

When Francis announced his retirement in 1999, the Montana House of Representatives passed a resolution honoring him and designating a "Francis Bardanouve Appreciation Day."

This resolution aptly stated: "Francis Bardanouve has never sought personal distinction or reward, but has had his leadership role cast upon him . . . The strong hands of Francis Bardanouve have played a major role in shaping the destiny of Montana."

By designating the Harlem, Montana Post Office the "Francis Bardanouve Post Office," we honor not only a good Montanan who quietly did his duty for many years, but we pay tribute to all those who honorably serve their community and this country day after day without expecting praise.

Public officials come and go, but Francis, please know that your deeds and service will remain forever engraved in the archives of our Nation, the post office in your community, and the hearts of your family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I urge strong support of House Resolution 2876, and I include for the RECORD a news article regarding this legislation.

The article referred to is as follows:

[From the Independent Record, Apr. 15, 1993]

LAWMAKER HONORED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

(By Bob Anez)

Rep. Francis Bardanouve bowed his head and blushed Wednesday as he listened to a half-hour tribute from the Montana House commemorating his 34 years as a state lawmaker.

"It's almost overwhelming," he told legislators after hearing praise about his efforts during three decades in the House. "Whatever I have done is what you helped me do."

Bardanouve, a Harlem Democrat, was first elected to the Legislature in 1958 and has served as chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee in 10 sessions.

He will not run for re-election next year because the newly drawn legislative districts prevent him from seeking his current seat.

Gov. Marc Racicot read a proclamation declaring Wednesday "Francis Bardanouve Day."

The document lauded Bardanouve for faithfully and diligently serving the interests of the people in his district and the state. It calls Bardanouve a "living institution."

The House unanimously approved a resolution honoring Bardanouve's years of service and branding him "one of the Treasure State's living treasures."

The measure cites his sense of fairness, willingness to listen and ability to make informed decisions.

"Francis Bardanouve has always faced the legislative challenge with energy, wisdom, keen wit and a dedication to the common good," the resolution says. "Francis Bardanouve has never sought personal distinction or reward, but has had his leadership role cast upon him."

The resolution calls him a believer in equality, fairness and integrity, and adds, "The strong hands of Francis Bardanouve have played a major role in shaping the destiny of Montana."

Several former and present lawmakers who have sat next to Bardanouve over the years recalled their sessions with the Harlem farmer.

Speaker John Mercer, a Polson Republican who was 2 years old when Bardanouve first

became a legislator, advised him, "Take great pride in your accomplishments."

"This House will always belong to you Francis," he added.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I once again want to commend the gentleman for honoring such an outstanding individual by naming a post office after former Representative Bardanouve.

I also want to thank him for educating many of us who did not know that there was a Harlem, Montana. Generally, when we think of Harlem, we think of New York. So we thank the gentleman on both counts.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this measure, H.R. 2876, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. QUINN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2876.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EARL T. SHINHOSTER POST OFFICE

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2261) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2853 Candler Road in Decatur, Georgia, as the "Earl T. Shinhoster Post Office."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2261

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EARL T. SHINHOSTER POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2853 Candler Road in Decatur, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "Earl T. Shinhoster Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Earl T. Shinhoster Post Office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2261.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2261, introduced by our distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. MCKINNEY) designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2853 Candler Road in Decatur, Georgia, as the Earl T. Shinhoster Post Office Building.

Members of the entire House delegation from the State of Georgia are original cosponsors of this legislation.

Earl Shinhoster was a dedicated community servant, both locally and globally. His efforts to observe and monitor elections in Africa helped to promote democracy and freedom, while his service as a Georgia State coordinator of voter education and his many roles with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People helped strengthen domestic civil liberties, voting rights, and equality.

His persistence to forward our Nation's values will be missed, and this post office designation is a fitting tribute to his memory.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of H.R. 2261, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS), in consideration of H.R. 2261, which names a post office in Decatur, Georgia, after Earl T. Shinhoster.

H.R. 2261 was introduced by the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. MCKINNEY) on June 20, 2001.

