

HONORING COLONEL JAMES
"BUSTER" HAYDEN

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to share the news of a great loss to El Paso, to Texas, and to the Nation. My dear friend, Colonel Retired James "Buster" Hayden was a class of 1945 West Point Graduate, retired Army officer with 30 years military service, long time area West Point Admissions Representative, and the Chairman of my Military Academy Advisory Board for over 15 years.

Col. Hayden came from a long and distinguished line of West Point graduates. His great-grandfather was a member of the Civil War Class of 1862, and his grandfather graduated in the Class of 1888. In the 20th Century, his father was in the World War I Class of 1917, and Col. Hayden—well known to everyone as "Buster"—graduated with the World War II Class of 1945 after securing an appointment on his fourth try!

Col. Hayden's distinguished career of 30 years included tours of duty with the Constabulary Force during the occupation of Germany, in an armored field artillery battalion during the Korean War, at the Pentagon, and with the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He retired as the Deputy Assistant Commandant of the Air Defense School in 1975. Just a year later, he started working with the West Point Admissions Field Force, beginning his long and distinguished journey of molding the next generation of leaders.

With his passing, our community has lost one of the greatest advocates for El Paso youth wishing to serve in our Nation's Armed Forces. After his family, what he loved most was inspiring scores of young El Pasoans every year to never give up on their dreams. Since 1976, he helped recruit talented cadets from the El Paso area and Southern New Mexico to West Point.

Over the last 15 years, Col. Hayden devoted countless hours, along with the other members of my Academy Advisory Board for the 16th Congressional district, to overseeing the annual process of nominating El Paso's finest young men and women to our Nation's service academies.

He influenced the lives of hundreds of service academy graduates, who have pursued successful careers in the military, education, business, and industry. In fact, Col. Hayden helped shepherd more cadets into the United States Military Academy at West Point than anyone in the history of the Academy. His efforts in our region have led to over 1,200 offers of admission to young men and women, resulting in no less than 622 graduates.

Col. Hayden never gave up on a single applicant, nominee, or appointee, even when he was feeling sick from the effects of cancer. Even near the end, his daughter found him in his office looking for information to reach a cadet. Once he got the phone number, he spent 30 minutes talking to the cadet. That is how he was with "his" cadets as well as those seeking a future at our military academies. In fact, in one of life's great ironies, I was at an event the night he passed away speaking with a second lieutenant of the 1st Armored Divi-

sion from Fort Bliss who was proud to be "one of Hayden's soldiers." He told me how Col. Hayden had changed his life by mentoring him from prep school to graduation at West Point. I have heard from many soldiers I have visited with around the world who tell of how Col. Hayden kept in touch and mentored them. That was the "Hayden way." He always had words of encouragement for our young applicants and loved to recount the story about the challenges he himself faced in gaining entry into West Point. In his own self-deprecating way, he talked to candidates about how it took him four tries to get in, and he urged them to never give up on their dream.

During 30 years of active duty and another 35 years supporting Admissions and many other programs connected with West Point, Col. Hayden has truly espoused the motto of the United States Military Academy: Duty, Honor, Country.

His love for the Academy and for our Armed Forces was unparalleled, and we will all miss him. It was a privilege to know Buster and to work with him. He leaves a great legacy and will have a lasting impact for many generations to come. Our Nation and our community are deeply indebted to him for his service and dedication to our young people.

**CONDEMNING THE ATTACKS ON
DEMONSTRATORS IN SYRIA**

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to strongly condemn the violence that Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has unleashed on his people over the past few months.

While the world closely watched the revolutions in Egypt and Tunisia unfold, little attention has been paid to the Assad government's crackdown on peaceful demonstrators. In March 2011, hundreds of Syrians took to the streets to demand freedom and to force the Assad government to lift the emergency law, which has been in place since 1963.

Instead of meeting their demands, the Assad government unleashed a vicious crackdown on demonstrators with security forces firing, arresting and torturing thousands of unarmed Syrians. According to U.N. officials, as many as 1,100 people may have been killed since the protests began and as many as 10,000 people have been reported to be in custody or missing.

In May 2011, the Syrian government widened its military crackdown by sending tanks into several more villages and severing communications. The attacks on civilians and military defectors intensified in June after demonstrators showed renewed strength and determination. The relentless attacks have forced thousands of Syrians to flee Syria into Lebanon and Turkey to escape the escalating violence.

