

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM TAYLOR
WATSON, III

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2011

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, recently my District lost one of the most impressive men I have ever known.

William Taylor Watson, III passed away on July 19, 2011. I knew Bill personally for many years and considered him a good friend.

Born in Nashville and educated at Vanderbilt University, Bill's career as a businessman spanned 64 years and included many great accomplishments.

He was a leader and expert in finances, once overseeing some of the largest financial portfolios in the Nation.

Bill was also an active member of several churches, and I know his faith in God played a prominent role in everything he did.

Bill always said, despite his impressive life and great career successes, that his family was his greatest joy. I extend my condolences to his wife, Mary; daughter, Mary Pierson Gibson; sons, William T. Watson, IV and George Fitch Watson; and brother, Robert Watson. I know they will miss Bill greatly.

I have nothing but the greatest respect for any person who serves in the military, especially during a time of war. We use the word hero way too often these days, but Bill was truly an American hero.

Following his time at Midshipman's School at Northwestern University, where he graduated with high honors, Bill had his pick of top positions in the Military. He could have chosen a career in the safety of Washington, D.C., working inside the Navy Department; instead, he chose the most dangerous job in the military—Underwater Demolition Team frogman, the predecessor to the Navy Seals.

Bill's son, Bill Watson IV, recently contacted me to share this story as it was told in an editorial written about is father and published in the June 1, 1944, edition of *The Sewanee Purple*.

Mr. Speaker, this piece, which is reprinted below, shows the true character of Bill Watson better than anything I could express, and I bring it to the attention of my Colleagues and other Readers of the Record.

[From the *Sewanee Purple*, Jun. 1, 1944]

EDITORIAL

... the greater therefore should our
courage be.—Henry V

On May 10th, a class of Midshipmen graduated from Northwestern University Midshipman School. Its members were commissioned Ensigns in the United States Naval Reserve. William Taylor Watson, III, of Nashville, graduated fifth in that class of fourteen hundred. He had attended Vanderbilt University, and was stationed at Sewanee in the V-12 Unit from July until November last year. To those who knew him, it was not surprising that he led his class.

At the time of his graduation, Admiral King had asked the Northwestern Midshipman School for a newly commissioned Ensign to take abroad his flagship, in order to see the calibre of the men the Midshipman School was turning out. There was a post in Washington, in the Navy Department, which Northwestern was to fill—and it would take a good officer to fill it. Both of those assignments were offered to Billy Watson. He

turned them both down. He was given his choice of any assignment he wanted on active duty.

He chose what the Navy terms "demolition". Only volunteers are accepted for this work. It is a dirty job. The men in demolition ride small rubber rafts, in through the surf to the beaches, where an amphibious attack is to be made. A hundred yards from shore, the demolition men start to swim. They search the beaches, locating mines, clearing paths through them, and destroying any explosives which would interfere with a landing. Then they swim back to their little rubber rafts, and paddle away—if they can.

The choice that Watson made of course caused a good bit of comment. We heard one emptyheaded fool laugh at it; to this person it seemed a ludicrous choice!

There was a bright red haze in front of us for a long time afterwards. Speech came very hard, for there was no fitting answer to that sort of statement. The whole vital issue of the war seemed to be tied up in that little incident. On the one hand, was a man who had the same high ideal that kept the Spitfires flying in the battle of Britain—that kept the Russian line together before Moscow—that pervaded—and kept the courage up—in the soul shattering defeat in the South Pacific Withdrawals.

On the other hand—well—you name it. It doesn't print very well.

To William Watson, we can say only a part of what we feel by giving him a deeply respectful and admiring salute—for his nobility, his courage, and his superb action in accepting his individual responsibility.

AMERICA'S STRENGTH THROUGH DIVERSITY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend of the Tenth Anniversary remembrances of the attacks of September 11th, I saw the strength and diversity of the people across the Midlands of South Carolina which is underestimated by our evil enemies.

The diversity of America by heritage, race, religion, gender, and politics makes America strong.

At the request of President Mary Peña, I spoke to the Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia citing the special contribution of Filipino-Americans for over 100 years in defense of America into the Global War on Terrorism.

For our family, this September 11th began with participation in the Memorial Service sponsored by the West Metro Rotary Club, West Metro Chamber of Commerce, Lexington School District Two, and Pine Press Printers at the West Columbia River Walk Amphitheater. The passionate patriot Joe Pinner presided over tributes to our military, military families, and first responders highlighted by Sheriff James Metts and Irmo Fire Chief Mike Sonefeld.

