

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF RANDALL "RANDY" SMITH

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 18, 2008

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay great honor to Randall "Randy" Smith who passed away on April 14, 2008. A longtime sports editor and columnist for Manchester, Connecticut's Journal Inquirer, Mr. Smith was a community mainstay and will be sorely missed.

It seemed incomprehensible when I learned of the sudden passing of Randy. Manchester and the Journal Inquirer's gift to the world of sports journalism had a following far beyond its readership.

It seems like yesterday we honored him in the Senate Chamber at the State Capitol for a record seventh time being named Sportswriter of the Year.

I said at the time he was a combination of Red Smith, Jimmy Breslin, and F. Scott Fitzgerald rolled up into a regular guy's man of sports. He had great insight into the human condition, the spirit of competition and the heart required of its participation. He explained his stories in a way that those who regularly assembled at Auggie & Ray's or Cavey's appreciated and talked about.

His column was the column that was the one we talked about, with regular favorites like "Once around the Block" and "To You Wanna, Bet . . ." he held you captive. He provided us a credo, not only applicable to sports, but to life, a refrain he often used in his columns: "Honor the game and in return the game will honor you."

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of Randy Smith. Certainly, we pause today and reflect on his passing knowing that he honored his craft, and in return we honor him with a final thanks for a job well done. I only hope there's a Saratoga in heaven.

HONORING THE SAGINAW CHAPTER OF THE A. PHILIP RANDOLPH INSTITUTE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 18, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Saginaw Chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute as they mark 27 years of service to the community. A testimonial banquet will be held on Saturday, April 19th in Saginaw celebrating the anniversary.

A. Philip Randolph stands at the vanguard of 20th century labor leaders. Together with Bayard Rustin, a leading civil rights and labor organizer, they forged an alliance of the civil

rights movement and the labor movement to fight for the rights, privileges and freedoms of all people. After the passage of the Voting Rights Act they joined together and founded the A. Philip Randolph Institute to continue this fight. From its founding in 1965 as an organization of black trade unionists, the A. Philip Randolph Institute has been at the forefront of the continuing struggle to bring equality and economic justice for workers throughout our country.

Madam Speaker, the Saginaw Chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute is the cornerstone of organizations and individuals dedicated to improving the lives of everyday citizens in the Saginaw area. They are steadfast in their resolve that we can achieve social, political and economic integrity for all persons no matter what their color or background. I commend them for their hard work and resolute spirit and wish them continued success for many, many years to come.

REGARDING THE NEED FOR MORE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 18, 2008

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, today we received more disturbing news about the tremendous strain that overseas deployments have put on our men and women in uniform. The RAND Corporation released a study that found roughly one in five U.S. troops is suffering from major depression or post-traumatic stress as a result of serving in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The study also found that even more have suffered some form of traumatic brain injury, often considered the signature injury of the Iraq War.

While this trend is not new, this study confirms what we have known for some time: Extended tours and multiple deployments without sufficient down time contribute to post-traumatic stress disorder. What is perhaps most disturbing is the finding that only about half those with PTSD or depression have sought treatment, and only half again received minimally adequate treatment.

This means that while one in five of our men and women are suffering, only a quarter of those who come home with these debilitating conditions are receiving the treatment they need.

I've heard from veterans in my district who never sought mental health treatment either because it wasn't available or because there was a stigma attached to it. Without treatment, these veterans are at risk of engaging in self-destructive behavior like drinking and using drugs, they may have marital problems, and some even contemplate suicide. This is why we must take this study seriously.

These brave men and women offered to lay down their lives in defense of our Nation. We

owe them no less than an absolute commitment to provide them with the support and care they need to return to healthy and productive civilian lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN JOSEPH SOUZA

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 18, 2008

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, it is with the greatest respect and admiration that I rise today to honor the late Mr. John Joseph Souza. As a lifelong resident of Atwater, California, John was not only a beloved member of our community, but he was an endearing, personal friend of my family. At the age of 77, John Souza passed away on Thursday, April 10, 2008.

