EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO SHARON MARTINEZ

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Sharon Martinez, of Monterey Park, CA. Each year in March, in recognition of Women's History Month, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our Nation's women.

Sharon was born, raised, and educated in Monterey Park. She received her bachelor's degree in public administration from the University of Southern California, and her master's degree in public administration in management from the University of Southern California.

Inspired to help residents find jobs in the community, Ms. Martinez founded SMART Staffing Services, a woman and minority owned employment agency that specializes in clerical, bilingual and promotional staffing, originally opened in Monterey Park and now located in Alhambra. SMART Staffing Services, of which Sharon is president, now serves the greater Los Angeles area including Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura.

Sharon's list of community involvement is impressive. A current councilmember and former mayor of Monterey Park, her past activities include serving as a board member of the Latin Business Association, West San Gabriel Valley YMCA, Monterey Park Art & Culture Commission, Library Board, national vice president of Young Adults of the League of the United Latin American Citizens, and former secretary of Hispanas Organized for Political Equality.

An appointed member of the Los Angeles County Commission on Local Government, Sharon is currently involved in the Monterey Park/Rosemead Soroptimist International, Monterey Park Rotary, San Gabriel Valley Council of Government, Monterey Park Library Foundation, the San Gabriel Valley Animal Control Authority, Boy Scouts of America—Mission Amigos District Board, Monterey Park Chamber of Commerce, and the Monterey Park Hospital Board. Sharon's goal is to have a direct voice in improving the quality of life for our community and especially to see improvements in the employment industry.

Ms. Martinez has received several awards including Assembly Member Judy Chu's 2003 Latina Business Women of the Year, Business and Professional Women's 2003 Business Woman of the Year Award, ''Woman of Promise'' Award, and ''Latina Entrepreneur of the Year'' Award. She was featured in the Los Angeles Business Journal as one of the ''20 Up & Coming Latino Women.''

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an extraordinary woman of Calfornia's 29th Congressional District, Sharon Martinez.

WAIVING PASSPORT FEES FOR RELATIVES OF DECEASED MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1184, a bill that would waive the passport fees for a relative of a deceased member of the Armed Forces who is proceeding abroad to visit the grave of such member or to attend a funeral or memorial service for such member.

The current United States passport fee is $97.00 for adults and $82.00 for children under 16. Present law allows waivers for a widow, child, parent, brother or sister to visit a grave. The proposed bill would expand the waiver to include grandparents, and it would add funerals and memorial services as well as grave site visits.

At a time of such grieving for a lost service member, the family of the fallen hero should not have to worry about paying passport fees, which can add up quickly for a family. Waiving the fee in such cases is the least that we can do.

I urge you to vote for this bill.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF ROBERT T. WOODWORTH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of my friend, Robert T. Woodworth, devoted father, grandfather, friend, United States veteran and long-time community activist, for his civic activism that continues to uplift our entire Westside Cleveland community.

Mr. Woodworth was born in Cleveland to loving parents. His father drove streetcars in the city and his mother was a loving housewife. With extended family nearby, he learned early on the significance of family and community. Mr. Woodworth has infused those vital lessons of childhood within his own family, as he continues to be a foundation of strength and support for his daughter, Rhonda, and his granddaughters, Stephanie and Samantha.

As a young adult, Mr. Woodworth enlisted in the United States Air Force, giving him the opportunity to travel the world. The languages he learned and friends that he made have never left him, transcending time and distance. He speaks fluent German, Spanish and French and remains closely connected to friends living in faraway lands. His passion for travel, community issues and global concerns parallels his passion for music. He is an avid guitarist and pianist and is an avid patron of classical music.

Mr. Woodworth's warm demeanor and quick smile easily draws others to him. His unwavering belief in community service and volunteerism is illuminated throughout Cleveland's Westside, especially within our democratic process, where his grassroots involvement continues to positively impact our neighborhoods. His leadership and diligence has been key in several political races, including his role as campaign manager for then council candidate Nelson Cintron. Councilman Cintron became the first Hispanic councilman in Cleveland's history.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor, recognition and gratitude to Mr. Robert T. Woodworth. His joyous life, centering on devotion to family, friendship and community, continues to reflect warmth, energy and song—enriching and inspiring family and friends throughout our Cleveland community and far beyond.

IN MEMORY OF SHERIFF SIDNEY WARREN SHIPPY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Sheriff Sidney ''Sid'' Warren Shippy of Butler, Missouri. He died at the age of 57 of complications from a heart and kidney transplant.

Shippy was born in Kansas City, Missouri, the oldest of three children. After graduating from Raytown High School in 1967, he enlisted in the United States Army and served in Vietnam. He was awarded the Bronze Star, Army Commendation and Air Medal during his service.

Shippy attended Longview Community College before beginning a 33-year career in law enforcement. Shippy served with the Missouri Highway Patrol as an undercover narcotics officer, road patrolman, zone commander, and worked in the department's gaming commission. He served as an instructor to other officers and attained the highest investigation qualification, an Accident Reconstructionist. After retiring from the Patrol in 2003, he entered politics and was elected Bates County Sheriff in 2004.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain that the Members of the House of Representatives will join me in paying tribute to the outstanding public service of Sheriff Sidney Warren Shippy. He will be missed by all who knew him and I offer my heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife of 30 years, Markita; daughter, Anissa Fischer; mother, Deva Shippy; brother, Russell Shippy; and sister, Barbara Shippy.

● This ''bullet'' symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.