

contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Evan Joseph Heronemus for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 12, 2013*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 632 I was unable to be present for H.R. 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

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IN MEMORY OF RONDAL K. MOORE

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**HON. JUAN VARGAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 12, 2013*

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Rondal K. Moore, of Aurora, Colorado, who passed away from a stroke on November 12th at age of 71. Rondal was born on May 25, 1942 in Fort Smith, Arkansas, the son of Clarence Delmer and Golden Viola Moore. In 1961, he graduated from Wheeler County High School in Fossil, Oregon. He went on to serve in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War on board the aircraft carrier USS *Coral Sea* as well as duty in Rhode Island at the Naval War College. In the spring of 1963, he married Nancy E. Heily and on March 29th of this year they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Rondal began working for United Airlines in 1966 and spent decades in the field of de-icing until retiring in 2003 after 37 years. He held multiple patents for inventions in both information and system operations as well as software products used in the process of de-icing. His inventions and patents are still in use today in order to help determine check time for de-icing fluid, which allows for safe airline travel during inclement weather. My thoughts and prayers go out to his surviving family member including his wife of 50 years, Nancy Moore, of Aurora, Colorado; his son, Jason Moore, of Chula Vista, CA; his daughter, Sondra LaValley, of Aurora, CO; and his sister, Carol Ellis, of Kennewick, WA.

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HONORING LINDA HOWARD  
JOHNSON

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**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 12, 2013*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell the story of an unsung hero. Often times the neighbor next door goes unnoticed because of their ability to quietly go about life helping others without any nudge

from the outside to do so, the only nudge they get is the one that is in their heart to do what needs to be done. Mr. Speaker her name is Linda Howard Johnson and she lives in my district, Mississippi Second Congressional District. People in the community call her "Mama or Grandma."

Linda's start in life helped to shape the road she would travel later in life. As a young child, she was given away to be raised by a woman not related to her, Ms. Clara Tanzy. As a child she was constantly changing elementary schools and places to live. Her mother wanted change and a better life for them, so she chose Tutwiler, MS. Tutwiler was the answer they needed to end their roller coaster ride. Linda said it was the first time they were able to call an apartment home, just for the two of them. The stability gave her the grounding she needed to focus on school, being a child, being a little girl, making friends, and all those things important to a child.

Linda went on to attend Coahoma Junior College in 1978 and 1979, where she played basketball. The team won the regional level basketball competition among three states, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Arkansas and advanced to compete at the national level in Kansas City in 1979. In fact, she credits basketball for having taught her the importance of working together to achieve a common goal. As a mother, Linda instilled that same value in her children, Claretta, Lazerick, and Ramona and her grandchildren, Tashayla, Raileigh, Savannah, Diamond, and Courtney. All three of her children went to college and are successful in their careers. Linda's children are constantly trying to encourage their mother to move away but she reminds them, "Tutwiler grounded me and contributed to who I am, so this is my home and extended family, so I'm here to stay and help someone else." I'm pleased that Linda has decided to stay in Tutwiler and help someone in need.

Linda is constantly giving back in many ways. She is a teacher's assistant in the local school district and a bus driver for the district as well. In addition, Linda serves as a basketball coach for both the West Tallahatchie School District and the Tutwiler Community Education Center. She says what she does is not much but it is what she loves, "helping family," because Tutwiler is her family.

Linda has helped raise eight children. She comes to their aide because she recognizes those same issues that occurred in her life rising in theirs. So, she steps in to try and curtail those circumstances or prevent them from occurring in their lives. Linda recalls the story of child who came from a family that hadn't had a female to graduate from high school in twenty years, well Linda got involved in the child's life from birth and nurtured her through high school until she graduated, thus breaking the chain. She invited a 17 year old young man struggling to get out of the 8th grade, who had no one to guide him, so she invited him to come live with her only if he promised to finish school. The young man got his GED and that was better than nothing. In fact, there have been situations in which Linda has taken in entire families consisting of the husband, wife, and children. She says her house is not the Hilton but it's a home and she's willing to share it with those in need at no charge.

