

done so much to directly improve the lives of those she has so ably represented.

HONORING ARMY MASTER
SERGEANT MITTMAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 29, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate and honor the service of Army Master Sergeant Jeffrey Mittman for receiving the Osborne A. "Oz" Day AbilityOne Awareness Award. The prestigious "Oz" Award is presented by the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled to an employee at a federal agency who demonstrates exceptional service promoting the AbilityOne Program throughout the federal, state and local communities.

Now, the National Account Manager for the National Industries for the Blind's Midwest Region, Master Sergeant Mittman supports a mission of employment for others with disabilities by promoting the AbilityOne Program through the federal procurement process in Indiana's 5th Congressional District. This patriot's story is a remarkable one, for his story does not start nor finish here with this award.

Master Sergeant Mittman's indefatigable commitment to serve his fellow Americans began as a soldier in the United States Army in 1989. Having fought in Operation Desert Storm, Operation Desert Shield, Operation Enduring Freedom, and in 2003, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Master Sergeant Mittman was the All-American hero who never turned down defending his country. It wasn't till his return to Iraq in 2005 as a special advisor to the Iraqi Department of the Interior that he came face to face with death changing his life forever.

Tragically, an improvised explosive device exploded near his vehicle in Iraq, leaving Master Sergeant Mittman without a nose, lips, most of his teeth, and the majority of his vision. Since that time, he has endured more than 40 operations and spent over four years recovering physically and emotionally. To his great credit, he has traveled the country sharing the lessons he learned from these experiences with the world.

He is noted for saying it is the veteran who has to take that very first step to recovering and that he realized this after attending the Blinded Veterans Association Conference in 2006, where he met people who were blinded years ago who are now attorneys, teachers and business executives. After realizing life can be good in spite of having a disability, he decided to help others who also have disabilities find jobs and lead meaningful lives.

Master Sergeant Mittman, a 40-year-old decorated warrior, husband of 17 years, father of two and outspoken military veteran was and forever will be an All-American hero whose determination and selflessness continue to serve our country and inspire our hearts. Today, we salute you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 29, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 580 I was not present and am not recorded due to a family illness.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING JUDGE WILLIAM C.
HARRISON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 29, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge William C. Harrison, who is retiring after serving 20 years as a Superior Court Judge in Solano County, California.

Judge Harrison was appointed to the bench in 1990 by California Governor George Deukmejian. He twice served as Presiding Judge of the Courts and was Supervising Judge of the Civil Division for four years, the Criminal Division for two years and the Vallejo Branch for two years. He is a past judge of the Juvenile Delinquency and Dependency Calendars and past probate judge. He currently serves as President of the Solano County Law Library Board.

He served as a member of the Executive Board of the California Judges Association and was a member of its Public Information and Education Committee and the Probate and Mental Health Committee. He served as President of the organization in 2000–2001.

Judge Harrison was also a member of the Judicial Council of California, the policymaking body of the California courts, which is the largest court system in the Nation. He served as Vice Chair of the Council's Internal Rules and Project Committee and Chair of the Internal Litigation Management Committee. He has also served as an instructor and facilitator for the California Center for Judicial Education and Research, the educational arm of the Judicial Council which provides continuing education to California's judges, and is currently co-chair of the Presiding Judges and Court Executive Officers Executive Committee.

For the last eight years, Judge Harrison has served by appointment of the Chief Justice of California on working groups and task forces dealing with judicial selection, court fees, the transfer of court facilities to the state, and court security.

Madam Speaker, Judge Harrison has served his community well and has distinguished himself throughout his career as an attorney practicing in Vallejo, California and as a member of the bench. It is therefore appropriate that we acknowledge his many contributions and wish him well on his retirement.

CONGRATULATING MARY ALICE
D'ARCY ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 29, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a special constituent from my congressional district, Mary Alice D'Arcy, on her upcoming retirement. For the past thirty years, she has had a remarkable impact on Easter Seals DuPage and the Fox Valley Region.

