

TRIBUTE TO JOHN WARE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I honor the life and memory of John Ware. John was a remarkable person, and his vision and ability truly embody the spirit of Dallas. As city manager from December 1993 to August 1998, he was credited with leading the city's negotiations for the construction of American Airlines Center and was the driving force in creating the city we know today. After courageously battling cancer, John passed away at the age of 62.

John was born on March 16, 1948, in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, to J.A. and Allie Ware. He was married to Shirley Porter in 1974 and to this union two sons were born. John was an active member of Friendship West Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas. He also actively served in the United States Army, and during his tour of duty in Vietnam he earned a Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

John earned his B.A. degree from Ouachita Baptist University, where he graduated Cum Laude and was a member of the Inaugural Honors Program. He received his M.P.A. degree in 1974 from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University where, in addition to earning an academic scholarship, he was named an Andrew Mellon Fellow. He holds certificates from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business, the Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Management at Rice University, the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, Columbia University Business School, the Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University, and the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin.

John's innovative ideas and education were truly profound, but it was really John's personality and personal investment in his work that people remember. Truly, no one knew this better than those who will miss him most—his family. He is survived by his beloved wife, Shirley Ware of Dallas; two sons, Jawn Ware and Brandon Ware; four sisters, Cathie Murphy, Rose Gale Jones, Gloria Hart, and Angela Helms; five brothers, Joshua Ware, Ollie Charles Ware, Melvin Ware, Ronald Ware, and Sabian Ware; and one grandchild.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to be able to bring the life and contributions of John Ware to the attention of Congress and this nation. His passion and dedication to his work serve as an example to us all. John will be deeply missed by those whose lives he touched, but his memory will live on through his contributions to Dallas and the work from which we have all benefitted immensely. During this difficult time I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to his family, and I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in recognizing and honoring this great man.

PUERTO RICO DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2009

HON. TODD TIAHRT
OF KANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2499) to provide for a federally sanctioned self-determination process for the people of Puerto Rico:

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Chairman, I stand in opposition to H.R. 2499, the Puerto Rico Democracy Act. I believe that H.R. 2499 will lead to a situation where the government of Puerto Rico could demand recognition as the 51st state in the Union despite the will of the Puerto Rican people. This bill represents the fourth time since 1991 that Puerto Ricans have been asked to vote on their status, and all four times they have rejected statehood as their desired political status. The two-step voting process contained in this bill will skew the results in favor of a minority of the people who support statehood, and drown out the voices of the majority who do not.

I am also deeply troubled by the provision in the bill that would allow anyone born in Puerto Rico, but not currently residing there, to vote in this plebiscite. With hundreds of thousands of people born in Puerto Rico, but not residing there, I believe this aspect of the bill dilutes the voices of Puerto Rican residents and again sets the stage for a skewed result supporting statehood.

Finally, I believe that as a condition of possible statehood, Puerto Rico must officially adopt English as its primary language. It is currently officially a bilingual territory, where only 1 in 5 people speak English fluently. The last states admitted to the Union, Alaska and Hawaii, both adopted English as their official language and, although they respect the culture and language of their native population, the vast majority of their populations are fluent in English.

For these reasons, I cannot vote to support H.R. 2499 or the Burton/Young Amendment, which does not adequately ensure that English would be the official language of Puerto Rico.

RECOGNIZING IWAO MATSUDA

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, later this week, the 43rd Session of the United States-Japan Legislative Exchange Program and the 11th Session of the United States-Japan-South Korea Trilateral Exchange Program will commence here in the U.S. Capitol. These meetings are the result of the vision and initiative of Iwao Matsuda, a Member of the House of Councilors of the Japanese Diet. Sadly, it also will be the last that we will have the privilege of meeting with Mr. Matsuda as a Member of the Diet, as he will be retiring. For this reason, I want to honor Mr. Matsuda and officially recognize his many contributions to United States-Japan relations and for fostering greater friendship and cooperation between the U.S. Congress and the Japanese Diet.

