

friend, Wally Morics, as their Man of the Year for 2001.

TRIBUTE TO THE HON. GERALD  
B.H. SOLOMON

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 1, 2001*

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, Jerry Solomon was a great American. I think those of us who had the privilege to serve with him in the Congress know that he would consider this one of the finest compliments he could receive.

He loved this Country. He was a Marine and proud of it. He was a patriot in the very best sense of that word.

He was a loyal Republican who fought hard for the things he believed in. But he also had as many friends on the other side of the aisle as anyone in the House.

I always called him my Leader, because I respected him so much that I always watched to see how he voted and then usually followed his lead.

This Nation is a better place because of Jerry Solomon. He was one of the finest men I have ever known, and I want, in this small way, to express my great appreciation for his service and my heartfelt condolences to his family.

TRIBUTE TO THE HON. GERALD  
B.H. SOLOMON

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 1, 2001*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, October 26th, my good friend Jerry Solomon passed away after suffering congestive heart failure. What a great loss for this institution and for the constituents he once served.

Jerry was a Member of this Chamber for 10 terms serving from 1979–1999. Ask anyone who served with him, and they will remember him as an outspoken and tenacious advocate for his views and constituents.

I knew Jerry well and he was second to none in this Chamber. In losing Jerry, we lost a tremendous patriot and committed public servant. He was often referred to by his fellow colleagues as “the Pit Bull of the House.”

And, although he enjoyed his work in Washington and in the International arena, he always said his greatest enjoyment came from successfully helping people back home in his district cope with problems they had with the Federal bureaucracy.

He was very proud of the often repeated comments on the streets back in his district that “you may not always agree with Jerry Solomon, but you sure as hell know where he stands on the issues.” His commuting back home every weekend catapulted him to reelection usually by overwhelming 3–1 margins during his ten terms in Congress.

Jerry Solomon also devoted more than fifty years of his life in active involvement with the

Boy Scouts of America, having been a Cub Scout, Boy Scout, scoutmaster, and serving as an advisor to numerous scout councils.

In support of the scouting movement he also founded the Gerald B.H. Solomon Freedom Foundation as a not-for-profit charitable organization whose goals are to preserve and promote freedom and democracy and to specifically provide college scholarships to high school students who attain Boy and Girl Scout's highest awards. He was recently honored by Twin Rivers Council Boy Scouts of America where he received the James E. West “Good Scout Award” for almost six decades of service to scouting.

During his Congressional career, which spanned 20 years serving in the House of Representatives, Jerry devoted most of his time to the issues of veterans, senior citizens, foreign policy, national defense, the war on drugs, and the budget.

During the 1980's, Jerry was one of thirteen House members that served on President Ronald Reagan's group of congressional advisors and floor generals for foreign policy, national defense and budgetary initiatives.

As a veteran member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, a Committee on which I also served, and as chairman of the National Defense Task Force, Jerry Solomon was instrumental in helping to develop President Reagan's “Peace Through Strength” policies that helped bring down the Soviet Union.

During President Reagan's tenure, he appointed Jerry Solomon to serve in dual capacities as Ambassador Delegate to the United Nations and Congressional Advisor to the U.N. Session on Disarmament.

Starting in 1980, Jerry served for 18 years as the Republican representative to the North Atlantic Assembly, the political arm of NATO. He also served as chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives NATO Observer Group, responsible for promoting the enlargement of NATO.

After the break-up of the Soviet Union, Jerry co-chaired the Task Force on Developing Parliamentary Institutions where he helped establish libraries and computer communications systems for twenty-one former communist countries like Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and the Baltics.

Jerry Solomon recently parlayed his vast knowledge and years of experience into a book, “NATO in the Twenty-First Century.”

During his entire Congressional career, Congressman Solomon, Jerry to all his friends and colleagues, was recognized as one of the most fiscally conservative members of Congress, fighting deficit spending, long before it became fashionable, forcing his own balanced budget onto the floor of the House of Representatives. He also authored a book on how and why a balanced budget is needed.

In his capacity as Chairman of the Rules Committee, he revamped the rules under which the House operates, abolishing proxy voting, opening all meetings to the media and the public, making Congress subject to the same laws that the American people live under and he reduced the size and power of Congress by eliminating many Committees and Subcommittees resulting in one-third fewer Congressional employees.

