

RECOGNIZING MR. DALLAS WICKS
FOR HIS HONORABLE SERVICE
TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran, Mr. Dallas Wicks who was born on December 11, 1930, in Pelahatchie, Mississippi. He was the third child of twelve children to Minister McAllister and Mrs. Maggie Ella Wicks. His early years of education began at Pelahatchie Elementary School and continued on to Carthage High School, Fayette High School and culminating with him graduating from Lanier High School in Jackson, Mississippi.

Mr. Wicks entered the U.S. Army on April 8, 1951, where he served in the Korean War. He received basic training in Scofield Barracks Hawaii in Honolulu, Hawaii and upon completion, was deployed to Korea and served in the 2nd Army Division in 1951. He has also done other foreign tours of duty that include Germany, France, Lebanon, and Vietnam in addition to a host of state tours including Forts Myles, Hood, and Eustis. During his first tour of duty in Korea, Mr. Wicks received the Purple Heart Medal in October 10, 1951. He has also received the Korean Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, U.N. Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign, Presidential Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation and Vietnam Presidential Unit Citation.

Mr. Wicks is a member of the Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church, where he serves as an auxiliary lay leader. He is also a member of the Prince Hall Jefferson #202 Lodge.

Mr. Wicks is happily married to his wife of 56 years, Mrs. Matiele Wicks. They have no children but several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Dallas Wicks for his dedication to serving others.

HONORING SPECIALIST RONALD
WILDRICK, JR.

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a recently fallen warrior, Specialist Ronald Wildrick, Jr. Specialist Wildrick served with the Army's 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, out of Schofield Barracks in Hawaii.

Ron was raised in Byram, New Jersey and graduated from Lenape Valley High School. Specialist Wildrick joined the Army in 2008 with the hope of making a better life for his wife and two daughters, Kaylee and Leah, through service to his nation. In September, he was deployed to Afghanistan's Kunar Province as a part of Operation Enduring Freedom. On December 11, 2011, his unit was attacked in the Kunar Province with an improvised explosive device. Sadly, Specialist Wildrick was killed in the line of duty while serving his nation.

As a result of his sacrifice, Specialist Wildrick was posthumously awarded a Bronze Star Medal. His dedication to country and loyalty to his fellow soldiers was evident throughout his Army career. Prior to his deployment to Afghanistan he had the solemn duty of serving with the U.S. Army Old Guard at Arlington National Cemetery, where he regularly recognized the sacrifices made by his fallen comrades. Ronald Wildrick is a true American hero, and he will never be forgotten by his friends, his family, or the country he fought for. My thoughts and prayers, as well as the thoughts and prayers of a grateful nation, are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE
BOMBING OF PAN AM FLIGHT 103

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the victims of the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 and recognize the twenty-third anniversary of the tragedy.

Pan American Airways Flight 103 departed London Heathrow Airport for John F. Kennedy Airport in New York City on December 21, 1988. The flight would never reach its destination as a bomb exploded on the aircraft killing its 259 passengers and crew, along with 11 people on the ground in Lockerbie Scotland.

Among the passengers killed were 189 Americans, including 37 people from my own district; a couple from the Town of Clay and 35 Syracuse University students returning home from Christmas after a semester abroad in London.

As we prepare to celebrate the holiday season with our loved ones let us remember those who can no longer do so because of this senseless act of terrorism. Twenty-three years have passed, but nothing can replace the loved ones lost in the attack. We must never forget the innocent victims who were killed on Flight 103, nor the families that they left behind. May we use their memory to remind us to stay vigilant in the fight against terrorism and in committing ourselves to creating a safer world.

IN MEMORY OF THOMAS
WILLIAMS

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of Tom Williams, a big man with an even bigger heart who died last week in a tragic car accident.

Tom, 56, was an engineer for the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, based at Point Mugu in my district and China Lake, for 38 years. Most of his career was spent working on simulations of radar systems that could be used by America's enemies.

The War Center's mission is to test weapon systems and Tom often assumed the persona of the "bad guy" to design and implement countermeasures.

He was known as a great troubleshooter. Navy officials told the local newspaper that Tom "could make complex radar systems work in the most hostile environments."

