

veterans, Arlington National Cemetery. These men and women who so proudly served our nation, and their families, deserve to be the only Americans interred in this place of high honor.

In recent months, it came to be known that 69 non-veterans have been granted waivers by the Secretary of the Army to be buried in Arlington in the last six years. In addition, we heard allegations that campaign donations may have influenced the waiver process. Fortunately, an investigation by the General Accounting Office found that no wrongdoing occurred. However, the outcome of this investigation brought to light the need for tightened standards to ensure the integrity of Arlington National Cemetery.

Today I am introducing legislation, Arlington National Cemetery Integrity Act, which will put into law the current regulations allowing veterans, certain of their family members, and a few distinguished government officials with active duty military service to be interred at the cemetery. My legislation will end the practice of granting waivers and legally clarify once and for all who may be buried at Arlington.

Currently, the Code of Federal Regulations outlines who can and cannot be interred at Arlington National Cemetery. The code allows the following to have their remains kept at Arlington: any active duty member of the Armed Forces; any retired member of the Armed Forces; any former member of the Armed Forces separated for physical disability prior to October 1, 1949; any former Member of the Armed Forces whose last active duty military service terminated honorably and who has been awarded the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, or Purple Heart; qualified elective officers, Supreme Court Justices, and certain other government officials, all of whom served in the Armed Forces and were terminated honorably from their last period of active duty as a member of the Armed Forces; any former prisoner of war who served honorably in the active Armed Forces, whose last period of active military service terminated honorably, and who died on or after November 30, 1993; the spouse, surviving spouse, minor child and unmarried adult child of the persons listed above; the surviving spouse, minor child, or unmarried adult child of any person already buried in Arlington; and finally, the parents of a minor child or unmarried adult child whose remains, based on the eligibility of a parent, are already buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

The only addition to the code that my legislation allows for is for the U.S. Commander in Chief, the President of the United States, to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery. This provision allows for both present and former presidents to be buried there.

The granting of waivers to unqualified individuals not only takes up precious, limited space at Arlington, but also threatens to diminish the integrity of the veterans who are interred there.

Burial at Arlington is the last honor that we can bestow upon our veterans. We must preserve this tribute to our soldiers, who gave their lives for our nation. The Arlington National Cemetery Integrity Act will preserve this honor and final resting place for our veterans for years and years to come.

THE PASSING OF CHARLES
SCHWEP

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to call to the attention of my colleagues the passing of an outstanding American and dedicated environmentalist, Charles Schwep of West Nyack, NY.

I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the remarkable life of Charles Schwep, who worked tirelessly to protect our community and our environment.

Charles always made it clear that he considered protection of our environment to be our highest national priority. As a member of my Citizen's Advisory Committee on the Environment, he never hesitated to make us aware of his views in light of his experience and expertise in this field.

Charles Schwep, a professional film maker, fought to preserve the environment in Rockland County by fighting the proposal for the Palisades Center Mall since 1985. As the Rockland Environmental Management Council's Citizen watchdog on the building of the Pyramid Mall in West Nyack, the largest proposed mall in the country, Charles continued his fight against the pollution and environmental desecration of his community.

As a sufferer of emphysema, Charles was concerned with the fact that the new malls would increase air pollution from cars and trucks. His main concern was with what kind of environment we were leaving behind for our children.

As a personal friend of Charles Schwep, I know that a man so passionate about his convictions will be greatly missed. Mr. Speaker, I extend my deepest condolences to the family and friends of Charles Schwep.

LETTER FROM GREAT-UNCLE SAM
McMANIS

HON. DAVID M. McINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 1998

Mr. McINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, On October 23, 1997, my wife Ruthie and I were blessed with God's greatest gift—our daughter Ellie Jenkins McIntosh.

Words can not express the joy and happiness our little Ellie has brought to our lives. Since her birth our friends and family have sent us so many wonderful letters. Letters that touched our hearts. Letters that we will save for Ellie to read one day.

One letter, from Ruthie's Uncle Sam McManis especially warmed and touched our hearts. I know Sam as a quiet father who loves his family and with his wonderful wife Kathy have raised two wonderful children. But Sam also tells me that when he was growing up he was a handful for his parents. Perhaps that has given him a special perspective as a parent.

As new parents ourselves, Ruthie and I found his advice on raising and loving Ellie made sense, so we decided to share Sam's letter with my colleagues and the American people.

November 16, 1997

My dear Ruthie, David and Eli, Congratulations on your new arrival!! Welcome to the family, Eli! Having heard your cry, I love you already!

What a treat to have such a nice, long conversation with you, Ruthie, just a few days after having a pleasant evening with you, David. You two are pretty cool. I wish we could spend more time together. During our conversation, Ruthie, you asked for my advice on child rearing. Here are some of my thoughts on the subject, most of which I learned by watching closely and trying to remember what she did while the premier nurturer, your wonderful Aunt Kathy, has worked her magic on our children. She always seems to know the right thing to say and do at the moment.

My first piece of advice is to talk to Kathy and your mom a lot, because they are both experts on the subject of raising great kids, and they each have tangible results to prove it.

Enjoy your children while they are growing up. They grow up too fast, regardless of how slow the moment is passing while they are driving you crazy. As my mother is fond of saying, "This, too, shall pass." Avery and Parke grew up too quickly and my memories of their childhood are already fading, which makes me sad. Those were special times for all four of us.

Love your children unconditionally. Help them understand that there is nothing they can do that is so horrible that you will stop loving them and that you love them so much that you would die for them, just like Jesus loved us so much he died for us on the cross.

Patience with your children will make being parents (and being your kids) more enjoyable.

When Eli is crying and refuses to stop and you are at the point that you feel like you are going to explode, put her in the crib, walk out of the room, close the door and get away from her until you calm down. It won't hurt her to spend some time alone in her crib screaming while you go get a grip or get someone else to take over for a while. I had an experience with Avery at four weeks old when she wouldn't stop crying. While I didn't do anything to harm her, the feelings that welled up inside of me were pretty scary.

Do Eli and yourselves a huge favor and have at least one more child, maybe three or four years later, like you and Rob or Avery and Parke.

Keep Eli's baby book and photo album up to date. At least have these for Eli's little brother or sister, even if there is nothing in them but a few recipes!

You and David need to ask yourselves now what traits you want your children to have as adults, then spend the next 18 years helping them to develop these traits. Make your day to day experiences with your children reinforce these traits. Here are some examples:

If you want to be first in your child's life, make your child first in your life. There is a lot of truth in the song "Cat's in the Hat". Be interested in Eli's life and listen as she tells you about her experiences. Help her tell you what is going on with her by asking her questions.

If you want your children to be honest with you, be honest with them. You don't have to tell her *all* of the truth, but be sure that what you do tell her is the truth. However, children don't have that option, they have to tell you *all* of the truth, because you are the parents! The longer you can keep them believing this, the better off you will be.

Show your children how to be forgiving by forgiving them when they make mistakes and ask for their forgiveness when you make mistakes. It is pretty humbling to ask a four