

colleagues joined me in support of this legislation. This issue points to something that we are lacking in this country—medical freedom. In the United States, a country based on freedom, we are not guaranteed the freedom to make our own health care choices. Americans are tired of this and I will continue working to change this.

We also looked at the role of improving care at the end of life. We learned that 38,000 World War II veterans die each month. Many of them die alone and in pain. Our veterans deserve better from us and I will continue to work to improve this.

We learned that the hospice approach to care, which many of us know from personal family experience has great benefit, that has been underutilized. We also learned that many complementary therapies such as music therapy, touch therapy, aromatherapy, massage, whole life review, and acupuncture offer a great benefit to the terminally ill. The importance of the hospice team approach was stressed as well. That is a team of patient, and care givers, doctor, nurse, chaplain, home health aid, social worker, and the tireless hospice volunteer working to offer care to the terminally ill and their family. Comfort rather than curative care is offered and oftentimes when spiritual, relationship, and personal healing can take place.

We will continue working on these issues as well as working with the White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy and improving our health care system with the integration of complementary and alternative therapies.

IN MEMORY OF DR. CONRADT

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of the Fourth District of Texas, the late Dr. L.W. "Bob" Conradt of Terrell, who died on November 8. Dr. Conradt was an active and beloved member of his community—and he will be dearly missed.

Dr. Bob Conradt served Terrell as an excellent doctor. After closing his office where he practiced medicine for 26 years, he joined Blue Cross-Blue Shield as a Vice-President and medical director and served in that capacity until he retired in 1986. His community endeavors included membership in the Kaufman County Medical Society and the Texas Medical Association, as well as serving as President of the Terrell Independent School District School Board from 1963 to 1970. He also was a member of the Executive Committee of the Texas Association of School Boards, and active member of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, and a Scout Master for the Terrell Boy Scouts. As evidenced in all of these commitments, Dr. Conradt gave his time and energy to helping make Terrell a better place in which to live.

Dr. Bob Conradt was born in Lometa, Texas on March 9, 1921, to the late Albert Herman and Lennie Mae Cornelius Conradt. He attended Tarleton State University, the University of Texas, Baylor College of Medicine and graduated in the very first class of the Univer-

sity of Texas Southwestern School of Medicine in 1944. He served in the U.S. Army while attending medical school, and upon graduation he was stationed at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas as the General Medical Officer. In 1947, his military service was completed and Dr. Conradt moved his family back to Terrell, where he began his medical practice.

Throughout his distinguished career as a doctor in Terrell, Dr. Conradt received many recognitions, including Terrell Rotary Citizen of the Year in 1965, President of the Society of Life Insurance Medical Directors in 1985, and Advisory Trustee to the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Dallas from 1962 to 1967.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Montie K. Conradt and his daughter, Montie Cathleen Conradt. He is survived by his son, Bill Conradt; a daughter, Patricia Conradt; grandsons, Tracy and Rob Morgan; son-in-law, Joe Morgan; and many other family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, Bob was one of a kind—and we will miss him. As we adjourn today, let us do so in memory of Dr. L.W. "Bob" Conradt.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN CANADY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to man who has not only been an outstanding Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, but also a good friend and a help to me during my time in Congress. CHARLES CANADY, first elected in 1992, has been a leader on Judiciary issues, and a shining example of a citizen legislator who kept his word, and now returns to his home state of Florida to pursue other endeavors.

There are two issues on which I have especially appreciated Congressman CANADY's legal knowledge and leadership. The first is the issue of partial-birth abortion. Congressman CANADY has been an eloquent and persistent voice on behalf of the most innocent and defenseless in our society. Although the outcome of his diligent efforts may not yet be what we would have hoped, his vigilance will be the foundation on which we will one day build the law that will outlaw this barbaric procedure.

The other issue is Congressman CANADY's effort to protect religious liberty in America. Responding to the constant attacks on the free exercise of religion, Congressman CANADY has led the fight to restore the Constitutional protections for religious expression that our Founders intended, and to ensure that people of faith need not live as second class citizens in a nation that was founded on the principle that religion was an integral part of societal life.

For these reasons, and for many more, I thank Congressman CANADY for his service in Congress, and for his friendship. I wish him Godspeed in his pursuits upon his return home to Florida.

COMMEMORATING THE ARDENNES AMERICAN CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, on December 4, 2000, 1 and my good friend from California, Representative SAM FARR, had the honor and privilege of visiting the Ardennes American Cemetery and Memorial, near the village of Neupre in Belgium. The visit was an extremely moving experience, and I am grateful to have had the opportunity not only to view the beautifully maintained cemetery and memorial, but to lay a wreath in honor of the Americans who gave their lives in protection of their nation and the liberation of Europe.

