

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EULOGY FOR TIMOTHY COBURN

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on Monday February 12, 2024 a great force for good was laid to rest. The outpouring of love, admiration, and respect for Timothy Coburn was a fitting remembrance for a man whose life was dedicated to doing for others. He is a legend in his hometown of East Hartford and Mayberry Village, the federal housing project we grew up in. I include in the *Record* a eulogy that only touches the surface of this veteran and great American who never forgot his beginnings.

Thank you, Father Mark, on behalf of Susan, Gabrielle, Maryann & Katie.

The outpouring of love, respect, and admiration for a man, who used all of his vast skills to take care of others, so many of whom are gathered in this room, who have been beneficiaries of his benevolence.

Gabrielle and Susan, the obituary was excellent, from that handsome smiling Irish face to the content of the obituary and the enduring message about helping others, with a simple yet poignant request: be kind to someone, even a stranger. It makes a difference. So many gathered here and beyond can attest to that. That was Tim Coburn! That was his request. Sister Christine-Marie and the Sisters of Notre-Dame are bursting with pride about the virtue of the man from Mayberry Village they taught.

It all starts at home, and home will always be 76 Great Hill Road in Mayberry Village. Ruth and John's favorite son, Maryann & Katie's favorite brother, Susan's devoted love and husband, and Gabrielle's loving and caring father.

Ruth and John deserve special acknowledgement. Mrs. Coburn carted us all around the town to sporting events and brought us treats when we were sleeping out in the backyard, as we scrambled to hide the Playboys we were reading. We mostly walked to Martin Park which was an upgrade from swimming at BAB and the Hock. Mr. Coburn, with his shirt off in the summer, looked like Tarzan, and he had that intimidating look. You knew that you don't mess with John Coburn.

Athleticism was engrained in Tim, and his father always had Track and Field apparatus from the shotput, discus, hammer throw, and high jump bars. In fact, Frank Coburn, Tim's grandfather, was a star in his own right and a member of the New York Athletic Club, who nearly went to the Olympics, so being an athlete was in his genes.

Talking with Carl Lepack, Gary and Jimmy Agnew, Kevin Brown, and Dave Ryan, they all acknowledged Tim was the most gifted athlete in our class. Lettering in football, basketball, and track and being the captain of the track team. He was also a great golfer, tennis player, and if we had a pool in 1967, he would be a champion swimmer as well. Above all, he was a competitor, he thrived on competition. We were 5th and 6th grade basketball champions at Mayberry school, we reminisced last September about the 98-yard touchdown pass, he caught that

beat Sunset Ridge with no time left on the clock. We were still playing football in our late 20s for Mad Murphy's, and all the extra-curricular activities that involved. He competed at a high level in every sport he played, but in track, like his grandfather, he excelled and still holds the high school pole vault record, back when the poles were still wooden and not fiberglass. But in sports as in life, the thing about Tim is what mattered to him was the camaraderie and how teamwork and teammates matter and become friends for life.

I went to school with Tim at the little red schoolhouse, Sunset Ridge, Mayberry School, Saint Rose's, East Hartford High School, and Central before he transferred and graduated from UConn. There was a gang of us that hung together, and Tim was the ringleader, always up for the next adventure and next exploration. It was Tim, Carl Lepack, Rick Hurteau, Roger O'Sullivan, Max McGrath, Nunzio Parente, Billy Beven, Ronnie Boyer, and my brothers Dan and Chris. Whether it was cruising the Hock in cement tubs, or swimming at BAB, hiking up what is now Wickham Park—what was then Wickham Estates—playing every sport imaginable.

It was on the Hockanum that we got pulled over by the East Hartford police that chastised us for being in cement tubs, scolding us about how dangerous it was. They took our names and addresses and said they were going to talk to our parents. By the time I got home, the officers already visited my mother and admonish me and said, "Wait until your father gets home!" I ran up to Tim's house to see if they had come there as well, as we had papers to deliver. Tim said no as they haven't been to his house, though they had driven by it. So we stood at distance at his house, and we wondered why they didn't stop and the reason was because Tim had taken the 6 of 76 and flipped it around to make it an 9. But he said since I was going to face brutal punishment with my father coming home, he would take me to Bergren's Dairy to get a hot fudge sundae before I went home to face my father. But to my amazement, when I got home, divine intervention happened, Father Munich was doing the census and consoled my mother that were the boys like Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer in Huck Finn. So, when I went up and told Tim Coburn that Father Munich had saved my life and called us Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn, Tim told me "You owe me a hot fudge sundae."

