

where the current moral decay is leading. They recognize that our nation is tumbling into depression despite the foolish economists' prognostications. And they recognize with something close to horror that the appeasement of the military colossus of Soviet Russia is leading to war.

Mr. Russell's unstated assertion that anyone over 80 is a manipulable ding-bat who should be prevented from engaging in and contributing to the political crisis upon us, is an abomination. It coheres with the notion that old people are using up our "scarce resources" and should be encouraged to forego expensive medical care, a notion now polluting our courts and our media. This rebirth of euthanasia, for which we properly hanged Nazis, defines the character of a nation which has lost its respect for the dignity of human life.

While I don't wish to reopen the issues of the trial, I must add that the way in which Mr. Russell used Mrs. Fincham like a dish rag was repulsive. I can state unequivocally, that if I had had a lawyer representing me at trial, rather than a co-prosecutor, the humiliation of Mrs. Fincham would not have been tolerated, and both her honor and mine would have been preserved.

In conclusion, I must respond to Mr. Russell's contention that, supposedly lacking remorse, I repeatedly blamed everything on the government as a shield to hide my guilt. This may have found merit among the naive a year ago. However, Mr. Russell is fully aware that Judge Bostetter had demonstrated conclusively where the guilt lies in the bankruptcy proceeding. Mr. Russell is also painfully aware of the over 800 prominent lawyers from across the country who signed *amicus curiae* briefs against the "violation of due process and fundamental rights" and the "abuse of prosecutorial and judicial systems" in the Alexandria railroad brought by his brothers in the "Get LaRouche" task force. The world is rapidly learning who it is that committed the crimes, and who it is that is committed to truth and justice.

'From the prison in which the politician's career expires, the influence of the statesman is raised toward the summits of his life's providential course. Since Solon, the Socratic method has become the mark of the great Western statesman. Without the reemergence of that leadership, our imperiled civilization will not survive this century's waning years.'

—Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

In Defense of Common Sense by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

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We mourn Michael Spannaus

All of the editors and the international correspondents of *EIR* share in the profound grief of the Spannaus family in the loss of their son Michael, who was killed in a highway accident on Jan. 1, 1990 near his home in Lovettsville, Virginia.

The 19-year-old youth, a second-year student pursuing a career in biomedical engineering at Duke University School of Engineering, was the son of two of the founding members of the editorial board of *Executive Intelligence Review*, Nancy Spannaus and Edward Spannaus. At the time of his death, Michael Bradeen Spannaus was president of his class and on the Dean's List. An excellent trumpet player, he had continued this work as a member of the Duke University Wind Symphony.

Michael's father, Edward Spannaus, was convicted together with Lyndon LaRouche in the infamous politically motivated "railroad" trial in Alexandria, Virginia in late 1988, and is serving a five-year prison sentence for his political opposition to the U.S. Establishment and its allies in Moscow. Nancy Spannaus is the editor of *New Federalist* national newspaper and a candidate for Senate from Virginia, contesting the seat of Republican John Warner in the 1990 elections.

The memorial services for Michael Spannaus occasioned an outpouring of support for the family in Loudoun County, Virginia.

Five hundred people attended the public memorial on Jan. 4 at Loudoun Valley High School, where he had been a student. Some came from distant parts of the United States and even from Europe. Michael was described by former teachers, fellow students, and fraternity brothers as a young man dedicated to perfection. The tributes showed that his humorous warmth, his passion for sharing classical music with others, his diligence at work, and his devotion as a son, friend, and brother had inspired many people.

Donations in memory of Michael Spannaus and his close friend Scott Kidwell, a fellow engineering student who also perished in the accident, may be contributed to a scholarship fund. Checks should be annotated for the "Michael Spannaus Memorial" and made payable to the Loudoun Valley High School, 340 North Maple Street, Purcellville, Virginia, (U.S.A.) 22132.