Linda says "I don't know, to me it seems like I need my community and my community

needs me and that's why I tell my children I can't move away, I'm at home and a mother's place is at home."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an unsung hero of the Tutwiler Community for stepping up to the plate and influencing many lives, Ms. Linda Howard Johnson.

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TRIBUTE TO MAJOR JOHN TRUAX

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**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 12, 2013*

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Major John Truax of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our Nation. Major Truax and his wife Alaina will be moving on from his present assignment as an Army Congressional Liaison and will soon be reassigned as a Cyber Operations Officer for the Army National Guard.

Army Congressional Liaisons officers provide an invaluable service to both the military and Congress. They assist Members and staff in understanding the Army's policies, actions, operations, and requirements. Their first hand knowledge of military needs, culture, and tradition is a tremendous benefit to Congressional offices.

Following his graduation from Valley Forge Military College in May 2001, Major Truax was commissioned in the Army National Guard as an Engineer Officer. Major Truax reported to his first operational assignment with Charlie Company, 276th Engineer Battalion in West Point, Virginia where he served as a Platoon Leader and Executive Officer. Following a period of reorganization across the Army, Major Truax transferred branches and became a Military Intelligence Officer.

He left his civilian career in management and sales to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from May 2007 to June 2008. During his time in combat, John was responsible for providing security and Area Response Forces in Northern Kuwait as a staff officer in HHC, 2-183 CAV before assuming command of Alpha Troop. After returning from his tour in Kuwait, Major Truax remained on active duty and was assigned to the Army National Guard Materiel Programs Division in Arlington, Virginia. At the completion of an exceptional four years there, he was selected to represent the Army National Guard in the U.S. House of Representatives as a Legislative Liaison.

Major Truax's accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (1 Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Achievement Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Parachutist Badge, and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work alongside Major Truax over the last year. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I join my colleagues in recognizing and commanding his dedication to service and the sacrifices he and his family have made. We wish him, his wife Alaina, and their children Xander and Margaux all the best as they continue their journey to his next assignment in the United States Army.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSIONAL  
INTERNS

## HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Barr Benyamin, Jacqueline Brittain, Diego Sanchez, and Matthew McCabe for their dedication and hard work for the people of Colorado's Sixth District as interns in my Washington, DC office for the fall 2013 session.

The work of these young men and women has been exemplary and I know they all have bright futures. They served as tour guides, interacted with constituents, and learned a great deal about our nation's legislative process. I was glad to be able to offer this educational opportunity to these four and look forward to seeing them build their careers in public service.

All four of our interns have made plans to continue their work in public service next year with various organizations around Washington. I am certain they will succeed in their new roles and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Barr Benyamin, Jacqueline Brittain, Diego Sanchez, and Matthew McCabe for their service this fall.

RICHARD WILLIAMSON: A TRUE  
PUBLIC SERVANT

## HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit a letter a Washington Post obituary commemorating the life and legacy of Richard Williamson who passed away this weekend at the age of 64.

I had the distinct privilege of working with Rich on a myriad of issues, including Sudan. Rich had a keen understanding of the issues marked by a welcome sense of moral clarity. His advice and counsel were reliably sound.

Many will mourn his loss, not the least of which are the Sudanese people whose basic human rights he championed.

[From the Washington Post, Dec. 10, 2013]

RICHARD WILLIAMSON, R.I.P.

(By Jennifer Rubin)

Richard S. Williamson was not a household name, but for decades he was a tireless public servant and resolute defender of America's national security. He passed away suddenly this weekend; he was 64. A release from the McCain Institute recounts, "He was involved in a wide variety of civic organizations, including serving as a nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, as senior fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, and as a trustee of Freedom House. Williamson was also Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs in the Reagan White House, Ambassador to the United Nations Offices in Vienna (including the International Atomic Energy Agency), Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, member of the

President's General Advisory Committee on Arms Control, Ambassador to the United Nations for Special Political Affairs, Ambassador to the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, the Republican Party's nominee for U.S. Senate in 1993." While he lost that Senate race to Carol Moseley Braun, he was an accomplished lawyer, author and speaker.