Tim lived a life of helping others, he practiced his faith and that carried over to his professional life. Healthcare remains an extraordinarily challenging job, especially caring for the elderly and disabled, and it's why this man of compassion and commitment was so exceptional. He rose to become the Executive Vice President of Medi-Plex and was respected by everyone he worked with—in management, by the employee's he worked with, and most importantly the patients he served. When he left Medi-Plex, he went on to be the person, the state of Connecticut, turned to, to help distress facilities and became the leading administrator in the state who had both, the experience and the credibility to save homes from going out of business and provide people with care. Tim, of course, credited the people he worked with, but this was a guy that led by example.

No task was beneath him and time and again, he demonstrated to employees and patients what leadership and caring are all about. Jim Malloy and Brian Dickstein, underscored that professionalism and why he was so successful and why the state relied on Tim. He lived a life of helping other, and in doing so, he practiced his faith.

Tim was authentic and genuine, not a phony bone in his body. Dependable, Tim was always there for everyone, especially Gabrielle and Susan, he had wanted and hoped to make it to Valentine's Day, which is Gabrielle's birthday. There's an old Irish saying "Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day, unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed, and very dear. Death leaves a heartache no one can heal. Love leaves a memory that no one can steal." There is a great void in our lives, a great force of good is gone. During his life and with his passing, he showed us what courage and humility are, and that the most precious thing we have is time, and the greatest thing in life is not the things we possess but the time we have with each other.

So, as we leave here today and raise a glass in tribute to Tim, let's honor his request—be kind to someone, even a stranger, it makes a difference. Tim, thank you for being a difference maker in our lives.

HONORING ROBERT WILLARD

HON. CLAUDIA TENNEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding New Yorker, Attica Fire Department Member, Robert Willard, for his 50 years of service to the community of Attica and the Attica Fire Department. On Saturday, March 9, 2024, members past and present from the Attica Fire Department will gather to honor him for his service.

Robert Willard was born in Batavia, New York and raised in the Town of Attica in Wyoming County, New York, and began his service as a volunteer in 1973 with the Attica Fire Department. Throughout his years with the Attica Fire Department, he has responded to countless numbers of ambulance and fire responses. His excellent service has earned him the title of Fire Chief along with numerous other positions within the department.

Robert worked for Westinghouse until its closure and spent his later years working for the Village of Attica before his retirement. Along with his passion for the fire department, Jay enjoys traveling in his spare time. Robert is a true family man. He is married to his wife Kathy, and they have two children and three grandchildren. When he is not spending time with his family, Robert enjoys hunting and camping.

I thank Robert Willard for his incredible volunteer service providing protection to local homeowners, farmers, businesses, and schools in Wyoming County, New York. His many years of dedication have made the community a better place to live, and I wish him

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

all the best in his many more years serving in the Attica Fire Department.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO CAPITAL
ACT OF 2023

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Ms. McCollum. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2799, the Expanding Access to Capital Act. Mr. Chair, this bill does not in fact expand access to capital. It expands access to fraud.

Historically, U.S. capital markets have been successful because of the transparency, accountability, and oversight required by regulations. Investors both here and abroad have confidence in the investments they make because they know companies are required to be transparent and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is obligated to perform oversight. However, large companies are now using exemptions designed for small businesses. This has resulted in an expansion of the private securities market, which is riskier than the public securities market because there are fewer and, in some cases, no disclosures required. H.R. 2799 would exacerbate these problems by allowing large companies to evade disclosure requirements and SEC oversight. The bill also reduces incentives for companies to go public through an initial public offering (IPO) which will deprive investors, including working families and retirees, of transparent investment opportunities.

