

sister Elizabeth Engel; and 6 grandchildren. He was a wonderful father, devoted husband, and beloved grandfather. Mr. Speaker, this was one of those men who made a lasting impact in everything that he did. We will remember with great respect everything this kind and caring man did for his community—Mr. Herman A. Engel.

MICHAEL VANG INVESTIGATION

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to recognize a dark anniversary for one of my constituents. Three years ago, Suzie Vang lost her friend and husband to unknown circumstances in Laos.

On April 19, 1999, Michael Vang and Mr. Houa Ly, a resident of Appleton, WI, both Americans, were traveling along the border between Laos and Thailand. According to eyewitnesses, the U.S. congressional research missions, nongovernmental organizations and other sources both Ly and Vang were seized by Lao Government authorities. Despite the building evidence, the Lao Government continues to deny knowledge of their whereabouts or the role of government security forces in their abduction.

The State Department has been asked repeatedly by Members of Congress to vigorously investigate and resolve this case since it was first reported in early May 1999. It is certainly true that we have received some assistance from them. However, there continues to be a lack of results. This is not surprising considering that the State Department continues to pursue an investigation in cooperation with the regime in Laos—a regime involved with their disappearance. While the State Department continues their slow and seemingly never-ending investigation, the trail grows colder.

We need a renewed effort. We need to initiate a new independent investigation free from coordination with the government of Laos. Three years is long enough. And, as long as this case goes unresolved, I will continue to oppose Normal Trade Relations (NTR) status for Laos.

HONORING THOMAS E. BRUNK UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Mr. Thomas E. Brunk, upon his retirement from the Federal Government after 33 years of distinguished and dedicated service to Northern Virginia, our Nation, and the Department of Defense.

Tom's career truly can be described as an American success story. Tom began his career as a young intern in Oklahoma, somewhat bewildered by the sights and sounds of the bustling air logistics center. Now, more than three decades later, he will end his ca-

reer as a member of the Senior Executive Service and as the deputy director and the highest-ranking civilian of the Defense Contract Management Agency, a worldwide organization of 12,000 employees responsible for ensuring that the supplies and materials going to our Military Services—our men and women in uniform—are delivered on-time and are of the highest quality. His contribution has been particularly notable over the last nine years as contingency contract management has been needed to support America's military deployments at locations around the world.

Despite his relative youth, Tom quickly demonstrated exceptional managerial skills in support of major aerospace systems, including the B-2 aircraft and the Peacekeeper missile. With great vigilance and a strong sense of duty, he led operations reviews at dozens of major Defense contractors, and after having proved his mettle on the plant floor, steadily advanced to positions of increasing responsibility. In 1990 he accepted an appointment to the Defense Department's principle contract-management organization, the Defense Contract Management Command. In this capacity, Tom has been a stalwart standard bearer in the Department's pursuit of acquisition excellence.

The capstone of Tom's career came in March 2000, when he spearheaded the establishment of the Defense Contract Management Agency, a combat-support organization responsible for the management of 310,000 government contracts cumulatively valued at more than \$100 billion. As deputy director since the agency's inception, Mr. Brunk has brought to bear his considerable managerial, technical, and interpersonal skills to ensure America's fighting forces receive the material support they need to protect and defend our nation. He has helped DCMA earn a place of prominence in the Department's technology revolution, as evidenced by his role in the development and deployment of the Standard Procurement System, a Department-wide purchasing and payment system that will replace a jumble outmoded and disparate programs that for years have bedeviled financial management with the Defense community.

Whether it is on the flight line at an air logistics center in Oklahoma City, on the plant floor at a manufacturing plant in St. Louis, or at a negotiations table in the Nation's capital, Tom Brunk served with dignity, commitment, and integrity. On the occasion of his retirement from the Federal Civilian Service, I offer my congratulations and thanks to this long-time resident of Northern Virginia, and wish him and his wife, Sharon, well in their future pursuits.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish the very best to Mr. Brunk as he is recognized for his years of service to the Federal Government, the people of Northern Virginia and our nation. He certainly has earned this recognition, and I call upon all of my colleague to join me in applauding this remarkable service.

