

was legendary for his commitment to his employees and his customers. His philosophy of good service destined his enterprise to become the nation's largest retailer. Mr. Walton ran his stores like a coach preparing his team for the big game. He led by example, and instilled in his staff the determination and motivation to serve and to succeed. Famous for his devotion to his employees, Walton, whenever he saw a Wal-Mart Truck, was known to land his Cessna amidst the nearest cornfield, flag down the driver, and ride with him to his destined store. Such company spirit and pride has fostered loyalty and trust among the public.

Sound principles of customers service should be inherent in government as well as private industry. Intrinsic within a republican form of government is a commitment to the people one represents and to serving their needs in the best way possible. With that in mind, I have focused on putting together America's best congressional staff. Employees in my office come from diverse backgrounds and have diverse talents: all have close ties to Colorado and the district. Each and every member of my staff considers it their personal responsibility to serve the public the best they can. They genuinely believe in their work and in serving the people of the State of Colorado.

Our office responds to thousands of letters and phone calls each month. My dedicated staff handles scores of constituent requests, helps me prepare letters, draft and follow legislation, and helps advise me on multitudes of important issues. Should someone from Colorado visit our nation's capital, we are always eager to line up congressional tours of the Capitol, and even the White House. People within the district also express their opinions, seek help with problems involving a government agency, or request information on legislation or proposed regulations from me or a member of my staff all the time. With an open door policy, my staff communicates frequently and openly with me. I consider them, as should my constituents, as an extension of myself. With selfless dedication, and in the spirit of America's best business leaders, America's best congressional staff works long hours and strives toward a philosophy of service to the good people of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District.

A TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN
GLENN POSHARD

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, Congressman GLENN POSHARD. Congressman POSHARD has aptly served the Nineteenth Congressional District of Illinois for ten years. During his tenure in the House of Representatives, GLENN has stayed true to his strong morals and has done what was best for his constituents.

With working-class roots of his own, Congressman POSHARD has been one of the most ardent congressional supporters of working-class men and women. From his position on the House Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, POSHARD has also been a guardian

of the economic interests of his district. For example, Congressman POSHARD opposed the North American Free Trade Agreement, which he knew would cost many American working men and women their jobs. However, when it became clear that this flawed trade agreement would pass in the House of Representatives despite his opposition, Congressman POSHARD sponsored an amendment to protect the domestic broom industry. There are many broom factories in the Nineteenth Congressional District and they are still thriving today because of Congressman POSHARD.

Congressman POSHARD has a strong moral center that has greatly influenced his congressional career. GLENN is opposed to abortion and has been one of the most impassioned defenders of the unborn. A pro-life Democrat like myself, Congressman POSHARD has worked to protect the lives of the unborn and has worked to make the Democratic Party more open and welcoming to pro-life members. As a former teacher, GLENN has also worked to protect the needs of children. GLENN voted for welfare reform in 1996 but only after satisfying himself that the needs of children were addressed.

Throughout his service in the House of Representatives, GLENN POSHARD has fashioned himself as a citizen legislator. Since his first term in Congress, GLENN has shunned contributions from Political Action Committees. Instead, GLENN has relied on the support of his constituents. As he promised when he was elected in 1988, Congressman POSHARD is leaving after five terms so that "other folks have their shot at solving the problems."

My colleagues in the House of Representatives and I will miss GLENN POSHARD. He is a gentleman, a statesman, and even a poet on occasion. Most of all, however, he is a good friend. Thank you, Congressman POSHARD, for all of your hard work and support throughout your ten years in Congress. Congratulations on your numerous accomplishments which are too numerous to list here. And, good luck with all your future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO GLENN POSHARD

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in honoring the distinguished gentleman from Carterville, Illinois, Congressman GLENN POSHARD.

There are perhaps no two better words to describe GLENN POSHARD than distinguished and gentleman.

GLENN POSHARD arrived in Washington 10 years ago charged with a mandate to represent the people of his district to the very best of his abilities. I can think of no one who has been a more effective representative for the unique needs of southern Illinois than GLENN POSHARD.

For the people of southern Illinois, he has been a fighter and a tireless advocate. He has broken through the wall of regionalism that separated our State into Chicago versus the suburbs versus downstate versus the real downstate of southern Illinois. GLENN POSHARD made people aware that southern Illinois existed by never wavering in his efforts and

never shying away from the pride that those southern Illinois roots instilled in him years ago.