While I applaud President Obama and Secretary Clinton for condemning these brutal attacks and human rights violations, I believe the U.S. and the international community should be doing more to force the Assad regime to stop attacking its own people. I urge my colleagues to join me in condemning this violence and to call on the Obama administra-

tion to take a more active role in forcing the Syrian government to end these attacks.

HONORING JAN SAXTON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jan Saxton of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Jan is active in the community and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award: Woman in the Workplace.

In 1945, after every member of Jan's family worked to save all their earnings through the great depression, her father decided the time was right. Every penny saved was invested into the dream of rebuilding a spot of family entertainment, a golf course. A small lot at 9th and Jules in St. Joseph, provided land for rent. Used lumber and materials started a modest 18 hole course. Jan graduated from Lafayette High School and with the help of her grandmother, Pearl Summers, was put in charge of the business. The little course thrived, yet before the end of the third season, the land was sold.

After her brother and Guy Saxton returned home from the service, she married Guy, her high-school sweetheart. Soon they purchased land to build what is now Cool Crest. His engineering and carpentry skills, and her gardening and "people skills" made for the perfect combination that we still enjoy today.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Jan Saxton. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

**IN TRIBUTE TO DETECTIVE JAY
CARROTT**

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Jay Carrott, whose retirement from the Simi Valley Police Department is being recognized this weekend.

Detective Carrott actually retired from the Police Department last year, but was immediately deployed to Iraq as a police advisor to an Army unit out of Fort Benning, Georgia, giving his fellow officers, family and friends no time to honor his service to the community. Jay is a personal friend who I have known for many years. He is home now and it is time to give him his long overdue accolades.

Jay Carrott became a reserve officer for the city in 1985 and was hired as a full-time officer in 1987. He rose to the rank of Senior Officer before leaving for a short stint with the Lacey, Washington, Police Department. He returned to the Simi Valley Police Department in 1995 and was promoted to Detective the following year.

It was as a Detective that Jay Carrott's skills, dedication and passion for law enforcement and the victims of violent acts came to full fruition.

In describing and praising his partner, Greg Gonzales, in 2008, Carrott told the local media that a good homicide detective must be intensely curious, care deeply about others and pay great attention to detail. Those certainly are qualities Carrott brought to the job.

Those qualities led to a nearly 90 percent case closure rate. But Carrott didn't just pursue criminals and bring them to justice. Along the way, he brought empathy to the victims and victims' families, as well.

When Detective Carrott was awarded the Investigative Excellence Award for Cumulative Investigative Excellence in 2009 from the California Commission on Police Officers Standards and Training's Robert Presley Institute of Criminal Investigation, officials said in a statement: "He believes an investigator's job is not only to seek out the truth, but also to ensure that families touched by violence have a voice."

Jay's dedication to the truth and the law are legendary. When a local community service organization refused to rescind the rental of its facility to the Hells Angels motorcycle gang, Jay quit the organization, saying his police badge meant more to him than membership in the club.

But perhaps the best praise to Jay's dedication comes from his daughter, Erin, who wrote this in 2007 as part of a school assignment after Detective Carrott was awarded the City of Simi Valley's Meritorious Service Award:

"Weeks with no sleep, calls in the middle of the night, having to travel to places to search for things you aren't even sure exist, and criminals who get away with it this is what my father faces on a daily basis."

Jay was also a member of the Department's SWAT Team, a Range Master, and a member of the SES—Special Enforcement Section. Among the other awards he earned was SVPD Officer of the Year in 1991 and the SVPD Chiefs Award in 1998. Jay also taught at Moorpark College, where he earned an associate's degree before earning a bachelor's in business from University of Redlands.

Aside from Erin, Jay and his wife, Amy, raised two sons, Joshua and Joseph, and have a grandson, Taylor.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in thanking Detective Jay Carrott for his service to his community and country, and for his dedication to and passion for enforcing our laws, and wish him and Amy a long and happy retirement.

SALUTING SERVICE ACADEMY
STUDENTS—AMANDA RIGSBY

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary group of young men and women who have been chosen as future leaders in our armed forces by the prestigious United States service academies. It is a privilege to send such a fine group from the Third District of Texas to pursue a world-class education and serve our Nation.

As we keep them and their families in our prayers, may we never forget the sacrifices they are preparing to make while defending

our freedoms all across the globe. I am so proud of each one. God bless them and God bless America.