IN MEMORY OF GALE CINCOTTA

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during this reflective season of Ramadan, Passover, and

Lent, I have been reflecting on friends whose lives closely paralleled the stories of sacrifice in the Holy Books. It is this reflection that calls to my mind Mrs. Gale Cincotta of Chicago, who passed from this life to the next on August 15, 2001. I am grateful for the opportunity to encapsulate her life's work for the RECORD.

Born of humble origin and reared in Chicago's Austin neighborhood, Gale became a neighborhood activist and then national leader as her personal knowledge of injustice led her on a passionate journey. Her dissatisfaction with her sons' educational opportunities spurred her to address the issue. She became impassioned with the root causes of an inadequate educational system: poverty, lack of decent and affordable housing and the resulting decaying neighborhoods. As her understanding grew about these issues, Gale found her true vocation. Armed initially only with a small but vocal band of neighborhood residents, Gale began a crusade which would eventually lead her to national prominence. She was, the Chicago Tribune noted upon her death, "one of the most effective community activists in the nation." I would add that she had extraordinary vision, a sharp intellect, a love of those without voice or power, and a boundless sense of humor.

Feisty, blustery, and with a keen ability to cajole or badger those with influence and power into doing what needed to be done, Gale earned the respect of all with whom she worked whether or not they agreed with her. Her passion was unmistakable, her commitment unwavering, and her expertise unparalleled. She taught many people, including myself, what being a neighborhood activist is really all about: it is about changing people's lives for the better. It is about helping them gain power to improve the condition of people's lives.

Though responsible for many changes in neighborhood development and revitalization, lending practices and housing concerns across our nation, Gale's greatest public accomplishment was gaining Congressional approval of the Community Reinvestment Act in 1977. Passage of this Act, now a cornerstone of neighborhood financing that has released billions of dollars of private credit to formerly red-lined neighborhoods, was considered by the Chicago Tribune Gale's "single greatest triumph." Ever the champion of marginal neighborhoods, she persuaded not only elected officials but also bankers, insurance companies, landlords, and business leaders that neighborhood investment—while being the right thing to do—could also be profitable. She taught them that the savings of people of ordinary means should not be drained from their neighborhoods, but made available for reinvestment. Her work made the capitalist system work in some of the most neglected corners of our nation. Her tireless and unmatched efforts yielded visible results by turning faded city blocks into flourishing neighborhoods from coast to coast. Gale organized other programs and works, and many awards and accolades were bestowed upon her through the years, but surely none meant as much to her as the lasting legacy of the Community Reinvestment Act and the people and communities it still helps.

Gale Cincotta lives on in the seeds she planted in the hearts of the people she served and the minds of those she battled with and against to make people's lives better. She

never yielded. She once said to me that the media had convinced Americans they were all "middle class" and that had bred a dangerous political complacency among the working class of people and the poor, who struggled daily to gain an economic foothold in our country. Their interests will not be served by false images of how hard and political this struggle is really.

The new director of the organization she founded, the National Training and Information Center, recalled that Gale—a mother of six sons and a widow—loved to dance. His message to the people upon taking the reigns as director began with a quote from an old Shaker hymn. The words seem to sum up Gale's legacy quite well: "They buried my body and they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on." Surely, she lives among us.

IN MEMORY OF M.L. "MIKE"
ANGLIN

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I speak today in memory of M.L. "Mike" Anglin, of Longview, Texas, a beloved member of his community, a veteran and loving father, who passed away at the age of 85.

Mike spent his life serving his country and community. He was the Commander of the American Legion Post #140 for over 30 years. Because of his long service there, he was saluted as the Texas State American Legion veteran of the year on three separate occasions. He was a Lieutenant in World War II but became a General for his veterans back in East Texas. Without his help, VFW posts 4002, 1183, 140 and 131 would not have even existed. He also worked to obtain the Veterans Clinic in Longview. Beyond the American Legion, Mike was active in 4-H, March of Dimes, Boys and Girls State and was one of the original organizers of the East Texas State Fair.

