

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHNNIE DOSS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, one hundred and two years ago a tenacious man of God was born in Camp Hill, Alabama on August 14, 1909; and

Whereas, Mr. Johnnie Doss was born to Mr. Jack and Mrs. Minnie Doss, he grew up in Camp Hill, Alabama attending school in the local school system; he worked as an experimental farmer for the government. He owned cattle and sold milk to the local dairy; and

Whereas, Mr. Doss has shared his time and talents as a husband, father and motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all who want to advance the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mr. Doss has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the will of God; he is a father of fifteen (15), a grandfather of fifty (50), a great-grandfather of forty-two (42) and a great-great grandfather of thirty-two (32); and

Whereas, Mr. Doss along with his family and friends are celebrating this day a remarkable milestone, his 102nd birthday, we pause to acknowledge a man who is a cornerstone in our community; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mr. Doss on his birthday and to wish him well and recognize him for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim August 14, 2011 as Mr. Johnnie Doss Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 14th day of August, 2011.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JONAS BENTON KELSALL

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Commander Jonas Benton Kelsall who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. LCDR Kelsall was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

LCDR Kelsall was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards, including the Legion of Merit, three Bronze Star Medals with Valor, Purple Heart Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Valor, three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, two Joint Service Achievement Medals, two Combat Action Ribbons, two Presidential Unit Citations, three Afghanistan Campaign Medals, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and numerous other personal and unit decorations.

LCDR Kelsall is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates. His nation owes LCDR Kelsall an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to LCDR Kelsall's family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

IN HONOR OF MR. WILHELM G. SPEIGELBERG, II

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Wilhelm G. Speigelberg, II, who is retiring after 31 years of government service.

After graduating cum laude from Case Western Reserve University with a degree in political science in 1978, Mr. Speigelberg attended the Cleveland Marshall School of Law. He earned his J.D. in 1982.

Mr. Speigelberg began his career in public service with the Ohio State Lottery in 1976 as a public information officer. He later worked with the Ohio Department of Administrative Services as a grant coordinator. Once Mr. Speigelberg had earned his law degree, in 1983, the City of Garfield Heights appointed him as the city's assistant law director. After several years, Mr. Speigelberg began working with Judge Deborah J. Nicastro. He would serve as her personal bailiff and law clerk and was later appointed Magistrate and Acting Judge to assist Judge Nicastro.

In addition to his distinguished career, Mr. Speigelberg is an active member of the community. He has been involved in numerous campaigns throughout the State of Ohio and is well known for his political campaign management skills. He is a licensed referee who officiates local basketball, football, baseball and lacrosse games.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Wilhelm G. Speigelberg II and thanking him for 31 years of dedicated service to the City of Garfield Heights and State of Ohio.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE HONORING MS. SYLVIA S. SCHWAB, HOUSE CONGRESSIONAL LIAISON OFFICER, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS (RETIRED)

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to rise to honor Ms. Sylvia S. Schwab, House Congressional Liaison Officer, Office of Legislative Affairs, United States Marine Corps, for her decades of service on Capitol Hill and twelve years as an invaluable Civilian Marine.

Ms. Schwab is an alumna of Mary Washington College, and has undertaken graduate

studies in social work at the Catholic University of America. Ms. Schwab's personal decorations include twenty-five years of outstanding performance and monetary awards as well as numerous letters of appreciation and training completion certificates. Ms. Schwab was a valued staffer to Representative Tom Bevill (D-4-AL), who served in this body for 30 years. Representative Tom Bevill (D-4-AL) and my father, Representative Walter B. Jones, Sr. (D-1-NC), both served together in Congress for many years and were close and personal friends.

Ms. Schwab brought her unique experience and perspective to numerous roles, including Senior Legislative Assistant/Director of Case-work and Deputy Chief of Staff/Constituent Relations Director. Since that time, Ms. Schwab has served with distinction as Special Assistant to the Chief of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Secretary of the Navy, as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and as Special Legislative Liaison, Office of Legislative Affairs, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.