As a Member of this body, he has distinguished himself as one who keeps his word and stands on principle. As a member of our society, he has distinguished himself as a gentleman of the first order.

There's never a moment when he's too busy to say hello or share a kind word with a friend or foe. I am proud of all that he has accomplished.

I am proud that he kept his word to serve no longer than 10 years in this body and then returned to Illinois to run for Governor, as for GLENN POSHARD, public service never truly ends.

While he wasn't elected as our next Governor, I know that he gained the personal respect of the man who was elected and of all those of us who watched him during his campaign.

During that effort, GLENN POSHARD spoke forcefully and loudly about the needs of our State's children. Since that time he has pledged to continue to try and make a difference for our kids.

As he leaves this body to move on to that effort, GLENN POSHARD should know that he has already made a difference for our State's children, one that will last for generations to come.

God's blessing to the distinguished gentleman from Carterville and his loving wife Jo.

HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE
OF CONGRESSMAN GLENN
POSHARD

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the positive contributions that my fellow Illinois colleague, GLENN POSHARD, made to the State of Illinois, Congress, and the Nation. After 10 years of congressional service, GLENN POSHARD is retiring. His principled and pragmatic presence will be missed, not only by the people of the 19th District of Illinois, but also by those of us in Congress who worked with him on important issues.

First elected to the House of Representatives in 1988, GLENN POSHARD pledged to serve only 10 years in Congress. Now, ten years later, he is keeping his word. He will be leaving behind a reputation for bipartisan and hard work, forged while working on such issues as campaign reform, improving rural health care, deficit-cutting, and preserving the American coal-mining industry. During his work on these issues and others, GLENN POSHARD always stood his ground and fought for what he believed in, and for what was good for his constituents and for the State of Illinois.

Throughout his congressional service, GLENN POSHARD was able to benefit from, and draw on, his background. As a holder of a doctorate in education from Southern Illinois University and as a former teacher, GLENN POSHARD brought a valuable perspective to Capitol Hill. This perspective was further enhanced by his experiences that he gained while growing up in a small, rural town in Illinois. He never forgot his roots, and they

helped him maintain his down-to-earth style that was, in many ways, GLENN POSHARD'S best attribute.

As a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I had the occasion to work on a number of issues with my fellow committee member, GLENN POSHARD. He was always approachable and willing to work together on issues that were of vital interest to the State of Illinois. Whether it was aviation or highways, GLENN POSHARD was always knowledgeable and ready to do what was best for Illinois.

I am proud to have served in the House with GLENN POSHARD. He leaves this House with many friends and many good memories. I wish him all the best in whatever endeavor he chooses to participate.

IN HONOR OF LEONARD SOMDAHL

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Leonard Somdahl, a good friend and a man dedicated to the economic betterment of his community.

On a day fraught with solemn, weighty and sad decisions, it's important to recognize the Americans in whose names we vote today, Americans who raise their families and work to make America strong. Leonard Somdahl is one such American.

Leonard Somdahl was born and raised in Minnesota. He moved to the San Joaquin Valley in California in 1946, then migrated south to Ventura County. He worked for McMann Furniture, then went into business for himself. Thirty-one years ago, he started with First American Title Co. He retired from First American in August, but hasn't stopped working.

I met Leonard during my years in the real estate business. His dedication to his profession and the business community impressed me. In addition to his dedication to First American, Leonard Somdahl took an active role in the Building Industry Association, Ventura County Chapter; the Ventura County Economic Development Association; the Christian Business Men's Committee in Santa Barbara and Ventura; and the Ventura County Taxpayers Association. As a member of the International Right of Way Association, he held all chairs and ultimately became president of Santa Barbara Chapter 47.

Non-industry groups have also benefited from his generosity. Leonard Somdahl has participated as an active board member and charter member of Network for Housing, a nonprofit group to support affordable housing in Ventura County; is a past member of the Y's men's club and a financial support group for YMCA activities; and is a past volunteer for the Oxnard Boys Club. He has donated to such groups as Navajo schools in Arizona, the Lions Club, Muscular Dystrophy, the American Cancer Society, the Ventura County Rescue Mission, and City Impact, an organization to help young people get off drugs and improve their self-esteem.

Leonard Somdahl is also a dedicated family man. He and his wife, Ellen, have raised a daughter and three sons. The couple have five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in recognizing Leonard Somdahl for his decades of service and wish him and his family Godspeed in his retirement.

MEMORIALIZING MRS. JUDITH
BRAUN, A'H

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a constituent who was beloved in our community, Mrs. Alte Rivka Braunn, a'h.