This loving family-man is survived by his wife, Zelma, two daughters, Celia and Cynthia, three sisters and a granddaughter. He not only loved his county but cared for its people. East Texas has lost a unique individual and he will be missed. We will remember with sadness the passing of a true American, a beloved father, and a legend in East Texas who will not easily be forgotten—M.L. "Mike" Anglin.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ELI
MARTINEZ

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart and yet great pride that I take this opportunity to pay respect to a United States Marine, Eli Martinez. Eli was killed over a year ago during training exercise at the age of twenty-one. He was a well-respected young man who is dearly missed by the community

of Trinidad, Colorado who relied on him for his willingness and desire to help others. His legacy of kindness now has the opportunity to pass on through the efforts of his mother, Marie Martinez. She has recently established a memorial fund to continue Eli's quest to better his surroundings and his community. As she begins this quest, I would like to recognize her son before this body of Congress, and this nation.

According to his mother, Eli's purpose and goal in life was to simply help others in any way possible. At the age of seventeen, he could often be found praying for those in need, those who were sick, and those who were less fortunate. He reached out and touched the lives of people from all walks of life in Trinidad, regardless of age, class, or religion, and was known as a truly kind soul. Eli felt that the ultimate gift to others was to serve them in difficult and trying circumstances. He joined the Marines at the age of eighteen and was well respected amongst his fellow Marines, and officers. Like many members of our armed forces, Eli believed that it is every young person's duty to be willing to pay the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Unfortunately Eli was called upon to pay that price, but his memory lives on. The new Eli Martinez Foundation Fund, created by Marie Martinez, will continue the work that Eli began. Contributions to the fund will go to a variety of causes close to Eli's heart, including the homeless and troubled youths.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Eli Martinez for his contributions to the Trinidad community and to our nation. His dedication to his community, his fellow man, and to the protection of our freedoms deserves the recognition of this body of Congress, and a grateful nation. Eli is a fine example for young people of this country who strive to better themselves and improve the lives of others. Although Eli has left us, his selfless spirit will live on through the lives of those he touched, and through the efforts of his mother, Marie. Eli, thank you for your service, you will be greatly missed.

ON THE PASSING OF RABBI
ISRAEL MILLER

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rabbi Israel Miller—a great leader of our Jewish Community and a great American.

Rabbi Miller was a man of vision. As president of the Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, he combined passion with dignity in his negotiations with foreign governments. He was able to achieve a landmark compensation agreement for the criminal theft that was part of the Nazi barbarity against the Jewish people.

Rabbi Miller played an outstanding role in American Jewish life. He served as chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations and was its spokesperson on matter relating to Israel and international affairs in the United States and abroad. He

had a special interest in helping the Jews behind the Iron Curtain, as evidenced by his national leadership of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry.

He left his imprint on virtually every major facet of American Jewish life as the founding president of the American Zionist Federation, founder of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, vice president of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee, and president of the Rabbinical Council of America.

Throughout his life, Rabbi Miller sought to build bridges of understanding and respect among people of different religious, racial and ethnic origins. He believed that every human being should be able to live in safety, "and there shall be none to make him afraid."

What a legacy Rabbi Israel Miller left us. He will be sorely missed.

RETIREMENT CONGRATULATIONS
TO ROBERT MAXWELL

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to publicly recognize the life's work of one of Toledo, Ohio's most notable citizens, Robert Maxwell, who is retiring from his career after 38 years. Truly, Robert Maxwell is a "Golden Guy."

Bob moved through the ranks of the Lathrop Company, over which he began a tenure as President in 1986. That tenure saw outstanding growth as he developed the Lathrop Company into a premier construction company in our region.

Even as he built the company, Bob fulfilled a deep sense of commitment to the community, involving himself in many concerns including 911 services, Toledo Public Schools' Partners In Education, the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to name but a few.

Although Bob is well known as an excellent businessman and community oriented philanthropist, his true passion is his family. Always, his wife and children are first in his mind and heart and his pride in his family is evident. He will surely receive many accolades upon his retirement, as he has throughout his career, both from his peers and the organizations he supports, but none are so important as his family and his place in it. In fact, he will tell you that his family means everything to him. Thus, though he leaves a storied career, it is to his family that he retires.

The writer David Lawrence once wrote, "My soul knows that I am part of the human race, my soul is an organic part of the great human race, as my spirit is part of my nation. In my very own self, I am part of my family." Perhaps unconsciously, Bob Maxwell lived out this thought. Professionally and civically, he addresses his responsibility and his place in the family of man. Personally, he carries forth as a family man. Now as he leaves the working world, we wish Bob all the best in his retirement. May he spend his days doing all that he enjoys with those he loves.