As House Congressional Liaison Officer, Ms. Schwab has served four Commandants and five Legislative Assistants, providing her mastery skills and knowledge to the Marine Corps environment. She brought with her a keen insight into the inner workings of the House of Representatives. Ms. Schwab's two decades of experience on Capitol Hill and at Marine Corps Headquarters have provided her with the ability to capitalize on long-standing relationships with congressional staff members to ensure that the Marine Corps message was being delivered and received in a manner that ensured open and effective communication between Congressional Staff and the Marine Corps. Ms. Schwab represented the Marine Corps on all Marine-related matters and guided the Marine Corps' most difficult and challenging legislative initiatives with great success. Through direct interaction with Members of Congress, and their staffs, she ensured that the Marine Corps requirements were widely known and understood, thereby guaranteeing the best possible support. Examples of her success include the procurement of the MV-22 Osprey, the acquisition of Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles and wide-ranging Congressional support for the establishment of the Wounded Warrior regiment.

Ms. Schwab's uncompromising professionalism, astute judgment and strong interpersonal skills contributed substantially to the development of many Marine Corps plans, programs, policies, and activities. She consistently worked to reinforce the Marine Corps policies and ensured that the guidance was widely disseminated to influential, keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

I had a long professional relationship with Ms. Schwab and always found her to be the consummate professional. It was a pleasure to serve with her.

It is for these outstanding personal qualities, dedication to service, and exceptional performance both on Capitol Hill and with the United States Marine Corps that we express to her our heartfelt pride and best wishes in her surely successful future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE BROWN CITY
FIRE DEPARTMENT IN HONOR OF
THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for this opportunity to recognize and acknowledge a special event occurring in the 10th Congressional District this upcoming Sunday, September 11, 2011. For many, this is a solemn time because our Nation is preparing to remember the 10th Anniversary of 9/11 and pay tribute to the brave men and women who lost their lives on that tragic day. I think it's important to note Americans across this land share in the grief felt by all who lived through and witnessed that horrendous attack on the United States of America.

I too share in that sorrow and want to commend and applaud the Brown City Fire Department for standing up to honor the innocent lives lost 10 years ago—just as they have done each of the past 9 years. Located in rural Sanilac County, Brown City started on this journey almost three years ago to obtain a piece of the World Trade Center by submitting an application to the New York Port Authority. To the delight of the fire department and the entire community, the application was approved and a piece of the I-Beam from the World Trade Center would become the foundation of a memorial in memory of the 343 firefighters lost that horrific day.

Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct privilege to represent Brown City and coincidentally I have visited to New York City as well. Despite ending in the word "city", one could easily state this is where the similarities end. However, I would argue the few things they do share in common build a unique and solid bond which far exceeds the differences. I remind you no matter where we call home; we are all Americans first.

Like the NYFD, the Brown City Fire Department is comprised of men and women who have answered the call of duty to serve and protect. Firefighters are cut from the same cloth which is sewn with courage, bravery and fortitude always putting other citizens ahead of their own safety and well-being. Their love of country, honor and service diminishes any geographical disparities.

Although America was shocked by the events of 9/11, it ultimately re-affirmed and proved once again that the American spirit, resolve and character are full-proof and can withstand any damage a terrorist attack tries to inflict. Just as Brown City has done, and continues to do, we will always stand shoulder to shoulder with our fellow Americans no matter what our differences may be. Liberty and freedom will always prevail.

Lastly Mr. Speaker, I ask every American to take a moment to reflect upon and remember those who lost their lives in this senseless act. We all should also say a prayer of thanksgiving for those who gave their lives on that day and for those who since then have fought and sacrificed on battlefields across the globe.

Our great Nation was born in a revolution against tyranny. It has stood since that time as a beacon of hope for countless individuals who have come with a yearning to be free. We have sent our sons and daughters to de-

feat fascism, communism and to protect our freedom and spread it to hundreds of millions across the world. Today we continue that fight against yet another enemy of freedom, and once again freedom will triumph. The world should know that America will never surrender in the fight for liberty and will remain eternally vigilant to the simple statement in our Pledge—"One nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all."

I want to commend the Brown City Fire Department for their hard work and commitment to honor their brothers and sisters from New York City by constructing this 9/11 monument. This is a testament to the community's leadership to ensure future generations always remember and never forget. I thank them for their service and I appreciate this opportunity to acknowledge their exceptional work to see this project come to fruition.

