

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### REMEMBERING EUGENE McCAMMON

#### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2010*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember Eugene Blair McCommon of New Springfield, Ohio who passed away last Thursday, June 17, 2010.

Mr. McCommon was born on May 15, 1927, in Youngstown, Ohio and worked as a railroad yard clerk for the Erie Lackawanna Railroad and as a school bus driver for the Boardman schools. He served the community of New Springfield as a member of the VFW, a member of the Church of God, an EMT, and a volunteer firefighter.

After his graduation from Rayen High School, he served in the United States Navy and later enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. In November and December of 1950, Eugene McCommon fought in the Battle of Chosin Reservoir known as the Frozen Chosin and fought by the Chosin Few. Following the onslaught of the Chinese Army across the Yalu River, U.S. and U.N. forces were overwhelmed and began a seventeen-day battle as a Siberian cold front dropped the temperature to 35 degrees below zero. The fighting at Chosin Reservoir was some of the most violent small unit fighting in the history of American warfare as our forces struggled along a 78-mile-long narrow road toward the port of Hungnam. Eugene McCommon received a Purple Heart and a Silver Star for gallantry in action and valor in the face of the enemy.

Mr. McCommon is survived by two daughters, Kathleen Connolly and Jeri Westover, his nephew Robert McLaughlin, two brothers, Earl McCommon and Donald McCommon, two sisters, Rose Margaret Maizel and Dorothy Wiscott, granddaughter Molly Kathleen, and many friends and extended family members.

On behalf of a grateful Nation we remember the patriotic service and the life of our friend and neighbor Eugene Blair McCommon.

### RECOGNIZING KEITH BURKE, RECIPIENT OF THE ARIZONA GANG INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

#### HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2010*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Keith Burke of Tempe, the recipient of the Arizona Gang Investigators Association's Lifetime Achievement Award. Keith has dedicated the past 18 years of his career to the development of gang prevention programs in the city of Tempe. As a former mayor and lifelong resident of Tempe, and now my hometown's representative in Con-

gress, I wish to congratulate Keith on this achievement and thank him for his efforts within our community.

Keith's commitment to the development of Escalante Community Center has made a tremendous positive impact on that neighborhood and the broader community. His dedication and leadership helped lead to the expansion of the Escalante Community Center, which has grown from 3,000 square feet to 37,000 square feet. These facilities operate as an essential tool to provide a safe and entertaining place for teenagers and children.

Through the center, Keith has established programs geared toward reducing gang-related crimes. His efforts at the Escalante Community Center have provided a model for similar community centers throughout Tempe.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Keith Burke, a truly valuable and inspirational member of our community, for earning this Lifetime Achievement Award.

### EAGLE SCOUT RECOGNITION

#### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2010*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize three outstanding young men from Montross, Virginia who have exhibited the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in Troop 252 of the Boy Scouts of America and earning the prestigious title of Eagle Scout. Each of the scouts selflessly dedicated his time and resources to benefit the surrounding community, and they are all fine representatives of my hometown.

Murphy Bailey, a 2009 graduate of Washington and Lee High School, used his Eagle Scout project to help the citizens of nearby Kinsale, Virginia, pouring concrete bases and building picnic tables to enhance visitors' experiences in the town park. Murphy is currently farming in Westmoreland County.

Trent Jones, a recent graduate of Washington and Lee High School, rebuilt a dilapidated fence at Beulah Baptist Church in Lyles, Virginia. Trent raised the project funds, formulated a budget, and managed the workers who assisted in the fence's reconstruction. Trent plans to attend Virginia Tech in the fall.

G. E. "Bubby" Miles, also a recent graduate of Washington and Lee High School, volunteered a considerable amount of his time at the Cople District Fire Department in Coles Point. Bubby plans to attend college in the fall.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Murphy Bailey, Trent Jones, and Bubby Miles for their accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for the efforts each of them put forth in achieving the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING SEAN NANK, RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

#### HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2010*

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sean Nank, a teacher at El Camino High School in Oceanside, California and congratulate him on receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). This remarkable achievement is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through twelfth grade mathematics or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States.

Mr. Nank has proven to be an outstanding educator who has taken his teaching to the next level. This prestigious award justly recognizes his curriculum content that has led to enhanced student learning through unique classroom instruction.

