumination that will continue far beyond his mortal years.

Although Justice Scalia is no longer with us on Earth, his cogent, witty, and plain-spoken writings will continue to educate law students and good citizens everywhere for centuries to come.

Justice Scalia was no mere legal technician. He was a deep thinker who had an uncommon knack for crystalizing powerful ideas into trenchant, lasting prose. The journey on which he led his readers was always a joy, always compelling, because Justice Scalia always made clear where the path started.

He once said: "More important than your obligation to follow your con-

science, or at least prior to it, is your obligation to form your conscience correctly." And for Justice Scalia, as with morality, so it was with the law. Justice Scalia always made sure he built his argument on a solid foundation: the Constitution, the supreme law of the land.

As a strong defender of the rule of law, he was a gentle legal giant. Like all great educators, Justice Scalia was respectful of others, regardless of their differing views. "I attack ideas," he once said. "I don't attack people. And some very good people have some very bad ideas. And if you can't separate the two, you gotta get another day job." That is a life lesson for all of us who engage in any debates and the ideas that undergird them.

In that spirit, Justice Scalia often said: "My best buddy on the Court is Ruth Bader Ginsburg, has always been," and Justice Ginsburg's moving tribute to her own best buddy should reduce every bitter partisan to tears.

Throughout his life, Justice Scalia correctly inveighed against the notion of a living Constitution, the misguided idea that the Constitution's text and original meaning somehow shifted this way and that with changes in popular attitudes.

Justice Scalia said:

That's the argument of constitutional flexibility and it goes something like this: The Constitution is over 200 years old, and societies change. It has to change with society, like a living organism, or it will become brittle and break. But . . . the Constitution is not a living organism; it is a legal document. It says some things and doesn't say other things.

As a lifetime-appointed Supreme Court Justice, Justice Scalia, like all other lifetime-appointed judges, had the opportunity to effectively alter the meaning of the Constitution if he wanted and could garner the support of four of his colleagues. But like George Washington refusing the crown offered him, Justice Scalia rejected the notion the Supreme Court should impose its own preferred policies on the country through strained constitutional interpretations.

Instead, Justice Scalia was an ardent defender of democracy, representative democracy. As he said: "If you think aficionados of a living Constitution want to bring you flexibility, think again. You think the death penalty is a good idea? Persuade your fellow citizens to adopt it. You want a right to abortion? Persuade your fellow citizens and enact it. That's flexibility."

Justice Scalia's respect for article I of the Constitution, the article that begins with these words, "All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives," that article, which clearly sets forth the powers of the Congress to legislate, not the executive branch and not the courts, is one of Justice Scalia's greatest legacies.

As much as Justice Scalia will be remembered as an able critic of the no-

tion of a living Constitution, he will be remembered for his own living dissents, and many majority opinions, which will live forever in the hearts and minds of lovers of the law in America and around the world.

Thank you, Justice Scalia.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

I yield to my friend, the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER).

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend and colleague, the gentlewoman from Virginia, BARBARA COMSTOCK, for organizing this Special Order and for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, Father Paul Scalia said in his beautiful eulogy of his father, Justice Antonin Scalia, on Saturday: "We give thanks that Jesus brought him to new life in baptism, nourished him with the Eucharist, and healed him in the confessional. God blessed Dad with a deep Catholic faith, the conviction that Christ's presence and power continue in the world today through His body, the Church."

Mr. Speaker, last week our country lost one of its most outspoken and dedicated defenders of faith and liberty. For nearly 30 years, Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia stood as a monument to a faith-based viewpoint on the Constitution that will be sorely missed.

There is no one in the history of our country who better protected the original intent of our Constitution and upheld the God-given rights of all Americans than Justice Scalia.

Shown by his fierce dedication to defending our Constitution, from protecting Americans from government intrusion to protecting the rights of the unborn, Justice Scalia was a man of conviction, a man of passion, and a man of integrity.

His honor and vigilance toward the original meaning of the Constitution and his historic dissents will ring throughout history. Every single ounce of Justice Scalia's heart and soul was devoted to our country, his faith, and his family. His wit, his candor, and his character will be missed on our Nation's highest Court. The legacy of Justice Scalia must never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I stand committed today to ensure we continue to prioritize faith and freedom in this country, protecting our natural-born rights as citizens of the United States of America. It is simply the right thing to do.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks.

I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY).

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

When I was informed of the Justice's death, it came across my electronic devices. I texted my wife back home, and I said: I just want to cry.

