

All the police of the 19th precinct in New York told me in an official capacity was that he was indeed an innocent victim, and there was no reason not to grant \$1500 from the state to Alta Varney to bury her son.

#### ANOTHER DIMENSION

The case always nagged at me, and when I got a chance to speak on my experiences for a documentary on anti-gay violence, I decided to do some research on it.

To begin with, 10 days after Winkie's death, there was an arrest made of Alfred Desjardin, who was described as both a truck driver and a junkie. As Jerry Orbach used to say on "Law and Order," "I love it when they're stupid." Desjardin left a steak knife with his fingerprints next to Winkie's body.

But it was Winkie's story that really got to me. The Herald of Randolph provided a lot of answers. By all accounts, Winkie was a charismatic young man who had the great good fortune to grow up in a primarily loving and accepting atmosphere.

He came from South Strafford, population 1024 at the last census, and that's about a 25% growth since 1983. It's a community that is a haven for artistic types of all kinds, sculptors, painters, and folks who make their living at the theater. That's where Winkie, at an early age, developed a love for the theater.

It was the passion of his life. While still in grade school he wrote plays, designed sets, and organized the other kids into theater groups. Later on in high school he worked at adult theater companies.

Former Strafford resident Peter Smith, whom I met, told me that his best memory of Winkie Bean was watching him build, out of whatever scrap material he could find, a set for a local production of "The Elephant Man." Smith later wrote a beautiful obituary for Winkie for The Herald of Randolph. (Smith was for many years the director of the Hopkins Center.)

#### NOT AN ISSUE

For most people in Strafford, Winkie being gay was simply not an issue. That in itself makes his story unique, as most of the gay men and lesbians I've become acquainted with from small towns couldn't wait to get out of them to move to the big city because of the prejudice against them.

To be sure, he heard the word "faggot" every so often, usually from other kids. But Therese Linehan, whose mother Kate was friends with Alta Varney and whose older brothers were Winkie's contemporaries in school, said that those same kids who called him "faggot" would listen to him when they were part of his theater projects. Winkie had to have extraordinary charisma and leadership skills for that to happen.

Kate Linehan told me that Winkie was loved by just about everyone in the area, and by area I include the surrounding towns in the White River Valley. She remembers him always having a kind word for all, never failing to ask sincerely about people's health and welfare.

#### OFF TO NEW YORK

When he left to go to New York to become a set designer in the theater, it was with the well wishes of one and all in the region. No exile to the big city for Winthrop Bean. He could have been the local high school jock hero who signs a major league baseball contract; it was how he was viewed. This was a story about gay youth from a small town, a story that I had never heard before.

But on the night of May 19, 1982 after an evening of good food and drinks with some friends, Winthrop Bean decided to have a nightcap at Chaps Bar, which was on Third Avenue in the upper eighties.

Maybe feeling a bit liberated and not on his guard, he was easy prey for Desjardin

who was waiting outside the bar, no doubt looking for a gay victim who would not put up much struggle. Winkie was stabbed about eight times and left in a pool of his own blood to bleed out and die in a stairwell at 229 East 88 Street.

His screams did awake residents who called the police.

I grew up in Brooklyn myself, and in the big city you do learn street smarts. My own theory of the crime is that Winthrop Bean, because of the loving and nurturing atmosphere he was raised in, never developed them.

Therese Linehan told me that Winkie believed in the best in and of everybody. It was beyond his grasp that people could want to harm him for any reason. Evil as a concept is something that a lot of people can't comprehend.

A police tip led to Desjardin's arrest, and the case was ready to be tried by the New York County district attorney's office.

#### WITNESS RECANTS

A source in the DA's office told me that one of the witnesses, a key witness who could have testified and linked the circumstantial and forensic case that they had developed, went bad on them. After that, Asst. DA Patrick Dugan had no choice but to make the best bargain he could and Desjardin copped to a manslaughter-1 plea and got eight to 35 years for a brutal murder, which to me had overtones of bias.

The fact is that Desjardin selected the area around Chaps as a hunting ground. The fact that Winkie was stabbed multiple times could only come from some primitive rage. And most important for me was that not only was the incriminating steak knife left behind with the killer's fingerprints, but in what he said was a robbery, nothing was taken.

Asst. D.A. Dugan himself was saddened by this turn of events. In a letter to Alta Varney he wrote that "during the course of our investigation . . . I have learned that Winthrop was a wonderful person whose loss to his family, friends, and society is irreplaceable."

As for Desjardin, he got out after his minimum and went back to a life of crime. He was caught and pled guilty to a robbery and got 12 additional years that started in 1994. After 2006, who knows where he is now?

#### A HATE CRIME

The savagery of the crime is similar to a few other crimes motivated by homophobia, some that I handled claims for in the course of my years at Crime Victims Board.

And this crime seems similar to one that got national attention, that of Matthew Shepard. There is another similarity: The mothers in each case became activists of sorts.

Judy Shepard's life as spokesperson for hate crimes legislation is well known. Alta Varney chose a different route. A Winthrop Bean memorial scholarship was established shortly after Winkie's death to give funds to students who want to go into the theater. That's something that honored his passion, and something I believe he would have approved.

Winkie's name should be on a list of LGBT honored dead, right up there with Matthew Shepard, Julio Rivera, James Zappalorti, Henry Marquez, and so many others.

Time and circumstance have allowed his name to fade from consciousness in a way the others haven't except in the White River Valley of Vermont, where people still talk of him as one of the most unforgettable individuals they ever came to know.

IN RECOGNITION OF 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF PETERBILT MOTORS COMPANY

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 16, 2014*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peterbilt Motors Company as they celebrate their 75th Anniversary. Founded January 16, 1939, Peterbilt has led the commercial vehicle industry in the design and production of innovative and technologically advanced trucks and trailers.

With their headquarters and primary manufacturing efforts based in Denton, TX, they are the largest employer in the city. A strong community partner, Peterbilt has supported charitable efforts within their community through organizations such as the United Way. They have also supported higher education through their support of the University of North Texas.

Peterbilt's leadership is particularly noteworthy in their development and production of a line of environmentally friendly trucks, including compressed natural gas and electric hybrid engines. Through these products, Peterbilt has continued its legacy as a forward-thinking organization and has generously shared and displayed their efforts with the public at several of my Annual Energy Efficiency Summits.

I am honored to join Peterbilt in celebrating this milestone in their history. As a leader in the commercial vehicle industry and a major contributor to the North Texas economy, I am proud to represent the company and their employees in the US House of Representatives.

#### TRIBUTE TO JERRY COLEMAN

**HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 16, 2014*

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, on January 18, San Diegans of all generations will flock to San Diego's Petco Park to celebrate the life of baseball legend Jerry Coleman.

Lt. Colonel Gerald Francis Coleman was a San Diego icon. He was also a decorated war hero, an All-Star baseball player and an award-winning broadcaster.

But more than that he was a husband, father, and grandfather.

At a recent gathering of family and friends, his daughter Chelsea spoke of her dad and any parent would have been proud of the eulogy she gave.

Before being the voice of the San Diego Padres, before he played for the New York Yankees, Jerry, a young man from San Jose, California, answered his country's call to duty.

In 1942, at just 18, he joined the Marines to fight in World War II, flying missions in the Pacific as a combat aviator.

After the war, he traded his flight suit for pinstripes.

Jerry was called up to the Yankees in 1949 and was an anchor at second base smoothly fielding and turning double plays for the Yankees.

In 1950, he was an All-Star. That same year he would be named MVP of the World Series.

In his playing days, he would help the Yankees win six World Series.

When war raged in Korea, his country called a second time. Jerry hung up his cleats and donned the flight suit once again.

Over the span of his service in two wars, he flew 120 missions. Jerry was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses, 13 Air Medals and three Navy Citations. He was the only Major League Baseball player to see combat in two wars.

After baseball, he moved to the broadcasting booth. Generations of San Diegans watched baseball with Jerry where he regaled everyone with his knowledge of and enthusiasm for the game.

We can still hear his signature phrase on stellar plays: "Man, you can hang a star on that one!"

In 2005, the Hall of Fame honored Jerry with the Ford C. Frick Award for his broadcasting.

With his passing, we are hearing about Jerry what many of us already knew that he was a genuinely nice man. "Class act," "Hall of Fame guy," and "like a favorite Uncle" are the apt descriptions being mentioned of Jerry.

In his book *An American Journey*, he wrote: "I've always said this, though it sounds corny. There are two important things in life: the people who you love and who love you, and your country."

We will miss Jerry. And all of us can agree: You can hang a star on this life.

#### THE INTRODUCTION OF THE ROCK CREEK NATIONAL PARK IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 16, 2014*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 125th anniversary of Rock Creek Park, I introduce a bill to redesignate Rock Creek Park in the District of Columbia as "Rock Creek National Park in the District of Columbia." The bill will help clarify the difference between the contiguous Rock Creek Park land that is owned by the State of Maryland and the portion that is under federal jurisdiction in the District of Columbia. Renaming this park will also highlight the significance of the park for the nation, including visitors to the nation's capital, and particularly for the residents of the District of Columbia, to encourage more daily use and involvement with the park's beautiful trails, waterways and features.

Rock Creek Park is a historically rich park, established by Congress in 1890 "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the United States," and is the oldest urban park and the third federal park ever created, after Yellowstone and Sequoia. Rock Creek Park was designed to preserve animals, timber, forestry, and other interests in the park, and to ensure that the natural state of the park is maintained as much as possible.

Over time, several structures have been established or donated to further preserve Rock Creek Park. In 1892, for example, the federal government acquired Peirce Mill in Rock Creek Park, one of the mills used by local farmers during the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. In 1950, the Old Stone House located

at 3051 M Street NW., with great pre-Revolutionary War architectural merit, was acquired. The building was restored, and programs explain the house's rich history from the colonial period to present day. The Fort Circle Parks were also acquired to interpret and preserve the Civil Defenses of Washington, which created a ring of protection for the nation's capital during the Civil War.

Today, Rock Creek Park offers District of Columbia, Maryland, and Northern Virginia residents an escape from urban living. Residents and tourists alike also enjoy many activities in the park's 2,000 acres, including hiking and bike riding on the historical trails, horseback riding, picnicking, tennis, and other recreational activities in some of the open fields. Moreover, residents are involved in the clean-up and maintenance of the trails and waterways. Rock Creek Conservancy works directly with the National Park Service and is dedicated to protecting and promoting the entirety of the Rock Creek watershed through conservation, recreation, and education programs.

Redesignating Rock Creek Park will help highlight its national status and protect and revitalize this remarkable resource in our nation's capital. It also is fitting that we recognize its historical significance as we approach the 125th anniversary of Rock Creek Park.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

#### HEALTH EXCHANGE SECURITY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 10, 2014*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3811. I feel strongly that the public and private sector should establish clear rules to protect Americans' personally identifiable information and an obligation to notify them promptly of any security or privacy breaches. The bill establishes a 48 hour notification requirement for any breaches of personally identifiable information from the Affordable Care Act Marketplaces. I would like to see an even shorter notice period, perhaps within 24 hours. However, whatever standard we use should apply to other government information systems. Moreover, we should take a comprehensive approach that also considers standards to protect consumers from involuntary disclosures of sensitive information from systems in the private sector. For example, private health insurance companies, which store large amounts of personal health information, should also be subject to privacy and notification requirements. The recent incidents such as the massive data breaches at Target and Neiman Marcus illustrate the need for standards to be applied across the internet.

This bill's failure to protect consumers from the wide array of potential security lapses reveals it for what it is—simply another politically motivated attack on the Affordable Care Act. The obvious goal is to scare people away from using the internet-based Marketplaces to sign up for coverage under the Affordable Care Act. The truth is there have been no successful attacks on the site, it is continually being monitored, and stringent protocols exist

should a breach occur. Moreover, because the Affordable Care Act prohibits insurance companies from discriminating against individuals with pre-existing health conditions, the website does not collect or store detailed health personal health information. This hastily drafted legislation also contains other flaws. Specifically, it lacks important exceptions for law enforcement requirements, which could threaten ongoing investigations.

Mr. Speaker, today's bill is not a policy solution; it's a scare tactic. There is no doubt that we must strengthen security features of all systems that contain American's personally identifiable information. I urge my Republican colleagues to work with Democrats on crafting serious, workable legislation to ensure the security of sensitive information on the internet.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE GUYER HIGH SCHOOL WILDCATS

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 16, 2014*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Guyer High School football team as Class 4A Division I Texas State champions. With a decisive win over San Antonio Brennan on December 20, 2013, the Guyer Wildcats defended their state title, becoming only the fifth Division I program in Class 4A or 5A to win back-to-back championships since 1996.

Guyer began the season with 11 returning starters, including quarterback and 2013 championship game offensive MVP, Jerrod Heard. With the victory over Brennan, the Guyer Wildcats completed a season which tested their ability to overcome both tremendous physical and emotional challenges. Through focused discipline and perseverance, Guyer demonstrated for all the power that exists when preparation, execution and dedication are directed toward a common objective.

I am honored to join the team and the entire Guyer community in honoring the team's accomplishment in returning the state football title to Denton, TX. It is my privilege to join in the celebration of their achievement and to represent all of the champions at Guyer High School in the U.S. House of Representatives.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION ON ROLLCALL VOTE 23

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 16, 2014*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today I missed roll call vote 22, on consideration of a motion to recommit with instructions for H.R. 3362, and rollcall vote 23, on final passage of H.R. 3362, the Exchange Information Disclosure Act, because I was chairing the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission hearing on "Defending Freedoms: Highlighting the Plight of Prisoners of Conscience around the World." This hearing addressed the plight of prisoners of conscience who are currently unjustly detained by repressive governments all over the world and explored strategies for securing their release.