

Ringgold, Lynn Gibson-Lind, Scott Gibson, David Gibson, Joshua Glick and Amber Glick, along with his great-granddaughter, Isabelle Allen. Judge Floyd R. Gibson will be greatly missed, but his legacy and commitment to justice and equality will live on in the hearts and minds of those he touched.

Judge Gibson was active and energetic as a leader of the Democratic Party of Missouri; however, he left partisan politics at the door of the courthouse when he became a member of the Federal Judiciary. He is remembered by all who knew him and those who appeared before him as a fair, direct and competent judge. He loved his work as a judge, and even after retirement in 1979, he continued to serve the Bench and his country in active senior status until June of 2000. Judge Gibson served his country for most of the Twentieth Century. He served with honor and distinction. He asked for no more and we cannot think of a better epitaph.

RECOGNIZING GWINNETT COUNTY'S NEW HIGH-TECH COLLEGE CAMPUS

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, recent changes in global economics have had a direct effect on the face of America's job market. To be professionally competitive some degree of higher learning is rapidly becoming a necessity. Educational administrators in Georgia have recognized the growing need for these resources and have taken action to meet increasing demands.

Three institutions have come together to create a new learning facility in Gwinnett County. The collaborative efforts of the Board of Regents, the University of Georgia, and Georgia Perimeter College will all be revealed on January 7, 2002, with the opening of Gwinnett's new high-tech campus; helping alleviate higher educational needs for the Northeast metro-Atlanta community. The University of Georgia and Georgia Perimeter College will serve as partners in this new endeavor and promise to bring forth the very latest in technological and educational services available to students.

I would like to take this moment to congratulate the successful efforts of the forming team and wish them the best of luck with the new campus.

HONORING MS. PATRICIA IRELAND

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ms. Patricia Ireland. During her many years of service in the fight for equal rights, Ms. Ireland has been a tireless crusader for the fundamental principles of our democracy. She is a true America heroine.

For ten years, Ms. Ireland served as the president of the National Organization for

Women. She stood up for the rights of Anita Hill, she raised awareness of domestic abuse, and she fought against those who would regard women as second class citizens. Through it all, she developed a reputation for integrity and effective action.

During the election controversy of 2000, she was a consistent champion of the right of Americans to have his or her vote counted. She has helped move NOW squarely into a role as a leading civil rights institution. Throughout her lifetime of service, Ms. Ireland has stood up to those in power and spoke up for those who would otherwise not have had a voice.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Ireland stepped down as President of NOW earlier this year. The country looks forward to her continued leadership, and is indebted to her for her service.

TRIBUTE TO ALASKA'S CELIA HUNTER

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month news came of the death of one of the pioneers of the conservation movement in Alaska, Celia Hunter.

A founder of the Alaska Conservation Society—Alaska's first statewide organization of its kind—Celia Hunter was involved in many debates over the future of Alaska, including the "Project Chariot" plan to use nuclear explosives to dig a new deep-water port and the proposed Rampart Dam on the Yukon.

And in the late 1970's, she was among the many people from across the country whose strong support made possible the enactment of the Alaska National Interests Land Conservation Act, introduced in the House of Representatives by my father, Mo Udall of Arizona.

Now Congress has again been debating the proper balance between development and conservation in Alaska, and again Celia Hunter was active and involved in that debate right up to the day of her death. As she explained earlier this year, it remained her view that "If we lose wild spaces, we could be a much poorer nation . . . the whole concept of natural areas, with intact ecosystems is vital to life . . . we need places of the world that are still natural."

Mr. Speaker, in the words of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, Celia Hunter's death was a "great loss for Alaska," and it leaves the whole country poorer. She earned our thanks and remembrance. She will be greatly missed.

For the benefit of our colleagues, I am attaching a brief outline of her life as well as a newspaper editorial.

CELIA'S LIFE

Many are called, but few choose to hear and give of themselves completely. Celia Hunter heard the call of the wilderness at an early age and answered it with her adventuresome spirit, loving heart, and thoughtful mind.

Born on January 13, 1919 in Arlington, Washington, Celia grew up during the Depression in a logging community. After high school graduation, she worked as a clerk for Weyerhaeuser Timber Company for \$50 a month, enough to buy a car. Each day when

Celia drove to work, she passed by Everett Airport and saw an opportunity. An admirer of Amelia Earhart, she decided to learn to fly. One week after her 21th birthday she took off on her first flight and was immediately hooked.

"The viewpoint from on high is so different, and so much more comprehensive . . . just that whole feeling of being aloft. It gives you a feeling that birds must have. In fact, I think, if I wanted to be reincarnated, I'd like to be a bird of some sort."

Celia had discovered her first wilderness. Her love of flying led her to train with the Women Airforce Service Pilots, and she became skilled at flying a number of aircraft, including large aircraft such as the P-47 that zoomed up to 300 mph. Celia ferried aircraft across the country for the Air Force during WWII and dreamed of flying to Alaska one day to see the vast wilderness that other pilots had described.

In December 1946, she and pilot friend Ginny Hill were hired to fly two Stinson airplanes from Seattle to Fairbanks. They arrived in a snowstorm at Weeks Field in Fairbanks on January 1, 1947, nearly a month-long trip with all the weather delays. They decided to stay and work in the tourism industry, ferrying visitors to a travel lodge in Kotzebue during the summer.

This experience inspired Celia, Ginny Hill Wood, and Woody Wood to build Camp Denali, a wilderness camp just outside the original boundary of McKinley National Park. There visitors could see Denali and enjoy hiking and wildlife-viewing in a magnificent setting.

In 1960, Celia and Ginny help found Alaska's first statewide environmental organization, the Alaska Conservation Society. This small group of pioneering conservationists was inspired by Olaus and Margaret Murie to work for the establishment of the Arctic National Wildlife Range and to protect the special and unspoiled lands of Alaska.

Working together, Celia and Ginny have tackled all of Alaska's major environmental issues. They fought against Project Chariot and the Rampart Dam project, became loving stewards and advocates for Denali National Park, and worked to create and pass the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the greatest lands conservation act in world history.

In the late '70s, Celia's leadership moved to the national level when she served as Executive Director for the Wilderness Society. She also began writing memorable environmental columns for the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner. Fearless and outspoken, Celia carefully studied a diversity of issues and wrote articulate and compelling columns for more than 20 years. Dedicated to the conservation movement, she also helped found the Alaska Conservation Foundation in 1980.

Through the years, Celia not only devoted her energy to environmental causes, she also loved people and the web of connections between them. She had the natural ability to inspire and nurture countless individuals by listening to their ideas and dreams and sharing her views. Her glacial-blue eyes could look into one's soul and bring out the best of a person's spirit including a good laugh.

Celia leaves a tremendous legacy of conservation accomplishments. Her vibrant spirit will live on in the wilderness she loved, in the lives of those she inspired, and in the legislation that holds her tireless effort to protect what she truly loved. The earth and all its a living things are grateful. Alaska will forever remember Celia.