

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2008

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, on February 25, 2008, I missed votes because my flight was delayed. Southwest Flight 1357, scheduled to depart BHM at 1:20 p.m. and arrive at BWI at 4:10 p.m., did not depart BHM until 3:15 p.m. and arrived at BWI at 6 p.m.

TRIBUTE TO MR. VERDERY
ROBERSON**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2008

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual from my district, Mr. Verdery Roberson.

Mr. Roberson is a World War II Navy veteran and a graduate of Paine College. In 1988, he retired to Huntsville, Alabama, after thirty-eight years as a civilian Electronics Fire Control Specialist with the U.S. Army at the Augusta Arsenal in Augusta, Georgia, and the Anniston Army Depot.

Mr. Roberson is most well known for his lifelong membership and continuing commitment to the Boy Scouts of America. In 1944, four years after joining the Boy Scouts, he became the first African-American in the Georgia-Carolina Council of Boy Scouts to receive a Scout's highest rank, Eagle Scout.

Mr. Roberson has passed on his extensive scouting knowledge and beliefs to countless young men as an adult leader, mentor, and member of the Eagle Board of Review. He is the founder and former Cub Master for the Cub Scout Pack 314 at the Center Grove United Methodist Church, as well as a founding member of the Urban Emphasis Scout Leaders Council. The Council is an urban and rural Scout outreach, or Scout Reach, organi-

zation for the Huntsville-Madison County community.

For his lifetime of inspirational service and outreach with the Boy Scouts, Mr. Roberson was one of the first recipients from North Alabama to receive the Whitney Young Service Award. This award is presented nationally to those nominated by their local councils who have provided Scouting opportunities for young men from rural and low-income urban backgrounds.

On Friday, February 22, 2008, Mr. Roberson's family and friends celebrated his life, his contributions to the Boy Scouts, and his selfless devotion to the positive development of numerous young men. I rise to join them in their tribute and to thank Mr. Roberson for his many years of service to our community.