

When I was 15, I got my first hourly-pay job working as a groundskeeper at the Holston-Chilhowee ball park. Marvin was 19 and was my first boss. I made \$1.00 an hour, and he always joked that I was overpaid.

After high school he became a trainer in the Cincinnati Reds minor league system. I was batboy for the Knoxville Smokies and would see him when his team would come to town. He was always proud of his association with several players who later made it to the big leagues. He especially treasured his longtime friendship with manager Dave Bristol.

The Knoxville News-Sentinel relates a story about how Marvin helped a Cub Scout troop that I led. He spent a full day and went to great lengths to help me and the Cub Scouts, none of which he knew other than my son, John.

He campaigned for me in my first race for Congress. I will never forget a campaign trip one Saturday to Polk County, Tennessee. Lance Cavett was with us and he kept fussing at Marvin about his ridiculously high KUB bill and how he just couldn't believe it.

Marvin became very concerned and then asked Lance how high this terrible utility bill was. When Lance replied that it was \$36, Marvin, who was driving, nearly ran off the road.

I was pleased that on the Monday before he died, I had about a 30-minute visit with Marvin at his Hospice room. He held my hand for almost the entire visit.

He seemed so alert and pleasant that I left thinking and hoping that he would recover. Unfortunately, that was not to be.

That day, we talked over old stories and old friends. He assured me that he was not in any pain and that God had greatly blessed him in many ways.

He told me of what he considered to be a miracle during his final illness. He said he had become addicted to pain pills and told his doctor he wanted to stop taking them.

He said his doctor told him that would not be possible—that no one could stand the pain he would experience. Marvin insisted, saying he was turning it over to the Lord. He said from that moment, he became miraculously pain-free.

Marvin had accepted that his death was near and told me he was thankful that he had been given time to say good-bye to his family and friends. He faced his death in a courageous, loving way, showing great Christian faith, and setting a wonderful example for everyone.

Marvin Hammond was a good and kind man. I was told that over 300 friends visited him in his last days and hundreds more attended his receiving of friends and funeral.

This Nation would be a better place if we had more men like Marvin Hammond. To me, he was a great man.

I commend to my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD the stories about Marvin Hammond that ran in the Knoxville News-Sentinel on July 14, 2014, and the Shopper News on July 16, 2014.

[From knoxnews.com, July 14, 2014.]

FORMER HALLSDALE POWELL CEO MARVIN HAMMOND DIES AT 71

(By Josh Flory)

A prominent former leader of a North Knox County utility district died on Saturday.

Marvin Hammond, 71, was the former president and CEO of the Hallsdale Powell

Utility District, and previously a longtime executive with the Knoxville Utilities Board.

Darren Cardwell, Hammond's son-in-law and the current general manager of HPUD, said Monday that Hammond had been in worsening health for several months, and had been receiving hospice care.

Cardwell described Hammond as a mentor, coach and boss, saying that even when they disagreed, they could still "have a family life, too, and not carry the two together."

"That taught me a lot over the years in how to grow and be more of not only a husband and father but how to be a leader in the business," Cardwell said.

Knoxville attorney John Valliant said that in the last days of his life, many people would ask Hammond how they could help, and he would respond by telling them about other people with needs. "He was giving people instructions as to how he wanted them to help other people, and he was dying," Valliant said.

Hammond's leadership at Hallsdale Powell wasn't without controversy. His tenure coincided with a significant growth phase for the utility, which also drew sharp criticism from some customers over rising utility rates.

In 2012, Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett criticized a \$125-an-hour consulting contract approved for Hammond after he stepped down from the HPUD post. That contract was later terminated.

Valliant said Hammond was a selfless person. "You know people gave him a lot of grief over the rate increases at Hallsdale Powell, but they didn't realize that the EPA was breathing down his throat," he said.

Hammond was well-connected in local political circles, and counted U.S. Rep. John J. Duncan, Jr. among his friends. In a written tribute in 2008, Duncan recalled his first hourly-pay job as a 15-year-old groundskeeper at Holston-Chilhowee Ball Park, saying that Hammond was his 19-year-old boss.

"I remember another time when I was a judge, Marvin found that I was Cubmaster of a Cub Scout troop," Duncan wrote. "He told me he could get several canoes from another church and he knew some people who owned a dairy farm 45 miles away with a big lake on it. He spent his whole day getting the canoes, helping the boys tour the farm, do the canoe rides, cook out, and then load everything back up for the return."

