

Adventure, is a Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and has received the God and Me, God and Family, and God and Church awards.

For his Eagle Scout project, Kyle constructed three benches on a trail at the Conservation Center. These benches will be used by the many visitors to the Center.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Evan Vulgamott for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RONALD RUBY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Ronald H. Ruby, whose lifelong commitment to educating others influenced lives of people from the Central Coast of California to Norway. His mother, Ruth Bittman, his wife Dorothy Ruby, two daughters, two sons, and two grandchildren survive Mr. Ruby, who passed away on November 5, 2003.

Mr. Ruby was born in San Francisco, California on December 1, 1932. He attended UC Berkeley, and after receiving a bachelor's degree in physics he served in the U.S. Navy. Following his tenure in the Navy, Mr. Ruby returned to Berkeley to obtain his PhD. He was subsequently recruited to join the faculty of UC Santa Cruz as a physicist and remained there from 1965 to 1991, while also conducting research at UCSC and University of Oslo in Norway. I have been told that Mr. Ruby was an amazing educator; his innovative teaching techniques enthralled both students and colleagues.

Not only was Mr. Ruby an astonishing educator but he was also a loving husband, father, and sports enthusiast. Mr. Ruby met his wife Dorothy Bell as he began graduate school at UC Berkeley. The two began a family and raised four children in Santa Cruz. Mr. Ruby enjoyed bike riding, competitive rowing, and Nordic skiing. He also found time to coach the UCSC rugby team.

Mr. Ruby had an admirable career at UC Santa Cruz and dedicated himself to teaching and research. I join the Santa Cruz community in honoring the life of Mr. Ronald Ruby, whose dedication and contributions were truly commendable.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL F. SIMON BUILDERS FAMILY BUSINESS

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a thriving small business in Waunakee, Wisconsin. This year, the Michael F. Simon Builders family business celebrates 110 years of service to the community.

Small businesses are vital to the American economy. Founder, Michael Simon began constructing farm buildings in Dane County in 1893, and through the years Michael F. Simon

Builders has remained in the family and continued to grow. The business has evolved with the times and now constructs residential and commercial buildings using state-of-art Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD).

Now in the hands of Peter and Philip, the founder's grandsons, Michael F. Simon Builders continues to maintain the family tradition and strives to create structures in Madison and the surrounding communities that have style beauty, quality and value. For nearly fifty years, the Simon family has shown a firm commitment to improving our community through their extensive volunteerism with the Wisconsin Builders Association and the National Association of Home Builders.

The Simon's ability to create and maintain a successful family business for 110 years is commendable and deserves recognition. I am proud to call Michael F. Simon Builders Wisconsin's own. I wish them continued success for another 110 years and beyond.

HONORING JERRY KRAUSE, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CHICAGO BULLS

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable Chicagoan, Jerry Krause, Executive Vice President of Basketball Operations for my hometown team, the Chicago Bulls. I would like to congratulate Jerry Krause on eighteen successful seasons as General Manager and as the architect of the Bulls' six World Championship Titles. Since 1985, Jerry Krause has played a major role in building domineering teams for Chicago and has twice been named NBA Executive of the Year by his peers in the 1987-88 and 1995-96 seasons.

Jerry Krause brought with him a vision of how to build a championship team and he proceeded to create one of the most dominant champions of all time. No basketball fan in America can begin to imagine the Chicago Bulls without his imprint. When Jerry Krause arrived on the scene, Michael Jordan was the only present piece of what would become the foundation of the Bulls' dynasty. Two years later, he began surrounding Jordan with the key players who would help turn the Bulls into champions. Jerry Krause drafted such renowned players as Scottie Pippen, Charles Oakley, Horace Grant, B.J. Armstrong, Will Perdue, Toni Kukoc, Elton Brand, Steve Kerr, Marcus Fizer, Jamal Crawford, Jerry Sloan, Clifford Ray, Brad Davis, Trenton Hassell, Jay Williams; signed key players Ron Harper, John Paxson, Scott Williams, Ron Mercer, Eddie Robinson, Corie Blount, Donyell Marshall; traded for Bill Cartwright, Dennis Rodman and a host of others who wore the Bulls uniform during those championship seasons.

Jerry Krause has a skillful eye for spotting basketball talent and an insightful mentality of how to build a winning team. He helped to build the dominant NBA team of the 1990s. With Jerry Krause as GM, the Bulls won six titles behind the play of Michael Jordan. One of Jerry Krause's most brilliant moves was bringing the man who could possibly be the greatest coach in NBA history into the league. Dur-

ing the summer of 1987, he hired Phil Jackson as an assistant coach and later on as head coach. Jackson has since tied Red Auerbach with nine NBA titles, the most in NBA history. He then hired replacement Tim Floyd, and current head coach Bill Cartwright. Jerry Krause also influenced drafting Hall of Fame players, Earl Monroe and Wes Unseld, and four NBA Rookies of the year with Monroe, Unseld, Alvin Adams and Brand. Jerry Krause effectively laid the foundation for the Chicago Bulls' decade of dominance.

