

TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF THE
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to submit these additional names of Armenians who lost their lives in the Armenian Genocide from 1915 to 1923. We will never forget their names and their stories and we will continue to speak the truth in the face of denial.

Sarkis Minassian, Dr. Nazaret Daghavarian, Dr. Garabed Pashalian Khan, Levon Larents (Kirishjian), Sumpad Purad (Derghazarents), Hampartsoom Hampartsoomian, Parsegh Shahbaz, Ardashes Haroutiunian, Jack Sayabalian (Paylag), Krikor Torosian, Kegham Parseghian, Dikran Cheogurian, Shavarsh Kurisian, Krikor Yesayan, Armen Doryan (Hurchya Soorenian), Aris Israyelian, Mihran Tabakian, Hagop Terzian, Hampartsoom Boyajian (Moorad), Vartkes (Hovhannes Serengulian), Marzbed (Ghazar Ghazarian), Arisdages Kasbarian, Haroutiun G. Jangulian, Sarkis Parseghian (Shameel), Bedros Kalfayan, Haroutiun Kalfayan, Sarkis Suvin (Sungujian), Edwar Beyazian, Hurach (Haig Tirakian), Adom Shahen (Yeritsants), Yenovk Shahen, Nerves Papazian, Nerves Zakarian, Dr. Sdepan Miskjian, Ardzruni (Hagop Avedisian), Sako, Dr. Levon Bardizbanian, Ardashes Semerjian (Torkom), Vramshaboo Arabian, Nerves Shahnoor, Serovpe Noradoongian, Karekin Husian, Mardiros H. Koondakjian, Krikor Armooni, Boghos Tanielian, Megerdich Garabedian, Apraham Hayrigan, Levon Aghababian, Kevork Terjimanian, Dikran Ashkharoony, Kevork Diratsooyan, Mihrdad Haygazn, Rosdom Rosdomian, Vramshaboo Samuelian, Arshag Khazkhazian, Mrgrdich Sdepanian, Levon Shashian, Paroonag Feroukhan, Onnig Maghazajian, Teodor Mendzigan, Varteres Atanasian, Apig Jambaz, Vahram Altoonian, Yerchanig Aram, Nerves D. Kevorkian, Onnig Srabian, Partogh Zorian, Akrig Kerestejian, Melkon Piosian, Pilibbos Chilinguirian, Haroutiun Konialian, Vahan Jamjian, Haroutiun Kalfaian, Hovhannes Kelejian, Sdepan Kurkjian, Dikran Sarkisian, Barooyr Arzoomanian, Haig Derderian, Mirjan Artinian, Hampartsum Balasan, Vahan Kehiaian, Ardashes Ferahian, Artin Meserlian, Armenag Arakelian, Mihran Pasdurmajian, Neshan Nahabedian, Yeghia Suzgian, Bedros Kurdish, Diran Yerganian, Asadoor Madteosian, Yervant Chavooshian, Hagop Shahbaz, Sarkis Kaligian, Garabed Reyisian, Kevork Kopooshian, Krikor Ohnigian, Aram Ohnigian, Karekin Ohnigian, Hovhannes Keoleian, Dikran Baghdigian, Hovhannes Cheogurian, Paramaz, Dr. Benne Torosian, Aram Achukbashian, Kegham Vanigian, Yervant Topoozian, Roupen Garabedian, Hovhannes Der Ghazarian, Tovmas Tovmasian, Hagop Basmajian, Moorad Zakarian, Megerdich Yeretsian, Karekin Boghosian, Armenag Hampartsoomian, Yeremia Manoogian, Apraham Mooradian, Minas Keshishian, Sumpad Kulujian, Karnig Boyajian, Herand Yegavian, Boghos Boghosian, Herand Aghajanian, Garabed Patoogian, Khoren Khorenian, Amasiatsi Krikor Kayian, Ishkhan Nighoghayos Boghosian with his 4 friends, Vramian Onnig