Since 1981, Mary Alice has served as President and CEO of Easter Seals, one of the largest out-patient pediatric rehabilitation centers in Illinois. Under her leadership, Easter Seals was awarded the highest possible accreditation for outpatient rehabilitation from the Commission for Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities in 2007 and 2010.

Mary Alice has been an important advocate of the organization's mission to enable infants, children and adults with disabilities to achieve independence. She has dedicated her life to helping these individuals in overcoming obstacles, and has been a great friend and mentor to families across the State of Illinois.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing her extraordinary service and wishing her every happiness in the well deserved respite of her retirement.

HONORING THOMAS DREWES OF
RARITAN TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 29, 2010

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Mr. Thomas Drewes of Raritan Township, New Jersey.

At the end of 2010, Thomas Drewes will retire from the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service after 36 years of dedicated public service.

Throughout his long and distinguished career Mr. Drewes has been an enthusiastic advocate for the importance of soil health and has inspired many educational and outreach efforts in New Jersey. Thomas Drewes has made a real difference in his community and throughout New Jersey as a lead conservationist.

Over the years Mr. Drewes has received numerous awards for his contributions to conservation. In 2005 Mr. Drewes was nominated by his peers and selected to receive the New Jersey "State Conservationist Award" for his leadership in conservation in the Garden State. In 2010 the New Jersey Association of Conservation Districts presented Mr. Drewes with a "Special Recognition Award" for his commitment and dedication to conservation in New Jersey. That same year Mr. Drewes received the "Employee Choice Award" from the New Jersey Conservation District Employees Association.

It gives me great pleasure to share the remarkable efforts of Mr. Thomas Drewes of Raritan Township, New Jersey with my colleagues in the United States Congress and with the American people.

I am honored to join his friends, family and colleagues in congratulating him on his retirement after 36 years of service to the people of New Jersey in making a real difference in my home state's conservation efforts.

Congratulations Tom and best of luck to you in your retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 29, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 575, I was not present and am not recorded due to a family illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

BROTHER . . . BROTHER . . . COMBAT MEDIC SPC JEROD HEATH OSBORNE, UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 29, 2010

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American family, and a fallen hero and his brother. On July 5, 2010, Combat Medic SPC Jerod Heath Osborne of Royce, Texas, of the 4/73 82nd Airborne, died during an IED explosion in Afghanistan. In his short life he was a combat medic, an Angel on the Battlefield, the ones who rush in while all around the face of hell is going on. The lives that he has saved in his brief but great life will be measured in the future, with children and heroes that he has saved. His brother SSG Wautash Grillett of the 10th Mountain Div. 1st Combat Team 2nd Batt. 22nd Infantry, on September 21 of that same year almost died in a mortar attack and is currently fighting to save his leg. This family, throughout the generations, has served our nation in the Armed Forces. As recently as the Vietnam war, their uncle James Carter gave his life in the name of freedom. The very bed of our Nation's freedom is built upon selfless families, our prayers and thoughts go out to them. SSG Grillett has said that his brother Jerod always wanted to be just like him, but now he wants to be like his brother.

BROTHER . . . BROTHER . . .

Brother . . . Brother . . .

My . . .

My Brother's Gift . . .

So very precious, as was this . . .

My Brother's Faith, shall forever so wave . . .

My Brother's life, one of such so sure selfless sacrifice . . .

All in his amazing grace . . .

My Brother's life, so very short . . . yet shines so bright!

Moments, are all we have!

To grab hearts, To Make A Difference . . . to Heaven rise!

As an Angel on The Battlefield . . .

As into the face of death Jerod, you so ran . . . and not to yield . . .

To but so save sacred life, as was your mission . . . as was his most divine light! From dusk to dawn, as a battlefield combat medic your courage worn!

As all around you Jerod, the face of death so swarmed!

And what child may be born?

All from your love Jerod, upon battlefields of honor adorned!

That might so save the world, who now lives on . . .

And all those lives you saved, just moments from the grave . . .

