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## Title Info

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## Speakers

<b>Speaker:</b>	Mr. RHODES
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on Interior and Insular Affairs.

The remarks follow:

Dedication of Arizona Wilderness Areas  
Remarks of Hon. John J. Rhodes III

Thank you, Mr. Rosenkrance. Senator Deconcini, my colleagues from the House-Jim Kolbe and Jon Kyl, ladies and gentlemen, I am pleased to be here today.

We all worked diligently and in the spirit of compromise to be here today. But, the fact is, it is because of the extraordinary vision of one man that we in fact made it here today.

For my part, I want to pay tribute to that man, and dedicate this event to him. Where we are today is representative of this quiet and peaceful man. Yet, what we are about today will be calculated among the manifold accomplishments that will be his legacy to Arizona and America.

When we considered the **Arizona Desert Wilderness** legislation on the floor of the House of Representatives a little over a year ago, Morris Udall said:

"The generations of Udalls before me met their challenge to tame the wilderness, to settle it and make it a home for succeeding generations."

It is because of Chairman Udall that we meet in this place, this day. He said, "There, truly, are lands of undisputable national significance." Mo Udall is, likewise, a man of undisputable national significance.

Among the 39 new and expanded wilderness designations contained in the Act that designated this site, are a relative handful of diminishing desert riparian areas. Like the Indians and settlers who first traveled these beautiful yet unforgiving lands, people are always drawn to the oasis in the desert. Chairman Udall wanted especially to protect those refreshing and nourishing lands and waters. His was a thirst to protect all these lands for generations not yet born.

His own words say it best: "Long after our own footsteps have been forgotten, these places will remain. Their eloquent stillness will bear testimony that we as a people are grateful for our chance to walk upon this Earth, and that we have the strength, the courage and the wisdom to leave at least these places as we found them."

Finally, Mo said "In wilderness, we value that which man did not create, and by restraining man's altering hand, we hope to honor this powerful work."

Those are powerful words from a gentle man. And, in honoring his work, we honor the man whose visionary love for this living desert has culminated in the reality we celebrate with him today.

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