The Ardennes American Cemetery is one of 14 permanent American World War 11 military cemeteries constructed on foreign soil by the American Battle Monuments Commission. It lies among the battlefields of the Ardennes plateau, across which American and Allied forces courageously fought their way first to the German frontier, then to the Rhine River, and eventually into the very heart of Nazi Germany. On December 16, 1944, a major German counteroffensive stalled the Allied advancement across the Ardennes. The "Battle of the Bulge," as the Ardennes-Alsace Campaign has come to be known, proved to be a furious struggle in bitter cold and harsh conditions, and in the first days of 1945, all attacks ground to a halt. On February 2, 1945, the First U.S. Army struck out to the Roer River. Six days later, the Canadian First Army advanced to the southeast, followed by a converging attack in the northeast by the Ninth U.S. Army. In the following weeks, the Allies found success and continued their march eastward toward the Rhine River. By the end of March, Allied armies, including French forces, advanced into Germany across a broad front.

Allied forces liberated the site of the Ardennes American Cemetery in September 1944, and a temporary cemetery was established on February 8, 1945. After the war, the remains of American military personnel buried in temporary cemeteries were moved to the new permanent foreign cemeteries upon the request of next of kin. Many of those interred at the Ardennes American Cemetery died during the Battle of the Bulge and the subsequent offenses and counter-offenses in the region.

The beauty and grandeur of the cemetery and memorial at Ardennes quietly convey the courage and sacrifice of the Americans who lost their lives on foreign soil while fighting for the highest principles on which their nation was established. The grounds and visitor center are wonderfully maintained by a diligent and knowledgeable staff. In particular, I would like to thank the Cemetery Superintendent, Hans Hooker, and his wife Virginia, for the wonderful treatment our delegation received on our visit. I would also like to recognize Vincent Joris for his valuable contribution in the upkeep of cemetery.

One of the more interesting and heartwarming aspects of the Ardennes cemetery is the support and commitment shown to it by the people of Belgium. In fact, 85 percent of the soldiers' graves at Ardennes are "sponsored" by a Belgian family, who watch over

the site, ensure that it is in a good state of repair, and even place flowers or other memorials at the grave on special occasions. All Americans should be very grateful for this outpouring of fellowship and allegiance by the people of Belgium.

Representative FARR and I were honored to be the first members of Congress to visit the Ardennes Cemetery and Memorial in its 55 year history. As we laid a wreath for those who perished during World War 11, and gazed upon the crisp rows of white crosses, I was struck by a sense of awe, pride and humility. Over 5,000 men are buried at Ardennes, more than 100 of which hailed from my home state of Wisconsin. Men from almost every state are buried there, as well soldiers from 11 countries. The unity of effort to defeat Nazism and fascism is reflected in the solemnity of the individual grave markers creating the greater unit of a single, expansive cross.

I encourage all Americans to take advantage of the enriching experience of visiting U.S. battle memorials and cemeteries when traveling overseas. Such excursions give individuals and families an opportunity to reunite with their past—to find and touch the graves of friends and loved ones lost in the great battles of the 20th Century, or simply to study a chapter of American history in surroundings that inspire both pride and reflection. In fact, in Fiscal Year 1999, over 10 million visitors were hosted by the American Battle Monument Commission, at 24 permanent cemeteries and 27 memorials located in 15 countries around the globe.

I also commend the Commission and their staff worldwide for their dedication to the preservation of American graves, American history, and American principles. As the battles of the World Wars begin to fade into history, it is important that we, as a nation, recognize and reflect on our past involvements across the oceans. These experiences shaped the course of our Nation's greatness in the years since, and neither those events, nor the men and women who perished in their making, should ever be forgotten.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
DR. ROBERT ALEXANDER UPON
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
AT AIKEN

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to recognize the impressive achievements of Dr. Robert Alexander. On June 30, 2000, Dr. Alexander retired from his position as Chancellor of the University of South Carolina at Aiken. He has been a leader in the Aiken community and his retirement leaves a great void in South Carolina Higher Education.

Dr. Alexander was born in the small coastal town of Kinston, North Carolina. A product of the public school system, Dr. Alexander earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Duke University, and later a Masters of Divinity.

In addition, Dr. Alexander received management certification from the University of South Carolina and the Harvard Business School.

Before earning his Doctorate in Higher Education in 1977 from the University of South Carolina, he held a number of administrative posts in student services. Following receipt of his doctorate he became an Associate Professor in the College of Education and later served as an Associate Vice President of the University of South Carolina system.

In 1983, Dr. Alexander, his wife Leslie, and their son Robert moved to Aiken.