Today I salute Amanda Rigsby, a United States Merchant Marine Academy Appointee. Amanda is a graduate of Plano East Senior High School in 2010 where she was active in varsity and select soccer. Amanda was involved in Plano Youth Ambassadors as a co-leader, Spanish Club, and Mock Trial as a witness roll, where she earned an award for best witness. She excelled academically in the International Baccalaureate Program and a member of the National Honor Society. She spent the last year at Southern Methodist University on a full scholarship and decided to change courses and apply to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. Amanda is a well rounded young woman who has dreams to pursue an international career, to help people, and to make a difference. She recently stated, "I appreciate my service obligations as opportunities as a Merchant Marine following graduation and embrace not only military service but also the maritime industry."

REMEMBERING AND HONORING
THE LIFE OF WILLIAM P. POWERS SR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing and honor the life of William P. Powers. Bill, a long-time resident of Niantic, Connecticut, passed away peacefully on May 29, 2011. Bill's desire to give back to his country and community was without bounds. We are fortunate that he chose to spend his life protecting our nation, teaching our young people, and working tirelessly to ensure a good life for the people around him.

Following the death of their father, Bill and his brother were raised in New Haven by their mother and her extended family. After graduating from high school, Bill went to work at High Standard Manufacturing Co., which made deep hole drills, and eventually .22 caliber pistols and repeating rifles, during World War II.

Bill's impressive work ethic, revealed at a young age, afforded him a life full of rich and diverse experiences. In New Haven, he bused tables of Yale's famous Berkely College dining hall, delivered telegraphs for Western Union on his bicycle, and even worked a maintenance job for the city's railroad. When war erupted and gripped the nation, Bill enlisted in the U.S. Navy. When his number was called up in October of 1942, he trained as a pilot, flying the well-known "Privateer" patrol bomber. He was stationed in Kearney, California.

When the war ended, Bill enrolled at Columbia University on the GI Bill. He kept himself busy as a student and worked as a waiter at the Drake Hotel, where he crossed paths with famous singers and songwriters like Frank Sinatra and Cole Porter.

Education was a lifelong passion and pursuit for Bill. After graduating from Columbia, he took a job back in Connecticut, this time in East Lyme's Niantic village where he would live for nearly 60 years. He served as principal of the Flanders, Niantic Center, and Great Neck schools in eastern Connecticut. He knew

not only the name of every student in his schools, but also an interesting fact about each one of them. While ensuring that his students had a safe and productive place to learn, Bill pursued more education of his own, earning a Master of Arts and Sixth Year degree from UConn. He also led a group of his colleagues as the President of Connecticut's Elementary and Middle School Principals' Association.

It is not surprising that when Bill's time as a professional educator came to a close, he put his signature passion and hard work into making his state and community a better place. For a period, he spent several years in Connecticut's General Assembly as legislative aide for his son, Senator Mark H. Powers, and also as a popular messenger in the senate. He even spent some time as an investigator in the New London Public Defender's office and was a respected and beloved Justice of the Peace. Bill was also an active member of American Legion Post 128.

Bill's contributions as a U.S. Navy veteran, an educator, and civic leader could easily fill three lifetimes, but he packed it all into one. I admire his desire to make education a lifelong experience and his commitment to preserve his deep Connecticut roots. He will be dearly missed by his state, his community and most of all by his loving wife, Jane, and five boys, William Jr., Mark, Joseph, Richard, and Thomas. I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning the loss and celebrating the life of William P. Powers.

IN RECOGNITION OF AND APPRECIATION FOR ROBERT VAN CAMP

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Mr. Robert Van Camp as he retires from his 40-year career as a pioneer in education, valued mentor and dedicated global citizen.

Mr. Van Camp is, and always will be, an educator in the broadest sense of the word. Bob was raised with his brother John on a working farm in the iconic village of Romeo, Michigan. The 19th century farmhouse, in its rambling fields and rural setting, belied their exceptional upbringing. The farm was a frequent gathering place for progressive minds of the time, including the Reuther brothers, and nascent causes like the Macomb County Interracial Society. The family frequently housed exchange students from Africa and helped found the first integrated Cub Scout den in Macomb County. Their mother, Dorothy, was a graduate of Columbia Teacher College, one of just 13 women charter members of the Detroit Federation of Teachers and a fierce opponent of book censorship during her tenure on the Romeo Library Board of Directors.

Imbued with the values of equality and fairness, and inspired by his mother's devotion to education, Bob understood he was a citizen and student of the world. This understanding shaped the path of his life. More significantly, it shaped his life's work and touched thousands of young people who have been inspired to look beyond their home towns to build bridges to other lands and cultures in their own lives.