Proof of the resolve of the New Greatest Generation was the Change of Command Ceremony of the Headquarters Support Company of Sumter's 351st Aviation Support Battalion. Before a fully staffed complement of all volunteers, Cpt. Julian D. Wilson relinquished command to Cpt. Michael W. Jones. Wilson had enlisted in the S.C. Army National Guard

in December 2001 in the tradition of service as the namesake of Marine Major Julian D. Dusenbury who was awarded the Navy Cross for his successful capture of Shuni Castle on Okinawa in April 1945. Both Captains are symbols of military families with Cpt. Jones supported by his wife Terry and their six children, Michael, Jr., Megan, Nathaniel, Summer, Shan, and Brooke and Cpt. Wilson encouraged by his wife Joy and son Julian, Jr.

As a 31-year veteran of the Army Reserves and the S.C. Army National Guard, I have never been prouder of their committed members and their capabilities for domestic and overseas service. Due to the success of America's military more countries today have been liberated from totalitarianism in the history of the world living in freedom and democracy from Estonia to Thailand and South Korea to Bulgaria.

Due to the vision of Dan Hennigan, a 9/11 First Responders Remembrance Memorial featuring two New York World Trade Center steel beams were unveiled at the base of the State House in front of the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center with Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin and Governor Nikki Haley.

At the Remembrance, it was very appropriate on the front row of special guests were Hampton and Jane Caughman, proud parents of SPC Thomas W. Caughman who was killed June 9, 2004, Iraq. SPC Caughman was mature beyond his age concluding his letters with the adage, "Freedom is not free." He understood we were in a long war to protect American families at home.

The weekend concluded with a moving Service of Remembrance at Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church named in recognition of the community's original German Swiss farming settlers. Heartfelt leadership was provided by pastors Dr. Jim Glatz, Dr. Helen Harrison Coker, and Dr. Bill Johnston. Dr. Glatz recounted the extraordinary heroism of Todd Beamer on Flight 93. After reciting together The Lord's Prayer with air phone operators, Beamer stated to his comrades the immortal "Let's Roll," which successfully stopped the jihadists from their murderous destruction of the U.S. Capitol Building. This was the first successful counterattack in the Global War on Terrorism. The service was enhanced by a Color Guard of the Lexington Police Department along with the Lexington County Choral Society and the Lake Murray Symphony Orchestra.

The positive message of Dr. Glatz was clear that the American people will prevail with faith, hope, and love.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

HON. LUCILE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2011

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, as Congress marks the 10 year anniversary of the September 11th attacks, I rise to mourn the loss of the thousands of innocents who perished and to honor the selflessness of those who sacrificed so much to protect us, both on that day and in the decade since.

In recent months, much of our national conversation has fixated on what's wrong with America: spiraling debt, soaring unemployment, a poisoned political climate, and perhaps most troublingly, the undeniable sense that we are an increasingly divided people.

Indeed, our country is beset by a crisis of confidence, with faith in our institutions, our leaders and ourselves seemingly at all-time lows.

Coming at this moment of doubt and insecurity, it is my hope that the 10th anniversary of the September 11th attacks can offer the American people a potent reminder of the defining qualities we revealed in that moment of extreme tragedy: our willingness to sacrifice, our unwillingness to submit or surrender and ultimately our solidarity in the face of great pain and staggering loss.

Ten years ago in New York, as the towers were falling and thousands were fleeing, firefighters and police officers disregarded the dangers and rushed to save the victims.

In the skies above Pennsylvania, a courageous group of passengers fought back against the hijackers and ultimately brought down their own plane, dying so that others might live.

And across America, thousands of young men and women who watched the events of that day unfold on their TV screens decided to enlist, placing themselves in harm's way to keep our country safe.

9/11 was a moment when the American people were tested as never before and yet emerged unbeaten and unbowed. Through our grief, we were united in asserting that the American way of life would go on.

I believe our country's heroes on that day offer up a powerful example to our country's leaders ten years later.

Let us continue to cultivate the spirit of service that motivated the firefighters who responded and the soldiers who enlisted.

Let us use this opportunity to rediscover the togetherness that marked our response to the horrors we witnessed, finding the inspiration to set politics aside and begin solving the problems that matter.

Finally, let us honor the memories of all those who died on that day by working to ensure that America remains a country worthy of their sacrifice.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF OFFICER JUSTIN SOLLOHUB

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2011

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to recognize the life of a proud American hero, Anniston Police Officer Justin Sollohub.

