Tributes

[Translation]

TRIBUTES

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, we were deeply saddened to learn that the honorable C.M. Drury passed away last weekend.

[English]

Bud Drury was born and raised in traditional Westmount style, but he chose to lead a life that was anything but traditional. After completing his education at the Royal Military College, he chose to complete his preparation for leadership in Canadian affairs by making himself fully bilingual, an unusual step for a man of his background and generation.

During World War II, he rose to the rank of Brigadier at an unprecedented young age. At war's end, he attained a status of a genuine hero as the leader of the United Nations Relief Agency's work in Poland.

After serving as Deputy Minister of National Defence, Bud returned to his family business. In 1962, he came back to public life as the member of Parliament for Westmount.

In 1963, he was appointed Minister of Defence Production and Ministry of Industry, leading the negotiations that resulted in the Canadian–U.S Auto Pact.

In 1968, he became President of the Treasury Board and later served as Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Science and Technology.

In 1978, he left Parliament to become Chairman of the National Capital Commission.

Bud Drury remained active and vital in his retirement, terrorizing the roads of the Gatineau hills in his red sports car, advising his children in modern business practices, and teaching his grandchildren the mysteries of the computer.

Although bodily ailments slowed him down physically, his inquiring mind remained clear and penetrating.

We join his daughters, Di and Leith, and his sons, Victor and Gib, in the passing of one who rejoiced so in life.

[Translation]

I had the pleasure of working with Mr. Drury for many years and benefited from his advice. He was a real gentleman and he served his country well. He served it as a member of the Armed Forces, as a very senior official of the government, and as a most distinguished member of this House. Here, as across the whole country, he had no enemies. We profoundly regret the loss of this great Canadian.

[English]

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Prime Minister and members of the Conservative caucus, indeed the Government of Canada, I want to join with the hon. Leader of the Opposition in paying tribute the late Hon. Charles Bud Drury.

I had the privilege of serving in the House with Bud. I clearly echo the remarks and comments that were made by the Leader of the Opposition.

As the Leader of the Opposition indicated, Bud was a successful businessman and entrepreneur but gave himself to public life in a very unselfish and generous way. He had a very outstanding military career.

He had an outstanding political career, having served in the House from 1962 to 1978. He also served as a Deputy Minister. He played a key role in the work of the United Nations and a very key role in the advancement and building of the National Capital Commission here in Ottawa.

He had an array of portfolios in which he served with distinction, from Industry, Defence Production, Science and Technology, Treasury Board and Public Works. He discharged those responsibilities and obligations with distinction.

I also note, as the hon. Leader of the Opposition did, that he did have a very keen interest in the pursuit of liberalized trade. To that end, he was instrumental in the negotiations of the Auto Pact in 1965. I am sure that he would look back with a great deal of respect, satisfaction and admiration to the additional activities that the Auto Pact led to. I think he did really plant the seeds of liberalized trade between two of the greatest trading partners in the world.

Bud commanded respect in the House. He really was a House of Commons man. He treated all members with distinction and was always available to be spoken to about a problem. As one who came here as a new member, I found Mr. Drury always open and accessible.