Jerry Krause became the Bulls' GM in 1985 after working for Bulls owner Jerry Reinsdorf as a scout with baseball's Chicago White Sox. He made a reputation in the NBA as a super-scout for the Baltimore Bullets in the late 1960s. With over 34 years of experience in professional sports, Jerry Krause has served as a scout for Baltimore, Chicago, Phoenix and the Los Angeles Lakers. For 16-years before the Bulls, his career soared as scout and special assignment scout with the Cleveland Indians, Oakland A's, Seattle Mariners, and Chicago White Sox.

After 19 years and six championships, Jerry Krause is stepping away as the General Manager of the team that he loves. All of the moves paid off as Chicago won six titles from 1991-98, setting an NBA record with 72 victories in the 1995-96 season. The Bulls honored Jerry Krause during a halftime ceremony on Oct. 31, 2003, raising a banner to the United Center rafters in homage to their former general manager.

The NBA, team, and fans alike will greatly miss Jerry Krause upon his resignation. It is my pleasure to recognize Jerry Krause for his love for the game and passion for winning. I extend my heartiest wishes and warmest regards in all his future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, as Jerry Krause leaves behind a long and rich history with the Chicago Bulls, I would ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this great man.

TRIBUTE TO JEROME "BUDDY" COOPER

HON. ARTUR DAVIS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Jerome "Buddy" Cooper, a man who articulated, pioneered, and embodied a progressive vision for the working people of Alabama. On Tuesday, October 14, Buddy passed away after 90 years of a remarkable life. Those countless Alabamians who live better lives due to his efforts will mourn him dearly.

An Eagle Scout and graduate of Harvard University, Buddy has continually served his family, his nation, and his community. In 1937, Buddy became the first law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black of Alabama. He remained at the right hand of this legendary Justice for three years until he decided to answer another call. Joining the U.S. Navy in 1940, Buddy served his country for 44 months and during some of the bloodiest naval battles of the Second World War.

Following his courageous war service, Buddy returned to Birmingham to begin a long legal career fighting the good fight for the unfortunate, the poor, the disposed, all those

whom the Scriptures name "the least of these" and was a constant thorn in the side of those who wished to take advantage of them. In 1963, President John F. Kennedy recognized Buddy's work for social justice and racial reconciliation by inviting him to a meeting of 240 attorneys that later became the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights under Law—the group credited with providing official legal support to those civil rights activists and organizations challenging segregation and racial discrimination across the country. In 1996, Buddy was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award for his decades-long participation with this select group.

Buddy demonstrated the same tenacity and loyalty towards his family that he exhibited in every other aspect of his life. Married to his wife Lois for over 50 years, Buddy exemplified an honest and loving husband, caring for his wife throughout the years of her illness. Their children, Ellen and Carol, were blessed to have a father who wanted nothing more than to love them and watch them grow up in an Alabama that was better than the one in which he grew up.

I am proud, Mr. Speaker, today to honor Jerome "Buddy" Cooper for his tremendous accomplishments. But, Mr. Speaker, I do so with the bittersweet knowledge that Alabama will be lesser tomorrow for his passing.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN STRAUSS'S
LIFE AND MILITARY SERVICE

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the privilege of meeting with John Strauss, one of North Dakota's distinguished World War II veterans at the North Dakota Veterans Home. John's unit, the 164th Infantry Battalion, saw more than 600 days of fierce combat in the South Pacific. For his heroism, John was awarded a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

I would like to include in the RECORD an article from the Ransom County Gazette in North Dakota about John's life and military service.

[From the Ransom County Gazette]

NDVH RESIDENT, JOHN STRAUSS TELLS OF
HIS WORLD WAR II EXPERIENCES

(By Janet Hansen)

John Strauss, a resident of the North Dakota Veterans Home (NDVH), Lisbon, was a member of the U.S. Army's 164th Infantry Battalion which spent three years in the South Pacific during World War II. Strauss, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday, can still recall clearly the details of that time in America's history.

Strauss was born on September 5, 1913. He was next to the youngest in a family of six boys and two girls. He and his younger sister, Mary Bartholomay of Sheldon, are the last two surviving siblings. He was raised on a farm near Harvey, North Dakota and attended the Whitby School, a one-room country school located just a half mile from the Strauss farmstead. He received his high school education at Harvey High School, from which he graduated in 1932.

Following his graduation from high school, Strauss worked at various farm and construction jobs. He spent some time working in the Sheldon area on the Muscha and

Stansbury farms. He milked cows as well as caring for a herd of Angus beef cattle. His other jobs included working for a plumbing and heating business, doing construction and cement work, and spending ten months as a maintenance man at the hospital in Harvey.

In January of 1941 Strauss joined the National Guard. "I was 27 years old when I joined the guard," commented Strauss. "Most of the guys signing up were only 18. We organized our own company. Up to that time, Harvey did not have a Guard unit of its own, although there were several units in surrounding towns. Since there was a need for an anti-tank company, that is what our unit became."

Shortly after Harvey's National Guard unit was organized, its members were shipped to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, where they underwent training for ten months. Then came the attack on Pearl Harbor, which pushed the United States into World War II and the National Guard into active duty.

