

Vaughan Webb, assistant director at the Blue Ridge Institute at Ferrum College, told the Roanoke Times, Jack's death "is a great loss to the lore of moonshining." And, "He was a wealth of information. Jack was a character and he really knew how to tell a story."

Jack was a member and President of the Piedmont Fraternal Order of Police, a Free Mason, and a lifelong member of Belmont Baptist Church. He also was a member of the U.S. Navy Mineman Association. Jack earned an AAS, BS, and LLB from Virginia Western Community College and LaSalle Extension Law Institute, and was a 1981 graduate of the National FBI Police Academy.

Jack is survived by his wife Mary of Roanoke; daughters Trenda Powell Jacocks and her husband, Army Colonel John Mc. Jacocks, M.D., of Fairfax Station, Virginia and Andrea Powell McKown and her husband, Navy Captain Martin H. McKown Jr., of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Also surviving are six grandchildren, one of which was Martin Hayes McKown III of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, who was an original member of my congressional office staff. Other grandchildren are Brittany Virginia Jacocks of New York, New York; Mary Carter Jacocks of Fairfax Station, Virginia; Air Force 2LT Connor Braxton McKown of Del Rio, Texas; Army Cadet 1st Class Carson Lee McKown, of West Point, New York; and Air Force Cadet 4th Class Bailey Wright McKown of Pittsburgh, Pa.; and his nephew, Allen Powell, of Roanoke.

Jack Powell's legacy and influence will be long remembered throughout our region. I am honored to pay tribute to this great man. My continued prayers are with his family and friends. May God give them comfort during this difficult time.

HONORING JOSEPH DEBRO

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and career of Bay Area community leader and tireless advocate for the underserved, Mr. Joseph Debro. Known throughout the Greater Oakland/Bay Area region as an innovative and dedicated mentor for minority businesses, Joseph Debro was also a stalwart community member. With his passing, we look to Mr. Debro's tremendous legacy and the outstanding quality of his life's work.

Born in Jackson, Mississippi, Mr. Debro attended and graduated from McClymonds High School in Oakland, California. He later enrolled at the University of California at Berkeley, where he was awarded an undergraduate and Master's Degree in bio-chemistry. Upon graduation, Mr. Debro put his extensive knowledge to work as research assistance at the University of California at San Francisco, and later when he was recruited by NASA as a bio-chemical engineer.

In his own words, Mr. Debro was the son of former slaves, who had to ride in the back of the bus with his parents, drinking water from fountains designated for coloreds only, and picking cotton in fields owned by White people. And even though he saw some diminution of racism throughout his lifetime, he was al-

ways quick to point out glaring inequalities in our justice system that persists to this day.

Mr. Debro tirelessly sought to raise awareness of the experiences African American contractors faced in their attempts to be recognized as viable businessmen in their industry. In the mid-1960's, Mr. Debro observed that Black contractors were excluded from urban redevelopment projects occurring in their own backyard. In his efforts to fight this disparity, Mr. Debro organized minority contractors and co-founded the National Association of Minority Contractors. Along these same lines, in 2009, he founded the Bay Area Black Builders, an organization composed of black construction workers and contractors fighting for economic justice.

As a community activist, Mr. Debro fought for fair housing policies, lending practices, and employment in building trades, among other issues. Alongside Congressman Bennie Thompson, he helped build thousands of units of rural housing throughout the nation. As a contractor, Mr. Debro built and rehabilitated numerous structures, such as the Malonga Casquelord Arts Center in Oakland. And in keeping with his role as a guardian of the community, in 2012, he again challenged the Raiders football team in court to repay a \$53.9 million loan to the City of Oakland and County of Alameda.

Furthermore, Mr. Debro boasted an impressive history with local and state government. Throughout the years, he served as the Director for the State of California's office of Small Business, Director of the Oakland Small Business Center, Director of the Oakland Model Cities Program, and the Vice President of the Mayor's office of Economic Development in San Francisco.

I had the honor to have known Joe since the early 1970s. He was a visionary, bold, and never wavered with his commitment to the African American community. He helped fund California Resources, which Elihu Harris and I organized, and provided a Washington presence for minority owned firms. I learned a lot from Joe and will always remember his friendship and his wise counsel.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors a great friend of the Bay Area and a true champion for equity, Mr. Joseph Debro. His steadfast commitment to ensuring that minorities have access to a better quality of life will forever live on with the legacy of his vision. I offer my sincerest condolences to his many loved ones and to all of those whose lives he touched over the years. He will be deeply missed.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN SAM HOWE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Captain Sam Howe, who has worked in my office for the past year as a Defense Fellow. Capt Howe started in my office last January and he has truly been a pleasure to have on the staff. His extensive military experience has benefited the office tremendously as he offers a unique perspective, is always prepared, takes on any task and does it with a smile.