RECOMMENDING A THOUGHTFUL
ARTICLE BY FORMER SENATOR
GEORGE MCGOVERN

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring the attention of my colleagues to a recent article by my friend, former Senator George McGovern, in the September, 2011 issue of Harper's magazine.

In the article, Senator McGovern offers a series of recommendations to improve our Nation, including bringing our troops home from Afghanistan, investing in the jobs of the future, and reducing defense spending.

Senator McGovern continues to bring an important, thoughtful perspective to the issues of the day. I urge my colleagues to read his article and to give serious consideration to the proposals he outlines.

EASY CHAIR—A LETTER TO BARACK OBAMA
(By George McGovern)

When President Franklin Roosevelt came into office in the depth of the Great Depression, he sought to stabilize and empower American society by introducing bold new initiatives: Social Security, the Public Works Administration, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Rural Electrification Administration, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Civilian Conservation Corps, and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, among many others. These measures were sufficiently successful, as was his leadership during World War II, that he secured four terms in the White House. There was some congressional resistance but not enough to block the support of both political parties.

Like Roosevelt, President Barack Obama has inherited a serious economic crisis, but in his first two years in office he has been met with an even worse problem: the rigid opposition of the rival party leaders to national health care and nearly every other proposal he has made. The Republican House Appropriations Committee has even voted to terminate public funding for NPR and PBS. Neither during my four years in the House of Representatives, when Dwight D. Eisenhower was in the White House, nor through eighteen years in the U.S. Senate, under John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, and Richard Nixon, have I witnessed any president thwarted by the kind of narrow partisanship

that has beset Obama. He has tried to avoid such divisions by publicly explaining his willingness to compromise, but these gestures have been spurned. Some of his political critics have gone so far as to express the hope that the Obama Administration will fail, even avowing their determination to hasten that failure. What has happened, one is compelled to ask, to the love of nation?

I have learned that it is not easy to succeed either as a senator or as a president if you are pushing for fundamental change. We tend, as lawmakers and as citizens, to drift along with the familiar ways of thinking: If it is good enough for Grandma and Grandpa, it is good enough for us. If it is good enough for the flag-wavers and the boosters, it is good enough for us. Such resistance to change often is strengthened by powerful interests—nowhere more forcefully than in the National Defense bill that Congress considers and passes each year.

When I entered the U.S. Senate in 1963, the defense budget was \$51 billion. This was at a time when our military experts felt it necessary to have the means to win a war against the combined powers of Russia and China. Today we have a military budget of over \$700 billion, and yet neither Russia nor China threatens us, if indeed they ever did. Nor does any other nation. Furthermore, the terrorist threat we face is not a military matter. The World Trade Center was brought down not by artillery or bombers or battleships but by nineteen young Arabs equipped only with box cutters. The Department of Homeland Security created by the Bush Administration after this attack is a better instrument against terrorism than our military, even though our armed forces are the best in the world.

In my career both in the House and in the Senate, inspired by the words of Eisenhower, my supreme commander in Europe during World War II, I tried hard to curb the powers of what Eisenhower, in his farewell address as president, referred to as the "military-industrial complex." Needless to say, all my efforts to reduce military spending were defeated. With the renaming of the War Department as the Defense Department in 1947, the military part of the government became sacred, virtually untouchable. How could anyone vote to cut defense unless he or she is willing to face political defeat?

We need a new definition of "defense" that takes into account the quality of our education, the health of our people, the preservation of the environment, the strength of our transportation, the development of alternative fuels, the vigor of our democracy. These were the concerns expressed by the people who stood in Cairo's Tahrir Square holding up their signs for more than two weeks this winter. Without guns, knives, or the use of their fists, they brought down the dictator who had exploited them for nearly thirty years.

All Americans want their country to have an adequate military defense. But under pressure from corporate lobbyists and legislators seeking military contracts or bases for their states, we are spending to excess while other sources of national defense, such as health care and education, are short-changed and the national debt grows ever larger.

Many patriotic Americans have opposed the two wars our gallant young troops have been asked to fight in Iraq and Afghanistan. Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz has estimated that the direct and indirect costs of the Iraq war will amount to \$3 trillion. This represents nearly a quarter of our national debt. I suspect that the war in Afghanistan will eventually cost another \$3 trillion and we still will not have achieved our aim. General David Petraeus, the commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan, advises