

HONORING THE HONORABLE
RONALD PANIOTO

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of the Honorable Ronald Panioto, who is retiring as a judge of the Hamilton County Common Pleas Court. Judge Panioto leaves the courtroom some 35 years after he first ascended the bench of the Hamilton County Municipal Court.

Judge Panioto became presiding judge of the domestic relations division of the Common Pleas Court in 1981, and he quickly gained a reputation for fairness and sensitivity for families—especially the children—who came before him.

On the occasions in domestic cases when he had to interview children, Judge Panioto bought stuffed animals to give to the children to put them at ease.

Throughout his life, Judge Panioto has rightfully been proud of his Italian heritage and served as President of the United Italian Society from 1971 to 1993.

Judge Panioto's diligence, humanity and graciousness on the bench have won him the respect of the community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in wishing Judge Panioto a long and happy retirement and thanking his wife Judith, his son Ronald Jr., his granddaughter Christine and great-grandson Andrew for sharing the judge with us over all these years.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
RON SANTO

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the passing of legendary Chicago Cubs third baseman and broadcaster Ron Santo, and to recognize his lifetime of achievement both on and off the baseball diamond.

Ronald Edward Santo was born February 25, 1940 in Seattle, Washington. Twenty years later, he made his professional baseball debut at third base for the Chicago Cubs. Over his 14-year major league career, the first 13 with the Cubs and the final season with the crosstown White Sox, Santo hit 342 home runs, had 1,331 RBIs, won 5 Gold Gloves, and appeared in 9 All-Star games. He is considered perhaps the greatest player not currently in the Hall of Fame. Nonetheless, his number 10 is immortalized on the North Side, hanging on the left field pole at Wrigley Field, which Santo referred to as "my Hall of Fame."

After a successful baseball career, Santo spent 15 years in business before returning to the Cubs as the color commentator for WGN Radio's Cubs broadcasts in 1990. He spent the next 20 years in the Cubs radio booth, and his passion and enthusiasm for the home team, which surfaced in disheartened groans as often as supportive exclamations, endeared him to a new generation of Cubs fans. Santo always seemed at ease in the WGN booth

and established himself as the rightful heir to Harry Carey's oversized throne as the king of Chicago Cubs commentary.

Away from the "Friendly Confines," Santo worked tirelessly to raise money and awareness for Diabetes through the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Diagnosed at age 18, his diabetes was unknown even to his teammates until 1971, when Santo decided to use his star power to draw attention to the disease. From 1979 until his death, Santo sponsored the JDRF Walk to Cure Diabetes, helping to raise over \$60 million for research and advocacy. Santo's teammate Ernie Banks said of his fellow Cub, "Ronnie has handled his own ailment like the true champion he is. He is the most courageous person I've ever been around. I'm inspired by him and by his spirit. He is one of my idols, one of my heroes. I love Ron Santo."

Ron Santo passed away on Thursday, December 2. He will be sorely missed, but his legacy will continue to inspire us all.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL JAMES L.
JONES

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this means to recognize an American hero, General James L. Jones, for his lifetime of public service. Having served more than 40 years in the United States Marine Corps as a diplomat in the Middle East and around the world, and most recently as the National Security Advisor to the President, he is a true public servant.

On October 8, 2010, the President announced that General Jones made the decision to step aside from his post as National Security Advisor and that his good friend and deputy, Tom Donilon, would succeed him.

Through the years, I have been honored to work with General Jones, and I have always trusted him to offer his best counsel on national security matters. A true patriot and strategic visionary, he has performed each and every mission with utmost dedication. The American public will forever be indebted to General Jones and his family for their service to our country and the many sacrifices they have made.

Madam Speaker, I trust my fellow members of the House will join me in paying tribute to General James L. Jones for his leadership and commitment to the safety and security of the American people. I wish him and his family the very best in the days to come.

ON THE DEATH OF AMBASSADOR
RICHARD HOLBROOKE

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, after hearing encouraging news over the last few days, learning that my friend Richard Holbrooke had died last night felt like a sucker punch. A day later, it still does.

