

record held by the legendary former Speaker of the House, Joseph Cannon.

Mr. Cannon once observed that, and this is a quote:

The House is the most peculiar assemblage in the world, and only a man who has had long experience there can fully know its idiosyncrasies. It is true we engage in fierce combat, we are often intense partisans, sometimes we aren't fair, yet I venture to say that nowhere else will you find such a ready appreciation of merit and character.

Joseph Cannon, now surpassed by DON YOUNG as the longest-serving Republican in the Congress.

DON, thank you for being a leader of merit and character. Congratulations to you and your entire family on this milestone.

Congratulations, DON.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. McCARTHY), the Republican leader of the House.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Speaker for yielding.

I too rise to congratulate Representative DON YOUNG, the dean of the House, who today, as stated, becomes the longest-serving Republican in the history of Congress and, as the Speaker noted, has surpassed Joe Cannon.

DON YOUNG doesn't quote Joe Cannon, but he reminds me they named a building after him.

Now, like me, DON was born in California. He got to know Alaska the way many of us did, he read Jack London's "The Call of the Wild," and he moved there right when it became a State.

As of today, DON has represented Alaska for 46 years, over 75 percent of the entire time it has been a State.

His career is an important reminder of how young this wonderful experience we call America truly is.

They lied to me during freshman orientation. They told me nobody had an assigned seat in this House. That is how I got to know DON YOUNG. I made the mistake of coming in and sitting down right over by that door.

I also learned another valuable lesson: DON keeps a knife.

Now, DON has been a very effective Member. He has been chair of the Committee on Natural Resources, chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, he has worked with nine Presidents, nine Speakers, he has numerous bills on his wall in between all the animals, but DON was prepared for this job.

You see, when he was in Alaska, he was a riverboat captain, he was a mayor, but he told me the job that prepared him the most to be a Member of Congress, he taught the fifth grade. I don't know how good of a teacher you were, but I imagine it was good.

But DON has been a mentor to many of us. You see, you can watch him, how he carries himself in conference, how he carries himself on the floor, but the way that he can mentor all of us is by the love and respect that he always had for his spouse. Lula was always next to him, and Anne is there now.

He has been a Member of Congress, but he has been a father, and he has been a very, very great husband.

Mr. Speaker, we all travel far and wide to be here to represent our constituents, but no one travels further, no one has the challenge to match DON. There are times, if the weather requires, he takes a dogsled, and it is no joking matter. That is his dedication.

DON also makes sure this institution stays running on time. I noticed that last vote went a little long. I do like to monitor the difference when we are in the minority. On average, the votes lasted 5 to 10 minutes less when we were in the majority, not by anything I did, but by the calls of DON YOUNG.

But on a serious note, Madam Speaker, I have always heard that if you find a job you love, you will not work a day in your life. It is clear that DON YOUNG loves what he does, because he loves this institution and he loves the people's House.

So to DON, we say congratulations on this incredible accomplishment, something nobody probably sitting here today will ever be able to achieve, but you did it for your passion, you did it for the love, but more importantly, you did it for your country.

I thank you.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, as usual, the distinguished dean is eager to take to the microphone, but not yet. There is more to come.

When the distinguished Republican leader of the House referenced the animals in your office, the menagerie there, I was reminded of one of your ties, and I shared this story with Members on the day that you became the dean of the House, now the longest-serving Republican today. But I saw you one day with a tie that really gave me hope, because it had an owl and an eagle and a baby seal on it, and I said, "Oh, Mr. Chairman, I am so happy to see you paying tribute to these endangered species," to which you said, "I call this tie lunch."

I knew you were only kidding, right?

So, in any event, we have all had our stories with the chairman. We all respect and admire him.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished Democratic majority leader of the House for purposes of commenting on the distinguished dean, the longest-serving Republican in the House.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Speaker for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate DON YOUNG, who the minority leader and the Speaker have both indicated loves this House. The minority leader then added apparently you haven't worked a day in your life, at least that is how I interpreted it, DON. That was a liberal interpretation, you know, this side of the aisle. What can I tell you?

We just lost the longest-serving Member of the House just a few weeks ago, and as I sat here, I thought, what a resemblance there is between the longest-serving Democrat of the House

and the longest-serving Republican of the House: irascible comes to mind; caring about this institution comes to mind; faithful to principle comes to mind; blunt, speaks truth, not only to power, but to everybody else as well. DON YOUNG has made a difference.

DON YOUNG comes from Alaska, as all of us know, although the Speaker and the minority leader recognized that he came from California, but, DON, you have really made a difference, particularly for your State.

As chairman of Natural Resources, you were focused like a laser on making sure that your State was treated fairly. I know there are still some things you didn't accomplish that you would like to have accomplished, and you have much time left to do that, but the fact is all of us have benefited, I think, from your honesty, your recognition of how the House ought to work, and, yes, your regular order, which you demanded and didn't always get.

Of course, you took that with just very low-key responses, as I recall, walking by your seat from time to time.

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But DON YOUNG is an institution. DON YOUNG is an institutionalist. DON YOUNG is the kind of Member that makes this House, over the decades, work as constructively as it can, not as constructively as it should.