"It wasn't long after the attack on Pearl Harbor that we were loaded on a troop train for San Francisco. We expected to get sent overseas immediately, but we were instead sent up north to guard installations such as roads and bridges which were thought to be vulnerable to attack by the Japanese.

In March of 1942 Strauss and his fellow guardsmen were loaded onto an old luxury liner, the President Coolidge, for their long trip to Melbourne, Australia. "The ship was nice," recalls Strauss. "It still had a swimming pool and a continental lounge with a grand piano. I enjoyed sitting around listening to various soldiers playing boogie-woogie music on that piano. But the ship was very crowded! There were many other soldiers besides our battalion on board. I believe there were about 5,000 of us in all. The ship had two-room apartments with a bath between. Each had been made to house a husband and wife. The single compartments designed for one person were each crammed with about a dozen soldiers in bunk beds."

Strauss does not complain about the accommodations. He says he was happy with two decent meals a day. He spent much of his time on the deck of the large ship. "I loved it on the water," he said. "I didn't get seasick. I liked to stand on deck and watch the waves roll by."

After a long ocean voyage, the ship finally reached Melbourne. "We had to unload all our gear and equipment from that ship onto three small Dutch ships which were waiting for us in the harbor," said Strauss. "They were old wooden vessels with crews from the Indonesian island of Java. The crew members were dirty and used to eating tired old mutton for meat. It didn't look or smell fit to eat, and tasted as bad as it looked, but I managed to eat enough to get by."

The old Dutch ships took the soldiers to New Caledonia, a French held island in the South Pacific east of Australia. It was believed that that island might be one of the next Japanese targets. The troops immediately set about fortifying the beach by digging in gun emplacements. The soldiers lived in tents. It was hot and humid during the day but cooled off at night. The Japanese attack which had been expected did not come. Strauss recalls hearing that some troops encountered problems with the Communist French but it didn't affect those with whom he was encamped on the shoreline."

From New Caledonia, Strauss and his fellow soldiers were sent to Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands. "We only found out a day in advance that we were to be sent there," Strauss said. "We arrived there just after daylight. We had to unload our own ships with small boats that ferried the cargo from the large ship to shore. We had only a day in

which to complete the job because the ships wanted to leave the harbor while it was still daylight. There was too much danger from Japanese air strikes to chance staying there at night."

Strauss said that the first night at Guadalcanal was the most frightening time which he experienced during his entire tour of duty. "We sat on the beach," he said. "There was a lot of confusion with people milling around. There were air raids going on and we were pretty scared because of the lack of protection. In the evening they lined us up in formation and told us to march. I did not know where we were going. I just followed the guy in front of me. Suddenly all hell broke loose! There were Japanese ships in the bay and they were attacking Guadalcanal. The attack from air and sea lasted until morning. The area was all lit up by the explosions. We got initiated fast! We felt completely helpless." "The main target of the attack was the airbase at Henderson Field. The Japanese had originally built the airstrips and the United States had taken control of the base. The Japanese wanted it back. Around 10,000 Japanese troops landed on the island. They were on the opposite end of the island from where we had landed. The Japanese would come in swarms at night but we were safer on our side of the island than we would have been if we had landed on the other side."

Strauss explained that his battalion's first objective was to entrench their 37 millimeter guns along the beach. "We were sent in to help the Marines at Guadalcanal," he said. "We served under General Vandegrift, Commander of the 1st Marine Division.

As a result of their service under the Marines at Guadalcanal, Strauss and his fellow members of the 164th infantry were each awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, which is given by the commander of the regiment. "To my knowledge we were the only army outfit in the world to get a citation from the Marines," said Strauss.

Strauss states that his main job was to guard the beach area. He manned a 37 millimeter gun entrenched in the sand. "I was glad to stay there instead of going farther onto the island," he said. "We stayed there for six months. There were a few small battles, but we were mostly mopping up."

"The Marines left in January and we followed in March," said Strauss. He explains that by the time they left Guadalcanal most of the men in his outfit had dysentery and/or malaria.

"Most of us were sent to the Fiji Islands for some R & R (rest and relaxation) time," related Strauss. Some members of his division enjoyed their vacation, but Strauss spent five months in the hospital because of a tropical ulcer on his leg. The ulcer started as a sand fly bite and became infected by his boot rubbing on it. After two and a half months with no results in the treatment of the ulcer, a doctor tried grafting some skin over the ulcerated area. After that it finally began to heal and he was released from the hospital.

"I was out of the hospital for one day," said Strauss, "and I came down with malaria." I spent another two and a half months in the hospital recuperating." By the time Strauss got out of the hospital his company's R & R time was over and it was time to train once again.

"We were in Fiji for a total of nine months," said Strauss. "From there we were shipped to Bougainville Island, where we stayed for the next year. Again, we were sent there to do some mopping up. We saw action, but it was usually small attacks. However I actually saw more action there than I had previously."

Strauss explained that he served as sergeant of a flame thrower platoon. "I had 26