

In September 1996, Renee Nolan, a college sophomore at Seton Hall University, was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. Radiation and chemotherapy treatments forced her to leave college and an experimental treatment left her paralyzed on her right side.

Despite her illness and many setbacks, this courageous woman has continued her valiant fight, regaining some movement in her right hand and learning to walk again. Renee received tremendous support from friends that deserve recognition.

Daniela Matria, Beth Reynolds, Jennifer Franke, Jennifer Kelleher, and Alexis Smith of Boonton, New Jersey, and Donna Polizzi and Domenica "Mimma" Avena of Lincoln Park, New Jersey, have all been friends with Renee since their grade and high school days. When Renee's friends learned of her devastating illness, they began one of the most touching and determined crusades that I have ever known.

Immediately, Renee's friends made and randomly passed out fliers, set up a bank account, and rented a post office box to receive donations. Then, they sponsored a dinner dance to honor Renee and to raise additional money to help defray Renee's growing medical expenses.

Since June of 1997, this amazing group has raised approximately \$32,000 for their friend and her family. Of even greater importance to Renee, these devoted friends have provided continual and invaluable moral and emotional support. When Renee is well enough, they plan outings. When she is not, they are with her at home with ice cream, games and smiles to help her and her family keep their spirits up. When Renee is most ill, they help nurse her.

This group of friends, all college students, have visited Renee daily at home or in the hospital, cooked for her family, and taken Renee back to Boonton High School, where she was once co-captain of the cheerleading squad. They have given selflessly of themselves, by any standard, often giving up their college and social activities to be available for Renee and her family.

It is heartwarming to see the selfless dedication with which these women have acted for their friend. In fact, as a result of her experience with Renee, one of the young women has changed her college major to nursing, so that she can better continue her legacy of caring.

These young women were recently honored by the New Jersey State Assembly and by Governor Christine Todd Whitman. This proved to be an especially moving and encouraging experience for Renee and her family.

Mr. Speaker, I know that all of my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating and thanking these exceptional women and friends, and that you will also join me in wishing them, Renee and her family well.

TRIBUTE TO EDUARDO PALACIOS

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my good friend Eduardo

Palacios, who for 27 years has been a bonafide hero to hundreds if not thousands of immigrants in the San Fernando Valley. In 1971, Eduardo started an immigrant rights and resource clinic in a tiny one-room office in the City of San Fernando. Today these kinds of centers are common, but that wasn't the case in the early 1970s.

Eduardo was motivated by humanitarian concerns and a strong sense of Chicano pride. He witnessed Mexican immigrants who were being exploited by unscrupulous businesses. Language and culture prevented many from seeking or receiving help. By offering his services, Eduardo filled a huge need.

Soon after opening, the clinic moved into a room with a couple of desks and file cabinets in Santa Rosa Church. The clinic adopted the name Immigration Services of Santa Rosa. Using a corps of dedicated volunteers, Eduardo expanded the clinic to include job referrals, medical assistance, food and shelter. He was doing everything possible to provide his clients with the tools to make a good living in this country.

It's hard to believe that Eduardo was doing this work while employed full-time at Harshaw Chemicals. In 1983, he left his job with Harshaw to devote himself to assisting immigrants. Two years later Immigration Services of Santa Rosa was accredited by the Board of Immigration Appeals, which led to more clients. The timing could not have been better; new arrivals were now coming to Southern California from Central America as well as Mexico.

Immigration Services of Santa Rosa is a family affair. In 1988, Eduardo hired his daughter, Victoria Aldina, as Assistant Executive Director; three years later his son, Carl Alan, joined the organization as Administrative Director. Together the Palacios have been a godsend for Spanish-speaking immigrants.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting Eduardo Palacios, a leader in the effort to improve the lives of immigrants. His compassion, sensitivity and extraordinary energy inspire us all. I am proud to be his friend.

SOLVE OUR NATION'S NUCLEAR WASTE PROBLEM

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, before the larger issues of election year politics and balancing the federal budget eclipse this short legislative cycle, there is an urgent need for Congress to solve the nation's nuclear waste problem.

For 16 years, we have witnessed the Department of Energy's (DOE) hesitation to move this project forward, despite a clear statutory obligation established in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. As we are aware, January 31 marked the deadline for DOE to begin accepting used nuclear fuel from nuclear power plants and defense facilities in 41 states and storing it in a single, federally monitored location.

This failure by DOE to act is simply irresponsible. I can find no reason that the department has disregarded the deadline other than a slate of serious consequences or the

miscarriage of its fiscal duty and unconscionable behavior.

