

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 indigent 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 over saw 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 Guardsman 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 carryout 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.

On June 26 Maj. Gen. Burnett will retire from the Florida National Guard, but he clearly remembers that day he first sat in a fighter jet and decided to make a lifetime commitment to the National Guard.

"It seems like yesterday," the general said during a recent interview at his home in St. Augustine. "I came back from tech school as an electronics specialist and I went out onto the flight line to repair a radio. I had to get into the cockpit to make sure it worked, and there was something about it that was bigger than anything I had seen in my life. Just sitting in that airplane . . . that was just a really big deal."

That moment in 1963 jumpstarted the young Burnett's career as an Air Force officer and fighter pilot, and when that career ends after 47 years, four months and 12 days, it will set a record making him the longest serving Air Force officer.

A CAREER TAKES OFF

A native of Jacksonville, Fla., Burnett grew up interested in electronics and developed a strong respect for the military that led him to enlist in the Florida Air National Guard. Shortly after high school he attended basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and then the U.S. Air Force Electronics School at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. For the next six years he served at the 125th Fighter Group in Jacksonville as an aircraft radio repairman.

"Being around folks in the Air Guard was just a joy to me," he recollected. "I was into drag racing at the time; the guys that had the best looking cars and the fastest cars were in the Air Guard as well."

With his sights set on being a fighter pilot and an officer, he earned a degree in Business Administration from the University of Southern Mississippi and received a direct commission in 1969. After fighter pilot training he was no longer just dreaming of flying the F-102 Delta Dagger, but was actually a full-time alert pilot and later a commercial pilot for Pan American World Airways and United Airlines.

After holding several key positions in the Florida Air National Guard and accumulating more than 20,000 flying hours in everything from the F-102 Delta Dagger to the C-130 Hercules, Burnett was selected as the Adjutant General of Florida in late 2001.

ENGAGED LEADERSHIP

For the first time in the history of the Florida National Guard an Air Guard officer had been chosen to lead the more than 12,000 Soldiers and Airmen in the state. This broke the tradition of only Army general officers serving as The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida.

"I had spent many years in the Florida Air National Guard and I knew my service—the 'blue suit' side—pretty well," the general explained. "As the new TAG I knew I had to get knee-deep into Soldier things—right down to the equipment our Soldiers used—everything."

Burnett admitted he had a learning curve to familiarize himself with every aspect of the Army National Guard; he studied everything from basic Infantry tactics to even learning the proper usage of the word "Hooah."

"I learned the Army language," he said. "It's almost like being bilingual . . . you come to appreciate the Army's culture, which is the rugged business of 'fieldcraft.'"

Throughout the next nine years Maj. Gen. Burnett would be seen jumping into a foxhole next to a young private to test a .50-calibre machine gun, looking under the hood of a mud-speckled Humvee, and even donning a Kevlar helmet to watch engineers rig explosives. Soldiers throughout the state would stare wide-eyed as the two-star gen-

eral approached them, asked about their jobs or families, and discussed the similarities between the Army and the Air Force.

"There are a lot of similarities," Burnett said. "That crew chief on the flight line is just as committed to working in tough conditions as that Army Infantry Soldier who is out there in the foxhole and crawling through the mud."

He admitted that some people might call his leadership style "micromanagement," but he calls it "engaged leadership."

"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," he explained. "I really dug in to know the culture, the needs."

WARTIME TAG

When he assumed the role of Adjutant General in November 2001, Maj. Gen. Burnett knew he was taking charge during an unprecedented time in the Florida National Guard. The Sept. 11 terrorist attacks were fresh wounds on the American psyche, and no one could exactly predict how that would affect those serving in uniform; during the next nine years the "Global War on Terrorism" would draw the talents of more than 11,000 Florida Army National Guard Soldiers and Airmen to locations and combat zones around the world.

"Not only were we engaged in combat operations in two wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and other places in harm's way, but we responded to 14 hurricanes, five firefighting seasons, major tornadoes, and we've done it all at the same time," the general noted. "And while we were doing this we also sent Florida Guardsmen to the U.S.-Mexico border security mission called 'Operation Jump Start.'"

Burnett said this showed the Department of Defense, the Departments of the Army and Air Force, and the National Guard Bureau, that "Florida can fight major wars, respond to natural disasters and still perform domestic security operations at the same time. The nation has a right to expect us to step up in all three venues."

But as the Florida National Guard moved into the uncharted territory of a 21st century battlefield, the general met the challenges and pressures of being a "wartime TAG."

"I can think of many occasions that kept me up at night," Burnett admitted. "The rapid deployment of the 53rd Brigade to Iraq in 2002 was one of the roughest periods, because we literally called Soldiers the day after Christmas and in five or six days we were moving them to Fort Stewart."

He said the biggest question he kept asking himself was whether the more than 1,500 Florida National Guard Soldiers were trained enough for combat operations against Saddam Hussein's forces.

"I was concerned if we had the right weapons," he explained. "For example, body armor: we did not start with the Interceptor body armor that the Active Duty had. And we didn't know if we were going to have it until right before we went through that berm between Jordan and Iraq. I was very concerned we weren't going to have it."