Tertsagian, Ardashes Solakian, Dikran Odian (Asso), A. Proodian, Garabed Dantlian, Hayag Yeremishian, Yerookhan (Yervant Srmakeshkhalian), Tulgadintsi, Prof. Garabed Soghogian, Prof. Megerdich Vorperian, Prof. Hovhannes Boujikian, Prof. Nigoghos Tenekejian, Prof. Khachadour Nahigian, Prof. Donabed Lulejian, Jirair Hagopian, Hovhannes Dingilian, Hovhannes Aghanian, Aram Srabian, Armen Onanian, Hovsep Malemezian, Kegham Samuelian, Kapriel Tanielian, Karnig Gosdanian, Hagop Dinjian, Armen Hovagimian, Asadour Jamgochian, Mouradian, Hovhannes Zartarian, Kevork Keleshian, Hagop Shoushanian, Setrag Dulgerian, Aram Dabaghian, Haroutiun Semerjian, Hagop, Hapet, Sarkis Eljanian, Mihran Isbirian, Senekerim Kalyonjian, Moorad Derderian, Garabed Barsamian, Karnig Toughlajian, Manuel Dedeian, Levon Kantarian, Aram Hagopian, Khachadour Grdodian, Michael Frengulian, Roupen Rakoubian, Hampartsoom Blejian, Vahan Husisian, Nazaret Husisian, Bidza, Hemayag Karageozian, Israel Ozanian, Dajad Chebookjian, Levon Karageozian, Hmayag Margosian, Hmaig Karibian, Ardashig Boornazian, Hagop Boornazian, M. Paroonaq Sarksian, Arshag Kizirian, Hovhannes Boghosian, K. Vosgerichian, Antranig Bozajian, Aram Adrouni, Aram Shesheian, Hurach Loosparonian, Megerdich Asdourian, Pilos, Tsigotghsi Setrag Varjabed, Partogh Odabashian, Kaloosd Garabedian, Vahan Kasbarian, Kevork Zooloomian, Hagop Garabedian, Peniamin Chulghatian, Haroutiun Boshosian, Gorun (Gomsetsi Iso), Megerdich Polaian (Mejo), Vartan Dikran, Armenag Yokhigian, Garabed Jamjian, Karnig Kouyoumjian, Garabed Nevroozian, Hagop Khayelian, Hago Merdinian, Parsegh Mootafian, Krikor Kouyoumjian, Sarkis Aghartmajian, Hovhannes Boyajian, Mardiros Zoornajian, Mirjan Yoghoudlashian, Haroutiun Yoghoudlashian, Hagop Sudjian, Garabed Mooradian, Hovhannes Nevshehriian, Avedis Elmajian, Kevork Turkjian, Hovhannes Boyajian, Hagop Oorganjian, Hagop Yesaian, Hagop Balekjian, Garabed Oozoonoghlian, Ghazer Mayisian, Hagop Kazezian, Hovhannes Zeytoontsian, Hovhannes Tavitian, Sarkis Tooloomjian, Garabed Chiydemian, Vahan Amadouni, Krikor Moumjhianian, Krikor Khacheroogian, Haroutiun Dayian, Asdoor Minasian, Haroutiun Keoleyian, Garabed Aghcharian, Manoog Buchakjian, Hagop Chubookjian, Mihran Guzeian, L. Varzhabedian, Misak Bahanjian, Sarkis Karakezian, Setrag Chechenian, Karnig Shemshian, Hagop Berberian, Sahag Kayserian, Kevork Vishabian, Vahan Kurkjian, Minas Minassian, Minas Bedrosian, Kevork Jamjian, Vahan Jamjian, Kapriel Kurkjian, Markar Yazejian, Parsegh Kilmilian, Vahan Kehiyan, Krikor Gerekmezian, Hagop Yousoufian, Garabed Yousoufian, Karnig Kavjian, Dedeyan Brothers, Aram Dabanian, Yervant Varteresian, Mardiros Lusararian, Nushan Halajian, Garabed Zambakjian, Hovhannes Ekmekjian, Haroutiun Beojekian, Vahan Chapoutian, Garabed Matosian, Varteres Varteresian, Hagop Bostanjian, Hovhannes Tufenkjian, Dikran Kasabian, Haroutiun Der Megerdichian, Karnig Balekjian, Prof. Arakel Sivaslian, Prof. Hovhannes Hagopian, Gagig Ozanian, Prof. Arshag Daghlian, Prof. Hovhannes Arozian, Garabed Kojaian, Parsegh Endelesian, Nushan

Yenijelian, Hovhannes Momjian, Ardem Gorgodian, Prof. Jessy Matossian, Prof. Looti Babigian, Hovhannes Hasurjian, Prof. Arshag Roomian, Hovhannes Kazanjian, Dikran Temurian, Avedis Khudurian, Noorjian Noorjianian, Yegho, Hagop Aghaser, Tovmas Jelalian, Senekerim Bonjooklian, Minas Ipekjian, Manoog Tanielian, N. Evranian, G. Churakian, Kar Gozigan, Arshag Papazian, Vahakn Datevian, Ashoogh Shahnaz, Keroppe Gulbengian, Sdepan Nalbandian, Dr. Hagop Hovhannesian, Ardashes Der Sdepanian, Vartan Misirian, Arakel Abroyan, Garabed Taniel, Berj Taniel, Melki Khanzorian, Sooren Harootyuniun, Garabed Sivrisarian, Zinvor Mardig, Siragan Papazian, Alexan Haroutiunian, Sdepan Akchaian, N. Markarian, M. Bartunlian, S. Lazian, K. Paplian, Sarkis Khozaian, Hovhannes Khoaian, Nazaret Tashjian, Mihran Tashjian, