

prisoner of war, the only thing more remarkable than the courageous resistance he displayed throughout his captivity was his steadfast devotion to duty, honor, and country. His faith in God and the trust of his fellow prisoners was unshakeable. Only 24 years old, Sergeant Bennett was the first American POW killed in Vietnam, and, like many other U.S. servicemen who lost their lives there, his remains have never been returned home.

Nearly four decades later, in 2004, Sergeant Bennett was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame at Fort Benning. In 2006, his family was presented with his Combat Infantryman's Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Prisoner of War Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, and Purple Heart. And in 2010, Sergeant Bennett's family was presented with his Silver Star.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Bennett was a selfless young man who answered his Nation's call to service and placed duty and honor above all else. Although he may no longer be with us, the example and selflessness of this brave young Arkansan will forever live on in our hearts. While a grateful nation could never adequately express its indebtedness to men like Staff Sergeant Harold George Bennett, it should take every opportunity to honor them and their families for the sacrifice they have paid on our behalf.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 4355, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4355.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FOUNTAIN COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2802) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 418 Liberty Street in Covington, Indiana, as the "Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2802

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FOUNTAIN COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 418 Liberty Street in Covington, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the "Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other

record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2802, introduced by Representative TODD ROKITA of Indiana, would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 418 Liberty Street in Covington, Indiana, as the Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office.

America as a nation is indebted to those who have risked their lives to preserve the freedoms that each of us holds so dearly. This post office dedication in the county seat of Covington will remind the citizens of Fountain Valley of sacrifices made by its men and women in service of their country. Additionally, naming the post office after the Fountain County veterans honors the families and loved ones who made the unimaginable sacrifice of parting with, and for those still worrying about, cherished loved ones serving overseas.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in supporting H.R. 2802, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 418 Liberty Street in Covington, Indiana, as the Fountain County Veterans Memorial Post Office.

The legislation before us honors the brave men and women from Fountain County, Indiana, who have served in our Armed Forces. These servicemembers have put this country before themselves by dedicating their lives to defending the freedoms we as Americans hold so dear. Their sacrifices should never be taken for granted, nor should they ever be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation, and, with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield as many minutes as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROKITA), a distinguished colleague.

Mr. ROKITA. Well, I thank, first of all, the gentleman from Arizona for yielding his time and for his leadership

here in the House of Representatives, especially this evening with the good work that he is managing here on the floor. I know, being his friend, that it is a labor of love for him as it is for almost all of us, and so I just want to, here, on the record, thank him for his continued service in the House.

I also want to thank the ranking member for his willingness in addressing and considering this legislation. It is important to the people of Indiana, and I am grateful for his leadership as well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this legislation that I was honored to introduce and support in memory of the fallen soldiers of Fountain County, Indiana.

Lance Corporal Josh Witsman was a marine from Covington, Indiana, and was so very proud to have been born in the United States, and especially Indiana, which he often referred to as "God's country."

Lance Corporal Witsman firmly believed in the freedoms enshrined in our founding documents that have helped define our American exceptionalism. He felt humbled by, honored to, and responsible for fighting to uphold those very freedoms and standards which we talk about so often here on the House floor, and that Americans talk about throughout the country. He was not only humbled to serve his country, but he was humbled to serve next to his fellow military brothers, whom he would often boast to about how great Indiana was.

And, Mr. Speaker, he loved his family. He would often call his mother at home and sing the song, "Paint Me a Birmingham," only to swap in his hometown of Covington for Birmingham. He couldn't wait to return home to Indiana to be with all of them.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, that day never came. You see, Lance Corporal Josh Witsman died in the line of duty during his second tour of duty in Afghanistan while serving with Weapons Company 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, on May 30, 2012. He was just 23.

□ 1645

Josh's service and sacrifice were the inspiration for this bill, and it started with an idea from one of Josh's close friends. That friend, Noah Townsend, was in the supermarket one day, and he overheard a young Hoosier ask her parents who Josh Witsman was.

The child's parents explained that Josh was a soldier who had given his life for her freedom. Noah knew he had to find a way to make sure Josh's memory and his sacrifice would be remembered in his hometown of Covington.