John was born in Atwater, California on August 8, 1930 to John and Palmira Souza. He attended Atwater Jordan Elementary School, and then Livingston High School where he graduated in 1948. In 1951 John served in the U.S. Army in Korea, and in the years following he married the love of his life, Madeline Perry. Upon beginning their life together, John and Madeline purchased the Souza family's ranch. John operated the Souza Dairy for 16 years, owned Souza's Automotive Service in Atwater for 8 years, and then founded Souza's Bailbonds Company, which has been open for the last 34 years. As his lifetime of service reflects, John was a true entrepreneur who happily wore a number of different hats on a daily basis. Not only an avid businessman in the community, John was also a devoted member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church, participated in a number of fraternal organizations, served as Director of the Merced Trade Club, was a member of the Winton V.F.W. and was a Director of the California Bailbond Association of America. In addition to his extensive community service, John was also a member of the U.S. Marshals Posse, the Merced County Sheriffs Posse and Merced County Search and Rescue. He thoroughly enjoyed being a member of the Sheriff's Posse with his horse Blaze, with whom he traveled to Washington, D.C. to ride in the Presidential Inauguration Parade for President Bush.

Throughout their lifetime together, John and Madeline traveled to every state in the country, as well as a number of international destinations including Portugal, Mexico, Italy, Canada, Greece and France. Traveling was a favorite pastime for John and Madeline, often venturing down an unknown road just to see where it would take them. In addition to his passion for travel, John's Portuguese heritage meant the world to him. He was a true historian of Portuguese information surrounding the Valley and was fond of attending any Festa he could.

John was preceded in death by his son, John Joseph Souza, Jr. He is survived by his

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

loving wife of 57 years, Madeline; his son Thomas and daughter-in-law Molly; his son Daniel and daughter-in-law Julia; his grandsons Thomas John Souza Jr. and Timothy Manuel Souza; his brother David Souza and sister Mamie Angelo; and numerous nieces and nephews. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor and privilege to join the Souza family and my hometown of Atwater in remembering my dear friend, John Joseph Souza. His life was dedicated to his family, friends and service to his community, and in his passing we have lost greatly.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE GERARD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 18, 2008

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary contributions of George Gerard and his auto mechanic team at Madison Auto Body Shop in Madison, Connecticut. Over the past 5 months, the Madison Auto Body Shop donated time, talent and resources to refurbishing a historic 9/11 Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicle, EVR, #1054.

On September 11, 2001, the Red Cross' ERV #1054 was one of the first vehicles on the recovery scene. Following a six-month service period of laborious cleanup duties, the vehicle fell into disrepair and was retired to the American Red Cross of South Central Connecticut in New Haven. In the fall of 2007, the New Haven Register ran an article, outlining the New Haven Red Cross chapter's hope for restoring ERV #1054, to use for local disaster response. George and the Madison Auto Body Shop team responded to the article, volunteering countless hours and resources, to refurbish the historic ERV #1054. Today with new, polished parts, everything down to the smallest screw, the ERV #1054 stands in pristine condition.

The Madison Auto Body team that worked on the ERV #1054's reconstruction was led by George Gerard and included Amanda Wigham, Jeff Tuthill, Ryan Dudley, Carlos Reva, Robert Rich, Ernie Bozza, Juan Roque, Augie Cozaeatal, and Fernando Sambreo.

Madam Speaker, on September 11, 2001, our world changed. We witnessed the worst of mankind, incited by destructive hatred. The destruction of the day, however, was eclipsed by the continuity of our Nation led by all American communities, large and small, from all demographics, from coast to coast. Today, our Nation remains stronger than ever, and efforts like those of the Madison Auto Body Shop remind us of this. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in recognizing their contributions.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROSEMARY MARGARET FORAN

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 18, 2008

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and honor that I submit for the record comments on the life of a great citizen of East Hartford, Connecticut.

Rosemary Margaret Foran passed away on April 5, 2008. She was a remarkable lady and the matriarch of an even more remarkable family. I've known the Forans all my life. They exemplify everything that is rich in the human experience, and they learned that from their mother, Rosemary, and their father, Tom.

The Kennedy family is known for its compound in Hyannisport, Massachusetts. Its rival in Connecticut is the Foran compound on Goodwin Street. The family Rosemary raised is at the heart of what makes the community of East Hartford a great place to live. The truth is without the vaunted Foran Legion, the Little League, the school system, and town athletics in general would suffer. Rosemary and Tom raised a family of nine who gave back to the community more than they have ever received. For the first time in their lives the Forans are orphans, but the love and devotion of their mother and father live on and the Foran Legion continues to grow, and continues to give to our hometown of East Hartford in a way that has enriched all of our lives. Their oldest son, Tony, wrote this obituary for his brothers and sisters, which says it all:

[From the Hartford Courant]

On Saturday evening (April 5, 2008), the day of the ancient Sabbath, Rosemary Margaret (Donlon) Foran (80) fulfilled her baptismal promise, turned her spirit ship to home and leapt to celestial joy. She was born, raised, lived and died in East Hartford. She was the living embodiment of the thought that treasure is measured not in personal wealth but in the warmth of a home.

