

Texas—who died on Sunday, May 16. Davida was a devoted wife and mother, and will be dearly missed by those she touched in the East Texas area.

Mrs. Edwards was born September 19, 1921, in Chico, Texas. Her family later moved to Houston where she graduated from Reagan High School, in 1939, and later taught home economics. She expanded her extensive work in education by teaching Adult Homemaking Education classes for the Houston Independent School District. She also worked with the Texas Education Agency as a home-making supervisor, covering 14 counties throughout the great state of Texas.

Mrs. Edwards' loving and caring ways touched every aspect of her community. She was instrumental in forming the East Texas School of Nursing through her extensive travel within the East Texas area recruiting members to fill the first classes. She also assisted in the formation of the Robert Craig School of Nursing at East Texas Baptist University in Marshall, Texas. In addition, Mrs. Edwards served in organizations such as the American Association of University Women, the Deborah Bible Club, Tyler Women's Forum, and was a 48 year member of First Baptist Church where she conducted Sunday School classes for many years. I always felt a kinship to Davida in that her husband, Welby, and I are longtime friends. We are both from Fate, Texas, and John Payne and I have kept in touch with the Edwards through the years.

Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, let us do so in honor and respect for this truly great lady, Mrs. Davida Mount Edwards.

TRIBUTE TO MR. J.D. WILLIAMS, A
TRUE PATRIOT AND PRESI-
DENTIAL "POINT OF LIGHT"

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 1999

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, as our nation prepares to celebrate Independence Day, I would like to pay tribute to an American patriot who never forgot this country's veterans.

Mr. J.D. Williams' selfless attention to the memory of America's veterans was recently highlighted by The Pike County Citizen in Troy, Alabama.

As the newspaper noted: "Anyone who has lived in Pike County . . . no doubt saw the late Mr. Williams honoring the memory of military veterans by placing American flags and white crosses at grave sites of veterans in Pike and six surrounding counties. For decades, practically every day of the week, Mr. Williams would visit cemeteries, locate veterans' graves and, on behalf of his country, pay tribute to their service and sacrifice."

"Funds to purchase the thousands of flags Mr. Williams left at cemeteries came out of his own pocket. The thousands of wooden crosses he placed near grave markers were constructed and painted with his own hands. Not only did Mr. Williams leave flags and crosses at veterans' graves, he also would clean or repair any unkept grave site."

Mr. Williams, the article points out, paid no attention to the color of the deceased veteran or even if they had served in the Confederate Army; just so long as they were veterans.

It was this remarkable dedication to his fellow man and our nation that earned Mr. Williams national recognition as a "Point of Light" from President George Bush some ten years ago.

J.D. Williams passed away in July of 1994, but his self sacrifice is now being honored by the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7055 who have recently placed a permanent American pole on his grave.

At a time in this nation's history when many of our national veterans cemeteries are neglected by our own government, we need more people like J.D. Williams. This House owes him its thanks.

THE NATIONAL PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION'S DAN COOKE PIO AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 1999

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, on July 28, 1995, I addressed the House to salute the achievements of the National Press Photographers Association on its 50th anniversary. I said, in part:

"Through their experience, they know of the necessity for a harmonious working relationship between the public safety and the journalistic communities so that accurate, even lifesaving information can be passed on very quickly to the waiting public. It is through this goal that they created the 'National Media Guide for Emergency & Disaster Incidents.'"

Our nation has continued to face earthquakes, floods, fires, tornadoes, and human tragedies over these past years. Emergency information continues to flow from the scene through media representatives to the public with life-saving instructions and information.

Now, two individuals and their Information Teams are being honored by the National Press Photographers Association. The NPPA Government/Media Relations Committee is pleased to announce the first recipients of the "NPPA Dan Cooke PIO Award of Excellence": Deputy Sheriff Steve Davis of the Jefferson County, Colorado, Sheriff's Department and Assistant Chief Jon Hansen of the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Fire Department.

Deputy Sheriff Davis is being honored for his work in keeping the public informed during the Columbine High School shootings in Colorado. Hansen is cited for his consistent dissemination of information over the years, most notably during the Oklahoma City Federal Office Building bombing and the recent tornadoes that killed and injured many people.

This award is named in memory of Lt. Dan Cooke, a Los Angeles Police Department Press Relations Officer for 22 years. He retired in 1988 after spending 35 years with the department. Cooke was the department's most frequent spokesman on major stories, from Presidential visits to infamous crimes that made headlines worldwide. In addition, he was a technical advisor on many movies and TV programs such as "Dagnet," "Badge 714," and "Adam 12." He became a personal friend to Jack Webb, and Cooke's Lieutenant's badge is the famous "714."