For one, DOE had a clear obligation to accept used nuclear fuel, not only according to a federal statute, but also according to federal court. In two rulings since 1996, a federal appellate court reaffirmed DOE's legal obligation to take nuclear fuel under a contract with electric utilities.

As if those rulings were not enough, DOE's offense could land it in court again—this time to defend challenges that utilities and electricity consumers are entitled to a full refund, plus damages for financing a disposal program that never materialized. Those damages could amount to \$56 million by some estimates. Where will that money come from? Taxpayers, no doubt. Whatever the source, one thing's for certain—any refund or damages owed to utility customers undermine this Congress's efforts to balance the federal budget. It also puts all taxpayers at risk of paying a hefty lawsuit for capricious delays.

For these reasons, it is essential that the House and the Senate leaders appoint conferees to negotiate minor differences in the nuclear waste reform bills passed overwhelmingly by both chambers last year.

I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation as early as possible, so that it is not obscured by other weighty matters that await us this session. Let us solve the nuclear waste problem swiftly, for the sake of taxpayers—our constituents—who have already sent \$14 billion to the Nuclear Waste fund without getting anything in return.

A GIFT

HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, as a proud co-sponsor to H.R. 1500, America's Red Rock Wilderness Act of 1997, I would like to insert the following poem, written by Ms. Anna Taft on October 27, 1997, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

The desert gave me a package: a pile of sand wrapped in a bundle of cottonwood leaves. This gift contains a mixture of all the medicine of this land. It has red and white powders from slickrock sculptures, crushed juniper berries and pinon nuts, tiny bits of cryptogamic castles, damp sand from deep canyon streams, desert varnish from narrow blackened slots, and minuscule shards of Anasazi cookware. All blended together, its contents are no longer discernible, but it smells distinctly of triumph over adversity, of trees sprouting up far from water, of pot-hole creatures emerging from dormancy as raindrops rehydrate their world, of topographic contour lines at last clicking into place to match landforms, of hikers passing packs past the last ledge to reach a canyon rim, of warm sleeping bags inside a megamid covered with snow, of evaporation off of hot bodies as they emerge from a sweat lodge into cold night air, of a group of people learning to live together in harmony in the desert, of balance, neither superabundance nor emptiness. This bundle is wrapped tightly, but as I travel its leaves will start to come apart. The sand inside will spill out, spreading its magic through all the places I go. Everyone I meet will smell the job of accomplishment, the peace of harmony. One or

two of them will recognize the scent and pull out their own little bundles, letting their own magic flow over them again. The others will smell and know of the wonderful things that are out there. For some, it may be the signal to go out and find that essence of life for themselves. For others it will be enough simply to breathe deeply and understand. If I don't keep the leaves moist, they will dry out and crack and I will lose more sand. But some will always be with me and the medicine will always be there.

The desert has given me a package, but what can I give to the desert? I can give only sweat and blood, perhaps tears, and my love and gratitude, my commitment to walk softly and protect this land as best I can. The desert asks only this in return: that I let it live and share its magic with others, that they, also, may learn to love the land.

TRIBUTE TO DR. AND MRS.
ZERZAN ON THEIR 50TH WED-
DING ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT SMITH

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding achievement of two of my fellow Oregonians, Dr. Charles and Mrs. Joan Zerzan of Milwaukie, Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on February 7, 1998, and I believe this body would be remiss in not taking note of this accomplishment.

Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan met while attending college at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon. Dr. Zerzan was a veteran of the United States Army, having fought for our country in the China-Burma-India campaign in an effort to free those nations from the Imperial Army of Japan. Mrs. Zerzan, known at that time as Joanie Kathan, was an outstanding violinist from Rogue River, Oregon. Her talents as a violinist won her a scholarship to Willamette. The two met when Dr. Zerzan was running for President of his class, and Mrs. Zerzan was running for Secretary. Although both lost their respective races, they won something more important: each other's hearts. The two were married in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where Dr. Zerzan was attending medical school at Marquette University.

Upon graduating from medical school, Dr. Zerzan re-enlisted in the Army. The Zerzans were stationed all over America, including here in Washington at Walter Reed Army Hospital. Somehow they found the time to have 12 children, four daughters and eight sons, who in turn have given Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan 29 healthy, happy grandchildren. Dr. Zerzan retired from the Army with the rank of Lt. Colonel in 1968, and the entire family moved back home to Oregon.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan's accomplishment would be notable enough for its longevity. But, for the reasons I have outlined above, and for countless others that time will not permit me here to mention, their accomplishment serves as an example to future generations of the awe-inspiring power of love. Strong families are truly the bulwark of this nation, and it is individuals like Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan whose dedication to one another, and to America, give this nation its greatest strength. Mr. Speaker, I know that you and

this entire body join me in saying to Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan, congratulations on your 50 years together, and thank you for the example you have set. St. Paul said long ago, "in the end there abideth faith, hope and love, these three; and the greatest of these is love." Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan, long driven by these words, have once again proven their enduring wisdom.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
RONALD V. DELLUMS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most respected members of the House of Representatives, the ranking Member of the House National Security Committee, RON DELLUMS. I know that I safely speak for all of my Colleagues when I say that the House will not be the same without his thoughtful leadership when he leaves this body on Friday.