I suppose, in an ironic way, Richard would smile at the enormous impact he had on friend and foe alike. He was a life force, a force of nature—someone always operating on multiple levels, in high gear, and in more than three dimensions. I used to chafe when in the middle of a phone call he would put me on hold to talk with someone else—but I bet he did it to everyone.

He was a consummate juggler—the master diplomat. He knew precisely what he was prepared to tell someone, and what he was not. Though it takes years to settle on how history will view someone, my guess is Richard Holbrooke will be considered, hands down, as the best diplomat of my generation. Indeed, he will be in a small pantheon that includes Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Averell Harriman.

But the public Richard is not all of it: the private Richard was a generous and loyal friend. Before joining the Obama Administration, he chaired the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. For a time, one of our grandchildren was on its staff. He loved her, and forever after asked about her life, boyfriends, etc. No question the huge staff he built over his many careers over many years is devastated by his untimely death. Surely Megan Quitkin is. To Kati, whom he adored, and the extended Holbrooke family, we mourn your loss—and our country's loss.

I like to think that Richard has just put us all on hold while he takes another call...

2010 MILITARY FAMILY OF THE
YEAR

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Kennedy family for being selected as the National Military Family Association's Coast Guard Family of the Year.

Commander John Kennedy has served in the Coast Guard for 16 years. He is supported by his wife, Bobbi, and their 3 children Olivia, Marissa, and Jack.

The Kennedy family has moved 6 times within 14 years, most recently to Atlantic Beach, NC.

Cmdr. Kennedy currently serves as Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Cutter *Elm*.

The Kennedy family is very active in the United States Coast Guard, and their community. They volunteer with Operation Christmas Child, and are active with numerous activities including a variety of athletics and the high school marching band.

Being a military family has shown them all how to be independent, and taught them what is truly important in life.

The Kennedy's admit they are not finished moving! They will continue to make friends wherever they go, which exemplifies the Coast Guard motto of *Semper Paratus*, "Always Ready".

I am proud to have the Kennedy family reside in the 3rd district of North Carolina. I thank all the men and women who have bravely served in our military.

Congratulations to the Kennedy family on 2010 Military Family of the Year!

OFFERING CONDOLENCES TO THE
FAMILY OF J. EUGENE QUINN**HON. PETER T. KING**OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Tuesday, December 14, 2010*

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincerest condolences to the family of J. Eugene Quinn following his untimely passing on December 7th, 2010. Gene was a beloved brother of Thomas, Paul and Francis, a devoted husband to Marguerite, loving father to Tara and proud grandfather of Andrew and Fiona.

A veteran of the United States Army, Gene had a long career in the Federal Government beginning with a position in the Reagan administration. Gene was a patron of the arts and founding member of the Anacostia Gracious Arts Program, an urban after-school arts program for underprivileged youth in Washington. I was always proud to call him my

friend. In short, his commitment to public service was truly remarkable. His life and contributions will certainly be missed by many.

HONORING RHODA VIRGINIA
HOFSTETTER ON HER 100TH
BIRTHDAY**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**OF WEST VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Tuesday, December 14, 2010*

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Rhoda Virginia Hofstetter on her 100th birthday. This birthday of birthdays, we honor an entire century of dedication to family, friends, colleagues and students.

Rhoda made a tremendous difference and improved so many young lives because of her life-long career as an educator. In 1933, she graduated from Marshall College—now known as Marshall University—and went on to teach

mathematics at Lenore and Williamson High Schools in Mingo County, and at Lookout High School in Fayette County. From 1965 to 1973, Rhoda served as Supervisor of Mathematics for Fayette County. In 1973, she retired after 40 years as an educator and supervisor. Her beloved husband, Martin Hofstetter, passed away the same year.

Rhoda endlessly worked for the betterment of southern West Virginia, not only through her career as a teacher, but also through her active involvement—which continues to this day—as a Charter Member of the Ansted Garden Club.

Rhoda is a pillar of strength in her community of Ansted, where she has resided since 1946. Her devotion to education, family, friends and community is an example for us all.

I offer my personal congratulations to Rhoda, and wish her continued good health and happiness in the future.