I had the extraordinary privilege of getting to know the Justice on a more personal basis. In western Nebraska there is a large outcropping. It is called

Chimney Rock. Chimney Rock was the place that marks the halfway point across America. When the settlers crossed the great country, when they got to Chimney Rock, they knew that they were halfway along their journey.

In the shadow of that rock, just this last December, I was in a duck blind with Justice Scalia who, as we all know, had that as an avocation. When you spend a couple of days in a duck blind with somebody, it is a bonding experience. You get to know them more personally.

In my own reflections about what Chimney Rock meant to the country, a bridge between the past and the future, I thought it appropriately captured the character, the nature, the wisdom of the great Justice.

He was a great student of American history, our legal system, a great protector of the Constitution and precedents. He understood how important it was to act in a consistent manner with principle while looking forward and applying that principle in ever-changing circumstances of American life. Because he did so with continuity and with consistency, he was a man of great integrity. His inner voice matched his outer voice.

When we saw this beautiful outpouring of support at his funeral from people all across the political aisle, I think the common narrative there was a deep respect for this great man.

Mr. Speaker, when he died, I felt like America lost her grandfather. He was a soaring intellect, had an incisive wit, and had in a certain sense a humble personality. He loved to share a joke. For me to have the privilege of spending some time in a personal intimate setting with him I count as an extraordinary privilege of my time in public service.

May God rest his soul. May God grant him peace. May God continue to bless the United States of America and give us all the strength to continue to think through how we are going to elevate and form the next generation of Americans who can apply themselves in such an extraordinary, sacrificial way as Justice Scalia did.

I remember one other comment I wanted to leave with you. I remember when the Justice asked me: How many children do you have? You beautifully talked about how he was so devoted to his family and faith. He asked me, knowing that I knew he had nine, he asked me how many children. I said: I have five.

He paused. He said: Respectable.

That was it.

I thank the gentlewoman from Virginia for her beautiful remarks and for giving me this moment to honor this great American.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. I thank the gentleman for his lovely remarks. Five is a good start, right, getting to that nine.

I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING).

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I especially thank her for arranging this Special Order tonight in memory of Justice Scalia, who was truly a legal giant. He was a man who surpassed all of the intellects that I have been aware of in my lifetime. Certainly no one in the legal profession has demonstrated more of a love for the law, more respect for the law, and more respect for the original intent of the Constitution.

Now, I have nowhere near the personal contact with Justice Scalia that the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. COMSTOCK) did or the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY). I did meet him on a number of occasions. I had the opportunity to speak with him. Usually our conversations consisted of talking about the fact that we lived in working class neighborhoods in Queens. We grew up about a mile apart from each other. We both attended Jesuit high schools. That is about where the comparison ended as far as the Jesuit high schools, because he was valedictorian and I was far from it. He was a person who had the strength of somebody from the neighborhood, but he had the scholar's intellect.

□ 1945

He had an intellect that went beyond tremendous intelligence. It was an intellect that was shaped and framed by his deep religious faith and a belief in undiminished, lasting, and immutable principles. That is what reflected throughout his opinions. Yet he never let his own feelings or prejudices influence his thinking.

That was certainly proven in the flag burning case. If there is anyone who loved his country and would oppose the concept of the act of flag burning, it was Justice Scalia. Yet he upheld the act as an expression of free speech, as much as it pained him.

Something that many of us in politics and government have a hard time doing is following the letter of the law, following the intent of the law, and following the meaning of the law. Somehow, we like to put in our own feelings and beliefs. The fact is Justice Scalia told us that there is a higher principle than that.

Also he had such a respect for language. There were no easy words thrown about. There were no escape clauses or phrases. There was an intent and purpose and meaning to everything that he did. To read his opinions, whether in the majority—and knowing that he was in the majority made us feel much better—or in his dissents, you realized, again, how determined he was, how forceful he was, and how committed he was to arriving at the correct decision—one which, again, followed the original intent of the Constitution.

There were several references by BARBARA COMSTOCK to his funeral service on Saturday. Again, it was an expression by so many people of their love and respect for such an outstanding human being, a person whom I doubt we will ever see the likes of again—certainly, in our lifetimes.

He was a giant of the law. He was a giant of his faith. He was a giant of his country. I am proud to join with all of my colleagues tonight—especially BARBARA COMSTOCK, who arranged this Special Order—in honoring the memory of Justice Scalia and hoping that that memory lives forward to carry out his unmatched love for the law, love for his country, and love for his family and his religion.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. I thank the gentleman from New York for his kind words and for bringing a New York flavor here to such a wonderful man.

I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER).

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Virginia for taking the initiative to honor such a great man.