Everyday Americans invest their hard-earned money to save for their education, travel, buying a home, and retirement. H.R. 2799 threatens the existing regulations that protect everyday Americans from risky investments that would put their livelihoods in jeopardy. Under current regulation, financial professionals or companies are required to only sell private securities to investors who have access to reliable information, have a demonstrated ability to understand the risks, and have the financial wherewithal to absorb potentially severe investment losses. H.R. 2799 removes these safeguards, allowing financial middlemen to peddle risky private securities to unsuspecting, hard-working Americans. H.R. 2799 sets everyday American investors up to fail.

H.R. 2799 also includes anti-worker provisions that will harm gig-workers like rideshare drivers, food delivery providers, and on-demand caregivers. The State of Minnesota has been working hard to prevent the misclassification of gig-workers as independent contractors and provide stronger protections for these workers. H.R. 2799 would preempt these efforts in Minnesota and around the country by prohibiting the classification of gig-workers as employees. This provision would cut off gig-workers' access to essential state-based rights and benefits like a minimum wage, unemployment insurance, overtime pay, health benefits, and workers compensation.

Mr. Chair, H.R. 2799 eliminates crucial investor protections which would expose the investments of American families and seniors to financial fraud. I urge my colleagues to oppose the bill.

CELEBRATING THE PRESERVA-
TION AND PERPETUATION OF
THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

HON. JILL N. TOKUDA

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, Hawaii's constitution recognizes two official languages: English and Hawaiian. Each February, we celebrate Mahina 'Ōlelo Hawai'i, or Hawaiian Language Month. It's time for us to honor and promote the use of Hawaiian language, and to achieve this, we must create opportunities and environments where it can be celebrated and utilized. 'Ōlelo Hawai'i is more than a language, it is a connection to a history and a culture that must never be forgotten. That is why it was so important to me to speak it today on the House floor. Long live the Hawaiian language.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the translation in the Hawaiian language:

Aloha e ka luna h'omalu,
Ke hōia'i'o nei ko Hawai'i kumukānāwai i nā 'ōlelo kūhelu 'elua: ka Ōlelo Pelekānia me ka Ōlelo Hawai'i. I kēlā me kēia Pepeluali, e ho'omaika'i mākou i ka Mahina 'Ōlelo Hawai'i. 'Okēia ka manawa kūpono a kākou e ho'ohanohano a e paipai aku i ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i. I mea e ho'okō ai i ia hana, he ko'iko'i nō ho'i ka 'ōlelo a ho'olaule'a mau 'ia o ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i ma nā wahi like 'ole, ma nā 'ano pō'aiapili like 'ole, a ma nā 'ano hanana like 'ole'O ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i, 'a'ole ia he 'ōlelo wale no. 'O ia nō he pilina i nā mo'olelo me ka mo'omeheu, 'o ia nō ho'i kahi mea e pōina 'ole ai. 'O ia ke kumu no ka'u 'ōlelo 'ana i kēia lā ma ka papahale o ka Hale o nā Lunamaka'āinana ma ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i. E ola ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i.

HONORING THE 130TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE FOUNDING OF
TEXAS COLLEGE

HON. NATHANIEL MORAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Texas College in Tyler, Texas commemorating its 130th anniversary.

Founded in 1894, Texas College was formed by ministers of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church to educate African-American students excluded from the university system of Texas at the time.

Since its eventual charter in 1907, Texas College has aimed to form the next generation in theology, music, teaching and commercial training as well as agricultural and mechanical sciences.

Today, Texas College inspires intellectual, spiritual, moral, and social development, empowering graduates to engage in life-long learning, leadership, and service. For generations, the college has formed upright, intelligent citizens who honor God through their knowledge, work, and families.

I am proud to see the many accomplishments that Texas College has made since its inception. I am equally grateful to have Texas

College as an integral part of the Tyler community and broader East Texas region.

I look forward to another 130 years of success from the faculty and staff at Texas College as they celebrate their anniversary this month.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF INDIUM CORPORATION

HON. BRANDON WILLIAMS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to honor Indium Corporation as it celebrates its 90th Anniversary on March 13 of this year.

