

HONORING REAR ADMIRAL LEROY COLLINS, JR.

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Rear Admiral Leroy Collins, Jr., who was taken from this world after a tragic accident in South Tampa.

A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Admiral Collins continued to serve our country first on active duty and then in the Naval Reserves for 34 years. He continued his dedication to country as an advocate for veterans' health and economic well being in his role as Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs.

At 75, Admiral Collins was still an active member of the community. In addition to maintaining a rigorous athletic schedule, he served on the boards of Tampa General Hospital, Collins Center for Public Policy, S.S. *American Victory*, and the Armed Forces Financial Network.

I know that his wife, children, and grandchildren played an enormous role in his life and brought him great joy. It is with great sympathy that I extend my condolences to his family. I am honored to have known Admiral Collins. He has truly served our community, State, and country well and will be missed.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF REV. HAROLD BLACKBURN

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay homage to the memory of a much beloved servant of the Lord—and good friend to many in South Alabama—who recently passed away at the age of 93.

For some, a career of nearly two decades working for the phone company would be the foundation of their life, yet for Harold Blackburn, a native of Citronelle, Alabama, it was just a warm-up. He was destined for a higher calling.

After 19 years at South Central Bell, Mr. Blackburn traded his business clothes for the cloth, becoming a minister of the Lord.

For the next 36 years, Reverend Blackburn—or Brother Harold as he was affectionately known—embarked upon a grand journey that took him from the pulpit to the field, first serving as pastor for a number of Southern Baptist churches all across Alabama.

From the church sanctuary, Reverend Blackburn turned his message to outreach, becoming Director of Missions, serving churches in Clarke and Chambers counties for 23 years, and then leading Baldwin County church missions programs for another 13 years.

Reverend Blackburn loved nature and was also an avid hunter. In his retirement years in Silverhill, Alabama, he was well known for his interest in taxidermy.

Without question, this man of incredible faith lived a long and remarkable life with a legacy of dear friends that literally stretches from one end of the state to the other.

In this time of deep personal loss, I offer my condolences to his wife and childhood sweetheart, Miriam, their two daughters, Carol Ann and Deborah Kay, their six grandchildren, and 19 great grandchildren.

Make no mistake: he loved his family, his friends, his country and his God, and not necessarily in that order.

Rev. Blackburn's life was an inspiration to everyone he met and his memory will long linger in our hearts. May he rest in peace.

HONORING SOJOURN TO THE PAST ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1058, which honors and praises the Sojourn to the Past organization on the occasion of its 10th anniversary. This resolution recognizes an important educational program that helps students understand the invaluable role of the Civil Rights Movement in our Nation's moral and social development.

I thank Chairman MILLER for his leadership in bringing this measure to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this resolution, Congressman Louis, whose role in the Civil Rights Movement and work as a public servant has made the United States a more tolerant and democratic country.

Madam Speaker, the Civil Rights Movement was a transformative experience for the United States. It helped our Nation grow out of a culture of bigotry, segregation, and oppression, and extend the democratic freedoms promised by our Nation's founders to people that had, for more than two centuries, been deemed second-class citizens. It elevated our moral standing in the world and brought our Nation closer to meeting the ideals set forth in our founding documents.

It is absolutely essential that every high school student in the United States understands the moral gravity and massive historical significance of the Civil Rights Movement. The Sojourn to the Past project helps us achieve this goal. Established in 1999, the Sojourn to the Past project takes high school students on a 10-day excursion along the path of the Civil Rights Movement in the southern United States, engaging them with historical sites and talks with prominent veteran leaders of the movement. The longest running civil rights education program in the United States, the program has conducted 55 sojourns and introduced over 5,000 high school juniors and seniors to the lessons, locations, and leaders of the Civil Rights Movement.

Madam Speaker, the Civil Rights Movement is not only a vital part of our past, but its lessons are instructive in the ongoing efforts to end violence, discrimination, hatred, and inequality in the United States and across the world. The work of the Sojourn to the Past program is extremely commendable. It instills in our future leaders the knowledge and understanding needed to bring continued moral and social progress to our Nation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

IN HONOR OF STEPHEN J. BRAVERMAN'S EIGHTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Stephen J. Braverman, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to senior citizens in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and to commend him for eighteen years of service to Hebrew SeniorLife and the Institute for Aging Research.