Noah racked his brain for a few days trying to think what would be a fitting memorial for Josh and his service. Later that week, Noah would be driving down Liberty Street, and as he drove past the post office, it hit him—Congress renames post offices for individuals who have made some contribution to their city, State, or country, undoubtedly all deserved.

Certainly, Josh's sacrifice and that of his family is worthy of recognition in any number of ways, including naming a post office in the city he called home, but recognition of his own work wasn't Josh's way.

Before Noah Townsend came to me with this idea, he talked with Josh's parents. Josh's mother, Kayla Witsman, was thankful for the gesture, but she could hear her son saying: Mom, it is not just about me.

This young man, who gave his life for his country, and his mother's interpretation of what his wishes would have been is correct. There are so many heroes that have given their lives for this country worthy of a similar recognition.

In Fountain County, there have been nearly 50 families who have lost someone in service to their country. Let me assure you, Fountain County is not a large population center in Indiana. As wonderful and as welcoming as it is, full of great Hoosiers, it is a farming community. It is not big, except in geography, and 50 families from that community had some die serving their country.

That is why this legislation does not mention Josh Witsman's name. I am proposing that we rename this post office on behalf of not only the Witsman family, but all of the nearly 50 families in Fountain County who have lost loved ones in service to our Nation.

It is my hope, Mr. Speaker, that this will serve as an everlasting tribute to the sacrifices of these soldiers and their families.

In closing, I would also like to thank the entire Indiana House delegation for their support of this legislation as well. On behalf of Josh Witsman's family and all those who have sacrificed, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to vote for this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3027.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BARRY M. GOLDWATER POST OFFICE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3027) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, as the "Barry M. Goldwater Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3027

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BARRY M. GOLDWATER POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, shall be known and designated as the "Barry M. Goldwater Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Barry M. Goldwater Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today as the House considers a piece of legislation I introduced, H.R. 3027, which would rename the postal facility at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, as the Barry M. Goldwater Post Office.

As we know, Barry Goldwater was a businessman turned statesman who served five terms in the United States Senate and was the Republican nominee for the Presidency in 1964.

He served Arizona and our Nation with honor and integrity for decades. Leading up to the 1964 Presidential election, he earned the moniker "Mr. Conservative" for being so influential in the revival of political conservatism. After the 1964 election, he returned to the Senate.

Because of his experience as a senior officer in the Army Air Force Reserve, he took particular interest in national security issues, serving as the chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence from 1981 to 1985 and then serving as chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee from 1985 to 1987.

He was instrumental in crafting the Goldwater-Nichols Act of 1986, which was the mechanism which brought about one of the most important Defense Department restructurings in U.S. history.

To honor Barry Goldwater's service to this Nation, I have sponsored this legislation which the House is considering today. The entire Arizona delegation, both Republicans and Democrats, are cosponsors of the bill, and for that, I thank each one of them.

It would be a fitting tribute to an honorable Arizonan, one who served this Nation in so many ways. I thank each of my colleagues for their support.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 3027, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, as the Barry M. Goldwater Post Office.

I think we are all aware of the remarkable service from the five-term Senator from Arizona, Barry Morris Goldwater. Senator Goldwater was born in Phoenix, Arizona, on January 2, 1909. In 1930, Senator Goldwater took over his family's business, and in 1934, he married Margaret "Peggy" Johnson, with whom he had four children.

During World War II, Senator Goldwater served as a pilot and flew over the Himalayas to deliver supplies to the Republic of China in their fight against the Empire of Japan.

Senator Goldwater was a man of courage. He was a dedicated public servant who spoke his mind, stood firm on his beliefs, and worked tirelessly for his constituents.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to honor Senator Goldwater and remember his legislative accomplishments, his skill in forging compromises, and his commitment to saying what he believed, so I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This is a fitting tribute for the citizens of Arizona and particularly those in Yavapai County—and specifically Prescott, Arizona—who want to pay tribute to one of our great Senators in Arizona history, Barry Goldwater.

He had a love affair with Arizona, from the Grand Canyon to its people, its indigenous people from the different tribes, to his way of communicating the art of conservatism to people across the country.

It is a paying tribute that we look to Barry Goldwater to honor us with his name on the post office in Prescott, Arizona.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3027.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CAPTAIN HERBERT JOHNSON MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3085) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3349 West 111th Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building".