Founded in 1934 by Dr. William S. Murray, Indium Corporation first operated from his garage at 805 Watson Place in Utica, New York. Dr. Murray was instrumental in identifying and enabling the first commercially viable applications for indium metal.

Today, Indium Corporation is a premier materials refiner, smelter, manufacturer and supplier to the global electronics, semiconductor, thin-film, and thermal management markets. With five facilities in New York's 22nd Congressional District and several located internationally, Indium Corporation is a global leader in materials science and electronics assembly solutions. Indium's innovative products can be found in many common consumer electronics and high-reliability technologies such as electric vehicles, mobile devices, life-saving medical devices, and emerging 5G technology.

Beyond Indium Corporation's role as a manufacturer, the company bolsters local educational resources through STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) outreach partnerships with schools, universities, and community organizations, impacting the lives of more than 5,000 students each year. Indium's award-winning college internship program, inaugurated in 2012, has led to careers in STEM fields for over 100 students.

In addition, Indium Corporation initiated a pioneering apprenticeship program, aiding employees who are seeking to learn new skills and pursue higher education and assisting military veterans with making successful transitions to private sector careers. The company recently celebrated its first graduates.

Indium is committed to giving back to the community through the support of many charitable and quality-of-life organizations including the American Red Cross, Stuff the Bus, ICAN, United Way, Support Our Vets, and the American Heart Association. The company and its leaders have been honored by the Oneida County History Center, YWCA, MACNY, Mohawk Valley Alliance of Chambers of Commerce, and the Genesis Group.

On behalf of New York's 22nd Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Indium Corporation on the occasion of its 90th Anniversary. I wish them continued success for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE UNION COUNTY
WRESTLING TEAM

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Union County High School wrestling team for achieving their 15th state championship and 3 individual state champion titles.

The Union County wrestling team has been the gold standard for Kentucky wrestling for nearly two decades and has created a dynasty of success. In the past 11 seasons, they have achieved 9 state titles.

Their first state championship title was in 1976 and they have continued their winning traditions since. I am honored to stand with the community of Union County to celebrate another state wrestling championship.

I am proud to recognize this tremendous achievement by the Union County wrestling team as they add another trophy to their case.

RECOGNIZING DEMETRIUS WEST,
INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL MUSIC
ARTIST AND COMMUNITY LEADER,
AND THE JESUS PROMOTERS
GOSPEL CHOIR

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Demetrius West and The Jesus Promoters Gospel Choir on their 20th anniversary.

Demetrius was influenced by his great-grandmother and discovered his passion for gospel music at an early age. As an internationally-renowned recording artist, he has shared the stage with notable Gospel and Christian artists such as Marvin Sapp, Byron Cage, Kirk Franklin, and Chris Tomlin. His work made the Billboard Music Charts several times and has held several No. 1 hits on Gospel airplay radio charts. In 2015, Demetrius released the album "Jesus Promoter" in 2015 featuring award-winning Earnest Pugh and 40-voice choir, The Jesus Promoters.

An Indianapolis native, Demetrius has a deep-rooted sense of community, exemplified by his support to the Resource Hub Foundation, Westside Baptist Church, and other local organizations aiding families in need. He is additionally involved in local politics and elections, and as Minister of Music and Arts for the Westside Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Michael O. Bryant. He has assisted many choirs, groups, soloists, and musicians with his knowledge and love of music by conducting workshops and seminars nationwide to help other ministries perfect their talents.

Music helps us translate joy, sorrow, and faith. Demetrius West and The Jesus Promoters is a voice that resonates across generations and will continue to play a role in the cultural fabric of our community.

Demetrius is married to the lovely Shalette West, and they have one beautiful daughter, Zanolbia Denise.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Demetrius West and The Jesus Promoters Gospel Choir on their 20-year celebration.

RECOGNIZING MR. ROBERT WIRTH

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the life and legacy of a remarkable man, Mr. Robert "Bob" Wirth.

Bob was born on October 2, 1932, and grew up in Shiocton before his family moved to their family farm in Hortonville. Beginning in high school, Bob was involved in many extracurricular activities such as football and basketball. Bob demonstrated incredible leadership and talent resulting in him being named team captain for both football and basketball. Following high school, Bob was drafted into the Army and served at Fort Lewis in Tacoma, Washington. I commend Bob for his service and dedication to the United States.

On March 2, 1957, Bob married the love of his life, Marlene Rollmann. Throughout their life together, they enjoyed years of happiness and welcomed five children: Barb, Kelli, John, Mark, and Ricky. Bob was so proud of each of these children and was thrilled as their family grew. Family was always of utmost importance to Bob, and he was blessed to have 15 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

When Bob wasn't spending time with his growing family, he enjoyed many hobbies. Bob cherished each opportunity to join family and friends exploring the outdoors. He especially loved their annual deer hunts and snowmobiling trips. Bob's kindness and friendship will be missed by many that were blessed to know him.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the life and legacy of Mr. Robert Wirth and thank him for his years of service and dedication to the United States. My sincere thoughts and prayers go out to his wife of 67 years, Marlene, and his entire family during this difficult time.

EULOGY FOR RAYMOND NOEL
RAMSEY

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to include in the RECORD the eulogy of a great American, Raymond Noel Ramsey, who epitomized what a citizen who gives back to his community, state, and Nation is all about.

On behalf of Peg, Noele, Kelly, Melanie, and the entire Ramsey family, thank you for being here for Ray. How about that obituary and the prayer card! Ever the fashion statement, wasn't he, with those bright pastels and those shirts, that were a reflection of his personality. Yesterday was quite an afternoon and quite a tribute. It was good to see old East Hartford on display—the outpour of love and respect for a man who lived it.

Now we know he had a great reception committee up there with Billy Mud, Fred Kurtz, Fred Leone, and Jimmy Deleo singing—I'm sure—as he entered the gates of Heaven. As Ray would often remind the faint of heart, life is not a dress rehearsal. He embodied both the right attitude and the appetite for a life well lived.

Talking with several of you at the wake, and over the past few days, about stories of

Ray and what he would want this service to be—Father, I have to start with a disclaimer here—Craig Jordan, Kevin Brown, and numerous others want to be clear that the funniest Rammer stories are not suitable for church or in mixed company. I think it's safe to say he was a guy's guy.

It was abundantly clear from all, that he would want an upbeat sendoff on his next journey. First and foremost, and most of all, the shared empathy, respect, and love for Peg and his three angels, Noele, Kelly and Melanie. At the wake it was hard viewing and watching them hold back the tears, the grieving and the mourning and with each person. A memory of a man whose actions were bigger than life, knowing even in this difficult moment, what Ray would want is to celebrate his journey and the relationships he shared with all of you. I know I'm stating the obvious, as so many of you have spoken of his lifelong love and relationship with Peg. Many of you have attested that they were the quintessential couple. They simply go together well, Ray and Peg. Peg and Ray. No gathering was complete without them—and you talk about opposites! Yet there was a greater bond that held them together, certainly Noele, Kelly, and Melanie, but it was their great faith and devotion to each other that always resonated.

Many of you said Ray was always there for you, no matter how trivial or important. How many of you can recall being with Ray into the wee hours of the morning, partaking in the elixirs of life and thinking—as I have—there's no way after this that he gets up and takes Peg to mass in the morning—only to be astonished again by him being there for her and their faith, dependable and rock solid. That's love and devotion. That's Ray and Peg.

Comradery is a great term about a gathering of friends, and as Nick Olivia pointed out, with Ray, those gatherings were always punctuated by having fun and enjoying one another's company, whether at the Hose Club, the Dirty Dozen, the F&L Dinners, or innumerable political events, Ray and a good time were synonymous. He was always a doer, never a complainer and put everyone else first. His last trip to Ireland is an epic example. A trip he had planned for some time with Nick and Vita, Bruce and Wendy, and he and Peg. As Bruce recalls, weeks before, he had terrible and severe back pain and was not feeling well, but would not let his health stand in the way of a great trip with friends. While I'm sure the Guinness helped, everyone knew he was in pain, but he did it because of who he was and the people he cared about. That's Ray.