Earl T. Shinhoster, a native of Savannah, Georgia, was a prominent civil rights leader and Director of the NAACP's Voter Endowment Project, a national voter registration project. He dedicated 30 years of his life to working in various leadership positions with the NAACP, serving as the organization's Acting Executive Director and Chief Economic Officer for 2 years in the mid-1990s.

Until his death last year, Mr. Shinhoster was involved in his business, the Shinhoster Group, and served as President of the Sister Cities Association of Greater Decatur, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. MCKINNEY), for introducing this measure to honor such an outstanding individual who spent so much time with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. We all know the role that it has played in the development and protection of civil rights and civil liberties in this country.

I would urge swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. MCKINNEY).

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS), and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), for their kind words on behalf of Mr. Shinhoster.

I was very happy to introduce this bill several months ago, and to announce its introduction at a special memorial service held at Martin Luther King, Jr.'s former church, Ebenezer Baptist Church.

First, let me thank the gentleman from Indiana (Chairman BURTON), for his help and cooperation in bringing this important legislation to the floor. When this bill leaves the House, Senator MAX CLELAND of Georgia will usher it through the Senate.

Earl Shinhoster, for those who did not have a chance to know him or know of him, was a wonderful activist, father, husband, and friend. I knew him first as an activist. Most of America got a chance to know him because he was an activist.

But as we got to know him, we learned that he operated in many dimensions; that while he served the family of man, he was also very much a family man.

His wife, Ruby, was so generous. She shared her Earl with all of us. And although Earl was also a father to Michael Omar, Earl also fathered to the vitality of the movement for the rights of America's poor and dispossessed. I thank Ruby and I thank Michael Omar.

The family of activists that helped to make America a better place were all friends of Earl Shinhoster: Reverend James Orange, former Ambassador Andrew Young, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, and our own colleague, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS).

But now Earl has joined the legion of human rights activists who came before him, from Sojourner Truth to Harriet Tubman, from Frederick Douglass to Henry McNeal Turner. It was Turner who said, "I am here to demand my rights and to hurl thunderbolts at the man who would dare to cross the threshold of my manhood. . . ."

This line alone epitomizes the life Earl Shinhoster led. Earl was strong, proud, well-spoken, and internationalist. It has been little more than a year since Earl left us, but I can rest in the certainty that Martin is on his left side and Malcolm is on his right side.

Earl died an untimely death, but we know that his life was not spent in vain. I just want to take a moment to reflect on his legacy of helping and serving, and to suggest to all who will use this post office that the man we honor is well worth their emulation.

When Earl believed in a thing, he gave himself wholeheartedly. Earl served as Executive Director and CEO of the national NAACP in Baltimore,

but Earl was also the Chairman of the Georgia delegation to the National Summit on Africa, and lived every day of his adult life working on behalf of his people.

In the words of Walter Butler, Jr., President of the Georgia State Conference of the NAACP, "Earl gave his life that others could enjoy the fruits of the Constitution of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

For younger people, if they were to study his life, they would find a man who came through the ranks of the civil rights movement. Earl started out in Savannah, Georgia, an area I used to represent in my first term in Congress, the old 11th District of Georgia.

In Savannah, he was active in the Connie Wimberly Youth Council. From there, it was on to the NAACP, which became for Earl a labor of love. He started out as a volunteer youth leader and rose all the way to the CEO position.

Like Malcolm and Martin, Earl was international. His passion for Africa, her suffering, and his efforts among the people there was another part of Earl's ministry. He once served as Field Director for the National Democratic Institute in Ghana, where he trained local citizens to serve as election monitors.

From Ghana his interest spread to Liberia. At the time of his death, he was assisting the country of Liberia. He was touring the United States with Liberia's First Lady, Mrs. Jewel Howard-Taylor, offering an opportunity for black Americans to learn firsthand what was happening in Liberia and how we could help.

As a result, the country of Liberia, by order of its President, made Earl T. Shinhoster a citizen of Liberia posthumously, offered land to his family, and is helping to establish the Earl T. Shinhoster People to People for Africa Foundation.

We now are in a position to honor Earl and ensure his legacy. We are in a position to ensure that his work and mission continue.

This bill would not have come this far without the support of the Georgia delegation to the House of Representatives, and I would like to personally thank the gentlemen from Georgia, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. LINDER, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. DEAL, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. BARR, in their endorsement of this bill.

