

demonstrate American business at its very best. I am truly honored to call Bob Beyster my friend.

HONORING OUR FALLEN HEROES

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay tribute to three soldiers from the 21st Congressional District who gave their lives during combat in Iraq.

It is for the greater good that they joined the military, serving their country with honor and distinction. These native sons of ours played an integral part in securing peace in Iraq and giving freedom to an oppressed people.

They represent the best of our community and of our military. All three men grew up from humble means, working hard to achieve in school, sports, and work. They were of good moral character, quick to stand up for what is right and to defend those who needed it—friends and strangers alike.

Army 1st Lt. Osbaldo Orozco, 26, of Earlimart died when his Bradley Fighting Vehicle rolled over as his unit rushed to help others under attack near Tikrit on April 25, 2003. Lt. Orozco was a true leader and role model for those around him. He excelled in everything he did—school, sports, and life itself—inspiring those around him along the way.

Army Sgt. Michael W. Mitchell, 25, who grew up in Porterville, was shot by a sniper April 4, 2004, in Iraq as he stood in the open hatch of a tank. He was a bright young man with tremendous determination who was gifted athletically and who excelled at being a soldier.

Army Spc. Daniel Paul Unger, 19, was killed by shrapnel from a rocket-propelled grenade as he helped Iraqi civilians take cover during an attack May 24, 2004. He loved being a soldier. He also loved to share with others the love for God he kept in his heart. He was a compassionate young man whose ambition drove him to achieve in every arena in life.

Theirs was a sacrifice we cannot repay. We will cherish their memory. We will point to their selfless example. We will aspire to their bravery, and we will carry on under the liberty they defended. May God bless their souls and the families they left behind.

CONGRATULATING THE DESIGNERS, SPONSORS, AND PILOT OF SPACESHIPONE ON BEING THE FIRST PRIVATELY-FINANCED VEHICLE TO LEAVE THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and commend the designers, builders, sponsors, and pilot of SpaceShipOne on the occasion of its successful flight out of earth's atmosphere on June 21, 2004. What is most remarkable about SpaceShipOne, of course, is that it is the first privately-financed and pri-

vately built vehicle to leave the Earth's atmosphere.

SpaceShipOne was designed and built by Burt Rutan and piloted by test pilot Michael W. Melvill. It was launched successfully from Mojave California, reaching a height of 100 KM (62 miles) above the Earth's surface. Remarkably, SpaceShipOne is entirely privately-financed, chiefly by Microsoft co-founder Paul G. Allen.

According to the designers and financers of SpaceShipOne, the mission of this project is to demonstrate the viability of commercial space flight and to open the door for private space tourism. The successful completion of SpaceShipOne's maiden voyage demonstrates that relatively modest amounts of private funding can significantly increase the boundaries of commercial space technology. It constitutes a major leap toward their goal and demonstrates that private capital and private enterprise can be applied to enormous success all on its own. Those associated with this project represent the best of our American traditions, embodied in our enterprising and pioneering spirit.

Their success should also be read as a cautionary tale for all of us in government. If only the United States had a taxation policy that limited government and thereby freed up more private capital, there is no telling how many more like Burt Rutan, Paul Allen, and Michael Melvill would be able to do great things to the benefit all of mankind. This not just in space exploration, but in medical research, alternative energy research, and any number of the problems that continue to perplex mankind. Private enterprise depends on results and success and therefore private capital is always targeted much more wisely than is monies confiscated by governments.

With this successful maiden voyage, SpaceShipOne is now the leading contender for the \$10 million Ansari X Prize, which is to be awarded to the first privately financed threeseat aircraft that reaches an altitude of 62 miles and repeats the feat within two weeks. I wish all those involved in this remarkable project the best of luck.

HONORING JAY LOVELL ON THE COMPLETION OF HIS INTERNSHIP

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Jay Lovell for his service during his internship this summer. Jay is a fellow Middle Tennesseean, and he has been a great help and service to my constituents in Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

Jay just finished his sophomore year at the University of Missouri. Despite his youth, he has already shown himself to be dedicated to public service. While attending high school at Nashville's Montgomery Bell Academy, he worked in a soup kitchen and was a member of Habitat for Humanity. He is always ready to lend a hand and a kind word to others.

Jay has experienced the many facets of Congress first-hand. He has been very helpful in answering constituent concerns, guiding schoolchildren through the U.S. Capitol and assisting me and my staff with countless projects.

I hope Jay has enjoyed this learning experience as much as we have enjoyed having his help in the office. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF REV. DR. JOSEPH E. LOWERY ON THE EVE OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on the 40th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, now is an especially appropriate time to acknowledge and commend the historic contributions of a great civil rights fighter, The Reverend Doctor Joseph E. Lowery.

Dr. Lowery is the Co-founder, President Emeritus, Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), Chairman Emeritus, Black Leadership Forum, Inc. and Convener of the Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda (GEPA).

As co-founder with Martin Luther King, Jr., of the SCLC in 1957; Dr. Lowery served as vice president (1957–67); chairman of the board (1967–77); and as president and chief executive officer from Feb. 1977–Jan. 15, 1998. Dr. King named him chairman of the delegation to take demands of the Selma-to-Montgomery March (1965) to Gov. George Wallace. Wallace had ordered the marchers beaten ("Bloody Sunday") but apologized to Lowery in 1995 as he led the 30th anniversary re-enactment of the historic march, which led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act.

His genesis as a civil rights advocate was in the early '50s in Mobile, AL where he headed the Alabama Civic Affairs Association, which led the movement for the desegregation of buses and public accommodations. While in Mobile, his property was seized by the Alabama courts in an historic libel suit: *Sullivan v. NYTimes*, Abernathy, Lowery, Shuttlesworth, & Seay. The U.S. Supreme Court vindicated the ministers in a landmark ruling on libel (Read *Make No Law* by Anthony Lewis, 1964)

Lowery led the historic Alabama to Washington pilgrimage (1982) to free Maggie Boezeman and Julia Wilder, falsely convicted of voter fraud. This march helped gain the extension of provisions of the Voting Rights Act to 2007. Nationally recognized as a strong proponent of affirmative action, he also led the movement in Nashville to desegregate public accommodations. In Birmingham, he served as president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, which spearheaded the hiring of Birmingham's first black police officers, etc. As a United Methodist minister, he was elected as delegate to three General Conferences, and presided over an Annual Conference (acting bishop in 1966).

He is co-founder and chairman emeritus of the Black Leadership Forum, a consortium of national black advocacy organizations, and served as third president following Vernon Jordan and Benjamin Hooks. As president of SCLC, he negotiated covenants with major corporations for employment advances and business contracts with minority companies. One of the first protest campaigns he led was against the Atlanta based Southern Company