Tom's work had real-life implications and saved countless lives. During Desert Shield, he was sent to the Persian Gulf, where he developed a technique that allowed Navy aviators to jam Iraq's radar. That allowed the aviators to remain safe during their missions when Desert Shield became Desert Storm.

Tom graduated from the Senior Executive Management Development Program at the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) and was chosen to be a NAVAIR Associate Fellow, recognizing his expertise in the development of threat simulators. Tom eventually became the head of the Airborne Threat Simulation Team, serving at the Integrated Program Team Lead.

A second-generation Californian, Tom began at the Warfare Center as an intern after graduating from Buena High School and retired in 2010, although he returned part-time nine months later to mentor and train new engineers.

When not working at the base, Tom was active in local politics and helping colleagues with home improvement projects. Woodworking was a hobby, and he enjoyed playing golf, pursuing photography, and traveling with his wife, Barbara. Barbara also worked at the Warfare Center, where the two met, and retired in 2009.

In addition to Barbara, Tom is survived by their son, David, and David's fiancée, Kaylan Danielson.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join my wife, Janice, and me in remembering our personal friend Thomas Williams, in thanking him for his lifetime of work to protect our military men and women, and in offering our sincere condolences to Barbara, David, Kaylan, and to all who knew and loved him. He will be missed.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT PATRICK
MILER FOR HIS DEDICATION
AND SERVICE TO OUR
COUNTRY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished life of Lieutenant Patrick Miller.

Lieutenant Miller was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps in 1961. As a Marine officer for over 23 years, Lt. Miller served multiple tours as an artilleryman with the 2nd and 3rd Marine Divisions, including two tours in Vietnam.

Lieutenant Miller earned the Medal of Honor on December 18, 1965 in Vietnam. His other decorations include Meritorious Service Medal and Navy Commendation Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Lieutenant Patrick Miller for his service to our country.

RECOGNIZING THE WOMEN OF THE ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY OF THE BASILICA OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL FOR THEIR SERVICE TO OUR TROOPS STATIONED ABROAD

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the women of the Altar and Rosary Society of the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel in Loretto, Pennsylvania for bringing comfort and solace to the members of our military stationed abroad during the holiday season over the last 25 years. In the spirit of giving that defines this magical time of year, these selfless women provide assistance to the Support Our Troops military mail campaign in the lead up to Christmas. This campaign sends letters of support and gratitude to our troops overseas in an attempt to bridge the oceans and continents that separate them from their loved ones.

Dolly Haird, Barb Bender, Maggie Biter, Mae Karabinos, Lucy Mock and the rest of the women of the of the Altar and Rosary Society at St. Michael the Archangel gather thousands of Christmas cards from individuals, families, schools and churches starting in October and send them to Fort Bragg in December, where they are sorted and sent to military bases overseas. This year alone, these women gathered over 21,000 holiday greetings. Their ability to motivate so many members of the various communities of southwestern Pennsylvania to express their support for our troops stationed abroad is a testament to the strength and infectiousness of their altruism.

The women of the Altar and Rosary society have received a number of awards for their service. They have also enlisted a number of local veterans' organizations in their efforts, illustrating the great appreciation retired servicemen and women have for their efforts.

The men and women of our armed forces who are stationed overseas spend the holidays away from their families so that we do not have to. No one appreciates this fact more than the women of the Altar and Rosary Society. The work that they do to support our troops clearly illustrates their abiding belief in the importance of sacrifice for the greater good.

Mr. Speaker, as we prepare to begin the New Year, all of us should resolve to emulate the kindness and generosity these women have demonstrated in their efforts to bring smiles to the faces of our men and women in uniform. I want to congratulate them on 25 years of fruitful service.

A TRIBUTE TO HONORING THE LIFE OF PATRICIA CECILE DUNN-JAHNKE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Patricia Cecile Dunn-Jahnke, known as Pattie Dunn. A

former Chairwoman of Hewlett-Packard, she passed away on December 4, 2011, in Orinda, California, surrounded by her family. While her life was too short, her accomplishments were recognized and respected by colleagues across the country.

