

Jesse is survived by his wife, Sarah; their 6-month old daughter, Lanna Rose; and his daughter, Lexie, who is three; Jesse's mother, Margeret; and stepfather, Wesley; and Jesse's two sisters, Rebecca and Shane.

Jesse will then be buried at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Houston, Texas.

All of his fellow soldiers gave some, Madam Speaker, but Jesse Ainsworth gave all in his defense for freedom.

Our brave troopers go to war defending freedom and liberty in faraway lands. In the dark, cold desert night and the parched, insufferable desert heat, these brave warriors pay with their blood and sacrifice for freedom and liberty and for America.

They sanctify with their blood lands they have never seen, and they fight for people they do not know.

Madam Speaker, I have a recent photograph of Jesse. Here he is in Afghanistan with an Afghan farmer. You see, that's what our American troops are doing. They are the greatest ambassadors for freedom and liberty and the American way in the world. And here they are, here Jesse is with a person in Afghanistan, a nation that Jesse and his fellow troopers are liberating.

Patrick Henry once said, "The battle, sir, is not to the strong, it is to the vigilant, to the active, to the brave."

Madam Speaker, those words still ring true today, and our American soldiers carry those values into battle because they are "Army Strong." Jesse Ainsworth was such a soldier and a family man. He was that hero who has given his life to something bigger than himself.

So when we gather Saturday to honor this fallen American, Jesse's flag-draped coffin will be carried by the Honor Guard. The old war horses of the Patriot Guard, those motorcycle riders made primarily of Vietnam veterans, they will stand vigil over this beloved family and over their sacred fallen brother carrying American flags.

The rifles will fire the 21-gun salute, and the bugle will sound taps for the last time as the name of Staff Sergeant Jesse Ainsworth is placed forever on the hallowed roles of those who have given their lives defending American freedom and liberty. He will be surrounded by his family for the last time, and the war will be over for Staff Sergeant Jesse Ainsworth. But the war will never end for his family.

It has been said what we have done for ourselves dies with us. What we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.

Staff Sergeant Jesse Ainsworth is that rare breed, that American breed that lived and died for something bigger than himself. And today we honor his life and his sacrifice.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HOYER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

NEW GENERAL, SAME WAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, after General Stanley McChrystal was relieved of his command last month and replaced by General David Petraeus, we read a lot of headlines that said things like this: "Generals Change, But Afghan Doesn't." "Afghan Policy Won't Change After Dismissal."

But that is precisely, Madam Speaker, the problem. All the chatter about General McChrystal's indiscretion and firing obscured the critical point. The problem isn't with the personnel or the leadership, but with the strategy and the policy. The problem isn't with the generals, but with the war itself.

There's a bit of a rearranging-of-the-deck-chairs-on-the-Titanic quality to all of this. No matter what the captains say and no matter who captains the ship, as long as we continue to prosecute this failed war, as long as we keep sending Americans to die on a mission that's doing nothing to defeat terrorists or stabilize Afghanistan, then we are headed straight for that iceberg.

The more troops we deploy, the more violent Afghanistan becomes and the more Taliban grows its ranks. Unless General Petraeus is prepared to change that, then this change at the top doesn't amount to very much.

If General Petraeus' appointment leads to any change at all, it may not be the kind of change we should be enthusiastic about. In his confirmation hearing, General Petraeus refused to take ownership of the July 2011 troop withdrawal deadline, stating very clearly that he did not recommend such a date to the President, nor did anyone else in uniform. And he once again equivocated about July 2011, calling it the beginning of a process, which sounds an awful lot like a diplomatic way to say he doesn't believe in it and will ask the President to extend it.

He also added in his testimony, and I quote him, he said, "The commitment to Afghanistan must be an enduring one." And on that point, Madam Speaker, I couldn't agree with the general more.

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But an enduring commitment doesn't have to be a military commitment. We need an enduring civilian commitment, a smart security approach that invests in Afghanistan infrastructure, bolsters Afghan education, fights Afghan poverty, invigorates Afghan democracy, and much more. But we can do it without combat troops occupying the country, without the military footprint that has earned us more enemies than friends.

Madam Speaker, eight Americans were killed during a 24-hour period in Afghanistan early this week. We've had 35 fatalities already in July, putting it on track to be the deadliest month of the entire war. We are losing our people, we are losing our money, we are losing our credibility without advancing our goals. That has to end. It's time to bring our troops home.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AKC PROJECT 7-4

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, on July 8, I had the privilege of visiting the American Kennel Club in Raleigh, North Carolina, where care packages were being prepared to be sent to our K-9 units overseas. The effort is called Project 7-4.

Project 7-4 is an effort to help the United States War Dog Association collect much-needed supplies for both dogs and their handlers to send over to our active duty dog teams in Afghanistan and Iraq. It was very touching for me to see all the boxes being prepared by people who care so much. I was absolutely amazed by everything I saw that day at the American Kennel Club in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Last year I had the great opportunity to watch some of these valuable dogs being trained at Lackland Air Force Base. Lackland is the center for all the training of all these dogs that help our men and women in uniform.

Through the years that I have been in Congress, I have had the pleasure and honor to talk to many military dog handlers, some that go back to the Vietnam War, some to Desert Storm, and certainly many who have been in Iraq and Afghanistan. These dogs are so valuable because they are trained to sniff out the IEDs that kill so many and maim so many of our wonderful men and women in uniform.

These dogs themselves many times are wounded, and many times killed. But as I had a soldier tell me one time, Yes, it breaks my heart. This has become my friend, this has become my buddy. But you know what? My buddy is willing to give his life for me so that I can continue to serve this Nation.