From the beginning, Dr. Alexander used his management expertise and experience to magnify the University of South Carolina at Aiken's (USC-Aiken) already vital role in South Carolina. He worked tirelessly with leaders from business, government, and the education communities to forge new avenues of cooperation that benefited USC-Aiken and the people it serves.

Under Dr. Alexander's leadership, USC-Aiken, once a small branch of the University of South Carolina, is now thriving. Enrollment has doubled, and student/faculty ratios are among the lowest within South Carolina's state assisted four year public institutions. Undergraduate degree programs have tripled, and several graduate programs have become a part of the university.

USC-Aiken has seen dramatic improvements in its infrastructure during Dr. Alexander's tenure. Among them are the expansion of the Gregg-Graniteville Library and the Etheredge Center for Fine Arts in 1986, and the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center and the School of Nursing Building in 1999; construction of a state-of-the-art Sciences Building in 1989; the Children's Center and the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center in 1991; the Business Education Building in 1994; the DuPont Planetarium in 1995; the natatorium in 1997; relocation of the historic Pickens-Salley House to the USC-Aiken Campus; and acquisition of Pacer Downs student apartments.

Due in large part to his efforts, the endowment of USC-Aiken is now more than \$11 million with 13 endowed faculty chairs. This endowment allows USC-Aiken to offer programs and services not usually found at state-assisted institutions of similar size.

He worked diligently with the US Department of Commerce and the BellSouth Foundation to create the Rural Alliance for Teaching Enhancement. This Alliance significantly enhances the educational opportunities of students in rural public schools in a 10 county area by providing technological support.

Recently USC-Aiken received significant awards from the National Endowment for Humanities, the John Olin Foundation, and the National Science Foundation. These awards will contribute to the operations of the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center and the Economic Enterprise Institute.

Perhaps the most significant legacy of Dr. Alexander is the enhanced regional, state, and national reputation USC-Aiken has developed during his tenure. In 1999, U.S. News and World Report recognized USC-Aiken as one of the top three regional public liberal arts colleges in the Southeast. In their 2000 rankings, USC-Aiken is ranked second. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the National League of Nursing, and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education also recognize the many quality educational programs offered at USC-Aiken.

Dr. Alexander's commitment to the community does not end with the university. He is an

honorary member of the USC-Aiken Alumni Association. He also is an active member in the Aiken Rotary Club where he served as a member of the Rotary International District Scholarship Committee and on its board of directors. He also served on the Executive Committee of Security Federal Bank, the Executive Committee for the Economic Development Partnership of Aiken and Edgefield Counties, as a member of the board of trustees for Aiken Regional Medical Centers, on the vestry of St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church, and continues his work with the Diocese of Upper South Carolina's youth programs.

He once served as Chairman of the Savannah River Regional Diversification Initiative created by the US Department of Energy. He served on the board of directors for the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce where he was president in 1987, the United Way of Aiken County, and the Business Technology Center. Dr. Alexander held positions on the advisory board of Citizens and Southern National Bank of South Carolina, and the Aiken County Commission on the Future. He is also a past trustee of Hopeland Gardens and a chairman of the Peach Belt Athletic Conference.

He served as the Chairman of the South Carolina Council of State College and University Presidents as well as their representative on the Business Advisory Council of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, on the executive committee of South Carolina 2000 where he spearheaded the development of the South Carolina University Research Consortium, as a member of the Commission of the Future of South Carolina, South Carolina Council of Economic Education, Vice President of the Strom Thurmond Foundation, Board of Visitors for the Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Nationally, Dr. Alexander was appointed to the National Advisory Committee of Student Financial Assistance in 1991 and served as the committee chair from 1995-1997, past chair of the Modernization Task Force of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, past member of board of director for the Institute for Continuing Education for the National University Continuing Education Association, and past member and institutional representative for the Association for Higher Continuing Education.

Through all of his hard work and determination to make a difference, Dr. Alexander has collected many deserving awards and honors.

In 1999, he received the Earl Kauffman Award from the USC-Aiken Academy for Lifelong Learning for his commitment to providing educational opportunities for senior citizens. The Student Personnel Association at the University of South Carolina awarded him the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year in 1996. In 1990, the University of South Carolina Black Faculty and Professional Staff Association honored him with an honorable mention award for Affirmative Action. The South Carolina Association of Higher Continuing Education presented him with the Outstanding President's Award in 1987. In 1985, Dr. Alexander was selected as Man of the Year by the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce.

He reached the pinnacle of service to the State of South Carolina in May of this year when he was bestowed the Order of the Palmetto, the highest designation the governor awards to an individual.