Born in Gifu-City, Japan, in 1937, Mr. Matsuda graduated from the University of Tokyo in 1967. He started his career in public service at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) with posting in various locations around the world—including the United States. He served in the House of Representatives of the Japanese Diet from 1986 to 1996 and was elected to the House of Councilors in 1998. Throughout his public service career, he has served in a variety of distinguished positions, such as the Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy, Food Safety and Information Technology.

Early in his career in the Diet, Mr. Matsuda saw the need for more open communications between the U.S. and Japan. During that time, when Japan-U.S. relations could be tense regarding trade and other issues, Mr. Matsuda knew that personal interaction between Members of Congress and Members of the Diet could lead to greater understanding and cooperation between our two countries. In 1989, along with Rep. Norm Shumway and with assistance from professors at George Washington University and others, the first meeting of the United States-Japan Legislative Exchange Program was held. Semi-annual meetings have been held since and, in 2003, the exchange was expanded to include Members of the South Korean National Assembly.

I have had the privilege of participating in many meetings over the years, and consider Mr. Matsuda to be a colleague and a friend. He is an example to all of us in his leadership, commitment to democratic values, and understanding of the importance of maintaining alliances with friends in good times and bad. Through his resolve in establishing the exchange, we are able to discuss issues of common concern in an open, informal way that leads to better understanding and stronger partnerships.

So it is altogether fitting that we recognize the many contributions of Iwao Matsuda as his final exchange program begins. He has had a lasting impact on United States-Japan-South Korean relations, and we are thankful for—and honor—his leadership, service and friendship today.

THANKING GEORGE BARTON AND COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE INC.

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY
OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and thank Mr. George Barton and the entire Community Health Care Inc. (CHC) team for working to meet the health care and wellness needs of the Iowa and Illinois Quad Cities. This spring George starts as CEO of the federally qualified health center (FQHC) in Madison, Wisconsin, but Community Health Care will continue to thrive because of the foundation this team has built over the past years.

In the Quad Cities—like so many communities in America—we have an urgent need for health care services for low and moderate income families, individuals who are uninsured or have no insurance, Medicaid eligible patients, and children who rely on state children's health insurance programs. Fortunately there are three FQHC's in my district—

including Community Health Care—where thousands of my constituents can get access to high quality care with payment options that meet their specific needs. CHC alone serves 31,000 patients throughout the Quad Cities and manages 119,000 unique visits per year. By 2012 the CHC team will be serving 40,000 patients annually. Under George's leadership, CHC has dramatically expanded their services by opening new outpatient clinics, enhancing relationships with regional hospitals physician groups, and adding multiple dental suites to meet the incredible need for childhood and adult dental care.

Madam Speaker, I advocate for our federal community health centers because people like George Barton and the CHC team get results. They dramatically improve health and wellness in our communities and are invaluable to solving one of the most critical issues facing our country today—access to health care. Please join me in thanking George and this team for their service.

RWANDAN GENOCIDE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I've spent my entire career advocating for victims, for those that have suffered at the hands of perpetrators both as a former judge in Texas and as founder and co-chair of the Victims' Rights Caucus. It grieves me that people resort to violence and commit such atrocities to their fellow neighbor. On April 6, 1994 and for the next three months our world learned an important lesson—violence is not the answer, nor is watching and doing nothing.

Sixteen years ago, beginning on April 6, 1994 more than 800,000 persons were killed in the Rwandan genocide, many being Tutsis.

A shot-down plane of Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana, a Hutu, and his death sparked the beginnings of the genocide because the very next day, April 7, 1994, the Rwandan Armed Forces (FAR) and the interahamwe went out and slaughtered thousands of people by setting up roadblocks and then going house to house killing Tutsis and moderate Hutus. The slaying went on for the next 100 days.

On June 22, 1994 the U.S. used the word "genocide" only after the Security Council deployed French forces in South West Rwanda. On February 19, 1995 Western countries committed to sending \$600 million in aid, with \$60 million coming from the United States. Rwanda bears a deep and grave loss from this tragedy, and the international community has come around them to support, encourage and comfort.

Much was said during this conflict, but little was done. We can do better. We must do better.