Thanks to support by congressional leaders, National Guard Soldiers and Airmen throughout Florida were equipped and ready, Burnett noted.

"Our congressional delegation has been magnificent in our support of the Florida National Guard, particularly in the funding of new equipment," he said. "The Constitution says that the Congress will equip the Guard, and they've done that. Congressman C.W. Bill Young has been an absolute hero in leading the charge for the modernization of equipment and facilities for the Florida Na-

tional Guard. Our senators and the rest of the delegation have been superb as well."

Later in 2003 uncertainty about the redeployment dates of the Florida Infantry units serving in Iraq brought a storm of media coverage and outcry from concerned family members. The general's answer was to address the concerns of the families and the public directly during a series of unprecedented and personal "town hall meetings."

"Initially our Soldiers believed they would only be gone for six months," Maj. Gen. Burnett recollected. "As it became obvious they would spend a year of 'boots on the ground' our families were frightened and they were frustrated. I felt the only way to get the message to them was to do it personally."

In a little over a week he participated in ten meetings from South Florida to the Panhandle, meeting with family groups and letting them know why the Soldiers would continue to serve in the combat zone.

"It was a pick-up game at that point; things were changing daily," he said. "I was working on behalf of the governor to carry facts to these families. And it was a very difficult mission because the senior leaders in Iraq were telling Guardsmen that they were going to be going home at the six-month point. And the information I was getting from the Pentagon was that we were going to be there for a year. I had to go out and deliver that news, and it was very difficult to look these families in the eyes and tell them their Soldiers would be gone another six months."

"NOT YOUR GRANDFATHER'S NATIONAL GUARD"

The extensive deployments for the Soldiers and Airmen of the Florida National Guard after 2001 demanded a commitment to a tenet that the Adjutant General addressed throughout his career: Readiness.

"Readiness and high states of readiness are confidence builders," he explained. "These successes ensure (Department of Defense) support and Congressional funding. You just can't operate a National Guard with anything less than the highest standards."

Burnett's mantra of the Guard moving from "a force in reserve to a force in being" was echoed throughout the Florida National Guard during his tenure and evidenced each time an Army or Air unit left for deployment. He said Active Duty counterparts and Florida citizens deserved to know how ready and reliable the Florida National Guard actually was, especially during high-profile missions like Operations Noble Eagle, Iraqi Freedom, or Enduring Freedom.

"I think we've been able to transcend a lot of concerns about Guard readiness in the past, because over seven years of combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq they have found the Guard highly capable," he said.

The general pointed to high ratings by the Florida Air National Guard on Operational Readiness Inspections, and by the Florida Army National Guard on Command Logistics Review inspections, as proof of this.

"That's the way to send the signal that we 'get it,'" he said. "This is not your grandfather's National Guard."

"I really hope the commitment to excellence that I've tried to instill, has become a mindset in our Soldiers and Airmen," Burnett added. "If you don't want to be part of the best National Guard state in America, you probably don't want to serve here. And I can assure you that almost all of our people feel that way. We have fighter pilots wanting to join the 125th Fighter Wing because of its high standards of excellence. We have young people that stay with us on the Army side because they want to be on a winning team. And we are a winning team."

LEGACY OF PEOPLE

When he entered the military during the heyday of the Cold War, Airman Burnett was

working with equipment and aircraft that now can probably only be seen in military museums. Almost half a century later the Guard's equipment has changed, but the high level of commitment and service found in its people has remained.

According to the Adjutant General, he believes his own commitment to those members of the Florida National Guard's enlisted and officer corps will serve as his lasting legacy.

"I would hope that my biggest legacy is that I was a leader who was engaged in the full spectrum of our missions, but was mostly concerned about people," he said. "Because, it is the people that make the National Guard what it is. We've always done the missions even though we haven't always had the best equipment. We've got good equipment now, but it's the same great people we've always had."

Burnett lauded the non-commissioned officers (NCOs) he has served with during his long career, noting that while their professionalism has remained high, they have become increasingly "technically and professionally proficient" over the years.

"I still hold in awe the NCOs that led us during the 60s, the 70s and the 80s; they were absolutely astounding," he explained. "We've always had strong NCOs, but they've stepped up, they're taking on more responsibility earlier, they're exerting strong leadership skills earlier."

He noted that as a senior leader he always tried to focus his own energy on meeting the needs of the junior enlisted and junior officers.

"I've been concerned with making sure our leaders understand how important it is to reach out to every individual Guardsman so that they know how important we think they are," he said. "And they are very important to us."

The general and his wife Judy were also ever-present supporters of the Guard's expanding Family Readiness initiatives; whether it was at a unit deployment or a welcome-home ceremony, the Burnetts could be found meeting with Soldiers, Airmen, and their Families.

"I've been honored to serve alongside some unbelievable people, both Army and Air," he said. "I've tried to shift our focus from simply taking care of Soldiers and Airmen to actually meeting our service members' expectations. Let me tell you, there's a big difference between taking care of Guardsmen and meeting their expectations. You have to think a little more and you certainly have to work a lot harder."