Captain Howe was born in 1986 and grew up with his two younger sisters, Georgia, 25, and Willa, 21, in the friendly suburb of Belmont, Massachusetts, just outside of Boston, where his parents, John and Teresa, still live today. In 2004, Capt Howe graduated from Belmont Hill School.

Capt Howe would go on to attend Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. While there, he earned a B.A. in Public Policy Studies with a minor in Political Science and met the love of his life, his wife, Casey Freeman. Following his junior year of college, in 2007, Capt Howe completed Marine Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia, which involved a ten week screening and training program for prospective Marine Officers. Upon his graduation from Duke in 2008, Sam was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Following commissioning, Capt Howe returned to Quantico to attend the six month Basic Officer Course and, after being designated as a Marine Communications Officer, he completed the five month Basic Communications Officer Course. He was subsequently assigned to First Marine Logistics Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force, of Camp Pendleton, California.

While stationed in California, Capt Howe served as a platoon commander, company operations officer, company executive officer, and acting company commander. In those roles, he was responsible for the welfare and readiness of his Marines, planning and conducting training, administration, and preparing Marines for deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom or other contingencies. In 2010, Capt Howe completed a seven month deployment to Afghanistan, supervising a platoon of 55 Marines.

As a civilian, Capt Howe enjoys good food, craft beer, and traveling abroad, as well as running, skiing, working out, and reading. He completed the Marine Corps Marathon in 2012 after moving to Washington, D.C. from California. He and his wife live in Washington, D.C.

During his time in the office he has focused his efforts on defense acquisition, defense appropriations, the intelligence community, Navy SEALs training, and many other policy areas. He has been an invaluable resource to all my staff and I would also like to take this opportunity to thank his family for supporting him through the years; he truly is one impressive guy. On behalf of everyone in the office, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Captain Sam Howe for all his hard work and let him know that my office door is always open to him.

HONORING FORT BENNING'S SARGENT PATRICK HAWKINS, PRIVATE FIRST CLASS CODY PATTERSON, 1ST LIEUTENANT JENNIFER MORENO, SPECIAL AGENT JOSEPH PETERS, AND CORPORAL JOSHUA HARGIS

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I come before you today to honor 5 of Fort Benning's own soldiers who courageously put

their lives in harm's way so that we may live free.

Fort Benning is home to about 1,500 Rangers of the entire 75th Ranger Regiment. They are an elite group of soldiers who perform specialized operations for the Army. Currently, the 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, as well as Rangers of the Regimental Headquarters and the Regimental Special Troop Battalion are deployed. I have a deep commitment to Ft. Benning, and once these Rangers pass through Ft. Benning, Georgia, they become part of our state's family.

On October 6th, 5 of these brave Rangers were part of a mission gone wrong. Sargent Patrick Hawkins, Private First Class Cody Patterson, 1st Lieutenant Jennifer Moreno, and Special Agent Joseph Peters were killed by an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, and Corporal Joshua Hargis was seriously injured.

These soldiers came to Fort Benning from across the nation. They are sons and daughters, parents, and spouses, and loved by many. Their loss is felt across our nation and we thank them for paying the ultimate sacrifice.

As we mourn the loss of these four soldiers, I also want to give thanks for the life of Corporal Joshua Hargis. Cpl. Hargis was injured in the same mission on October 6th, and is pictured here beside me. This photo has been nicknamed "The Salute Seen Around the World" because it shows the strong character of an American soldier.

After hours of surgery, Cpl. Hargis' Commander held a small ceremony in the hospital to honor Cpl. Hargis with the Purple Heart Award. Doctors, nurses, fellow Rangers crowded the room to watch him receive the award. Despite his injuries, tubes, and intense pain, Cpl. Hargis still saluted his Commander when his Purple Heart Award was pinned on his hospital blanket. This act of determination despite pain embodies all that is a Ranger.

I want to thank these 5 brave Rangers—Sgt. Patrick Hawkins, PFC. Cody Patterson, 1st LT. Jennifer Moreno, Special Agent Joseph Peters, and Cpl. Joshua Hargis—for their service and sacrifice. Joan and I send our prayers to their families and friends.

