

on behalf of all of the people of Minnesota, TONY and Janet all the best in their new challenges. May God bless you both, TONY.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
TONY HALL

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Ohio delegation, I have been proud to call TONY HALL "leader." He has led our delegation with dignity and honor, and he has brought to this House a grace, a wisdom, and a compassion which has filled up this House.

It is a work of mercy to feed the hungry, and TONY's life has been about showing mercy and about bringing together resources to make sure that hungry people would be fed in this country and around the world. When TONY saw a challenge, where hungry people did not have their needs met, TONY put himself on the line physically to challenge the sensibilities of our Nation and the world. So it is no surprise that President Bush would tap him to be our ambassador to the world on issues of food and issues of hunger.

In his new capacity, Ambassador TONY HALL will be the one who people will look to from all over the world to deal with the challenges of world hunger. He will be the one who will make sure that the World Food Program is effective and that food gets to people who need it. He will be the one to make sure that the Food and Agricultural Organization coordinates its efforts to those most in need. He will be the one to make sure that the International Fund for Agricultural Development uses its resources to grow new opportunities for people around the world.

Many of us in life are challenged to step up to our responsibilities to help others; and when we are, we sometimes hear the echo of words that come from Scriptures; and the echo that TONY HALL heard years ago was of a question that asked, "When I was hungry, did you feed me?" TONY HALL has been able to stand before this Congress and say, yes, and next he will stand in Rome in front of the world and answer again, yes.

What a blessing it has been to work with you, TONY. God bless you. We all in this Congress look forward to working with you to continue to address the challenges of hunger, which are so serious all over this world and which your large heart encompasses, all the people of the world, so that they can share in the abundance which we know this world has.

Thank you, TONY HALL.

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(Ms. CARSON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to run to the floor when I saw that this was under way to give my own personal and special tribute to the Honorable TONY HALL, who has had now a higher calling, one of ambassador to the United Nations for Food and Agricultural Agencies, all the way in Rome. What a beautiful place to be, in Rome.

I have not known the Honorable TONY HALL for as long as many of you have, and certainly do not hail from the same State from which he is elected; but TONY HALL has the kind of spirit that radiates across boundary lines, geographical lines, State lines.

When you understand TONY HALL, the genuine spirit that he emits, knowing that he has reverence for the world's hungry and for food safety around the world, you cannot help but consider him a comrade, a colleague, regardless of the State from which he hails.

TONY HALL is willing to make this sacrifice, to give up a very safe seat in the United States House of Representatives, to go on to what I consider, TONY, to be a higher calling, but a much more important calling. As the speaker before me recalled from Scripture, "When I was hungry, did you feed me?"

I do not want to get emotional about this, but when you think of all of the children around the world who need a TONY HALL there to advocate there for them, kids who go to bed hungry, kids who wake up hungry, kids who are dying from malnutrition, kids who are orphans, perpetuated by the unabated rise of AIDS and HIV and tuberculosis and lack of immunization, when their lives could be spared and their bellies could be fed, to think that you and your lovely wife are going to go out along the highways and the byways and truly be a Good Samaritan along life's highway, you remind me often of what I describe for people like you: you live not just because, but you live for a cause, living for God's people.

You are reminiscent of the poet that said, "If I can just help somebody as I am walking through, then my living will not be in vain."

The nice thing about this, TONY, is for you to be able to sit here and hear this, because oftentimes when we lose a Member, we are memorializing the Member.

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But you have an opportunity to sit here and know that people love you and that people are going to miss you. I know one thing, after a speech like this in tears on national television, you better give me your address so I can come to Rome and tell the security there, I know TONY HALL, I am one of his former colleagues, and to be one of your colleagues.

But to make this kind of commitment to good work, you are what I call an unsung hero, one that does not seek the spotlight. But you certainly will eternally have the high light, and that

is far more important than prizes and accolades and all of those kinds of things. You have a high light that radiates eternally.

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(Mrs. EMERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join with my colleagues in paying special tribute to an extraordinary individual and one who has touched the lives of the entire Emerson family over many, many years.

Mr. Speaker, I recall the friendship, the very close and deep friendship that TONY had with my late husband, Bill; the faith that they shared together, the friendship they shared together, and the compassion that TONY showed, and the deep faith and love TONY showed for Bill as he held our hands and Bill's hand through a very fatal illness and his subsequent death. All of this in spite of the fact that his own son was very seriously ill.

But I guess that should not come as a surprise to anyone who knows TONY, because I can think of no person who is more of a hero and more of an inspiration than TONY HALL, not only in the work that he has done throughout his years in Congress, but truly, there is no one who has put a more human face on the issue of hunger, both here and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, I remember so very well the time that TONY went on the hunger strike so that he would finally make all of us, or all of our colleagues; I was not in Congress back then, but Bill Emerson and everyone understood that there was a very serious problem in the United States and in the world, and that Congress needed to get serious about this issue. He made his mark. He made it not only here in the Congress, but throughout the United States and throughout the world.

As TONY leaves his position here in Congress and he leaves his position as the chairman of the Congressional Hunger Center, he has left me in a bit of a precarious position, because TONY had recommended that I become the new chairman of the Congressional Hunger Center, and I do not think I have ever been so scared of anything in my life, nor so intimidated, because no one, no one could possibly fill the shoes that you, TONY, have. You are a remarkable person, and I am so pleased that the President understood the gift that you have for people, the gift you have for life, the faith, the leadership, the inspiration that you give to all of us.

As you move to this very, very important job in Rome, all of us will be with you in spirit, be praying for you, and know that there is no better person to help the world understand the investment we must make to rid the world of hunger.