I came to know Richard in his capacity as a senior foreign policy adviser to Sen. John McCain's presidential campaign in 2008 and Mitt Romney's 2012 campaign. He was a staunch advocate for his candidates, and beyond that for the principle that foreign policy is the most critical aspect of any presidency and therefore must be a topic of debate in presidential elections. When other policy advisers pleaded to downplay foreign policy, Richard insisted it deserved a full airing. Many of the positions he helped his candidates articulate—the danger of Russian aggression, the Obama administration's duplicity in Libya, the rise of the Iran-Syria axis, the need for adequate national security spending and the need to speak boldly on behalf of human rights—have proved entirely accurate. The country would have been greatly served had he returned to public office.

In the hurly-burly of a presidential campaign Richard was unflappable, honest and gracious treasured qualities in a public servant. In the best sense of the phrase, he was an old-school gentleman.

Elliott Abrams, a former deputy national security adviser who knew Richard well, emails: "Rich Williamson was a happy warrior. He was an unflappable soldier of freedom, serving several Republican presidents in the Cold War and then the war against terror, and always, always, in the peaceful but often very rough battle against the Democrats. His ready smile, his sharp political instincts, and his dedication to public service will be long remembered." He adds, "In politics there's a lot of ego and self promotion, but Rich was there to help the party and serve the nation. In the next Republican administration he would have had a very senior foreign policy position, and when that day comes we will miss his counsel, his calm, and his unchanging good humor. He was a wonderful man."

His passing reminds us how essential a strong foreign policy is to the country's well-being. He stood up for a strong America, one that leads the Free World. In addition to conservative groups, including the RNC, which have remarked on his passing, I would hope in the near future our current U.N. ambassador and others in the elite foreign policy establishment who knew him well will honor his achievements. He, as they know, was never one to put partisanship above country. He will be missed.

RECOGNIZING THE DEARBORN  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## HON. LUKE MESSE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. MESSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of the Dearborn County Commissioners to the success of the 6th District Job Fair.

On October 21, 2013, over 150 job seekers from across the district met with 36 businesses looking to hire new employees. In a time when jobs are still hard to come by,

these job fairs are an important tool in linking job seekers with prospective employers. I am proud we were able to bring community leaders together and provide this service to the people of the 6th District.

The job fair would not have been the success it was without the help of the Dearborn County Commissioners. I want to recognize the work of Commissioners Kevin Lynch, Art Little and Shane McHenry and Dearborn County Administrator Terri Randle. Their efforts show a deep commitment to their community and the well-being of the people they serve.

I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in recognizing Dearborn County Commissioners Kevin Lynch, Art Little and Shane McHenry and Dearborn County Administrator Terri Randle. I look forward to working with them often on behalf of the people of Dearborn County and Southeastern Indiana.

IN RECOGNITION OF DON AND  
LOIS MOORE

## HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Don and Lois Moore, proprietors of the Quartzsite General Store. Mr. and Mrs. Moore opened the Quartzsite General Store in Quartzsite, Arizona on December 12, 1972. This December 12 will mark the 41st anniversary of its opening. The store's western-themed storefront has been a mainstay of Quartzsite's Main Street for those 41 years, adding to the town's character and economy. Known for its fresh meats and produce, cleanliness, and great customer service, the General Store has consistently contributed to the community of Quartzsite.

The store could not have been successful without Don's and Lois's hard work and dedication. Don retired from the store in 1999 and Lois retired from school teaching in 1995, but they both work at the store again today. Their determination to achieve their American dream is a shining example not only to their 6 children and 15 grandchildren, but to all current and future entrepreneurs. Small businesses like theirs are the backbone of our economy, and it is those businesses that will lead us out of our current economic problems.

Congratulations to the Quartzsite General Store and to its owners, Don and Lois, on 41 years of success. May they have continued success for many years to come.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 633, I was unable to be present for H.R. 2319. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."