In closing, the circumstances that led to the tragic accident that claimed the life of this civil rights icon serve as marching orders for us to continue the valiant pursuit for justice, peace, and equity.

The tire that blew out and reportedly led his Ford Explorer to flip out of control was discovered to be a Firestone tire, the same model tire whose defective design has led to the death of dozens of people and scores of injuries across the world.

Firestone, in its beginning through colonial conquests in Africa, seized

millions of acres of land to exploit the rubber that produces their tires, and today still holds the property. This hold contributes to the fight for space within this war-torn area.

So in addition to building on his legacy, we have to fight on behalf of families and victims of the Ford Explorer/Firestone Tires debacle, and we must fight for the people of Africa who are, all too often, unable to fight for themselves. We must help them find a way to stop the plunder and rape of Africa's human, mineral, and strategic resources.

To date, Firestone and Ford are reluctant to admit responsibility for the failure of their products. I know Earl will not rest until we help Africa receive real security and peace through justice.

In life, Earl believed his work for the NAACP, for civil rights, for equal rights did not suffer while he worked on Africa-related issues. Indeed, we know that the work for human rights has no boundaries and knows no end as long as there is evil on this Earth.

I have received Earl's marching orders, and I know that all is well with him as long as each and every one of us who was touched by him remembers his values and America's values as we traverse these dangerous times right now.

Let us continue to show the world, as Earl T. Shinhoster did through his work, that if you work on behalf of the people, you will truly live forever.

□ 1700

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield as much time as she might consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK).

(Mrs. MEEK of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for allowing me this opportunity to say a few words about Earl Shinhoster.

I knew Earl Shinhoster, and it is an honor to rise in support of H.R. 2261, designating a post office in Decatur, Georgia. It is in Decatur, Georgia; but Earl Shinhoster is known throughout this world.

Mr. Shinhoster is an American hero who led the southeast region of the NAACP during the last decades of the 20th century. I am proud to have known Earl Shinhoster and to share in the magnificent legacy he has left for America.

Mr. Shinhoster played a defining role in America's quest for justice and equality of opportunity during a major transitional period in the Nation's history. Designating this post office in his honor pays tribute to a young American crusader whose courage and wisdom appealed to our noblest character as a Nation, and the committee should be commended for naming this post office after Earl Shinhoster. So does

honor go to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. MCKINNEY), who has always been a fighter in the area of civil rights, for taking the opportunity to recognize all of the good things that Earl Shinhoster did.

He labored, struggled, sacrificed, and gave his all to address the challenges of racial equality, wherever they emerged, police use of deadly force, academic excellence in the schools, racial disturbances, fair immigration practices, school busing, fair housing, insurance redlining, mortgage discrimination practices, fair political redistricting, voter education, and participation.

The history of Earl Shinhoster is a history of African Americans in the southeastern United States. His life chronicles the ongoing struggle of African Americans for equal rights and social justice. For those of us who knew him and worked with him, this post office will cause us to pause and reflect on his journey and remind us of the challenges that we must meet in this day and time.

For generations of Americans to come, the naming of this post office lets them know that there was a young American named Earl T. Shinhoster whose intelligence, vision, and leadership guided his people and this country toward our goal of freedom, justice, and democracy for all.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he might consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), who is noted as a contemporary pioneer of the civil rights movement.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my dear friend and colleague, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), for yielding the time; and I want to thank my friend and colleague, the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. MCKINNEY), my neighbor next door, for bringing this legislation before us.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the designation of the Earl T. Shinhoster Post Office in Decatur, Georgia. Earl Shinhoster was a great American.

I knew Earl. He was a friend of mine. He had a distinguished career of public service in Georgia, the Nation, and the world. Before his premature death last year, Earl lived in DeKalb County, Georgia, in metropolitan Atlanta with his family. He was a devoted husband, father, and brother. He was more than just a resident of Georgia; he was a citizen of the world.

Earl was born and reared in Savannah, Georgia. He loved our State. He loved our Nation. He traveled the length and breadth of the American South, into south Georgia and to the delta of Mississippi and the black belt of Alabama, eastern Arkansas, North Carolina, South Carolina, the bayou of Louisiana. Everybody in this part of

the country knew Earl Shinhoster. He also traveled to Africa. He cared about her people, and he loved the people of the motherland.