Hopefully, we will follow DON YOUNG and John Dingell's example, because both of them are lions of partisanship, but both of them were not only willing but thought it appropriate to work across the aisle to reach objectives that they could hold in common.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank DON for his service. DON and I have served together for 37 years. Between us, we have a little bit of time on us. I look forward to serving with him for some years to come. God bless him and God-speed.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), the distinguished Republican whip of the House.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Speaker PELOSI for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it is really a special moment for all of us to pay tribute to DON YOUNG for this great achievement, being the longest serving Republican in the House, especially for someone who loves this institution so much. As we talked about John Dingell and had the honor of serving with John Dingell in the House Energy and Commerce Committee and seeing his passion, not just for the issues he believed in, in fighting for the auto industry and so many other issues, but for his love of the people's House, DON YOUNG has that same love. In fact, anybody who knows DON YOUNG knows that his secrets to longevity are always speaking his mind,

fighting every day to be a champion for the great people of Alaska, and always speaking his mind.

On a somber note, DON started his career out of a tragedy. A lot of you remember that back in October of 1972, there was a plane crash in Alaska. Nicholas Begich and Hale Boggs, who at the time was the majority leader, went down in a plane crash. There was a massive search to try to find the plane. They never did find that plane. Ultimately, when they finally recognized that we had lost two great leaders, they had special elections.

I get to serve and actually work every day in the office that Hale Boggs once worked in, the same office that Majority Leader HOYER worked in as well, and I think about Hale a lot, as we think about Nicholas Begich as well. But I know DON was elected in a special election. That is when he came to Congress. Somebody else came to Congress: Hale Boggs' wife, Lindy Boggs, who some of you may have served with. They are probably too very different personalities, but they formed a special bond because of the unique nature in which they came to Congress. He shared with me some of those stories.

It just shows you how sometimes our differences can, ultimately, bring us together to at least pay tribute not only to an institution, but to respect our backgrounds and how we all come here from different walks of life. Ultimately, it is our desire to serve the people who we represent.

That is the thing I love the most about serving with DON YOUNG. It is that he has such a passion. He fights for his beliefs, and he works with other people.

We all know that, for 37 years, one of his great causes was to open up ANWR. Finally, we were on the White House lawn in December 2017 to have that ceremony and watch DON YOUNG giddy as a schoolchild as the President was making that announcement, and then to see him still this day, and every day, come to work with the passion of representing the great people of Alaska and continuing to work with all of us on all the different issues that we come here to address.

As we celebrate this great achievement, I think, as we all know, he comes and sits in that same spot and he yells "order," and he yells a few other things, and he pushes us all to do our job in a much more efficient way. But how fitting it is that the United States' largest State has such a larger than life personality as its representative.

Congratulations, DON. It is an honor to serve with you.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is clear from listening to the comments of the bipartisan leadership of the House of Representatives that, as Speaker, I can say, on behalf of the entire House of Representatives: Thank you, DON YOUNG, and congratulations.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), the distin-

guished longest serving Republican in history in the Congress.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Speaker, I thank Speaker PELOSI for those kind words, the kind words of the Republican leaders, and the kind words of all my colleagues.

It was mentioned that I love this institution, and I do because this is the great United States of America, and we are representatives of our districts.

The one thing I learned, during my 46 years, is that each one of you represent your people, and I respect it. I may not agree with some of the things you stand for, but I respect that you were elected by your people.

I had the privilege of traveling a lot, and I still do, in Members' districts, not to campaign against them, but to find out why and how they are elected and what they stand for in that community. This House is the people's House.

I have to sort of confess to one thing that was alluded to by KEVIN. It is a fact that I was a schoolteacher to fifth grade students, and it prepared me for this job. There is some truth in that because, I have to tell you, I have timed it as a teacher. The average attention span of a fifth grader is 7 minutes, and the average attention span of most Congressmen is about 4 1/4, because they are so busy trying to do everything they can, and they are so busy representing their people.

John Dingell was mentioned. And, DEBBIE, God bless you for him. He was one of my dear friends. Everybody says that, but he was a dear friend.

I met him in 1964 in my hometown of Fort Yukon. He was on the Fish and Wildlife Committee. He was 9 years a Congressman. I met with him and talked to him about an issue I was interested in.

Of course, when I got elected, he came to me, and I went to see him. We had one thing in common: We loved to hunt. We hunted on weekends, because we stayed here. We fished on weekends. And we became dear friends. He is the strongest, frankly, Congressman I have ever served with.

We had one thing in common: He respected my beliefs, and I respected his. I would say, John, this is the right thing to do. And he would do it.

I think a lot of us here today have to learn that and quit watching the media. That person who represents that district, listen to what they have to say and support them. That makes this House work a lot better, frankly, than it is right now.

This is nothing new. We have to do this for this country, to retain the control of the Congress to run this Nation. If not, we will lose our democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I thank everyone in this room for recognizing my tenure. I want to especially thank my wife, Anne, who is up in the stand. I have been trying to get the State of Alaska to pay her because when I lost my dear Lu, I thought I was going to die. She came along, picked me up off the ground,

supported me, loved me, cherishes me, and makes me want to come to work every day to serve the great State of Alaska.

Mr. Speaker, I thank everyone. God bless them, and God bless America.

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

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 962, BORN-ALIVE ABORTION SURVIVORS PROTECTION ACT

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 962, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD). Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Speaker, if this unanimous consent request cannot be entertained, I urge the Speaker and the majority leader to immediately schedule a vote on the born-alive bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is not recognized for debate.

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2019

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material on H.R. 1, the For the People Act of 2019.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 172 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole