

they need. That's unacceptable. And all of us have to do better than we're doing.

As Ty knows, part of the healing is facing the sources of pain. As we prepare for the reading of the citation, I will ask you, Ty, to never forget the difference that you made on that day. Because you helped turn back that attack, soldiers are alive today, like your battle buddy in that Humvee, Brad Larson, who told us, "I owe Ty my life." Because you urged—you had the urge to serve others at whatever cost, so many Army families could welcome home their own sons. And because of you, Stephan's mother Vanessa, who joins us again today, is able to say: "Ty brought Stephan to safety, which, in the end, gave him many more hours on this Earth. Stephan felt at peace." And she added, in the words that speak for all of us, "I'm grateful to Ty more than words can describe." That's something.

God bless you, Ty Carter, and the soldiers of the Black Knight Troop. God bless all our men and women in uniform. God bless the United States of America.

And with that, I would like to have the citation read.

[At this point, Maj. S. Lee Meyer, USMC, Marine Corps Aide to the President, read the citation. The President then presented the medal, assisted by Maj. Michael P. Wagner, USA, Army Aide to the President.]

The President. Well, thank you very much, everybody. I hope you all enjoy the reception. I want to not only thank Ty, but once again thank his extraordinary family, thank his unit, and thank all of you for us being able to acknowledge the extraordinary sacrifices that our men and women in uniform make every single day. And Ty is representative of exactly the kind of people and the quality of people who are serving us. We are grateful to them.

God bless you all. God bless America. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:23 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to S. Sgt. Clinton L. Romesha, USA; Sgt. Bradley D. Larson, USA; Vanessa Adelson, mother of Spc. Stephan L. Mace, USA, who was killed in Afghanistan on October 3, 2009; and Jayden Young, Madison Carter, and Sehora Carter, children of S. Sgt. Carter.

Statement on the Death of Former Representative John J. Gilligan *August 26, 2013*

Jack Gilligan lived his life in service to his fellow Americans, especially those in his home State of Ohio and across the United States who were left out or left behind. During World War II, he earned a Silver Star for his bravery at Okinawa. And he never stopped serving his country: as a Congressman, where he helped enact historic legislation from the Voting Rights Act to Medicare and Medicaid; and then as Governor of Ohio.

In addition to his many other accomplishments, Jack was the father of four extraordinary children, including our Secretary of

Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sebelius. Kathleen followed in the high tradition of public service that Jack set, and they became the first father-daughter team of Governors in American history. She always made her father proud, and I'm proud to have her on my team each and every day. Michelle and I extend our deepest condolences to Kathleen, the entire Gilligan family, and their many friends.

NOTE: The statement referred to Donald D., John P., and Ellen M. Gilligan, children of former Rep. Gilligan.