FINAL APPROACH

Each generation of Guardsmen has a leader that represents its period of service, and those Florida Soldiers and Airmen who served during the first decade of the 21st Century will see Burnett as this generation's leader. After Maj. Gen. Burnett hangs up his uniform for the final time, he will stand among those leaders who helped carry on a tradition of military service in Florida that stretches back to 1565.

"I'm going to miss the people," Burnett said. "That is what this business is all about; being around Guardsmen has been my life."

He said he won't miss the status or the rank that went with being the Adjutant General, but rather will miss wearing his military uniform and interacting with his fellow Guard members.

"I'll miss wearing the uniform because it identifies you with people who have a similar commitment to something bigger than yourself," he added. "For me the National Guard has been my passion. I loved to fly, but being able to make a difference and make the lives of our people better is a passion that has consumed me. That is what I'll miss."

As his 47-year-long sortie comes to an end, and he pushes back the cockpit canopy of an historic career one last time, Douglas Burnett will know the flight lasted just a few seconds—nearly 1.5 billion seconds.

And the Florida National Guard is grateful for every second he has given to our state and nation. Well done, sir . . . well done!

CONGRATULATING KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR WINNING THE 2010 TEXAS SAFE SCHOOLS AWARD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Keller Independent School District in Keller, Texas. Keller ISD is the winner of the 2010 Texas Safe School Award, which is given to the school district with the most comprehensive security plan in the State.

Keller ISD has implemented a system where campus doors are locked and visitors are buzzed in at one or two locations. At most schools, visitors are routed directly to the office where drivers' licenses are scanned through the Raptor System. The program compares the identification with sex offender databases and issues an alert if necessary. The system also prints out a sticker with the person's name and driver's license photo.

Districts were judged on their collaborative efforts with local law enforcement and emergency personnel, the number of student resource officers, staff development and student training for emergencies, violence and drug abuse prevention, anti-bullying and safe dating initiatives, mentoring and community participation and innovations.

Madam Speaker, I would like to submit for the Record the names of the Keller ISD staff that were instrumental in achieving this honor:

Jeff Baker—Director of Planning and Development

Cliff Jaynes—Coordinator of Emergency Management and Security

Danny Mitchell—Security Specialist

Scott Kessel—Director of Guidance and Counseling

Marcene Weatherall—Coordinator of Drug and Alcohol Prevention

The Texas School Safety Center solicits nominations each year for districts that demonstrate a multi-layered approach to security. The award will be presented at the annual Texas Safe Schools Conference.

Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize Keller ISD, winner of the 2010 Texas Safe School Award. Keller ISD is to be highly commended for their ongoing efforts to ensure the safety of its students, faculty and staff. It is an honor to represent Keller ISD in the U.S. House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM A. OBERLE, JR.

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize today the career

of the Honorable State Representative William A. Oberle, Jr. A member of Delaware's General Assembly for over 34 years, Representative Oberle has served his constituents, his community and his state with genuine devotion, and his presence will be greatly missed.

For over three decades Bill has worked diligently as a representative of the 24th Representative District, ensuring that his constituents have had a strong voice in the General Assembly. I worked with Bill for eight years at Legislative Hall in Dover, Delaware and was able to witness first hand his steadfastness and spirit. Bill will leave behind an indelible legacy in the General Assembly—for his countless years of dedicated service and, most of all, for his outstanding commitment to the constituents whom he represented. His history of determination and resolve serves as a template for all public servants.

Bill holds the distinct title of the General Assembly's longest serving Republican ever, which he achieved through years of hard work, putting aside party differences and reaching across the aisle to arrive at policies which were most beneficial to his constituents and the state of Delaware. Over his career, Bill has been the champion of imperative legislation which brought much needed change to our state. A strong labor supporter, his work on the issues of neighborhood schooling, workers compensation, and the support he lent to various police forces have been efficacious in elevating Delaware's communities.

I am proud to have served with Bill for the eight years that I did, and pleased to have this opportunity to honor him on the occasion of his retirement from the Delaware House of Representatives. He has been unwavering in his mission to represent the 24th Representative District, and will be remembered for his countless contributions to his constituents, and the state of Delaware. Bill has had a terrific career of public service and I wish both him and his wife, Sally, the best on this momentous occasion.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1330, a resolution that supports the goals and ideals of National Hurricane Preparedness Week. I also want to thank my colleague, the honorable MARIO DIAZ-BALART, for introducing this important resolution.

My district is in the wake of many hurricanes that make their way into the Gulf of Mexico. Hurricane season has a profound impact on our way of life in the gulf. Hurricane season is upon us, and with it comes the distinct possibility of Mother Nature wreaking more havoc on our gulf coast. Our oceans are in peril. Reams of film from the field reach all of our doorsteps, pictures of oil covered birds, ailing mammals, and other creatures that couldn't possibly survive the copious amounts of oil. The harm done to our gulf is already at an unprecedented level.

Unfortunately, as long as oil plumes continue to form nebulous clouds of black a mile