As a young man Jerry enlisted in the Marines where he served for 8½ years on active and reserve duty. As a Congressman, his fondness and respect for the Marines never

waned. As the Ranking Republican on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, he was recognized by the veteran's community as one of their strongest advocates.

He authored the bill that created the cabinet level Department of Veterans' Affairs and co-authored the establishment of the new peacetime G.I. Bill.

Two awards presented to him that he cherished most were being selected by the United States Marine Corps and Marine Corps League to receive the coveted “Iron Mike Award” previously given to a select few like John Wayne, Bob Hope, Howard K. Smith, and several former commandants of the Corps.

The other recognition being the Distinguished Citizen Award presented to him by the National Congressional Medal of Honor Society for his legislative successes on behalf of the United States military and veterans issues.

Who do you call when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that laws prohibiting the burning of the flag was unconstitutional? Jerry Solomon, the “Pit Bull of the House” was given the assignment to pass a constitutional amendment prohibiting desecration of the flag. The Solomon Amendment passed overwhelmingly in the House but failed by one vote in the Senate.

It is with great sadness that I bid my good friend, Jerry Solomon, farewell. May he always be remembered for the good father and husband that he was, and his relentless efforts to promote pride, patriotism and volunteerism. He proudly and unabashedly showcased his love for his family and his country every day of his life.

ADVANCING INNOVATION—GUARANTEEING THE LONG TERM VIABILITY OF AMERICA'S HIGH-TECH ECONOMY

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 5, 2001*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to state my support for the settlement reached between the Justice Department and Microsoft last Friday. This deal will bring to a close the long-standing anti-trust battle that has affected the entire computer technology industry. Though some wish the deal had gone further, I believe it strikes the necessary balance, respecting Microsoft's strength and success while maintaining healthy competition in the technology sector. I believe it is an important step to restoring our nation's dynamic economy. I agree with Microsoft's Chairman Bill Gates that the settlement is fair, reasonable, and the right thing for the software industry.

Microsoft has long been an innovative leader. Microsoft stands as an example of the excellence of American enterprise. I respect Microsoft's role provided they leave the door open for the significant contribution and innovation of other firms. I admire Microsoft's commitment to the settlement and its ongoing commitment to improving its revolutionary software. I am confident that Microsoft will make the necessary changes to assuage and prove false its competitors who attack the company's cutting-edge productivity products as predatory. I am glad that both parties could come to

an agreement that respects the important contributions Microsoft has made and will continue to make and that insures free competition, the hallmark of America's economy.

I am sure everyone involved would have preferred for this arrangement to be reached earlier. Still, the settlement is an important step in closing Microsoft's legal battles and allowing them time to focus on improving the way America does business. Both Microsoft and the Justice Department made significant compromises during the course of the settlement; I am pleased with the efforts of both parties and look forward to the energy this settlement will undoubtedly bring to the technology sector.

More than either party, consumers will benefit with Microsoft to focus fully on technological innovation, and with a more open market. Microsoft's settlement comes at a particularly advantageous time for New York and the rest of the country. America's premier software firm has much to offer the country through our current economic downturn. After substantial negotiations, the settlement has already strengthened the Stock Exchange and our economy. I am sure that Microsoft and her many competitors will be a crucial piece in leading our nation back to economic prosperity.

PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER MEDAL OF VALOR  
IN RESPONSE TO TERRORIST ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 30, 2001*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I also rise in support of H. Con. Res. 243 sponsored by Congressman JOSEPH CROWLEY. My wife DeDe and I would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Congressman CROWLEY and his family for the tragic loss of his cousin, John Moran, a Battalion Chief in the New York Fire Department, who died during the attacks on the World Trade Center.

Since September 11 we have listened to a myriad of accounts focusing on courageous men and woman, often referred to as "guardian angels" who lost their lives during sheer acts of bravery at the World Trade Center and Pentagon. We have continued to watch firefighters, law enforcement officers, and emergency assistance personnel work around the clock as they tirelessly assist in the rescue and recovery efforts. We have been able to listen and focus on these heroes who have put their lives first and have displayed true loyalty and dedication to their role as emergency leaders.