Mrs. Braun was the devoted wife of Rabbi Shlomo Braun, and was the daughter of Rabbi Moshe Yehudah Gross, famous shochet during the last 30 years at Empire Kosher Poultry. She born in Czechoslovakia to parents who were Holocaust survivors. They fled Czechoslovakia and emigrated to America in 1968. Even under communist rule, Mrs. Braun exhibited strong inner faith and a personal generosity of spirit, accepting everything cheerfully. These attributes remained strong and enduring throughout her life.

Mrs. Braun was very active with Aleh, an organization which provides services to the developmentally disabled. I have visited their facilities in Israel and can attest to the outstanding work they do. In recognition of her dedication to the work of Aleh, Mrs. Braun was memorialized at the annual Aleh luncheon held on May 17, 1998 (21 Iyar).

Additionally, Mrs. Braun spend countless hours each day helping patients in the emergency room at Maimonides Medical Center. She also found time to cook and bake for troubled families, personally delivering and serving food that she prepared in her own home.

While Mrs. Braun's home was undergoing renovation, she requested that one room be set aside for hachnasas orchim use, providing a place to stay for a traveler who has no place to stay, which is one of the highest mitzvot. She found great strength in the knowledge that her house was always utilized by guests from all over the world—from Israel, Denmark, France, Mexico, Belgium, and other countries.

During the three years of her illness, Mrs. Braun suffered untold pain. Rabbi Braun, her devoted husband, arranged for the best doctors and tried everything humanly possible to alleviate her illness. Unfortunately, that was not God's will, and Mrs. Braun passed away on the 27th day of Tishrei, last year. She left a family of six children, with four still at home. The youngest, Yaakov, is only five years old.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the privilege of knowing the Braun family for quite a few years. The exemplary lives of Rabbi and Mrs. Braun are truly an inspiration to our neighbors for their dedication to their community and to those in need. Our community was enriched by Mrs. Braun's life and mitzvot. I commend her example to my colleagues.

TRIBUTE TO THE MIGHTY
MENOMINEE MAROONS OF 1998

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, in the near future several signs will be erected along the main highways entering my home town of Menominee Michigan. Those signs will advise travelers that they are entering the community whose high school has won the 1998 Class BB state football title. Those signs will be a lasting legacy of the Menominee High School team's accomplishment, but they won't begin to reveal to the passing motorist the wonderful, personal stories bound with the season-long march to the championship.

Menominee is a football town, Mr. Speaker, with a gridiron tradition reaching back 105 years. Larry Ebsch, a former local newspaper editor and an inveterate sports fan, has calculated that the Menominee Maroons have played 810 games, with a winning percentage of 61.6—but not one state championship. Thousands of young men have taken the field wearing the maroon jersey, and those signs on the edge of town don't give a glimpse of those thousands of personal memories of more than 100 seasons of football. I'm sure every one of those former players had a lump in his throat and tears in his eyes thinking of the joyous welcome given to the 1998 Maroon team after their 10-hour bus ride from the Silverdome in Pontiac back to Menominee.

Another great story is that of the coach himself. Ken Hofer, by Larry Ebsch's reckoning, has coached 277 of Menominee's 810 games in a career going back to 1966. His own winning percentage is 68.2, and his teams, running the 1930s-style offense known as the single wing, have averaged 17 points per game.

None of those statistics reveal the great memories of great games that Ken Hofer and his teams have given Menominee fans, particularly memories of the rivalry between Coach Ken and his son, Coach Chris Hofer of Kingsford. The powerful Kingsford Flivvers served as an obstacle that the Maroons for years could never quite overcome. When Ken's team finally defeated Chris's team last year and Menominee advanced into the playoffs, it was evident that the Menominee team had taken the measure of its most difficult adversary and was well on its way to a championship year. That promise was fulfilled in 1998.

Coach Hofer says the seeds for final victory were planted early in the season, when the team pledged itself to reach the playoffs. It was a team supremely suited to become a championship team, Mr. Speaker, because it was built around a team ego, not individual egos. This collective ego made the 1998 Maroons a team of destiny. On the first play of the first playoff game, Josh Tarbox returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown. Then the Maroon team made a quick run of 27 points in the first five minutes, signaling clearly this team was on its way to the state championship.

Many Menominee residents were on hand in Pontiac for the fulfillment of the championship dream. Along with the cheerleaders and 113 members of the marching band, a steady procession of vehicles sporting "Go Maroons"