

1965 Pontiac GTO affectionately known as "The Goat", but also because as one of the top graduates, he was awarded the only F-16 training slot for the class. He was assigned to the 70th Fighter Squadron at Moody AFB, where he was certified as combat-ready and qualified for air-to-surface, air-to-air, and nuclear missions. He quickly caught the eye of his leadership, and was handpicked as one of only 15 squadron pilots qualified to operate the new LANTIRN system (Low Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infrared for Night). He also caught the eye of his future wife, Jennifer, and they have been married now for 21 years. Col. McKenzie's skill as a fighter pilot was quickly recognized during his first deployment, patrolling the skies over Iraq for Operation Southern Watch. His leadership ability earned him a Regular commission and selection for Squadron Officer School, where he was a Distinguished Graduate.

Capt. McKenzie was then assigned to the 51st Operations Support Squadron at Osan Air Base in the Republic of Korea. He continued to impress as a Wing Plans Officer, maintaining critical operational plans for wartime taskings. He again rose above his peers as a pilot, winning the 51st Fighter Wing's Low Angle Strafe Top Gun award and selection as the Chief of Standardization and Evaluation for the 51st Operations Group—a position reserved for the Group's most skilled and trusted pilot. In this position, he was responsible for assessments and maintaining operational standards not only in his F-16 squadron, but also in the HH-60 rescue flight, and a C-12 flight, a job essential to deliver wartime capability. He so impressed his leadership, that even as a Captain he was identified as a "future squadron commander" and was selected for USAF Weapons School, the premier advanced weapons and tactics school for our Air Force Pilots. While there, he was praised for his research on F-16 Night Close Air Support and Targeting Aids, advancing our operational capabilities in this critical capacity. Captain McKenzie's training was put to immediate use with his assignment to the 510th Fighter Squadron at Aviano Air Base, Italy. He flew dozens of combat sorties during Operations Southern Watch, Decisive Edge, and Deliberate Guard, enforcing no-fly zones over Iraq and Bosnia-Herzegovina. He was also a Mission Commander for more than six large force packages in NATO's Operation Allied Force in Kosovo, for which he garnered praise for his skills, leadership, mission execution, and most importantly ensuring zero combat losses. Additionally, Smack was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary achievement, planning the first NATO strike of Operation Allied Force to cross the Kosovo/Serbian border, defeating surface-to-air missiles, and executing the first-ever F-16 night attack utilizing Night Vision Goggles and the LANTIRN system to destroy an ammunition storage facility. As a Flight Commander, Weapons Officer, and Instructor Pilot he was recognized by his superiors as an "exceptional leader with unlimited potential", the "#1 Captain in the Group", the "Wing's top flight commander", and the USAFE Fighter Pilot of the Year. Smack was sent to Air Command and Staff College, where his tremendous leadership and team building skills led his peers to recognize him as the "Outstanding Team Member" for his class. Following school, he became the Assignments Officer for nearly

1,500 Air Force F-16 pilots, single-handedly managing the Air Force's largest group of pilots and maintaining 100 percent manning level despite historic shortages just after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

Lt. Col. McKenzie then moved to Luke AFB for a short period as the 56th Operations Support Squadron Operations Officer before being entrusted with his first command—the 310th Fighter Squadron "Top Hats"—the largest fighter squadron at Luke, responsible for the only formal Forward Air Controller-Airborne course, which has been a vital capability in the War on Terror. He was heralded as the "top warrior and leader of 618 officers" and led his unit to the 56th Operations Group "Top Squadron" award. Following this highly successful command, Lt. Col. McKenzie attended National War College at Fort McNair and received a Master of Science in National Security Strategy. He then went to U.S. Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, VA where he provided readiness analysis on current operations, and was a liaison with the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Government Accountability Office, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff on all readiness related issues. He provided critical data and assessments for the planning of Operation Enduring Freedom which were influential in leadership decisions. Col. McKenzie then Commanded the 455th Expeditionary Operations Group at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. There he profoundly impacted the Global War on Terror, directing air operations and leading over 830 troops to execute over 24,000 missions, dropping 1.1 million pounds of ordnance, and delivering 37,000 tons of cargo—the busiest operation in the CENTCOM area of responsibility. Following this tremendous performance, Col. McKenzie was challenged with a new role as the SECAF's legislative liaison to Congress for all USAF air and space weapon systems, ensuring the Air Force message and priorities were consistently and convincingly articulated to directly ensure the full authorization of their \$120 billion budget. Smack was then sent back to Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea to command the 51st Fighter Wing "Mustangs" where he previously spent time as a Captain. He was the Joint installation commander for over 10,200 personnel, executing the Combat Air Force's largest and most highly-utilized A-10 and F-16 operation in a tense location, just 6 minutes flight time to North Korea. "A+", "inspiring", and "superb" were just a few words used to describe his tenure there. After his highly successful tour as a Wing Commander, the Air Force returned Smack to legislative liaison work by assigning him to one of the most demanding positions within the Air Force, his current job as the Chief of Air Force House Liaison. Since July 2013, Smack has advised the Secretary of the Air Force, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, the Director of Legislative Liaison, and numerous other senior military and civilian leaders on issues of the greatest concern to the Air Force and Congress. He has been more than a liaison between the Pentagon and the Hill, he developed and improved key relationships to enable the Congress to make better decisions about the future of the Air Force and our national defense. He is extremely intelligent and articulate, and has helped shape my thinking and influenced many Members of Congress. Simply put, we trust him and will miss him!