I bring that story forward, Madam Speaker, because these dogs are truly heroes, these dogs are truly valuable to the national security of our country. And I have beside me a poster that has the dog named Lex. Lex is looking at the headstone of his master, Marine Corporal Dustin Lee, who was killed by

a rocket-propelled grenade in Iraq. He was a dog handler, and this was his friend, his dog Lex. Lex himself has shrapnel in the back. And the family, the Lee family, wanted so badly to have Lex, since they gave their son up for this country. And I want to thank Mike Regner, United States Marine Corps, for helping this become a reality. Madam Speaker, when Dustin was killed and Lex was wounded, the Marine Corps told me that they found Lex laying next to the body of his master.

War dogs have been used in every war throughout history. There are currently between 500 and 700 dog teams stationed in the Middle East. This is not a new concept, but it is time that these dogs and their handlers are acknowledged for their sacrifice to this country.

I would like to thank the United States War Dog Association for all they do and for helping the American Kennel Club with this tremendous effort. I also encourage anyone who would like to donate to this effort to contact the American Kennel Club or United States War Dog Association. Both dogs and handlers are in need of basic daily items that we all take for granted.

Madam Speaker, as I begin to close I would like to ask God, as I always do on this floor, to please bless our men and women in uniform, ask God to please bless the families of our men and women in uniform, ask God in his loving arms to hold the families who have given a child dying for freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan, and ask God to please bless the House and Senate that we will do what is right in the eyes of God, and ask God to give wisdom, strength, and courage to President Obama that he will do what is right in the eyes of God for the American people.

And I will close by asking three times, God, please, God, please, God, please continue to bless America.

DECLARE VICTORY IN AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. As you can see, there are untold stories of valor on the front lines of war around the world. We can be very proud as Americans of the resilience of our men and women in the United States military and those valiant animals who stand by them and the support that families have given to them.

I stand here as a proud American not out of arrogance, but simply out of recognition that we are the front-liners for peace and democracy. I had the privilege of spending the last week in Afghanistan, not closed in in a small room, but traveling throughout the country, visiting with our commander on the ground, visiting with the inter-

national allied forces, being briefed and seeing in action the Afghan National Security Forces, meeting the leadership of the Afghan Government in Kabul, going down to Kandahar and being out on a command post and a check site that was engaged with Afghans on the highway. I got a sense of a country—of which I chair the Afghan Caucus in this Congress. And I want what is best for people who are striving for democracy and freedom.

I want to say to my colleagues that I stand here asking us to do what we did not do in Vietnam, which was to recognize the valiant and outstanding service of our men and women, and to understand victory had been achieved. Today we have two Vietnams side by side, North and South, exchanging and working. We may not agree with all that North Vietnam is doing, but they are living in peace. I would look for a better human rights record for North Vietnam, but they are living side by side because that was a civil war.

And because the leadership of this Nation did not listen to the mothers and fathers who bore the burden of 58,000 dead and did not declare victory, the mounting deaths, the violence continued going up and up. Rather than understanding the political nature of the war in Vietnam, we did not listen to those families. So we mourned. But I say today they were valiant heroes, proud of them, although fallen, and proud of those who lived.

As I look back on Afghanistan and the past week, I will say to you that it is time not out of defeat, but it is time in victory to return home. Our soldiers can come home in victory, for not one more treasure should be cast in this war that is a civil war. Al Qaeda is not present in Afghanistan. And we have the opportunity to cast over to the Afghan civilian government, which is now working to build up the Afghanistan National Security Forces, which we expect to be some 300,000 strong over the next couple of months, national police, and national army, trained by the brilliance of our young men and women.

We understand the military says the job is yet not done, conditions on the ground. Conditions are movable. They are always changing. What you have to look at is whether you have a government that has the resolve to lead itself. President Karzai must stand against corruption, he must fight to eradicate the poppy crop, he must stop the bribery so that farmers can get their products to market. That is a civilian challenge. That is a challenge of the Afghan people. He must get electricity with the money that has been given to him down in the south.

But to go into the NATO hospital, or to go into a hospital in Germany, to see the brutality of the IED injuries, to see the lost limbs—we have claimed victory. We have provided an opportunity for President Karzai to lead.

□ 1520

And so I'm a proud American; again, not standing here in arrogance, but for the sacrifice of the reservists and others who have come and the full-time military willing to stay as long as the civilian leadership of this country demands that they stay.

And so I say to the moms and dads and families who've sacrificed their loved ones both in terms of those who now serve us and those who have fallen in battle, we cannot thank you enough. And none of us can mourn as you're mourning if you have lost a loved one. But we can say "thank you" by bringing our troops home with a hero's welcome, something we have not done probably since World War II.

It is time to bring our troops home, to declare victory, and to thank them for being heroes, not only of America but for this world, in the name of peace and freedom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ARIZONA CRIME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POLIS. It should be common sense that with the limited dollars we have in law enforcement, diverting those law enforcement resources to hunt down immigrants detracts from our efforts to combat violent crime. However, believe it or not, some supporters of Arizona's new immigration law actually claim that it's a crime-fighting measure.

That overlooks a basic point: Crime rates have already been falling in Arizona for years despite, or perhaps in part because of, the presence of immigrants. This was once again proven by a recent study conducted by America's Voice, which documented the change in violent crime levels in various Arizona police jurisdictions from 2002 through 2009.

As you can see, crime is down in Arizona, the purple line. In fact, the only jurisdiction in the study where crime increased was in the part of Maricopa County under the jurisdiction of the incompetent sheriff Joe Arpaio, who's famously used anti-immigrant policies to advance his political agenda at the expense of keeping his communities safe.

From 2002 to 2009, the crime rate in Maricopa County increased 58 percent