And what children, all on this morning will awake?

With but the greatest gift of all, in their hearts to take!

With a Mother or Father, a Sister or Brother whose fine lives you saved . . .

Brother . . . Brother, oh how it's for you I cry!

A promise I've made, as I wipe these tears from my eyes!

That I will live for you, each and every new day, every sunrise!

To the fullest! All in your fine name!

And if ever I have a new son, your name will be his . . . this one!

Brother . . . Brother . . . I am so very proud of you!

All in what you have done . . . oh yes it's true!

Only the good die young, as now you shine all up in Heaven's sun!

As an Angel In The Army of our Lord, with your new battle begun!

To watch over us, as Thy Will Be Done!

Brother . . . Brother . . .

All across Texas this night . . .

As we lay our heads down to rest, as comes a gentle rain . . .

As upon us, are but our Lord's tears to wash over us . . .

And so bless us, to so ease our pain!

As he cries for your most sacred sacrifice, this rain . . .

Brother . . . Brother . . . I cannot wait until up in Heaven we meet again . . .

And we won't have to cry anymore, all in this pain . . .

Brother, Brother, once you so wanted to be just like me . . .

Now, I'm the one who so wants . . . to be like you!

Brother . . . Brother . . . Amen . . .

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 29, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 574 I was not present and am not recorded due to a family illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING TERRI HEMMERT

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 29, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements in broadcasting of Chicago's own Terri Hemmert. Ms. Hemmert, who is already featured in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's "Rock and Radio" exhibit, was inducted into The Radio Hall of Fame on November 6, 2010.

Ms. Hemmert first fell in love with music after watching The Beatles on The Ed Sullivan Show as a child in Piqua, Ohio. She began her career in broadcasting as a late night disc-jockey at WCMF in Rochester, New York, be-

fore returning to the Midwest and in 1973 joined the burgeoning progressive rock station WXRT in Chicago, where she has stayed for 37 years.

In 1981, Ms. Hemmert's career took off when she became Chicago's first female morning drive personality. The knowledge and love of the music she played, coupled with her infectious personality made Terri Hemmert one of the household names in the city's ring of FM broadcasters. As a renowned Beatles expert, she was the ideal candidate to host Chicago's Fest For Beatles Fans, a position she's held for 30 years.

Ms. Hemmert contributes to the City of Chicago in other vital ways. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Peace Museum, Facets Multimedia and many other non-profit organizations. She teaches the History of Rock and Soul at Columbia College Chicago and lends her expertise as an advisor to the student radio station.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Terri Hemmert and her extraordinary career, numerous contributions to gender equality in broadcasting and bringing joy to thousands of Chicagoans stuck in traffic on their morning commutes. I would like to congratulate Ms. Hemmert on a life of accomplishment with more sure to come.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF MICHAEL REAGAN, AN ARTIST AND VIETNAM WAR VETERAN FROM EDMONDS, WASHINGTON

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 29, 2010

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, all members of this body and indeed all Americans are united in the high esteem we have for the men and women of our Armed Forces who have given their lives in service to our country.

A constituent of mine provides a grand example in this regard. Mr. Michael Reagan, a portrait artist residing in Edmonds, Washington, a member of the U.S. Marine Corps, a combat veteran of the Vietnam War, and a member of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars, has committed himself to providing surviving families with hand-drawn portraits of every man or woman killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. To date, Mr. Reagan has completed over 2,400 portraits of servicemembers.

These portraits make a difference. A wife of a fallen Marine wrote to Mr. Reagan, "I sit in the living room every day looking at the portrait you drew . . . It just brings me a little bit of peace because I feel like he's right there with me."

In honoring the dead and comforting the living, Mr. Reagan helps the families to hold their loved ones in their hearts forever and helps assure that our Nation will never forget the service they gave and the sacrifice they made. I believe we should reflect on Mr. Reagan's contribution and ask ourselves how we, too can continue to honor the brave men and women of our Armed Forces.