In 1986, Antonin Scalia was nominated. I was a junior in high school. I am not sure it really resonated to me at the time what the next 30 years would entail. I believe it is safe to say that not only is he one of the strongest conservative voices of our day, but he could be of all time.

I think of his life and I think of the example that he left for all of us, whether in politics or not. It is one thing to be conservative; it is another thing to be effective. He showed with his life that he did not have to compromise his principles or his values to be effective.

When I look at his peers around him, Justice Ginsburg many times talked about the friendship and the relationship she had with him. It was genuine. He took Justice Kagan hunting. He taught her how to hunt. She killed her first big deer with Justice Scalia at her side. What does that tell me? It tells me something that we need to remember: you can connect with people, you can hold your values, but you can have a genuine love for your fellow man.

There is much to be said about Antonin Scalia's faith. Obviously, he lived it, but he lived it in a way that set an example for all of us. Yes, we get frustrated. It is okay to be angry—sometimes vertically, but never horizontally—with our coworkers, our friends, our neighbors, and our family.

He set the mark. He set it high. He was someone that could work in, arguably, the toughest environment in the world, yet still gain the respect of his political archrivals. For that, I thank him. Tonight, I honor him for showing us how to be both conservative and effective.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM).

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative COMSTOCK for organizing this tonight.

I just have a quick personal story, Mr. Speaker.

Justice Scalia's daughter, Ann, lives in my neighborhood. I served in the State legislature, and I learned that this woman whose last name, obviously, was no longer Scalia, was the

daughter of Justice Scalia. So I called her up, and I said: If your dad is ever in town, I would love to meet him.

I was that guy, Mr. Speaker, who made that call, and she was very gracious.

Sometime later, she called me up and said: PETER, my dad is coming in. Why don't you and your family stop by.

So the Roskams ran around the corner. My wife, Elizabeth, myself, and my four children, who were young at the time, went over and spent a few minutes on a Sunday afternoon with Justice Scalia. He was very magnanimous and very gracious in his blue jeans and sweatshirt, getting up off the couch, but extending himself to us.

A couple of years later, I won a seat in the U.S. House. I thought: Well, I have got a little bit of a connection. I will reach out and call him and try to make a courtesy call.

I made some contact with his chambers and his staff and they said: Well, would you like to come over and listen to an argument?

As a new Member of Congress, I said: I would love to go over.

So, over I go and listen to an argument in the Supreme Court. It is very dramatic, as you know. I was walking out feeling a little bit let down because I actually wanted to say hello to Justice Scalia. But not to be disappointed, his staff said: Come on with us.

So I went up to his office, and there in his chambers he set out a lunch. The two of us had lunch together.

Now, who I was having lunch with was not lost on me. The magnitude, the scale, the capacity of this man and his ability to influence things on a grand scale was not lost on me. Yet he was really willing to spend some time with me that day.

I have got to tell you one other quick story.

A few years ago, I invited him to dinner. I said: Justice Scalia, I have got a number of my colleagues that would love to have dinner with you. Would you be willing to come out?

Of course, he did.

I told my wife afterward: This guy is so interesting and so charming, if he had a radio show, you would listen to it. You would set your timer so that you could listen to him.

He was so interesting, so clever, and so quick and willing to take all kinds of questions and all kinds of debate and so forth.

I just want to close by saying this. There are many, many times when we feel overwhelmed by events that are before us in our public life. There are many times when our constituents feel overwhelmed and they get this sense of: Is there anybody out there that has got some level of judgment and wisdom and capacity here? Are there any examples and role models?

The answer is: Justice Scalia. He is an example. He is an example that we are all the beneficiaries of: his clear mind; his capacity to disagree without being disagreeable; his capacity to

build people up; his capacity to articulate a world view; his capacity to be a faithful and vocal follower of his savior, Jesus, and not be defensive about it; and to basically invite people along to celebrate and to participate in this great gift, which is our democracy.

Even in these short interactions that I had with him, you always got the sense—or, I did—that he got the joke. In other words, there was a twinkle in his eye.

This is a democracy and we have got roles to play. His role on the Court was to do his thing. Our role, Mr. Speaker, is to legislate with that same sense of commitment and character and tenacity and clarity that Justice Scalia brought to his role on the judiciary.

So, I want to honor Justice Scalia. I want to honor his wife, Mrs. Scalia. I want to honor his children and grandchildren. I thank them, because it is a sacrifice for them to have someone of that caliber and that capacity in that role for our country. It is not a burden that is easy, but they have been willing to bear that burden. Our country is better off for it.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. I thank the gentleman for those lovely memories.