Earl Shinhoster was a leader of the NAACP for more than 35 years. At the time of his death he was a director of Voter Empowerment, a national voter registration and education program. He was involved in efforts to raise census participation among blacks and others. It is because of his tireless work for voter education and voter participation, voter registration, turning out the vote, that many of us are where we are today.

Earl Shinhoster cared about people. He loved people. He was a graduate of Morehouse College. He loved Morehouse. He loved his school. He cared about human rights and civil rights. He cared deeply about all of the people of this land and of this planet. He cared about being empowered and empowering others. He cared about equal access and equal opportunity.

Throughout his life, Earl was always looking for creative ways to break down the barriers that separated us, to make things a little fairer, a little better. He truly lived to make a difference. I was there.

Mr. Speaker, Earl's eyes were always on the prize. He did not have time for small talk or just playing around or what some people call horsing around. He was a very serious young man.

Though his life was tragically cut short, his legacy must live on so that others may know and be inspired by this great American and the unbelievable impact he had on Georgia and our Nation and so much of our world.

For these reasons and others, Mr. Speaker, I support the designation of the Earl T. Shinhoster Post Office in Decatur, Georgia.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I do not have any additional speakers, but I do know the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) had intended to be here and speak on behalf of this bill; and had he been able to make it, I am sure that he would have done so.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all of those who have spoken, because through their eloquence, they have permitted us the opportunity to relive the life and legacy of Earl Shinhoster and also to pay tribute and recognize the tremendous work of the NAACP.

As a matter of fact, I was in Decatur, Illinois, Saturday with the Illinois chapters and there are so many similarities and so many things are relevant. So I simply thank all of them.

I commend the life and the work of Earl Shinhoster.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute to conclude.

Mr. Speaker, I think we have all heard how much Mr. Shinhoster was admired and respected by his colleagues and how much he has done for Georgia. I urge all Members to support this measure.

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, if I were asked to describe Earl T. Shinhoster in a single word, "patriot" would be the first that would come to mind.

From his teen-age years until his untimely death at 47, he devoted his life to making the promises so eloquently expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution—promises such as justice, opportunity, and the freedom to pursue one's dreams—apply to every citizen.

We could also call him a "relentless fighter" and a "thoughtful leader."

Earl Shinhoster exemplified all of these qualities during three decades of service with the NAACP. As executive director and chief economic officer, he achieved renewed stability by sharply increasing membership and reducing indebtedness. As director of the Voter Empowerment Project, he increased registration and opened the political process to thousands of people. During the last census, he worked diligently to boost participation by African Americans in an effort to ensure that every American would be counted.

In one of his final public appearances, he urged fellow members of the NAACP to always keep fighting for the cause of humanity—and to always uphold the values they learned in their family, church and school. He was a man of courage, of commitment and of principle.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to support H.R. 2261, a bill introduced by my colleague from Georgia, Congresswoman MCKINNEY, to name a Decatur, Georgia Post Office in memory of Earl T. Shinhoster, as a fitting tribute to a great American patriot.

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak of my friend Earl Shinhoster, who died on June 11, 2000, in a car accident.

This good man joined many of us in struggling to make America better in innumerable ways. He spent 30 years with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

This organization was the original civil rights organization, and it still stands among the great leaders for human rights in the world.

Earl Shinhoster began at the age of 13 stuffing envelopes, sitting-in and picketing for the basic civil rights of American people. He stayed with it, humbly saying later in life that he had never had a real job, just a calling and a movement.

He served as the NAACP director of the Southeast until he was called in 1995 to be acting director and chief executive officer of the national organization.

While in the South, he traveled to every meeting he could attend, in cities, on farms, in the poorest areas of the poorest area of our nation. No one was beneath him; no one was too poor or oppressed for his attention, love and service.

Few of us have served so well and so consistently as Earl Shinhoster. Few have asked for less compensation or sought less recognition. He was a servant of the people, of freedom and of God. Earl Shinhoster was a graduate of Morehouse College, where I also graduated.