Dan Cooke's high standards are "the best a Press Information Officer can be," said Bob

Riha, Jr., a contract photographer with USA Today from Long Beach, California, and co-chair of the Government/Media Relations Committee.

Within minutes of the horrifying Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, live broadcasts were sent around the world from the scene. Moments later, information flowed to media representatives from Assistant Chief Jon Hansen and his Public Information Team to a worldwide audience for the next several weeks, 24 hours a day. President Clinton even thanked Chief Hansen for his information updates as Federal and State resources raced to the scene to render aid.

Recently, when tornadoes cut across Oklahoma, devastating communities in their path, Chief Hansen continued to provide emergency public information to his community, our nation, and the world, despite losing his own home to the tornadoes.

The Columbine High School shootings were perhaps the most gripping tragedy in our nation in the past several years. As emergency responders arrived at the scene, so did Deputy Sheriff Steve Davis. Once a Media Information Center was established, Deputy Davis and PIO Team members provided updates and information to media representatives as often as necessary to keep his community, our nation, and the world informed.

"Public Information Officers like Davis and Hansen have set new standards for levels of cooperation between the media and public safety providers," said co-chair David Handschuh, staff photographer with the New York Daily News. "The ultimate benefactor of this cooperation is the public, who stays updated and informed in times of crisis."

National Press Photographers Association President Linda Angelle said, "Media, police and fire personnel work in jobs that require them to deal with both traumatic and tragic situations. Davis and Hansen have been recognized for outstanding work in exceptional circumstances and will be presented the Cooke PIO Award of Excellence at our National Convention in Denver July 2, 1999."

Media representatives and Public Information Officers serve a vital role in keeping our communities and the nation informed in times of crisis. I hope that Congress and State Legislatures continue to work together to keep that free flow of information open to the public through media representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF COLONEL M.B. ETHEREDGE

HON. JIM TURNER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 1999

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, a wonderful patriot and fellow Texan, Colonel M.B. Etheredge, who after more than 80 years of dedicated service to his community, to the State of Texas and to this entire Nation, will be honored by his friends and family members at the Family Faith Church in Huntsville, TX, on Sunday, July 4, 1999.

Born in Weldon, TX, Mr. Etheredge graduated from Huntsville High School in 1933. Four years later, he received a bachelor of

Arts Degree from Sam Houston Teacher's College, where he was an active member of the Student Council, Captain of the Track Team and President of his Senior Class.

Following graduation from Sam Houston, he taught in Sugar Land from 1937 to 1941 and then went on to serve as Brazoria County's Superintendent of Schools. In the summer of 1942, Mr. Etheredge enlisted in the United States Army and spent the next four years in Africa, Italy and France. Amazingly, but not surprising to those who knew him, he earned two battlefield promotions and was advanced in rank from second lieutenant to captain in only 6 days. For his dedication and commitment, he has been awarded three Silver Star medals for gallantry in action, two Bronze Star medals for heroism and two Purple Heart medals, making him one of the most decorated heroes of World War II. He was mustered out of the Army with the highest efficiency index of any officer in the Fourth Army Area and now carries the high honor of colonel (Retired) of the United States Army.

After world War II, Mr. Etheredge completed his Master of Arts Degree at Sam Houston Teachers College in 1947. He received a Peabody Scholarship and did postgraduate work at the University of Texas in Austin. Lieutenant Colonel Etheredge was elected to three terms in the Texas House of Representatives, where he served as Chairman of the Education Committee. He also served two terms as a board member of the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce, is a past President of the Huntsville Rotary Club, taught at Sam Houston State University as a Associate Professor of Education, and chartered the American Bank of Huntsville and the Lake Area Bank of Trinity, where he served as Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Etheredge has made a positive impact on the lives of many Americans and personifies the definition of a true and loyal American who sets the standard for all citizens to live by. He is an outstanding example to his family and friends, and has been an asset to the many communities, states and nations that he has touched over the years.

Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere gratitude and the utmost respect that I rise today to ask that you join me and our colleagues in recognizing the selfless service of Colonel M.B. Etheredge and in saluting the honor and dedication of all American servicemen and women on July 4th, the birthday of our Nation.

HONORING CAPTAIN JUAN TUDELA SALAS

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this occasion to commend a man who has dedicated over three decades of faithful service to the United States Coast Guard. Captain Juan Tudela Salas, the first Chamorro selected to attend and graduate from the United States Coast Guard Academy, is slated to retire at the end of this month.

For over thirty years, Captain Salas distinguished himself as one of Guam's top military service members. Having earned a Bachelor of Science degree in General Naval Engineering from the Academy in 1968, he was award-

ed a Coast Guard scholarship that enabled him to earn a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the George Washington University.

