

After a grueling week in Washington, what a delight to touch down in the Heartland and shuffle off the mantle of "Congressman Pence" and go where I am just "Mike" again. With my daughter Charlotte at my side, we made our way home to county fairs, town halls, church breakfasts and a truly inspiring ceremony where I had the honor of recognizing heroes past and present in Muncie, Indiana.

Our weekend started with the 4-H Horse and Pony Show in New Castle, Indiana. What a sight to see the beautiful animals, well cared for by earnest, freshfaced kids and the weather was perfect....70 degrees in July in Indiana!

From there we had a relaxed discussion at my New Castle town hall. About 30 people gathered for a sit-down chat about the issues. The federal marriage amendment was on the mind of most people. Some were all for it, others supported the idea but didn't understand the need for an amendment to the Constitution.

Saturday morning started as early as Friday ended late. I shared about my faith and family to around 150 friends at a church breakfast in New Whiteland, Indiana, and then made my way to Muncie to present awards to three men who rescued a quadriplegic from a burning van and to around 30 veterans of the D-Day invasion.

There are times when I feel very small in this job and am reminded of the everyday courage that makes Indiana such a great place to live and work. Standing alongside older men who were once freshfaced boys as they charged the beaches of France in 1944, to present such men what will likely be the last medal they receive on this earth was an unspeakable privilege. mrp