Chairman DELLUMS has served in the House of Representatives for over twenty seven years, arriving in 1971 as an intense young man, committed to his principles of justice, education and health care for all. His legislative goals including cutting back on defense spending and using that money to help local communities, and to ending apartheid in South Africa.

In the 27 years since arriving in Washington, Mr. DELLUMS may have gotten a little bit more gray hair, but one thing hasn't changed: His intensity and commitment to the people of California's Bay Area and to the United States.

RON DELLUMS has taken stands on issues that sometimes have been at odds with many other Members. For example, when most members fought to join the House Armed Services Committee to increase defense spending, Mr. DELLUMS joined for another reason. He said at the time, "I did not join the Armed Services Committee to learn about missiles, planes and ships; I joined because I knew I would need to become an expert in this field in order to argue successfully for military spending reductions that would free up resources for the desperate human needs that I see every day in my community."

His stands on other issues have been just as principled. In 1971, the Freshman from California introduced legislation to impose economic sanctions on the apartheid regime of South Africa. It would be fifteen years before this legislation was enacted into law, enacted over the veto of President Ronald Reagan. Lesser members may have given up the cause, but not RON DELLUMS.

It will be this that I will always remember RON DELLUMS. For his hard work and commitment to his ideals and his willingness to always seek an alternative. RON DELLUMS always could be counted on to develop alternatives that reflected his beliefs, so that he would never have to sacrifice his principles.

RON DELLUMS will be missed by the House of Representatives and by me. I wish him the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING RIVERDALE HIGH
SCHOOL STATE FOOTBALL
CHAMPIONS FOR AN OUTSTAND-
ING SEASON

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of a dedicated group of young men who worked together in the true spirit of sportsmanship to achieve yet another milestone.

The group is the Riverdale High School Warriors football team of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and that goal was winning the state 5-A championship game. Their hard-fought victory, and the hard work and dedication they demonstrated throughout the year will not go unnoticed.

After all, they were honored as 5-A State Champions and fought to a 14-1 record for the season.

I congratulate each member of the team, their Head Coach, Gary Rankin, and all the assistant coaches, managers, school administrators and all other support staff. I know they won't soon forget this milestone, and those that are still to come.

The players are true champions: Ron Akins, Carmoski Mitchell, Quentez Mitchell, Shawn Sanford, Kyle Jones, Eric Locke, Jason Hill, Deran Martin, Conner Barnett, Marvin Smith, Guy Freeman, Brad Garrett, Chance Dittfurth, Donnie Ayers, Jessie Chesterfield, Vincent Watkins, Dejuan Duke, Aundrell Cummings, Dario Hodge, Craig Garrison, Todd Howard, Jeremy L. Davis, Donte Bell, Chad Mackens, Keane McDonald, Larry Verge, Marcus Limbaugh, Rashad Watkins, Jeremy R. Davis, Tarrius Davis, Aaron Macedo, Billy Arrasmith, Troy Broughton, Gene Thorpe, Matt Sawyer, Michael Smallwood, Jonathon Davis, Jon Kelly, Brian Travis, Ryan Gjertson, Gabriel Besleaga, Bill Massaquoi, Justin Prince, Wes Denney, Scott Lowman, Harrison Mullins, Malachi Hernandez, Donald Morris, Chris Brown, Walker Thomas, Darnell Gresham, Rashawn Ray, Justin Waller, Rusty Stephens, Kolas Hughes, Terry Daniels, Josh Stewart, Kevin Bane, Joe Moos, Rhett Bass, Nick Patterson, Corneice Hoke, Andy Davis, Matthew Young, and Eric Greer.

TRIBUTE TO CAPT. ROBERT E.
ANDERSON

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pleasure to honor and acknowledge Robert E. Anderson for his distinguished career and his contributions to family, community, and nation. On February 1, 1998, Captain Anderson retired from his position as Delta Air Lines Chief Pilot based in Los Angeles, culminating an illustrious career. I thank you Mr. Speaker and esteemed colleagues for joining me in commemorating this occasion.

Robert Anderson embarked on his path of lifetime achievement in 1955, graduating as valedictorian from Roosevelt High School in