In his three decades with the United States Coast Guard, Captain Salas amassed an extensive seagoing record. In addition, he demonstrated expertise in the field of recruiting and marketing. He was assigned to the USCGC *Basswood* from 1972 to 1974. Prior to being appointed Chief of the Military Recruiting Branch of the Twelfth Coast Guard District in San Francisco, Captain Salas served on the USCGC *Red Birch* from 1970 until 1972. In 1974, he was once again assigned to sea duty with the USCGC *Resolute*. From the *Resolute*, he moved on to Washington, D.C., in 1976, to serve as Chief of the Minority Recruiting Branch at the Coast Guard Headquarters. In 1981, he was out at sea once again with the USCGC *Ute*.

From 1983 until 1986, Captain Salas served as the Officer in Charge of the Interdiction Operations Intelligence Center for the Vice President's National Narcotics Border Interdiction system in Miami, Florida. In 1986, he assumed command of the USCGC *Lipan*. While commanding the *Lipan*, he successfully directed the interdiction of four vessels and the seizure of a total of over 20,000 lbs. of marijuana and 5,500 lbs. of cocaine.

Captain Salas was back to recruiting in 1989. He served his last assignment in this field as chief of Recruiting and Job entry Division at coast guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C. As chief, he was responsible for the nation's Coast Guard recruiting programs, directing a nationwide force of 280 recruiters. He served in this capacity until 1992 when he assumed command of the Coast Guard Marianas Section and Marine Safety Office Guam. As commander, he has discharged his duties in such an exemplary manner that his Operations Center staff won the Controller of the Year Award for the entire coast guard in April, 1993. He is currently the Deputy Assistant Commandant for Coast Guard Civil Rights, assuming the position in 1996 after serving as Deputy Commander of the Coast Guard Personnel Command.

Throughout his career, Captain Salas had been awarded 3 Meritorious Service Medals, 2 Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, in addition to numerous unit and operational awards. Outside of the military, he has served on different occasions as president of the Guam Society of America in Washington, D.C. He has also been appointed Honorary Ambassador-at-Large for the island by the governor of Guam.

Captain Salas is married to May Camacho Sanchez Salas, formerly from the village of Barrigada. They have four children. The eldest, LTJG Matthew Salas, followed in his father's footsteps by graduating from the Coast guard Academy in 1996.

Captain Salas' distinguished military career is a great source of pride for the people of Guam. I congratulate him on his outstanding achievements. Together with the people of Guam, I join his family in proudly celebrating his great accomplishments. I hope that he enjoys his well-earned retirement and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

INDIA CELEBRATES NUKES AND DEMONSTRATES INTOLERANCE

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 1999

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, while our attention has been grabbed by Kosovo and China, the situation in India has dropped off our radar screen. While we weren't looking, India has been very busy.

The Indian election campaign began with the ruling party celebrating the anniversary of its nuclear weapons tests last year. These weapons were built out of India's development budget, as the people's health and education continue to decline and the population outside of the Brahmin caste lives in abject poverty.

Meanwhile, the Indian Defense Minister held a meeting looking to find ways to "stop the U.S.," which he called "vulgarly arrogant." Remember that we provide millions of dollars each year to help India pay its bills. How "vulgarly arrogant" of us! Other countries whose representatives attended this meeting included Serbia, China, Cuba, Russia, Libya, and Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, we are talking about a country in which there is little respect for religious freedom. On May 20, the government placed the Jathedar of the Akal Takht, Bhaji Singh, under house arrest. Since Christmas, there has been a wave of violence against Christians. A missionary has been burned to death along with his two young sons, nuns have been raped, priests have been murdered, and Christian churches, prayer halls, and schools have been burned to the ground by allies of the Indian government.

As if all that weren't enough, we have received word that Indian intelligence officers interrogated a journalist named Sikhbir Singh Osan for 45 minutes. For him to have been grilled and harassed by police would have been bad enough, but he was harassed by intelligence officers after he returned from the U.S., Canada, and the U.K., where he covered the recent Sikh 300th anniversary marches and gave a speech on the persecution of Christians.

The government of India is intolerant and anti-American. They do not allow freedom of religion or, apparently, of the press. I am proud to have joined several of my colleagues of both parties in co-sponsoring a resolution that calls for a free and fair plebiscite in Punjab, Khalistan on the question of independence. Freedom is America's mission. By taking steps against the anti-American government of India, we can help promote and extend the blessings of liberty to another corner of the world. We must get started.

DESIGNATION OF EL CAMINO REAL DE LOS TEJAS AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 1999

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am privileged to introduce legislation that would designate the Camino Real de los Tejas as a National Historic Trail. This camino real, or