During his tenure, Steve provided rigorous medical research of new models and standards by which to enhance long-term care for the aging community. Steve has worked to maximize the strength, vigor, and physical well-being, and preserve the cognitive and functional capabilities of senior citizens as they age.

I would also like to acknowledge his continued commitment to developing and managing two of the largest capital campaigns for senior care, housing, and research throughout the country, which enhance the resources for age-related disease and disability. In addition, he has actively sought and secured endowed chairs for research in Quality and Health Care Standards and Aging Brain Research.

Most importantly, Steve has been a consistent leader in his community, and a strong mentor and friend to his colleagues.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take the floor of the House today to join with his family, friends and contemporaries to thank Steve for his remarkable service to the Institute for Aging Research and the people of Massachusetts. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Stephen J. Braverman's efforts and dedicated service to others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, on Monday, July 26, 2010, I was unable to cast my vote in support of the Twenty-first Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act.

I am in support of this legislation and its passage.

CELEBRATING THE 65TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF FRED AND BETTY WILLIAMS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the marriage of Fred and Betty Williams. Fred and Betty embody all that marriage should be: fidelity, loyalty, and a strong bond formed by love. They, and all that they have done to help

their communities throughout their lives, are typical of the hard-working Americans we represent across our great Nation.

I have known Fred and Betty for almost 40 years, beginning when I attended college with their son Larry at Southern Nazarene University. Married in Longview, Texas, on August 30, 1945, they worked for years at Sears—Fred for 33, and Betty for 8, after a career at JC Penney. After retirement, they moved to Carrollton, Texas, where they embarked on an active retirement in politics, as church volunteers, and as donors to those less fortunate than themselves.

Since moving to Carrollton, the Williams' dedication to the town and area has been unmatched. Fred has served two terms as the Denton County Grand Juror and two terms on the Denton County Appraisal Review Board. Additionally, both Betty and Fred have served as polling place election judges and assistants for over a decade throughout north Texas; including Dallas, Carrollton, Denton County, Farmers Branch Independent School District, and Lewisville Independent School District.

Fred and Betty have been involved in the Church of Nazarene for 60 years. Both have taught Sunday School, sang in the choir, worked with children and youth, and held official positions within the church—Fred as church treasurer and Betty as missionary society president. Furthermore, they have helped clean the church for 10 years, and conducted various duties for the benefit of missionaries, pastors, evangelists, and college students.

Fred and Betty embody the best of the American spirit of hard work and dedication to neighbors and community. They have raised three great children in addition to everything else they have done to improve the environment in which they live. It is with recognition of these accomplishments that I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring and thanking the Williams for their lifetime of service and congratulating them on 65 years of marriage.

CONGRATULATING COAST GUARD ACADEMY ON 100TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United States Coast Guard Academy on its 100 years of operation in New London, Connecticut and in support of H. Con. Res. 258, sponsored by my friend and colleague, Mr. COURTNEY of Connecticut. Congratulations are due to the Commandant, the Superintendent, dedicated staff, cadets and all graduates of this fine U.S. Service Academy.

The U.S. Coast Guard Academy has educated and developed a century of U.S. leaders of character who have led and continue to lead men and women in the Coast Guard's unique role as a multi-mission, maritime military force. I am proud of those Minnesotans from my congressional district who have gone on to become leaders.

The role of the U.S. Coast Guard has grown beyond maritime safety and security. Particularly since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the Coast Guard has answered the

call to serve our community, country and fellow citizens through critical service in protection of natural resources, management of maritime traffic, commerce and navigation and our national defense.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to submit this statement in honor of 100 years of excellence at the United States Coast Guard Academy. All Americans are fortunate to benefit from the leadership and service of its graduates.

TRIBUTE TO COMMERCIAL BANK

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Commercial Bank in West Liberty, Kentucky. Founded in January 1910, Commercial Bank has grown to serve Morgan, Wolfe, Magoffin and Elliott Counties, many of which are located in the 5th congressional district of eastern Kentucky.