With 13 years of teaching experience, Mr. Nank is currently a secondary mathematics teacher of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II courses. He has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the needs of students by promoting the principles of a quality and challenging curriculum.

PAEMST is administered by the National Science Foundation on behalf of The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. This award recognizes teachers for their outstanding contributions to teaching and learning and their ability to help students make progress in mathematics and science.

As a well deserving recipient of this tremendous award, I am honored to represent constituents in the 49th District who are devoted to furthering the educational advancement of our nation's young people and encouraging and inspiring our next generation of leaders. This award represents a heartfelt salute of appreciation to Mr. Nank as an extraordinary teacher committed to helping students achieve academic success.

Madam Speaker, I would like to commend Mr. Nank's leadership and his dedication to advancing excellence in mathematics. Once again, I congratulate him on receiving this incredible honor and applaud his contributions to the education of future generations.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SGT JOSHUA AKONI SABLALUKEALA

#### HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2010*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and sacrifice of

● 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.

United States Army Sergeant Joshua Akoni Sablan Lukeala. SGT Lukeala served in the 101st Airborne Division's Air Assault team based out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and on June 9, 2010, SGT Lukeala passed away in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He was 23 years old.

SGT Lukeala was born on February 19, 1987, to Anthony and Dorothy Lukeala of Yigo, Guam. The son of a retired Army veteran and Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor, SGT Lukeala's career began with the JROTC at Simon Sanchez High School where he excelled as an expert marksman. In 2005, he enlisted in the U.S. Army soon after his high school graduation. He was deployed to Iraq under the Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division in 2007, and during his deployment, SGT Lukeala was wounded by an improvised explosive device that detonated nearby while on foot patrol. The force of the blast caused SGT Lukeala to suffer partial hearing loss, and he was later awarded the Purple Heart in recognition of his service in Iraq.

Although he sustained injuries during his previous tour in Iraq, SGT Lukeala continued his service to our nation with the 101st Airborne Division in support of operations in Afghanistan. His commitment to the cause of freedom and to serving our nation on multiple tours of duty is to be commended. On June 9, 2010, SGT Lukeala paid the ultimate sacrifice in answering the call of duty, and I join our community in mourning the loss of SGT Lukeala and, on behalf of a grateful nation, I offer condolences to his wife, Deniece Nave Lukeala; his daughter; his parents, Anthony and Dorothy Lukeala; his brother, Anthony Keoni Lukeala; and to his many family and friends. We will never forget the sacrifice SGT Lukeala made for our freedom.

May God bless the family and friends of SGT Joshua Akoni Sablan Lukeala, God bless Guam, and God bless the United States of America.

IN MEMORY OF FRED LEWIS  
“SONNY” ANDERSON, JR.

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

MR. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness I rise today to mourn the passing of my friend and Minnesota criminal defense investigator, Fred Lewis “Sonny” Anderson, Junior.

Sonny was born and raised in Minneapolis and graduated from North High School in 1966. He went on to attend the University of Minnesota, where he majored in criminal justice. He served his country in the United States Army from 1968–1970, and later served his community for 25 years as a Criminal Defense Investigator with the Legal Rights Center in the Hennepin County Public Defender's Office. Sonny was an avid sportsman, and was a loving and loyal father, son, brother, uncle, grandfather and friend.

Sonny was the Chief Investigator during my tenure as Executive Director at the Legal Rights Center in Minneapolis, MN. Through Sonny's tireless and courageous work, many Minnesotans received high quality representa-

tion without regard to income or wealth. Sonny's pursuit of the truth was relentless. He stopped at nothing to find the elusive witness, document, or film footage for the sake of truth and justice. Sonny always worked for the innocent criminal defendant, but he believed that the quality of justice his clients received was a barometer for the quality of justice to which everyone is entitled.

Madam Speaker, Sonny had a profound impact on his country, his community, his friends and family, and will be missed by all who knew him.

MAJOR GENERAL DOUGLAS BURNETT, FLORIDA'S ADJUTANT GENERAL, RETIRES AFTER 47 YEARS IN UNIFORM

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

MR. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, our state of Florida and our nation will lose one of our nation's uniformed heroes Friday when Florida Adjutant General, Major General Douglas Burnett, retires after serving our state as Adjutant General for almost nine years.

