

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO
FAMILY OF DR. CHESTER AIKENS

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness and a heavy heart, that I wish my condolences to Dr. Chester Aikens' family. Dr. Aikens was not only my dentist, but my long-time friend and community activist whom I greatly respected and admired. Aikens unexpected passing leaves an irreplaceable void throughout the Jacksonville community.

As a recent recipient of Mayor Alvin Brown's "Trailblazer Award," Dr. Aikens embodied that completely. He was a coveted member of the Jacksonville area, where his input, mentorship, and advice was consistently respected and sought out. It is a telling sign towards his character that Dr. Aikens passed after attending a local meeting with the pension reform task force, an issue he was passionate about.

After receiving a doctorate degree in dentistry from Howard University, for 30 years, Dr. Aikens served the Jacksonville area as a prominent dentist. He was a consistent force, acting as one time president of the National Dental Association, a member of the Jacksonville Civic Council, and chairman of the Jacksonville Aviation Authority board to name a few of his accomplishments.

A veteran of the Florida Army Reserve Nation guard, serving 11 years, Dr. Aikens dabbled in just about everything, doing his best to make an impact and improve his community. He was the consummate family man and ultimate professional. I will miss him dearly, but more importantly, the city of Jacksonville and broader Florida community lost an unparalleled leader. That said, he lived a life that should be a blueprint for those to come and an example of great character and unabridged competence.

CONGRATULATING DUKE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL COACH DAVID CUTCLIFFE FOR BEING HONORED AS WALTER CAMP COACH OF THE YEAR

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Duke University Head Football Coach David Cutcliffe for being recognized by the Walter Camp Football Foundation, Incorporated as Coach of the Year for the all Division I-A football teams in the National Collegiate Athletic Association, NCAA. Coach Cutcliffe is the only Duke football coach to win the award since its inception in 1967.

After being hired as head coach on December 15, 2007, Coach Cutcliffe led Duke this season to a 10-2 regular season record, which is the best record in the institution's history. This season, Duke football defeated two opponents that were both ranked in the top 25 of all Division I-A football teams—the first victories for Duke football over ranked opponents since 1994. Coach Cutcliffe also guided his team to victories over rivals from the Univer-

sity of North Carolina—Chapel Hill and North Carolina State University in 2013. Last season Coach Cutcliffe led Duke football to its first post season bowl game since 1994 and set a school record by scoring a season total of 410 points.

Coach Cutcliffe has also led the Duke football program to success off the field. Students on the Duke football team had a graduation rate of 92 percent in 2013, compared to the average NCAA rate of 82 percent. Under Coach Cutcliffe's leadership, the Duke football team has strengthened the school's relationship with the community through service opportunities with the Duke Children's Hospital, the Ronald McDonald House, and the Oxford Housing Authority Partnership. Prior to joining the coaching staff at Duke University, Coach Cutcliffe served as an assistant coach at the University of Tennessee and a head coach at Ole Miss. Coach Cutcliffe is a native of Birmingham, Alabama and a graduate of the University of Alabama.

The Walter Camp Football Foundation was created in 1967 and is based in New Haven Connecticut. The foundation is named for Walter Camp, a former athlete and coach at Yale University who is known as the "Father of American Football." He is credited with inventing the line of scrimmage, the game's system of downs, the game's scoring system, and the restriction of play to eleven players per team. The Walter Camp Football Foundation is part of the National College Football Awards Association, which is a coalition of the major collegiate football awards.

Mr. Speaker, I commend David Cutcliffe and the entire Duke University football program for their commitment to excellence. This award is a testament to the outstanding leadership demonstrated by Coach Cutcliffe and tremendous performance on and off the playing field from the Duke University football program's student-athletes. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating Coach David Cutcliffe's great achievement in being recognized as the Walter Camp 2013 Coach of the Year.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CHESTER A.
AIKENS

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the constituents of the Fifth Congressional District of Florida, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Dr. Chester A. Aikens.

I am deeply and profoundly saddened by the loss of my dear friend and brother, Dr. Chester A. Aikens. This man of prominence and bearing was the epitome of a gentleman and a scholar. I am moved by his passion, emboldened by his commitments, honored by his friendship and made all the better by his innate wisdom and his belief in the integrity of the human experience. His was a purposeful life and one that helped shape the destinies of historical figures with whom he conversed, and equally so that of the common man and woman, in whom he placed unwavering faith. I came to know him as a husband, father, and dedicated servant to his people and causes, a dentist, a humanitarian, a scholar, a civic leader and businessman without comparison.

Dr. Aikens was born in Madison, Florida, where he was the first black football player and honor society member at his high school. He graduated from Howard University, Washington, DC, with a doctorate in dentistry. He later earned a law degree from Florida Coastal School of Law and Master's degree in Business from Jacksonville University. Dr. Aikens was also a Major in the Florida Army Reserve National Guard.

Known as a fearless warrior, Dr. Aikens was a formidable force who influenced a generation of young people to give both time and resources to their community. Inspired by his strong belief in equal opportunity, he was a true civil rights champion, who went on to greatly influence the community as a whole.

As a member of the Jacksonville community for the past thirty years, Dr. Aikens' presence will be missed by many. He served on many community boards up to and including, first African American from Jacksonville to be President of National Dental Association, Jacksonville Civic Council, Jacksonville Aviation Authority, long-time member, and devoted Deacon of Bethel Institutional Baptist Church and many others.

I am assured, for we all came to know the absoluteness of his word, the sanctity of his promise, the depth of his intellect, the breadth of his worldly experiences and his place in Jacksonville history.

CONGRATULATING
WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Weyerhaeuser Company on being recognized as one of the most community-minded companies in the Nation. Weyerhaeuser was among 50 companies to be awarded this honor by Points of Light and the National Conference on Citizenship's Civic 50 rankings.

Since 1957, Weyerhaeuser has been an integral part of eastern North Carolina. In the First Congressional District that I represent, Weyerhaeuser operates the Softwood Lumber Mill in Plymouth and the Carolina Timberlands Area and GHW Operations Center in Washington. Weyerhaeuser also owns or leases more than 545,000 acres of timberland across the state. The company employs 1,051 North Carolinians and helps support families and businesses in many rural communities.

Weyerhaeuser has been an important contributor to North Carolina's economy and has served as an environmental steward and strong corporate citizen. Since 2008, Weyerhaeuser has donated more than \$2.5 million to philanthropic causes throughout North Carolina. Since 1903, the company has provided more than \$215 million to support affordable housing and shelter, education and youth development, environmental stewardship, human services, and civic and cultural growth.

The second annual Civic 50 was selected through a stringent survey of S&P 500 companies and measured corporate commitment to improving communities, corporate investment in philanthropy, and civic culture.

Mr. Speaker, I commend employees of Weyerhaeuser Company in North Carolina and throughout the country for their commitment to improving their communities for future generations. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating their efforts to make North Carolina a better place to live and work.

HONORING MEMORY OF LEROY
TYSON

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Leroy Tyson. He passed away last week after a long illness. He was a Custodian with the Day Cleaning Division of the House Office Buildings. He began his tour of duty with the AOC on August 6,

2007, where he worked around the clock to help maintain the U.S. Capitol buildings. His kindness and great service will be missed.

I got to know Lee when he took care of the hallways and restrooms around my office on the third floor of the Rayburn Building. He was always quick with a greeting and a friendly smile, always willing to go out of the way for whatever I needed.

Lee was a pleasure to see at work and he will be missed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Tyson family during this difficult time.