The citizens of Morgan County have been served by Commercial Bank's one location in downtown West Liberty since the bank's founding 100 years ago. Like the other locally-owned banks across my district, Commercial Bank has a conservative lending approach that provides stability and security for the community. The bank is owned by 25 local investors in partnership with the employees of the institution.

Commercial Bank is dedicated to the local community and supports numerous activities that make West Liberty and Morgan County such a special place. The bank and its employees have been longtime supporters of civic clubs, youth sports, the local school system, and the annual Morgan County Sorghum Festival.

Commercial Bank is led today by Hank Allen who serves as president and chief executive officer. He is joined on the Board of Directors by a distinguished group of business and civic leaders which include Morris L. Peyton, Howard B. Elam, Jr., Bob Hutchison, Tommy Phipps, Earl May, Jr., Frank Oldfield, Kent Nickell, Robert Henderson, David Osborne, Joe S. Wells, Edward C. Keeton, Jr., William Holbrook, Jerry Murphy, Tommy Hill, Barrett Frederick, Tim Keller, William S. Wells, Robert Wells, Jimmy V. Hill, Proctor Blair, Henry L. Allen, Paul D. Kidd, Stanley Franklin, and Jeff Bailey.

Madam Speaker, the people of West Liberty and Morgan County will gather in early August at West Liberty's Old Mill Park to celebrate Commercial Bank's 100th anniversary. I am proud to serve the people of Morgan County here in Congress and wish to extend congratulations to Commercial Bank on its 100 years of service to West Liberty.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN FRANK ROBERTS (RET.)

HON. GLENN C. NYE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. NYE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Captain Frank Roberts (ret.), a long-

time resident of Virginia Beach and a lifelong public servant, on the occasion of his retirement from the Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance.

Frank Roberts is a 1969 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and had a distinguished 27-year active duty career with the U.S. Navy, retiring with rank of Captain. One of only 300 aviators ever to surpass 1000 carrier arrested landings, Frank is a graduate of the "Topgun" Navy Fighter Weapons School and the Naval War College. He has always welcomed professional challenges and never declined an opportunity to serve his country. The list of Frank's active duty assignments is long and many Naval personnel, both uniformed and civilian, count themselves fortunate for the opportunity to have served with, and learned from, Frank Roberts.

Upon his retirement from the U.S. Navy in 1996, Frank was employed by OC, Incorporated and provided military analytical support to the Joint Warfighting Center. From 1997 to 2003, Frank served as the Vice President and Director of Hampton Roads operations for Battlespace, Inc., where he supported joint unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) experimentation at U.S. Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM). From 2003 to 2006, Frank was employed by Old Dominion University Research Foundation and was assigned to USJFCOM to lead the Joint Operational Test Bed System UAV experimentation program focused on transforming intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities.

The Hampton Roads area was fortunate when Frank Roberts stepped in as the first Executive Director of the Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance in 2006. The communities that comprise the Alliance—Chesapeake, Franklin, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, Williamsburg, Isle of Wight, James City and York—selected Frank to lead the Alliance because of his expertise, his experience, his work ethic, and his dedication. Hampton Roads has played a critical role in America's national and homeland defense for generations. In Frank, the Alliance found an effective and tireless advocate on behalf of the region's unique capabilities and the Commonwealth's contributions to protecting our nation. During a time of great change and uncertainty due in part to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, Frank's tenure as the head of HRMFFA will be remembered for his steadfast leadership as he navigated the Alliance through choppy waters to calmer seas.

Frank has been buoyed in his professional career by a loving family at home—his wife Joan, his son Jim, his late daughter Andrea and his grandchildren, Reagan and Lucas, have been a source of love and support. On behalf of the Second Congressional District, I would like to thank Frank Roberts and the Roberts family for his many years of public service to Virginia and to our nation. Frank Roberts is someone who answered the call to serve his country, and his service has made a difference. We wish you well, Frank, and hope you know how deeply grateful we are for your contributions.