In the outpouring that we saw in his passing, one of the pictures that I saw from a neighbor was a picture of Justice Scalia, who was probably coming home for a long day at work, and some children on our street had a lemonade stand. He had stopped and gotten out there to support those little entrepreneurs. The mom came out and took a picture of them. He was there beaming with those kids, in his suit, all dressed up, and these little kids are there with their lemonade stand and so proud.

He really did take the time that my friend, Mr. ROSKAM, spoke about and really just engaged and loved life so much.

I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DESANTIS).

Mr. DESANTIS. I thank my colleague from Virginia for organizing this fitting tribute to somebody who really, really did make a difference.

Very few people who serve not only in the judiciary, but really at any level of government, leave the lasting mark that Antonin Scalia did. He will join the likes of John Marshall, Joseph Story, and Robert Jackson as one of the all-time greats in American law.

I think of all the great things you can say about him. He was sharp, he was witty, and he wrote brilliantly. I think the reason why he is a titan of modern American law is because he insisted on discharging the judicial duty in a way that strengthened our overall constitutional order.

He insisted on textualism when you are interpreting statutes. He had an originalist outlook when you are talking about the constitutional interpretation. Those frames of reference really vindicated the separation of powers.

The judicial power under Article III is to decide cases and controversy. So

you have cases before you that you have got to decide. It is not to go out and be a roving superlegislature. It is not to impose your philosophy on society. You decide cases.

So, once judges free their decision-making from the objective meaning of the law in the Constitution, they are taking away power belonging to the American people that should be exercised through their Representatives. Justice Scalia always understood that. He was always insistent that judges have an objective standard when they are discharging their duty.

When you talk about textualism, you read the statute for what it says. You don't correct the statute. You don't amend the statute. You don't find subjective views of some random legislature who happened to say something in a committee hearing. You actually apply the words as written. That is the judicial task.

When you do that, you are basically vindicating the power of the Congress and of the people's elected Representatives, because they are the ones that wrote the law. If the courts depart from that, then they are departing from what the elected Representatives did.

I am sure he saw countless statutes that were asinine as a matter of policy, but he said: That is not my job to correct that. So he is absolutely vindicating the separation of powers in the constitutional order.

The same thing with constitutional interpretation. Before Justice Scalia took the bench, this was a freewheeling thing. Judges would say: Society matures and it is up to us to, effectively, update the meaning of the Constitution.

That means you have five lawyers—unelected, unaccountable—that serve as an effective roving constitutional convention that can change the Constitution based on one case that happens to come in front of them.

That was something that Justice Scalia thought was totally outside the bounds of the proper judicial role. He says the Constitution has a fixed, enduring meaning, and it is our job as judges to ascertain that meaning and apply it to the cases and controversies before us.

So, if you look at a figure that has had more impact on how we think about the law and the Constitution over the last 50 years, you are not going to find one that surpasses Justice Antonin Scalia. He was a great American in every respect. He fought the good fight. He finished the race. He kept the faith. What a good guy. What a life.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ROTHFUS).

Mr. ROTHFUS. I thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from Virginia, for organizing this Special Order on behalf of this remarkable, remarkable American.

On February 13 of this year, our country lost a giant. His legacy will

never fade. Justice Scalia influenced countless jurists, attorneys, law students, and everyday Americans. My thoughts and prayers have been with his wife, Maureen, Father Paul, and the entire Scalia family since the passing of this outstanding American statesman.

Regardless of whether one agreed with his opinions on the Supreme Court, this man's consistent integrity and admirable character cannot be denied. In both word and action, he was a man of the strongest character and deepest virtue.

□ 2000

This was evident in the commencement address he gave to the graduating class of the College of William and Mary in 1996, when he said: "Bear in mind that brains and learning, like muscle and physical skill, are articles of commerce. They are bought and sold. You can hire them by the year or by the hour. The only thing in the world that is not for sale is character."

The way he lived out the virtues of integrity and humility did not go unnoticed.

Several weeks ago, we here in Washington had the opportunity to go to the National Prayer Breakfast, which attracted Members of Congress, the President, Senators, Ambassadors, people from all over the world, and we were treated with an appearance by famed tenor Andrea Bocelli.

I think that Justice Scalia would have enjoyed his appearance and his appreciation for opera.

In addition to his wonderful renditions of "Panis Angelicus," which, again would have been another treat for Justice Scalia, and "Amazing Grace," Mr. Bocelli lamented the dark shadow that war casts on the world and expressed concern for its victims, identifying war as a major problem in our world today.

