

immediate importance. With continued bipartisan cooperation, the House Veterans' Affairs Committee will be better able to affect a decrease in the backlog of pending cases. I pledge to continue working toward this end.

TRIBUTE TO BURT P. FLICKINGER,  
JR.

**HON. JACK QUINN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 24, 1997*

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Mr. Burt P. Flickinger, Jr.

Throughout his life, Burt Flickinger tirelessly dedicated himself to the enhancement of our western New York community. A prominent Buffalo businessman who began in his family's business as a floor sweeper, Mr. Flickinger led his company to national prominence as a premiere food supplier and distributor. Insistent on earning his way to the helm of his family's company, Mr. Flickinger served as a division manager, secretary, senior vice president, and eventually president.

Burt Flickinger was No. 1 in his campus school class, attended the Nichols School and Phillips Exeter Academy, and graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University.

A true leader in recycling, Mr. Flickinger and his wife demonstrated a strong commitment to protecting our environment. To that end, Mr. Flickinger helped craft New York State's return-deposit recycling bill, created the Beverage Industry Collection and Sorting company [BICS] for food manufacturers and retailers, and initiated a recycling of plastics program for area supermarkets.

In 1988, Mr. Flickinger spearheaded the effort to bring the 1993 World University Games to Buffalo. By accomplishing this difficult task in his typical volunteer basis, Buffalo became the first American city to host this prestigious international event. Built for the games, Buffalo now boasts an impressive 18,000-seat football stadium at the University of Buffalo, a new aquatic center in the town of Tonawanda, and a world-class swimming pool and athletic complex at the Erie Community College City Campus, appropriately named the Burt Flickinger Athletic Center.

Mr. Flickinger also proved instrumental in the preservation and subsequent growth of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. Heading many major gifts campaigns and serving for several years as chairman of the finance and executive committees, Burt Flickinger almost single-handedly kept the orchestra from bankruptcy.

Another important project to Mr. Flickinger was the Roycroft Revitalization Corp. This nonprofit organization played a vital role in the restoration of one of western New York's most enduring landmarks, the historic Roycroft Inn.

In addition, Burt Flickinger was a four-time president of the Food Industry Council, a founding member of the Food Bank of Western New York, director, treasurer, and a founding member of the Erie Recycling Center, chairman of the New York State Food Merchants Association, and permanent chairman of the Boys Town of Italy of Western New York. In recognition of that extraordinary level of community service, Mr. Flickinger was recognized as the Buffalo News' Outstanding

Citizen in 1989, and the 1989 recipient of the University at Buffalo's Distinguished Citizen Award.

On April 21, 1997, the Buffalo community lost one of its greatest men. A man whose dedicated and charitable community service, hard work, commitment to Buffalo's development, personal strength, unparalleled integrity, and vibrant love of life serve as an inspiration to us all.

During a tribute in 1988, John Walsh III, CEO of Walsh Duffield Cos. put it best—"We see Mr. Flickinger as a humble, quiet, forceful, and thoroughly professional servant of his community, and we are educated by his kindness and compelling example of leadership."

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to join with the city of Buffalo, and indeed, our entire western New York community, to honor Mr. Burt P. Flickinger, Jr., who is survived by his wife, Mary Ewing Ryan Flickinger; his brother, Peter; his children, Burt III, Molly Flickinger Ford, and Catherine "Bambi" Flickinger Schweitzer; his stepchildren, Peter Ryan, David Ryan, and Molly Ewert; and his seven grandchildren and two stepgrandchildren for his dedicated service to our western New York community. To that end, I would like to convey to the Flickinger family my deepest sympathies, and ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join with me in a moment of silence.

We will all miss Mr. Flickinger very much.

HONORING PHIL NIEKRO ON THE  
OCCASION OF HIS INDUCTION TO  
THE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 24, 1997*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen who was raised in Ohio's 18th District. The 14th winningest pitcher in the history of major-league baseball, Phil Niekro, has been voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame after a distinguished and celebrated career.

Phil Niekro has shown uncommon dedication and excellence in baseball. He learned the sport, and his famous knuckleball, from his father Phil, Sr., a sandlot player. Phil began his career in 1959 with the Milwaukee Braves' minor league team and moved to the majors full time in 1967.

Phil Niekro's career is one of achievement. On October 8, 1985, Niekro recorded his 300th victory by pitching an 8-0 four hitter for the New York Yankees against Toronto. At 46, he became the oldest major-league pitcher ever to hurl a shut-out. His accomplishments have been recognized through his selection to four All-Star teams during his tenure with the Atlanta Braves. For his fielding talents, Niekro has won five Golden Glove awards.

The Atlanta Braves Career Pitching Records is marked by Phil Niekro's accomplishments. He holds the record for most years at 20 years, most games and most games started at 740 games and 635 games respectively. He also has the most strikeouts of any other Atlanta Braves pitcher and the most wins of any right-handed pitcher.

I am honored to represent the birthplace and hometown of Phil Niekro. His consider-

able talent and stellar career are sources of pride for the residents of Ohio's 18th district. I share their pride, and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Phil Niekro on his induction to the Baseball Hall of Fame and to wish him continued success.

ON THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY  
OF MILDRED AND JOHN  
BURDA

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 24, 1997*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the enduring commitment of two people to each other on the 50th wedding anniversary of Mildred and John Burda of Ohio.

Both Mildred and John are native Ohioans; Mildred hailed from Canton, and John from Cleveland. They married in 1947, raised a family, built careers and nurtured their love for each other in the Cleveland area. John studied nights and mornings to earn his associate's degree at John Carroll University and Mildred typed his papers. John worked his way up the ladder at Cleveland Electric Illuminating, starting as a lineman and rising to supervising foreman after 40 years. Mildred raised their four children. When the youngest graduated high school, Mildred went to work as a bookkeeper at the Church of the Sacred Heart, where she worked for 15 years.

As recalled by their children, Mildred and John were always supportive of and affectionate with each other. When their young friends would come over for Mildred's chop suey, they would be treated to Mildred and John, holding hands as if they had just returned from their first date.

In retirement, both are active. They are engaged with their community as members of their parish council. They travel widely visiting children around the country. They also cross-country ski in Cleveland's snowy winters, cycle and walk.

Their enduring love for each other is a gift to all who know them. After 50 years, both Mildred and John are sure that if they had their lives to do over again, they would spend them with each other.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 23, 1997*

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the millions of victims of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-23.

Although to some it may seem a long time ago, those 8 years witnessed one of this century's darkest chapters. Before planning the final solution in Nazi Germany, Adolf Hitler said, "who remembers the Armenians?" Today's remembrance is testimony to their bravery and our memories.

On April 24, 1915, Turkish officials rounded up and murdered over 200 Armenian intellectuals in Constantinople. During the following 8 years, Armenians living under Ottoman rule