We send our sympathies out to the loved ones who died in the Rwandan genocide. We know that they are still greatly missed even sixteen years later. May we remember this time when so many lost their lives, and may we do better in interceding during future conflicts. Let us always take a stand against violence.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF MS. CHRISTINE MILES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Ms. Christine Miles of Berea, Ohio, a remarkable woman who has dedicated her life to her dual passions of music and helping children. Ms. Miles has worked on my staff for 14 years, but she has been my friend for almost 40 years. She brings joy into the lives of thousands of young men and women through her work as a music therapist and her role in creating and managing the 10th Congressional District Art Contest, which she has organized for 14 consecutive years.

Ms. Miles is simply one of the most interesting people you could ever hope to meet. She has a deep passion for cooking and gardening. Her home is a calming oasis of history, warmth and love. She has dedicated her life to the arts and to service to her community. An alumna of Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory of Music, Ms. Miles has been honored for her devotion to music as a performer, a teacher and as a music therapist for children.

Ms. Miles was elected to the Berea City Council in 1972 and in 1976, she became a special aid to U.S. Congressman Ron Mottl. She was the first woman to Chair the Ohio Democratic Delegation to a presidential convention where she was a delegate for Jimmy Carter. She served as President Carter's deputy co-coordinator for his Ohio Campaign. She later served on the National Advisory Board on Ambassadorial Appointments. She has also served as a Member of the Advisory Committee on the Arts at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Ms. Christine Miles, a strong supporter of the arts who has made Northeast Ohio a more beautiful place to live through her work, her consistent dedication to the well being of children, and her very presence. Thank you, Chris.

IN RECOGNITION OF GEORGE THOMLINSON

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, allow me to recognize and pay tribute to Mr. George Thomlinson who recently received the Spirit of Service award from the Warrensburg Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This annual award recognizes a member of the community who shows an outstanding commitment to service and volunteerism.

Although Mr. Thomlinson has worked for 31 years as an insurance agent with Farmers Insurance Group in Sedalia, Missouri, volunteering remains his true calling. Since 1995, Mr. Thomlinson has been involved with the Sedalia-Pettis County United Way. As president and campaign chair, Mr. Thomlinson helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars

for charitable organizations in Pettis County, and he currently serves on the board as first vice president.

Over the years, he has also served as president of the Liberty Center Association for the Arts, a member of the Salvation Army Advisory Board, and a board member of the Sedalia Rotary Club. For 2 years, he was president of the Sedalia Area Chamber of Commerce, and he was awarded the "Volunteer of the Year" award in 2002 for his service with the Chamber.

Though his commitments are wide and diverse, few have meant more to Mr. Thomlinson than his work with Ducks Unlimited, an organization that has conserved, restored, and protected over 12 million acres of habitat in North America. After serving as the Missouri State chairman for 3 years, this year he will be nominated to become a regional vice president.

Madam Speaker, let me take this means to recognize Mr. Thomlinson for his tireless service to our community and for the impeccable example he and his wife Holly have set for their daughter Vanessa and us all.

IMPLEMENTING MANAGEMENT FOR PERFORMANCE AND RELATED REFORMS TO OBTAIN VALUE IN EVERY ACQUISITION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5013) to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for performance management of the defense acquisition system, and for other purposes:

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 5013, the IMPROVE Acquisition Act of 2010, which will implement reforms that reduce waste within the Department of Defense, DOD. This important legislation will help ensure that our government's second largest department acts efficiently and effectively in its pursuit of our national security.

I thank Chairman SKELTON for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this legislation, Congressman ROBERT ANDREWS, for his dedication to enacting substantive government reform that protects taxpayers and makes our Federal Government work more efficiently on behalf of the American people.

Mr. Chair, in 2009, the DOD's budget was \$680 billion, the second largest budget of all executive branch departments. The American taxpayer deserves our best effort to ensure that this money is spent efficiently, effectively, and in areas of the most need. H.R. 5013 will aid in this effort by ensuring the DOD gets the maximum value possible from its acquisitions. The bill will require that the DOD set performance standards and goals for all acquisitions. It then requires all acquisitions to be subjected to regular assessments to ensure that these goals are being met.

This legislation also directs the Secretary of Defense to manage and develop a highly skilled workforce that ensures that the DOD