Col. McKenzie is a command pilot with over 3,200 flying hours and 630 combat hours in

the F-16. He is the recipient of numerous major medals and decorations for his service and accomplishments. The most significant of these include the Defense Superior Service medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, and Meritorious Service medal.

Throughout his distinguished career he has represented our country and the Air Force with dignity and honor, and this is why I'm so privileged to pay tribute to this fine Airman. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Congress and the United States of America, I thank Colonel Patrick McKenzie, his wife Jennifer, and their daughter Ashleigh, for their service and sacrifices of the past 26 years. I wish them Godspeed, and continued happiness as they start this new chapter in their lives.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL DAY OF
THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, as the Republic of China, which is commonly called Taiwan, celebrates its National Day, Double Ten Day, or the tenth day of October, we in the Congress look back upon the many years of close cooperation with its leaders. Cemented by the Taiwan Relations Act, the relationship we have enjoyed over decades has given meaning to what friendship between two peoples is all about.

To complement this relationship in actively engaging with Mainland China is the constructive initiative taken by Taiwan's present leader, President Ma Ying-jeou. By doing this, President Ma is lessening tensions among those parties concerned and contributing to the peace and stability of the region. We are currently faced with many unsettling events of terrorism and conflict out of the Middle East and Europe.

Taiwan is a living example of how leadership can contribute to peaceful resolution if the intent is well-meaning and balanced. On this auspicious day of Double Ten, we congratulate President Ma for continuing to redouble his efforts in tamping down the flames of conflict in Asia. I don't think the world can handle another conflict among nations right now. Thank you so much President Ma and Taiwan for creating a peaceful environment when there is so much strife in many other parts of the globe.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GLEN
MILLS SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of The Glen Mills School and to acknowledge the life-changing work it does for young men.

One hundred twenty five years ago the cornerstone was laid at the Glen Mills School. Today, the Glen Mills School is the oldest institution in the country of its kind. The Glen

Mills School was established to give young men a second chance. The school provides a safe living and educational environment to encourage long-term behavioral changes.

The Glen Mills School has a long tradition of fostering the academic and emotional growth of young men whose potential might otherwise be lost. Young men ages 15 to 18 live at The Glen Mills School on a year-round academic and residence program, offering an escape from gangs, drugs and violence that they might encounter at home.

Students have the option to participate in clubs and athletics, which compete and excel against other schools in Delaware County. The beautiful campus and athletic facilities surrounding the school are a testament to both the staff and students. The golf course affiliated with the school, a place where many of the students work, is one of the nicest public courses in the Commonwealth.

I admire the dedication of the staff, who work around the clock to educate and counsel students. Their persistence has led to the character development of thousands of young men, as you can see in person by visiting the campus and meeting the students.

Mr. Speaker, The Glen Mills School has been changing the lives of young men for the past 125 years. I celebrate the school and look forward to seeing the excellent work it will continue to do in the years to come.

HONORING DALE ELBERT JONES

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a constituent of the Sixth District of Georgia, Private First Class (retired) Dale Elbert Jones of the U.S. Army. Mr. Jones was born on November 2, 1914 to Callie Eudora Standcuff and James William Jones. He was raised in a log farmhouse in the foothills of the Ozark Mountains in northern Arkansas. Soon after graduating high school, Mr. Jones moved to Longview, TX, where a sister was living. He married Fairy Lee Pettet in 1939 and had one son. His electrical supply experience led him into a supervisor's position on the "Big Inch Pipeline" being constructed from Longview to Bayonne, NJ. The "Big Inch" was an emergency effort in support of World War II.

As WWII progressed he was drafted into service by the United States Army. After completing basic training, Mr. Jones was sent to Germany and assigned to the 309th "lightning" Division of the 78th Infantry. He received three battle stars for combat participation in the Battle of the Bulge, Central Germany, and the Rhineland. He was awarded the Purple Heart after being seriously wounded in the Rhineland.

After the war, Mr. Jones built a successful career as a Sales and Marketing executive and entrepreneur in the greater east Texas area. He ultimately founded his own sales and marketing company, TICO Paint & Chemical Company. He continued to work well into his late eighties.