The Medal of Valor is a symbol of our country's appreciation to all of those who have served over and beyond their basic duty and have helped us to rise from this great challenge. This medal ensures that these acts of courage on and after September 11 will never be forgotten. Their endurance and bravery has given us the unconditional strength to move forward and to focus on the positive energy that so many role models have displayed during these tragic times. Whether it be those who lost their lives or those who continue to

assist in recovery projects, we have been able to look up to these heroes who have motivated us to reach out and unite.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF ELIZABETH'S FIRE DEPARTMENT RESCUE COMPANY #1

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 5, 2001*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rescue Company #1 from the Elizabeth, New Jersey, Fire Department for their bravery and valor in the wake of the September 11th terrorist attacks. On November 7th, the Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce will honor Rescue Company #1 with a special ceremony at the New Loews Theatre at Jersey Gardens Mall.

Rescue Company #1 was among the group of first responders to the World Trade Center after units from the New York Fire Department Rescue Squad parished in the collapse of the buildings. From September 11th until September 20th, this crew assisted in the hazardous recovery efforts. Working lengthy shifts and risking their own lives and well-being, this crew searched for survivors in smoldering heat and dangerous structures.

Since 1837, men and women from the Elizabeth Fire Department have continuously put themselves in harm's way to save lives and property. Through their courageous efforts, the Elizabeth Fire Department has served with honor and bravery.

The spirited and valiant efforts of our nation's firefighters are often overlooked or taken for granted. Therefore, I would like to extend my sincerest thanks and gratitude to the Elizabeth Fire Department for all they have done to ensure the safety and welfare of those who reside in New Jersey's 13th Congressional District.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Rescue Company #1 for their immeasurable contributions. The Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce could not honor a more deserving group than Rescue Company #1—remarkable individuals, who continue to inspire a nation.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WILBERT TEE LAWTON

**HON. JOSE E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 5, 2001*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Wilbert Tee Lawton. Mr. Lawton is the organizer of the Annual Legislative Breakfast which is hosted by Mount Hope Housing Company, a remarkable community development organization based in the Bronx, New York. This year, the 3rd Annual Legislative Breakfast takes place on November 2, 2001.

This annual breakfast brings together hundreds of legislators, business representatives, and community activists interested in the future of the Bronx. Ideas are shared, plans are made, and a spirit of change and empower-

ment is rampant as great minds come together at this event. The spirit of unity has always been present in the Bronx, but in the wake of the recent tragedies, it now reigns. This year's breakfast manifests a deeper sense of unity. Participants of the 3rd Annual Legislative Breakfast will continue to advance the resurgence of the Bronx community. They are aware that reaching our full potential as a community will serve as a stabilizing force for local business and educational initiatives and will also provide invaluable benefits to Bronx youth.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Tee Lawton has been committed to making the Bronx a safer and more enjoyable place to live for over 20 years. He serves on a host of advisory boards and chairs the Echo Park "Drug Free, Proud To Be" Day, along with other youth-oriented events in the Bronx community. Mr. Lawton has made significant changes in the areas of drug abuse treatment, housing, local business development, environmental protection, health, and education.

Mr. Lawton has been a dynamic force in the Bronx and his experience is extensive. Mr. Lawton is an active member of the Goodwill Baptist Church, where he coordinates youth programs including the supervision of internship placements. He is fund-raising chairman for the Crotona Park Family Day. Mr. Lawton also sits on board of directors of Bronx Lebanon Hospital. He is active in several tenants associations and sits on advisory boards for Con Edison and Bell Atlantic. Mr. Speaker, I've mentioned only a portion of Mr. Lawton's civic activities. Remarkably, Mr. Lawton does all of these things while being an attentive husband and father. His dedication to social change makes him a valuable asset to the Bronx.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Tee Lawton on his many outstanding achievements and in wishing him continued success.

SECURE TRANSPORTATION FOR AMERICA ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 1, 2001*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3150) to improve aviation security, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3150, the Secure Transportation Security Enhancement Act of 2001. Mr. Chairman, this legislation is a misguided attempt to provide security for our nation's airport system. This legislation continues to rely on federal oversight of airport security rather than taking the additional steps to make airport security a federal responsibility. Therefore, H.R. 3150 does not meet the stringent test needed for adequately protecting the public.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 3150 is about seven weeks late in making its way to the floor of the House of Representatives. We all realize that patience will be required in our current war against terrorism. This will be a long journey. Nevertheless, this Congress must be diligent