Officer Sollohub of Jacksonville died August 25th due to injuries sustained while on duty.

Like others who have lost their lives serving their communities in the line of duty, words simply cannot express the sense of sadness we all have for Officer Sollohub's family, and the gratitude we feel for his service to the community. He was a selfless servant for the Anniston area, and he will be missed.

We will forever hold him closely in our hearts, and remember his willingness to serve

and protect our community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the House's remembrance at this mournful occasion.

RECOGNIZING PROFESSOR MITCHEL RESNICK

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2011

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Professor Mitchell Resnick for receiving the Harold W. McGraw, Jr., Prize in Education. He is a Professor of Learning Research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Media Lab, developing new technologies and activities that help children and adults engage in creative learning experiences.

Professor Resnick co-founded the Computer Clubhouse project, an international network of more than 100 after-school learning centers available to young people from low-income communities. It increases their access to technology, which can help improve their educational experience and better prepare them for the workforce. The Computer Clubhouse network has a strong global presence, with over 30 locations in countries as diverse as Mexico, Hungary, Israel, the Palestinian territories, India, and South Africa. It also still proudly serves Massachusetts youth, with a particular emphasis on reaching out to the many communities of Boston.

Professor Resnick's Lifelong Kindergarten research group developed the Programmable Bricks technology which helps children build and program their own robots. His research group also cultivated the Scratch programming environment and online community. It gives young people the tools they need to create their own stories or games and share their work with others online. Professor Resnick has worked for years to make technology fun and accessible—reaching out to students and helping them succeed in the classroom.

Professor Resnick earned his degree in physics from Princeton University. He then went on to MIT where he earned an MS and PhD in computer science. In 2010, Professor Resnick was awarded the Kids@Play prize as the top "Digital Pioneer for Kids." He was also named one of the 30 "most influential people affecting the advancement of technology in education" by Tech & Learning magazine.

I congratulate Professor Resnick on his latest accomplishment and on all of the innovative work he has done over the years. I look forward to his continuing contributions to children's education.

HONORING BROOKLAWN'S 9/11 MEMORIAL AND MONUMENT OF THE DELAWARE VALLEY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brooklawn's 9/11 Memorial and Monument of the Delaware Valley. This monument is a special tribute to the victims and heroes

of September 11th and a symbol of the spirit and courage of the American people.

Construction of the monument would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of Brooklawn Police Captain Steven Saymon, who bravely responded on 9/11. Capt. Saymon designed the monument and collected the artifacts for the display. The efforts and contributions of local businesses and volunteers too numerous to mention were also invaluable. Their selflessness allowed the monument to be constructed without a penny changing hands.

Completed in just five weeks, the monument features the only local display of artifacts from all three sites: a four ton beam from the World Trade Center; a granite block from the Pentagon wreckage; and soil from the Flight 93 crash site in Pennsylvania. These relics serve as a reminder of the lives lost on that tragic day and the unity shown by American citizens.

Mr. Speaker, the citizens behind the 9/11 Memorial and Monument of the Delaware Valley should be recognized for their efforts and dedication in building this tribute to the memory of the tragic events of 9/11. This monument shows the lasting gratitude of the American people to those who gave their lives on that day. I encourage all of my constituents to visit this memorial, and to reflect on that tragic day, 10 years ago.

ON INTRODUCING THE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES IMPROVE- MENT AND INNOVATION ACT

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act.

The Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act is bipartisan legislation that extends and makes modest adjustments to the Child Welfare Services and the Promoting Safe and Stable Families programs that both expire September 30th of this year. Although only a small part of all federal child welfare funding, these programs help ensure that children can remain safely with their own parents or be supported by other caring adults when necessary.

The bill reflects agreements between Republicans and Democrats on the House Ways and Means Committee, as well as with our colleagues on the Senate Finance Committee, for reauthorizing these programs. The bill is bipartisan and bicameral, and draws on the findings of several hearings we have had in the Human Resources Subcommittee this year on child welfare issues. Further, this bill does not increase spending or raise the deficit. When the American people ask us to work together across party lines to craft meaningful legislation that is fully paid for, this is the type of bill they have in mind.

In addition, this bill would renew authority for the Department of Health and Human Services to approve child welfare waivers. These waivers have been a valuable tool for States seeking to test new ways of helping children at risk of abuse and neglect, and the renewal of this authority will allow innovation to continue.