Receiving of friends will take place on Tuesday, July 15, from 4:30 to 8 p.m., at Salem Baptist Church, with funeral services to follow.

[From the Business Shopper news]

MARVIN HAMMOND PROMOTED YOUNG PEOPLE, COMMUNITY

(By Sandra Clark)

Marvin Hammond was the right leader for Hallsdale Powell Utility District when the board of commissioners hired him as only the second general manager in the district's 50-year history.

Did he move too quickly? Maybe. Did he move HPUD in the right direction? Absolutely.

Under his leadership, HPUD upgraded its wastewater plant, upgraded its Beaver Creek water treatment plant, replaced leaking pipes throughout the district, and built a second water plant on Norris Lake.

Under his leadership, HPUD invested in people—whether it was teaching laborers to read and write or encouraging kids to return to college for advanced degrees.

In the picture on this page, Marvin is congratulating Cody Humphrey who had just received his MBA from Lincoln Memorial University while working full time at Hallsdale Powell. Cody, now older, still works for HPUD. He was at Monday's board meeting.

Board chair Kevin Julian paid tribute to Mr. Hammond at that meeting.

"His vision for Hallsdale Powell was already set when I came on the board," Julian said. "Marvin had big shoulders and he took the criticism for rate increases, but he did what he thought best based on 30 years experience in the utility business."

"When it all plays out, people will appreciate his vision. He will be missed."

When business leaders in Halls were trying to block commercial development on the land that later became Clayton Park, Hammond was there at County Commission to speak.

Developers said their engineers had said filling the wetland on Norris Freeway was OK.

Hammond pointed out that the Titanic was designed by engineers, while Noah's Ark was not.

Everybody smiled and the developers were sent packing.

When Darren Cardwell was promoted to succeed Hammond, he said he hoped to be a blend of his predecessors: Allan Gill and Marvin Hammond.

When Marvin's kidneys malfunctioned, he refused dialysis, saying he did not want to put his family through the strain. "I'm ready to go," he told everyone who came to visit. He lived at Tenna Hospice for less than two weeks, dying July 12, and held court with a steady flow of visitors and friends.

Sen. Lamar Alexander telephoned Marvin and asked if there was anything he could do.

"Get EPA off our backs," Marvin told him, concerned about Hallsdale Powell employees and customers until the end.

"Dad will be remembered as a Godly servant leader, a generous southern gentleman, and one who was always showing genuine Christian love for his fellow man, especially for the less fortunate among us," his family wrote.

"Dad was a proud alumnus of ETSU where he was member of the baseball and football programs in the 1960s. He also played minor league baseball for the Macon Peaches. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran and held the coveted Eagle Scout and Silver Beaver awards."

"He squeezed every ounce of life he was given whether he was working, fishing, or hunting. He was proud to be known as a conservative, "deep water" Baptist and as an unworthy man saved and blessed by God's grace and love."

U.S. Rep. Jimmy Duncan remembers Hammond as his first boss at the Holston-Chilhowee Rec Center. Jimmy was 15 and earned \$1 per hour. Marvin was 19 and "told me what to do."

Survivors include wife Kay Hammond; children: Jeff and Missy Hammond, Lisa and Darren Cardwell; brother James (Jim) Hammond; grandchildren: John and Xan Hammond, Amber and Colby Cardwell, and Megan Pratt; great-granddaughter Lucy Rae Pratt.

Services were Tuesday at Salem Baptist Church, led by the Rev. John Holland with eulogies by Bill Landry, John Hill and John Valliant.

HONORING AUSTEN JAMES KNEPPER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Austen James

Knepper. Austen is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 214, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Austen has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Austen has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Austen has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Austen organized and led the construction of a trail at the Parkville Nature Sanctuary in Parkville, Missouri.

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

TRIBUTE TO MS. ALICE COACHMAN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a great woman, legendary athlete, and outstanding public servant, Ms. Alice Coachman. Sadly, Alice passed away on Monday, July 14, 2014, at the age of 90 in Albany, Georgia. The memorial service is scheduled for this Friday, July 18.

Alice was born the fifth of ten children on November 9, 1923, to the late Fred and Evelyn Coachman in Albany, Georgia. From an early age, Alice spent much of her time running and was quite inventive, using ropes and sticks for improvised high jumps. Her hard work, dedication, and resourcefulness paid off as Alice qualified for the 1940, 1944, and 1948 Olympic Games, although the first two were cancelled due to World War II. At the 1948 Olympic Games in London however, Alice made history when she soared to a record-breaking height of 5 feet, 6 and 1/8 inches in the high jump finals, becoming the first African American woman to win an Olympic Gold Medal. Although the track and field star's career concluded with the London games, Alice's commitment to serving others never ceased.