In fact his 47 years, four months and 12 days in uniform make him our nation's longest serving Air Force officer. That is correct, General Burnett led the Florida National Guard while wearing a blue Air Force uniform. He was the first Air Guard officer selected by a Governor to lead Florida's National and Air Guard.

General Burnett led his troops with passion and compassion. He rose through the ranks of a life-long National Guard career, beginning as an enlisted aircraft radio repairman in 1963 and securing his officer's commission and flight wings in 1969. Throughout his career, he served at all levels of the Florida Guard, including five tours as Assistant Adjutant General Air and Commander of the Florida Air Guard.

Florida Governor Jeb Bush recognized this strong and steady record of leadership when just two months after one of our nation's darkest days, September 11, 2001, he selected General Burnett to serve as Florida's Adjutant General. It was a tall task for any officer but the right task for this General.

General Burnett quickly established the respect and confidence of his troops as he oversaw a force of 11,000 soldiers and airmen who deployed to two wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, responded to 14 hurricanes, five dangerous years of forest fires, untold tornadoes, and even a mission to secure the U.S.-Mexico border. In fact, the current deployment of Florida Guardsmen in support of Operation Enduring Freedom is the largest deployment of Florida troops since World War II.

Despite this hectic pace of operations over the past nine years, General Burnett never lost site of his mission to ensure the readiness of his troops and availability of the equipment they would need to carry out their missions safely and successfully. First and foremost, though, was the morale of his guardsmen and their families. As he told the Florida Air National Guard publication The Eagle's Eye, “I felt that when you get to know the people and you get to know their mission and you get to

know their needs, you can lead them better. I really dug in to know the culture, the needs.”

Following my remarks, Madam Speaker, I will include the full story about General Burnett entitled “A Leader's Legacy” written by Master Sergeant Thomas Kielbasa because it captures the essence of a leader who carries out his duties equally focused on his mission and the needs of his troops.

My wife Beverly and I know of General Burnett's commitment to standing up for the needs of his troops. We took many of his calls and e-mails in the middle of the night when others tried to deploy his troops with insufficient equipment, when they left his troops sitting on a tarmac without an aircraft waiting to return home, or when they readied his troops for deployment by putting them in inferior housing. Together we solved those problems but only because General Burnett had the courage to stand up for his troops and their families.

As a career guardsman, General Burnett knew that there is no distinction between the abilities and professionalism of guard and active duty troops. And he always made sure that our nation's military leadership knew that and respected the special skills of our Citizen Soldiers.

Throughout his life in uniform, General Burnett served side by side with his wife Judy who shared his commitment to taking care of the needs of his soldiers and particularly their families. She understood the stress of long deployments on spouses and children. This included financial and emotional strains.

Madam Speaker, Major General Douglas Burnett has raised the bar to a new level when it comes to leadership. He has devoted his life to securing our state and securing our nation. He has helped shepherd us through some of our most difficult and dangerous times and done it with great skill. He has also trained his replacement, Major General Emmett R. Titshaw, Jr., well as this Air Guardsmen will step right in prepared to lead Florida's troops wherever their mission takes them.

Our nation owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to Major General Douglas Burnett for his lifetime of service to our state and our nation and to the cause of freedom and liberty. He has followed in the greatest tradition of all those who have worn our nation's uniform from the Minutemen, our nation's earliest citizen soldiers, to the heroes who continue to carry out the international war on terrorism.

In behalf of the people of Florida and the United States of America, and all those General Burnett has served with and led these past 47 years, thank you for a job well done.

[From The Eagle's Eye]

A LEADER'S LEGACY: MAJOR GENERAL DOUGLAS BURNETT, ADJUTANT GENERAL OF FLORIDA, REFLECTS ON 47 YEARS OF SERVICE

(By Master Sgt. Thomas Kielbasa)

ST. AUGUSTINE, FL (June 17, 2010).—It's been a long, fast flight for Douglas Burnett. His career took off on a sunny morning nearly 50 years ago when he was a young Airman climbing into the cockpit of an F-102 fighter jet to repair a pilot's radio.

In what felt like just a few heartbeats to the Florida Guardsman and aspiring jet pilot, his career sped by like a supersonic fighter.

Now the 65-year-old major general and current Adjutant General of Florida knows his 47 years of military service are nearly over.