Pattie Dunn's life was a "rags-to-riches" story. Her parents were Las Vegas casino workers. Her father, a vaudeville actor, died of a heart attack when she was a teen, and her mother, a model, left the runway to raise the family's three children. Her childhood was not easy, but Pattie persevered, eventually working her way through college at the University of Oregon and the University of California at Berkeley.

Pattie was a journalist by training and harbored dreams of being the next great American reporter. But after graduation, she instead took a job as a secretary with Wells Fargo Investment Advisers. What she made of her "accidental career" is truly nothing short of extraordinary. She rose quickly through the ranks of her firm, now Barclays Global Investors, and held a myriad of titles, including Chief Operating Officer, Chief Investment Officer, and even Chief Executive Officer. Pattie broke the glass ceiling for women in investment banking.

Pattie then joined the Board of Hewlett-Packard. While her time there was not without rough patches, she will always be remembered as a courageous woman who typified the characteristics we hope to instill in our daughters. By the time she left, Pattie had risen to be its Chairwoman and helped right the ship at HP.

I will always remember Pattie's valiant personal struggle with cancer, and her fight to raise awareness of the disease. Perhaps a columnist remembering her summed up Pattie best—"She rose from modest circumstances to the pinnacle of global finance, earning a legion of admirers who revere her business acumen, her integrity, her philanthropy and her dedication to family."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest condolences to Pattie Dunn's husband, Bill Jahnke; her children, Janai Brengman, Michelle Cox, and Michael Jahnke; siblings Paul Dunn and Debbie Lammers; ten grandchildren and many other family members. The world lost a giant in Pattie Dunn. How proud and grateful I am to have known her and to have called her my friend.

RESOLUTION HIGHLIGHTING ACTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to introduce a resolution highlighting the actions taken by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, in the operation of their financial and judicial systems, that are manifestly contrary to the public policy of the United States.

This resolution asks that all further direct or indirect aid or assistance, including assistance derived from Federal funds, by the United States Government to the Government of Antigua and Barbuda should be suspended until

the Government of Antigua and Barbuda provides complete redress of the violations by their government against the rights of American citizens.

Antigua and Barbuda should give full cooperation in investigating the Stanford Financial Group fraud, and should agree to be bound by U.S. courts that adjudicate claims arising from the Stanford fraud.

The resolution also asks the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to fulfill its obligations relating to the expropriation of the Half Moon Bay Resort, which was owned by a group of U.S. citizens.

I ask for its swift passage.

RECOGNIZING RETIRED FIRST SERGEANT LANDRES CHEEKS FOR HIS DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO COMMUNITY AND COUNTRY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the many accomplishments of Retired First Sergeant Landres Cheeks of Canton, Mississippi. First Sergeant Cheeks is a true patriot of our country and served as an integral part of his community for more than 60 years. He dedicated his life, after serving our country for three decades, to giving back to the people of Canton. His mission to economically empower, inspire and motivate the people of Canton is one of great resolve.

Sergeant Cheeks served in the United States Army Medical Corps for 30 years participating in World War II (Germany and France) and the Vietnam War. He is a decorated serviceman, having received the National Defense Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army of Occupational Medal of Germany, Bronze Star Medal, World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, and 9th Good Service Conduct Medal. In 2001 he was awarded the Blue Cross Blue Shield Ageless Hero Award. This honor is given in celebration of the spirit and vitality of our Nation's seniors aged 65 and over who have proven themselves exemplarily in the areas of Community Involvement, Creativity, Good Neighbor, Love of Learning, New Beginnings and Vitality. Sgt. Cheeks has proven himself to be a role model of his community.

After having been honorably discharged from the military it was later discovered that Sgt. Cheeks had contracted Agent Orange and developed post-traumatic stress syndrome. Nevertheless, Sgt. Cheeks persevered and began actively assisting the people of Canton with searches for employment and with formulating and sponsoring extracurricular activities for the youth of Canton. He also served as a volunteer crossing guard for Holy Child Jesus School in Canton for more than 25 years.

In 1975, Sgt. Cheeks took his 18 years of experience in coaching little league baseball in the military and sponsored a little league baseball team in Madison County (MS). He also took the discipline and resourcefulness learned in the United States military to organize both Boy and Girl Scouts' troops in Canton, Mississippi.