Before and after her record-breaking victory, Alice dealt with challenges representative of the Deep South during the Jim Crow era. Because of such segregation, Alice was forbidden from using public training facilities. However, she continued to train to ensure her competitiveness on the national and international scenes. Throughout her career, Alice won over 20 national track and field championships, and she was named to five All-American teams. It was her unwavering faith in herself and God that guided her along the way as she blazed the trail for countless other female African-American athletes.

In 1954, Alice once again set another record—this time as the first African American woman to endorse an international product when she agreed to serve as Coca-Cola's spokeswoman. The Olympic Champion was also inducted to the USA Track and Field Hall

of Fame in 1975 and the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame in 2004. She was recognized as one of the top one hundred Olympic athletes of all time at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Alice's title as an Olympic Champion, however, serves as only a fragment of the powerful legacy she leaves behind for current and future generations. She followed her calling to be a teacher in the classroom after the 1948 games and also actively supported youth participation in track and field. In Alice's later years, she established the Alice Coachman Track and Field Foundation to offer assistance to young athletes and former Olympic competitors.

George Washington Carver once said, "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it." We are all so blessed that Ms. Alice Coachman passed our way and during her life's journey did so much for so many for so long. She leaves behind a great legacy of service to her beloved family and to all those whose lives she touched. She will truly be missed.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the nearly 700,000 residents in Georgia's Second Congressional District in paying tribute to Alice Coachman for her numerous outstanding achievements on and off the track. We extend our deepest sympathies to her family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time and we pray that they will be consoled and comforted by, an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS A. ROSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5016) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chair, I rise today in relation to language in H.R. 5016 addressing Puerto Rico's financial management.

I applaud the effort to work in tandem with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico—an island composed of U.S. citizens—to provide lasting improvements to their financial structure and day-to-day management.

I am concerned, however, that the taxpayer funds provided to assist Puerto Rico could potentially be spent in vain. I believe that stronger language holding the government of Puerto Rico to basic economic and democratic standards is essential to providing productive assistance.

Two ongoing issues backed by the government of Puerto Rico give me pause.

One was recently outlined by Mary O'Grady in the Wall Street Journal.

In reference to the current financial woes and the enactment of a new bankruptcy law in Puerto Rico—O'Grady said, and I quote, "so far Puerto Rico's political class seems more

inclined to stick it to creditors and keep on keeping on," instead of getting their books straight.

The bankruptcy bill—shepherded and signed into law by Puerto Rican Governor Alejandro Garcia Padilla—allows the restructuring of more than 19 billion dollars of debt by the government owned electricity, water, and highway monopolies.

The constitutionality of this law has also been widely called into question.

This is not the approach you want from a Government facing a potential default, especially one whose debt is 'widely held by mutual funds and individuals'.

It is important that any technical assistance provided by the U.S. Government is predicated on a strong foundation for the rule of law. Investors nationwide will suffer if Puerto Rico's political class does not stalwartly uphold the rule of law.

This is a serious and timely matter. At the end of June—Moody's Analytics reported that Puerto Rico's probability of default within the year is higher than that of Argentina, Venezuela, and Ukraine.

These concerns regarding the political class have already played out through the government's lack of respect for its contractual obligations.

For example, after seven years of agreements between the government of Puerto Rico and a private institution—the Doral Financial Corporation—the government is now refusing to uphold its end of the contractual obligations. Puerto Rico's Government has announced a unilateral decision to annul the contract that required the Government to pay over \$200 million in tax refunds to Doral.

This example demonstrates a true lack of regard for the rule of law.

As the U.S. Congress considers providing technical assistance to the Government of Puerto Rico due to the deteriorating economic and fiscal situation—certain assurances must be established to ensure that U.S. taxpayer dollars are spent on achievable, reliable, and long-lasting objectives.

In conclusion, I believe that assurances should be made by the government of Puerto Rico to uphold all contractual obligations and respect for creditor rights in order to receive U.S. Treasury technical assistance.

Moreover, if such assurances are made, I express my support for the collaboration between the U.S. Treasury and Puerto Rico to improve Puerto Rico's financial management.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5016) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chair, this Financial Services Bill seeks to overturn the intent of Dodd-Frank by bringing the Consumer Financial Protection