God Bless America and God Bless our troops.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND W.H. FOSTER, SR. PASTOR OF THE PLEASANT GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, whereas, the Almighty God has called to his eternal rest Dr. W.H. Foster Sr.; and

Whereas, Reverend Foster was born and grew up in the State of Mississippi and migrated to Chicago like many of his contemporaries; and

Whereas, in 1957 he and his mate for life Ms. Louise Marshall were married and became the parents of nine children and a host of grand and great-grandchildren; and

Whereas, Dr. Foster was ordained a Minister at the age of 28, by Reverend Milton

Brunson and preached the gospel and thrilled thousands of people with his messages and great singing voice from that time on; and

Whereas, Reverend Foster was a great preacher, a wonderful moderator and a devoted member of the National Baptist Convention; and

Whereas, in concert with his religious work Dr. Foster was actively involved with community and the world of politics. I was pleased to enjoy the support and encouragement of Dr. Foster during my entire political career. He was a friend, a comrade and a spiritual advisor. I loved him for what he meant to our community and what he has personally meant to me. I extend condolences to his family, his church, his friends and associates, and may his soul rest in peace.

TEXAN VICTOR LOVELADY DIED PROTECTING OTHERS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when the world is in trouble, they look to Americans for help. One of my constituents, Mr. Victor Lovelady, heard this cry while working in Algeria and sacrificed his life to answer it.

Victor embodied the very best of the American spirit. He was brave, compassionate, and in the face of great danger made the decision to help and protect others instead of himself. Courage like this should be applauded. That is why this week I nominated Mr. Lovelady for the Presidential Medal of Freedom. This is our nation's highest civilian honor and recognizes individuals who have made "an especially meritorious contribution" to our society. It is clear to me that Victor Lovelady not only meets, but exceeds this standard.

Like many Americans, Victor Lovelady was a hard worker who put in long hours to provide for his family of four. As an industrial engineer and master electrician, he worked most of his life in his hometown of Nederland, Texas. Later he moved down the street from me in Atascocita, Texas. However, when work in his area slowed, he traveled back and forth to Houston daily for almost three years so that his children would not have to change schools. Victor never had a pension plan and always had to pay his family's insurance by himself. He never had more than two weeks off in a year. He longed to be able to retire and spend more time with his wife and children.

When the opportunity to work overseas for British Petroleum arose, Victor weighed the pros and cons. He knew that if he did this job for a few years, he would be able to make enough money to retire and be with his family. He was also assured that it would be a safe place to work.

On January 9, 2013, Victor arrived in In Aenas, Algeria to begin his new job at the BP Gas facility. On the morning of January 16, Victor and several other workers were in the cantina having tea when a colleague walked in with a gunshot wound to his stomach. Mokhtar Belmokhtar's al Qaeda linked terrorists had stormed their facility and were indiscriminately killing innocent employees.

Thinking quickly, Victor began to clean and dress the man's wound as the sound of gun-

shots grew louder and louder. After he bandaged the man and hid him in a food container, Victor began helping the other men with him hide in the cantina's false ceiling, lifting them up so they could climb in. In total, Victor propelled three men into the hiding spot. Only when it sounded like the terrorists had entered the cantina did Victor try to save himself. Unfortunately, when attempting to climb into the ceiling, he fell and injured his ankle. Moments later, the terrorists found him and led him away.

Victor's selfless and heroic actions saved four lives that day. This entire ordeal was witnessed and recounted to me by one of the men he helped protect. Sadly, Victor was killed the next day when Algerian, military forces attacked the convoy in which he was being held hostage.

Victor Lovelady may not be a household name, but there is no doubt that his contribution meets the Presidential Medal of Freedom's high standards. He worked hard to provide an honest living for his family and when in danger, thought first to protect others instead of himself. When his brother Michael testified about Victor's heroics before my subcommittee in July, there was not a dry eye in the house. Everyone who hears Victor's story is inspired to act with courage, conviction, and compassion—in other words, to act as a true American.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure you and all of our colleagues are as touched by Victor's story as I am. He was a great man and his legacy will continue through his wife, Maureen, and his two children, Erin and Grant. I am honored to call this man and his family my constituents and will continue to fight to honor the legacy of their courageous husband and father.

And that's just the way it is.

IN SUPPORT OF MILITARY RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, doing the right thing is a core principle for our American soldiers. Doing the right thing for the right reason and with the right goal is even better. People of character must possess the desire to act ethically in all situations. One of our military's primary responsibilities is to maintain an ethical climate that supports development of such character. General Douglas MacArthur once said, "No nation can safely trust its martial honor to leaders who do not maintain the universal code which distinguishes between those things that are right and those things that are wrong."

Organizations often reinforce its belief system to its members. In the United States, our founding documents reflect the fundamental principles of our nation.

The Constitution guarantees the freedom of religion. The military, which swears to protect the Constitution, places high value on the rights of its personnel to observe tenets of their religious faiths. It also demands respect for all individual differences in moral background and personal conviction. While religious beliefs and practices remain a decision of individual conscience, military commanders