But then it was interesting. Mr. Bocelli stated: "There is that small, hateful word, 'hubris,' already known in antiquity." The ancient Greeks used it to define pride and the arrogance it entails.

Bocelli's use of the word "hubris" was compelling in that he spoke it in the center of power here in the United States.

That word conjures a theme that we have seen in Justice Scalia's work. Justice Scalia went about his task of considering significant constitutional and legal issues of the day with a profound and seldom seen humility about the role of courts in our country.

They are not there to impose their own beliefs on the people, but to adjudicate competing claims in the context of a Constitution that has enduring meaning.

To interpret the law in any other way otherwise aggrandizes power to a select few, a power that was never intended by the Founders. This humility of position that Justice Scalia had I believe will be a lasting legacy.

Regardless of whether one agrees with Justice Scalia from a policy perspective, his writings reflect a profound respect for an understanding of our system of government and an unparalleled respect for an interpretation of the Constitution grounded in text and in history. For this our Nation should be forever grateful.

May he rest in peace.

Mrs. COMSTOCK. I thank the gentleman, and I thank all of my colleagues for their comments.

Mr. Speaker, I really appreciate this opportunity for all of our colleagues to join us in celebrating the life of this great man, Justice Scalia, who so many of us were privileged to know and count as a friend.

For anyone who would like to view the beautiful mass of Christian burial for Justice Scalia that was presided over by his son, Father Paul Scalia, who gave a beautiful homily, that can be found on C-SPAN. I appreciate that that was covered.

I also, again, appreciate this opportunity to celebrate this beautiful life, this family.

I yield back the balance of my time.

WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY ISSUES IN THE UNITED STATES

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the earlier discussion about one of America's most longstanding and most noted Justices. His passing is mourned by all of us.

I do, however, today want to move to a different subject. I want to talk about, I think, one of the two most essential things that a human being needs to live. That is water and air. But today we are going to take the former of those two subjects and really talk about water.

Two weeks ago I put this up for all to see. This is tap water from Flint, Michigan. There has been a lot of discussion over the last month, month and a half, almost 3 months now, about Flint, Michigan, about the water supply in Flint, Michigan, lead in the pipes, lead pipes, about the public health emergency that exists there, and about what we could and should do about dealing with Flint, Michigan.

However, Flint, Michigan is not unique. This is how they get water in East Porterville. In the Central Valley of California, the San Joaquin Valley, just south of Fresno, California, the water supplies in the East Porterville area ran dry, in part, because of the drought, in part, because of inadequate water systems.

So the residents of East Porterville were required to get water from a cattle water trough, pretty much like I have on my ranch, although, hopefully,

this water is a whole lot cleaner. Porterville, California.

Now we have two examples, one from the Midwest, another one from the Far West.

Any other problems about water supply? Well, yes. There are other problems about water supply.

This is a list of problems that we know exist in the United States—or most recently existed:

Flint, Michigan, we just saw that picture.

Toledo, Ohio, you remember, had to shut down the water system because of problems from algae blooms.

Sebring, Ohio; Baltimore, Maryland; Brick Township, New Jersey; Washington, D.C., lead release.

Wayne County, North Carolina; Greenville, North Carolina; Lakehurst Acres, Maine; Chicago, Illinois.

I decided not to put them all up there because it would take the rest of the evening to list all the communities in America that have water issues. And certainly we do in California.

I could put up another—well, maybe I will. Let me just put up a map of California. This is the largest population in the United States, approaching 40 million people.

And far north, the Pacific Coast, San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, down here, Santa Barbara, and way down here, San Diego, and somewhere over here, Arizona and Nevada, the Sierra Nevada mountains, the coastal range, and the great Central Valley of California, where a whole lot of America's food and food exports come from.

Down here in the Tulare Lake Basin, there are well over 100 communities who have contaminated water from nitrates and other harmful substances.

So the issue of clean water, you know, shortage of water down here, and contaminated wells up and down—oh. The Salinas Valley. Monterey Bay and the great Salinas Valley, many, many of the wells in that area are also contaminated.

So we have got a water quality problem really throughout the United States, and we certainly have one in California.

We have another problem in California. Let me put this up, a little different map. The previous map, that one, nice and green. That is not California today.

We may be and probably are in the fifth year of the great California drought. This is a picture of the California drought situation. The yellow is a little less than normal. The red, far less than normal. This brown is really the way California will be as soon as this summer comes on. And that is called exceptional drought.

So the great Central Valley of California, the coastal range down into Los Angeles, even over to the east side of the Sierras, an exceptional drought. So the green California is really not so green.

Today we are about halfway through the rainy season in California, and the