When he died in that automobile accident, he was picked up by a chariot and taken to a higher place. He asked for no praise, but he will never be forgotten. Where he walked, there remains traces of his life on the hearts of everyone. We must all be grateful for his life and sing his memory in our songs.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. QUINN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2454.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRESSMAN JULIAN C. DIXON POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2454) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5472 Crenshaw Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, as the "Congressman Julian C. Dixon Post Office Building," as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2454

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REDESIGNATION.

The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5472 Crenshaw Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, and known as the Latijera Station, shall be known and designated as the "Congressman Julian C. Dixon Post Office".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Congressman Julian C. Dixon Post Office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Davis) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill, H.R. 2454.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2454, introduced by our distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON),

designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5472 Crenshaw Boulevard in Los Angeles, California as the Congressman Julian C. Dixon Post Office. Members of the entire House delegation from the State of California are co-sponsors of this legislation.

Julian C. Dixon served as a Member of Congress representing the Los Angeles, California area. Mr. Dixon served 10 terms in the U.S. House and had just been elected to an 11th term when he passed away in December of last year. Congressman Dixon was a tireless advocate of civil rights and as the highest ranking Democrat on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, a highly respected voice on national security issues. He was also a friend of many Members of this House and will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of H.R. 2454, as amended.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I stand to help honor and pay tribute to the late Congressman Julian Dixon. Julian grew up in California, went to school, went in to the military, returned home, finished college, went to law school, became a member of the California assembly. He was a graduate of California State University in 1962 and a 1967 graduate of Southwest University Law School in Los Angeles. He served in the military from 1957 to 1960, rising to the rank of sergeant before returning home where he practiced law.

Mr. Dixon got involved in public activities and public life. He was elected to the California assembly. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where he served as a senior member of the powerful Committee on Appropriations where he once chaired the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia. In addition to serving as ranking Democrat on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, he served as chairman of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

During the 1980's, Julian Dixon was the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus. He was noted as being a sound politician who was not only well respected among his colleagues but his constituents also. I was pleased to call him brother because we both were members, and I still am, of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity where Julian was well known, well respected and well loved.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support H.R. 2454, to name a post office the Julian C. Dixon Post Office Building.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON), the author of this legislation.

Ms. WATSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 2454, a bill I introduced to name a United States post office in my congressional district, and Julian's, after the late Congressman Julian C. Dixon.

Julian Dixon dedicated his life to serving his community. He ably represented his friends, his neighbors, and his constituents from Los Angeles and Culver City in Congress for over 2 decades. We went to high school together. I graduated the year ahead of him, and I followed him into the legislature. When he went to Congress, I went to the Senate. I took his staff, who remained with me for over a decade.

During his tenure, Julian served his community, his country and this institution by often taking on some of the toughest jobs here in Congress. Among those tough assignments was his chairmanship of the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. As chairman of this ethics panel, Julian was praised for the even-handed and deliberate manner in which he handled difficult cases involving his colleagues in the House.

Julian also served as the most senior Democrat on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. His colleagues in the House and within the U.S. intelligence establishment have often commented on how they valued Julian's experience and wisdom on questions of national security.

With the risk and challenges of America's current struggle against terrorism, Julian's contribution to this effort will be sorely missed by his friends, his colleagues and his constituents.

□ 1715

While serving his Nation, Julian never forgot about serving his community back home in Los Angeles, California, and in Culver City. When the 1992 civil disturbances tore apart neighborhoods in Los Angeles, Julian responded with creative ideas to rebuild neighborhoods and restore the hope. He fought for aid to small businesses and families impacted by the emergency. Typical of his approach was the "Angel Gate" program, which takes disadvantaged youth from inner city schools and gives them the opportunity to get additional math and science education from the California National Guard. When the Northridge Earthquake struck Los Angeles in 1994, Julian once again responded quickly to help his community recover.

Julian's commitment to Los Angeles was not limited to responding to crises. He was a tireless booster of his community and worked to bring improvements to the lives of his constituents. Many Angelenos probably remember him as a moving force behind the construction of the region's public transit infrastructure. Anyone from Los Angeles knows that traffic is a constant challenge. Julian worked hard to find solutions to improve mobility for all Angelenos.