In that home and around that round table a family shared the smell of fresh baked bread, the sounds of babies cooing, the laughter of the carefree young with friends, the tears and sorrows of all as the siege that is life went on. She welcomed any and all to the round table, providing sustenance for the body, mind or soul as each one needed. A cup of tea, a bite to eat, an ear to listen or a hand to help, our daunting obstacles shrank around that table. "Bonitam, et Discipliniam, et Scientiam, Doce Me, Domine." Life is a home.

Her nurturing skills were taught to her by her beloved mother and father, Mary Ellen (Berry) and Thomas J. Donlon, Sr. She in turn passed those nurturing skills on to her daughters-in-law, Lynne Masiuk (who predeceased her), June Jaskulka, Nikki Samela, Christine Niziankiewicz, Mary Jo Quinn, Marie Mullaney, Evelyn Owens, Rachel Elder, and Mary Margaret Maleskis, all of whom she loved as her own and who loved

her with tenderness as if she was their own mother. Rosemary had many monikers in life, Blondie, Mame, Liz, Big Lou, Bun, Pumpkin, Gramma, but none so dear as Ma.

Before efficiency became important in the workplace, Rosemary had perfected this skill. With a brood of children that numbered nine, Anthony, Joseph (who predeceased her), Patrick, Stephen, Michael, Thomas, Gregory, Nicholas and her best friend, constant companion and unwavering advocate and caregiver, Mary Ellen, she managed every minute of her daily double shift. Every movement during her day was with purpose and a daily task to complete. The tasks were many for such a large family. And yet, her efficiency allowed for three meals a day for all. Thomas R. Foran, Sr., her sweetheart and husband (who also predeceased her) had lunch at the round table with Rosemary every day of his healthy life. He praised and flattered her with this inscription on a pizza board he made in 1963: "Charm is deceptive, Beauty fleeting. A good cook lives in a man's memory. From one meal to the next. Love, Tom. El Gourmet."

A special blessing came to Rosemary's table in 1998, with the arrival of her new and only son-in-law, C. Gary Knell, with whom she shared her home. Gary's work ethic matched in every way his new mother-in-law's. As Rosemary's health began to fail over the last five years, Gary became a sentry for her every need. Rosemary's earthly remains will be lovingly enclosed in a casket made by her son, Tom, and her son-in-law, Gary, wrapping her in the same love which she gave to all of her family.

The precious jewels of Gramma's life number 25, each and every one of them nurtured at the round table and on her knee: Daniel and his wife Becky, Gregory and his wife Tricia, Stephanie and her husband Eric Barrett, Kathryn and her husband Steve Borla, Michael and his wife Malinda, Matthew, Danielle and her fiancé Matthew Currey, Nicholas, Emily, Will, James, Joseph, Rosemary, Mary Ellen, Laura, Annie, Thomas, Katherine, Rebecca, Benjamin, Lynne, Sarah, Patrick, Stephen and Luke. Rosemary's DNA of love also runs in the veins of 6½ great grandchildren: MaKayla, Dylan, Michael, Matthew, Gavin, Devin and one soon to be born. She was blessed with many nephews and nieces of the Foran and Donlon families.

Rosemary, born on December 26, 1927, and graduated from Mount Saint Joseph's Academy in 1946, was the youngest of five children: Thomas J. Donlon, Jr. and John P. Donlon predeceased her; her sister Ann Rita Thayer and her brother Joseph G. Donlon will cherish her memory in the deep recess of their hearts. She also leaves beloved brothers-in-law, Nicholas A. Foran, Jr. and his wife, Doris, and John Foran and his wife, Pat, sisters-in-law, Mary "Bette" (Meskell) Foran, Mary (Sauve) Foran, Elizabeth (Anderson) Foran, and cousins Richard, Walter and Jack Foran.

When her children or grandchildren asked Rosemary about what gift she might like for a birthday or Christmas, her answer was always, "The grace of God and a holy and happy death." The Good God answered her prayer on Saturday evening, as she was enveloped in the web of love she created.