As my brother Danny says, having worked with Ray on building the house—and you heard Father say how he did it with his own hands—Ray had many skills, among his specialties was electrical, with a minor in procurement. If we needed hardware: nuts, bolts, nails, screws, blades, zip ties, gloves, paint, or whatever, Ray always managed to come up with a donor and keep us going. My brother went on to describe his essence, saying what I believe everyone in this room agrees with. He was the most dependable friend you could have. First one on the site, and there till the end, and the job was done. He had a broad base knowledge and a hands-on versatility of all of the trades. Nothing that he couldn't figure out with an occasional break for a Marlboro or two. His heart was bigger than himself, it's as if he was made to help everyone else. He was practical and direct and always with an informed view.

Now, most here assembled know Ray was the master of the power nap. From which virtually in any environment he could fall into a deep sleep, and awake and rally.

Danny Delmastro, of course, cites the best example of his capability at the annual Aero Med Christmas Party, when about three-quarters the way through a great evening, Rammer says to Danny he's going to "step outside for a smoke." Danny looks at him and says "it's snowing," Ray just nodded and about an hour later with the place closing down and everyone looking for Ray, Danny went outside and found him on a bench with about three inches of snow on his head and his shoulders and said, "Rammer!" And Ray responded without missing a beat that "yes, I'll have a final final." That was our guy.

He clearly is a giant of a man, Jim Iacobellis noted that. He said he had a giant talent. He could do anything he put his mind to. He had giant knowledge. He knew so much about so much, and if he didn't, he'd ask and inquire until he did. He had a giant personality—the life and center of any gathering, you always wanted to be around him and talk to him. He was a giant friend. He had so many, and he knew them, he knew what they liked, and knew what made them happy or unhappy. He was also the first to accept new people and become friends, as he did so with Jim more than 30 years ago when he was the new kid on the block.

Now, we have a Bocce tournament and a gathering and have done so for 32 years, and whether it's tents, limoncello, garbanzo and hot peppers, you know, and of course, grilling that sausage, it was Ray. And as Linda and Leslie attest and verify and everyone agrees—without Ray, there would never have been a Bocce. He was the essential part and mover.

I think it's safe to say that the way he lived his life and in talking with David McQuaid, I said, "David, he had a great run." And David looked at me and says "A run? He had several runs." In short, Ray was authentic and original without a phony bone in his body, dependable as the day was long. He was always there for everyone and in so many different capacities.

In this human comedy we call life, his skills, his curiosity, his inquisitive and honest and practical advice will be what I miss the most. He was the real deal. He was the Rammer.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF JACKSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote during a portion of the legislative day on March 6, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on H. Res. 1061.

HONORING FLORIDA STATE SENATOR BETTY HOLZENDORF

HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor State Senator Betty Holzendorf, a Jacksonville native who dedicated her life to improving the lives of all Northeast Floridians.

At the age of 84, Senator Holzendorf passed away on February 29, leaving behind

legions of supporters and friends who were lucky enough to have known her bright spirit.

A mainstay of Florida politics whose long career spanned across both chambers of the legislature, Senator Holzendorf was a true woman of the people who never stopped fighting for her constituents.

One of Senator Holzendorf's greatest passions was fundraising for universities and scholarships in Northeast Florida. As a science teacher, Betty knew that Florida is only as strong as its youth, so she championed education as an avenue to brighten the minds and futures of her constituents.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the long and fruitful life of Senator Holzendorf, along with offering our deepest condolences to her friends and family.

HONORING JAY A. MYERS

HON. CLAUDIA TENNEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding New Yorker, Attica Fire Department Member, Jay Myers, for his 50 years of service to the community of Attica and the Attica Fire Department. On Saturday, March 9, 2024, members past and present from the Attica Fire Department will gather to honor him for his service.