Mr. Jones currently resides in Marietta, GA, where his son Dale L. Jones also lives. He lives independently at the Parc at Piedmont, a

senior residence community. He enjoys playing a game of cards, chess, and keeping up with current events.

In a few weeks, Mr. Jones will be celebrating his 100th birthday. He looks forward to dancing at his party. He has lived a remarkable life in service to his family and our nation. I know I speak for the people of the Sixth District in showing sincere gratitude for all he has done for our country and wishing him the happiest of birthdays.

HONORING LEO AND MARILYN
VALENZUELA

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Leo and Marilyn Valenzuela, two exemplary community leaders who have made remarkable contributions to the progress and prosperity of Ventura County.

Leo Valenzuela first began his service to his community more than 50 years ago, as an advocate on behalf of workers throughout the region. He began working for a local labor union in 1963 but left his duties to serve his country in the Vietnam War. After his honorable service to our nation, Leo returned to his work and entered into the area's political sphere as a successful labor organizer and activist. Leo played an active role in the political careers of former United States Senator Alan Cranston, former United States Senator Gary Hart and former California State Senator Jack O'Connell.

Leo has also played an instrumental part in the grassroots activism that comes with political campaigns. Leo has worked to organize and mobilize our community to change people's lives for the better.

Similarly, for more than four decades, Marilyn Valenzuela has also been a tireless advocate for our community's labor force. Marilyn first began her career in 1964 when she joined the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW) Local 770. After raising a family, Marilyn began to work for the UFCW Local 1036 as a Member Assistance Program Director and Women's Network Regional Director. Within only a year, Marilyn was elected as the Executive Secretary Treasurer of the Tri-Counties Center Labor Council.

Marilyn's steadfast character and commitment to Ventura County's workforce have been vital to the strengthening of our community. During her tenure on the Tri-Counties Central Labor Council, Marilyn increased membership by 100 percent. She has also been a board member of the Ventura County Workforce Investment Board and the Executive Director of the Labor Foundation.

Leo and Marilyn are known as the tag team. Over the years, they have successfully worked hand in hand and together have accomplished and contributed so much to our community. I applaud Leo and Marilyn Valenzuela for their commendable commitment and dedication. They have both been staunch and unwavering leaders in the labor community and have dedicated their careers to working for our working families.

I extend my sincere appreciation for their tireless work. For their unrelenting activism, passion for public service and unwavering work ethic, I am pleased to join the Ventura County Democratic Party in honoring Leo and Marilyn Valenzuela with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

TRIBUTE TO DAISY ALSTON

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th birthday of Mrs. Daisy Alton, and to honor her many contributions to the communities she has proudly served.

Daisy was born on July 27, 1914 in Virginia. At the age of ten, her parents moved their family to Pittsburgh so that their children could attend public high school. Public education for African-American children stopped at eighth grade in the segregated South. In 1932, Daisy came to West Virginia to pursue higher education at West Virginia State College (now West Virginia State University). She took graduate courses at Atlanta University before returning to Pittsburgh to become a social worker. In 1939, she married the late Cheatham Alston, a Kanawha County educator, and briefly resided in Cabin Creek, until finally settling in Chesapeake, West Virginia.

After moving back to the Kanawha Valley, Mrs. Alston chose a career in education and worked as a teacher at many segregated schools throughout Kanawha County. When the United States Supreme Court declared segregated schools as unconstitutional in 1954, Daisy was chosen as a test teacher in a two-part process to integrate Kanawha County Schools. In the years following school integration, Daisy continued to teach and later became a teaching principal at Institute Elementary. At the age of 68, Mrs. Daisy Alston was honored by Kanawha County Schools as "Teacher of the Year."

Though Daisy officially retired as a teacher, she never stopped teaching and working throughout her community. She has been active in the Upper Kanawha Valley as a civic volunteer and organizer for numerous activities and events. She is a member of Simpson Memorial United Methodist Church; United Methodist Women; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; and the Charleston Women's Improvement League. Daisy served as a board member for various organizations, including the Cabin Creek Clinic, which grew into the Cabin Creek Health Systems, a non-profit community health center with multiple locations. In 1998, she was recognized for her contributions by her hometown and named Chesapeake, West Virginia's "Citizen of the Year."

Daisy Alston still lives in Chesapeake, she is a mother of two children: Marian Alston (W.I. "Bill" Hairston) and Cheatham Alston, Jr., and has one grandchild, Bill Hairston.

Mr. Speaker, the state of West Virginia and indeed our nation owes Mrs. Daisy Alston our heartfelt congratulations on becoming a centenarian, as well as sincere gratitude for her many years of devotion to her community. It is people like Daisy who make serving West Virginia's Second Congressional District such a distinct honor.