

few moments to recognize the outstanding work of my good friend and the man who will always, in my mind's eye, be my chairman, Congressman LOUIS STOKES.

As most of my colleagues know, this will be the last VA-HUD bill the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STOKES) and I will have the privilege of working on together. After 30 years in Congress and over 28 years on the Committee on Appropriations, LOUIS has decided to pursue other interests.

LOU STOKES clearly exemplifies everything that is good about the Congress of the United States and, indeed, everything that is great about this wonderful country in which we live.

From his early days growing up in public housing through his days of college and law school to his work as an attorney on some of the most important legal issues of our time to his service in the Congress which began in January of 1969, LOU has served with courage, with honor, with dignity, and with compassion.

He has represented his district with the finest tradition of service. I must tell my colleagues that my life has been enriched because of the friendship I have shared with LOU STOKES and his wonderful wife, Jay, for this fine American has made all the difference for me in working in this House.

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I, for one, will miss LOU STOKES, but I dare say that this institution will miss him even more.

Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to yield to my colleague, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY).

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Let me say that people come and go, and they either add or subtract from the places in which they work, but now and then somebody comes to this place who does his work, learns his craft, who demonstrates total dedication and produces service that, indeed, is worthy to be remembered.

LOU STOKES has many achievements. He served as chairman of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, he served as chairman of the Assassinations Committee, after the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy; he served as chair of the Committee on Intelligence, he served on the Iran Contra Committee, he served as subcommittee chairman of this subcommittee, and, I think his most valuable service has come on a subcommittee on which he has never been chair, and that is the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Education. It is there that I think the gentleman did the most to demonstrate that he has never forgotten his humble beginnings, unlike many other people that we often see in this society.

I referred to my good friend Archie the Cockroach once earlier today, and I would simply refer to him again. There is a piece in this book that I think sums up LOU STOKES' service to this House. It says:

The lordly ones, the haughty ones, with supercilious heads held high;
The up stage stiff pretentious ones, miss much that meets my humbler eye;
Not that I meddle perk or pry, but I'm too small to feel great pride;
And as the pompous world goes by, I see things from the under side.

I think LOU's entire career here demonstrates he understands that. He understands there are millions of people in this country who are stuck with seeing life from the other side, and in a city of 1,200 suits, LOU has never forgotten the people who wear work clothes.

I think that he has also demonstrated an interest far beyond just the interest of the poor. In a me-first era, he has remembered the answer to the question of Cain: "Am I my brother's keeper?" must very often be yes.

So I think in almost every way I can think of LOU STOKES' service here is a daily affirmation of the Judeo-Christian ethic which underlies our society. I want to say on behalf of all of the people in this country who need champions in Congress, even if they never know that they have them, I want to thank LOU STOKES on behalf of each and every one of them and on behalf of every Member in this House for the way in which he has graced this House with his years of service.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

(Mr. CLAY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, let me first of all thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) for providing this opportunity to pay tribute to our colleague on this occasion. Perhaps the best and most succinct summary of who and what LOUIS STOKES is about can be found in a statement appearing in a Cleveland newspaper 10 years ago when Mr. STOKES was celebrating his two decades in elective office. That article stated, "This 20-year milestone in the United States Congress gives us pause to reflect on LOU STOKES, the man, a legend in the making, as he continues to make his mark in history. He improves the quality of our lives by example and effort."

Mr. Chairman, I want to acknowledge the friendship between Mr. STOKES and his wife Jay and my wife Carol that goes back 30 years. We came to this Congress on the same day 30 years ago, along with Shirley Chisholm, and the three of us, who joined with six other African American Members, really made history that day, because that made nine of us in the Congress, and that was the most black Members of Congress that had served together at one time in history.

STOKES said to me shortly after that that because this was historic, that perhaps we ought to band together to really make a difference. As a result of his talking with myself and us talking with others of the nine, we formed the Congressional Black Caucus. And in this 30-year period, that caucus has

made a difference. But LOU STOKES has definitely made a difference, and, as a result of that difference, all of us are proud today and all of us are better off.

STOKES has made a big difference. He has put his staff, his imprimatur, on landmark legislation, which altered and affects the lives in dramatic ways to millions of citizens that have benefited by that legislation.

STOKES' 30-year career in Congress is the most compelling evidence, Mr. Speaker, available of why we should not have term limits. Only a few, in fact, only 120 Members of this body in 200 years, have served 30 years or better. So STOKES is in a distinct, unique class of people. In fact, in the 200-year history of this Congress, only 10,000 Members have served in this body. So it is an honor for him to be in that elite group of 115 distinguished individuals.

I do not think that anybody ought to limit the number of years that a person can serve here if his constituents want that person to represent them.

Mr. STOKES, as I said earlier, has become a legend, as it was predicted. He has contributed in a most meaningful way to enhance the image and importance of this institution. Those contributions have been exceptional, singular, uncommon, as has been related by the ranking member of this committee. STOKES has been the author of numerous education programs, including the TRIO program.

Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, let me say the term "power" is frequently used loosely and without knowledge of its real significance. Seldom do the users of the expression bother to contemplate that all sources of power are limited inasmuch as they are to some degree dependent on other sources of power. But for LOU STOKES, some sources are more real, more independent, and more indispensable than others. He has often said that the two most devastating kinds of power are economic and political, asserting that if you have one, you are respected, if you have both, you are feared, but if you have neither, you are exploited.

STOKES comprehends the theory of power and its imposing function. He has successfully exercised his power on the House Committee on Appropriations to achieve a degree of equitable balance between the have's and the have not's, and I am proud to say that I am counted amongst his friends.

Perhaps the best and most succinct summary of who and what LOU STOKES is about can be found in a statement celebrating his two decades in elective office. It stated:

This twenty-year milestone in the United States Congress gives us pause to reflect on Lou Stokes, the man, a legend in the making. As he continues to make his mark in history, he improves the quality of our lives by example and effort.

The one person who has stood next to the Congressman in this noble endeavor for considerably more than this 30 year stretch, is his lovely charming and understanding wife, Jay Stokes. She has been the pillar of strength behind his uncharted excursion into the field of