Jay Myers was born and raised in the Town of Attica in Wyoming County, New York and began his service as a volunteer in 1973 with the Attica Fire Department. Throughout his years with the Attica Fire Department, he has responded to countless numbers of ambulance and fire responses. His excellent service has earned him the title of Fire Chief along with numerous other positions within the department. Jay's call to service did not stop at the Attica Fire Department, he served for 41 years as a 911 dispatch operator for Wyoming County before his retirement. Along with his passion for the fire department, Jay enjoys traveling in his spare time.

I thank Jay Myers for his incredible volunteer service providing protection to local homeowners, farmers, businesses, and schools in Wyoming County, New York. His many years of dedication have made the community a better place to live, and I wish him all the best in his many more years serving in the Attica Fire Department.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MS. KAREN HOSLER

HON. DEAN PHILLIPS

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Karen Hosler, a distinguished Baltimore Sun correspondent whose beats included Congress and the White House. Karen died on February 1 of this year, and it is an understatement to say that Karen lived life to its absolute fullest during her 75 years on this earth.

Unfortunately, I did not have the opportunity to meet Karen, but I wish that I had. Those that worked with and knew her said, "Karen always brightened up a room with her cheerfulness, her wonderful laughter, her joy for life and her deep commitment to first-rate journalism done the right way . . . She loved reporting on politics, be it Annapolis city government, the governor and General Assembly or the White House and Congress.

Ms. Hosler earned a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1970 from the University of Maryland, College Park, where she was on the staff of The Diamondback, the campus newspaper. After college, she got her start right here in Congress working as a press aide to U.S. Senator Charles Mathias and then began covering politics for The Bowie Blade and Prince George's News. She then joined the staff in the early 1970s of what was then known as The Evening Capital in Annapolis, where she covered government, including the General Assembly and Anne Arundel County elections.

Those that knew her in the newsroom describe her as ". . . sassy, brassy and bold . . . She had the perfect reporter's combination of skepticism of what the government officials she was covering was telling her and empathy for the people she covered . . . She asked the questions that got right to the heart of things."

She then joined The Arundel Sun in 1977, and then went back to Annapolis, where she covered politics and state government. From 1980 to 1983, she was the paper's state political reporter and from 1983 to 1988 its Maryland correspondent.

In 1988, she was named White House correspondent where she covered the administrations of Presidents Ronald W. Reagan, George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton.

In 2002, my colleague, Representative STENY HOYER, included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that Ms. Hosler was "always a tough interrogator of a politician. She asked the hard questions that we didn't always like to answer, but she always got it out of us. She took her responsibility as a reporter very seriously and her readers were better off for it."

As if her professional accomplishments were not enough, Karen completed 12 marathons including the Boston, New York and Marine Corps marathons and brought her love of running to Washington. In fact, she even ran with President Bill Clinton and described the President as "a whole lot faster than he looks."

In 1993, Karen became the congressional correspondent for The Sun until 1998, and its deputy Washington bureau chief from 1999 until 2002.

From 2008 until retiring in 2020, she was a WYPR talk show host, reporter and assignment editor.

She was even the subject of a PBS special, which was based on a very personal piece written by Karen.

In these times of political turmoil, it was inspiring to read Karen's story and see what it means to live a life well lived. Fair winds and following seas to Karen, and may her memory be a blessing to her husband and United States Naval Academy adjunct professor, Alan Friedman, and her brother, Richard Argy.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF ISABELLA PFEIL FOR WINNING THE DIVISION I ONE-METER DIVE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 8, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to pay a very special

tribute to an outstanding high school diver in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Isabella Pfeil, a senior at Avon Lake High School, has ably represented her school on her way to achieving her first Division I State Diving Title. Isabella overcame the challenges posed by intense competition in her effort to win the Division I One-Meter Dive State Championship.

In pursuing the State Championship, Isabella defeated her opponent in the finals of the one-meter dive classification. Her hard work and dedication in achieving this accomplish-

ment is truly outstanding. She has accomplished an impressive season record, bringing pride to her school and community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Isabella Pfeil of Avon Lake High School. On behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Ohio, I am proud to recognize this great achievement.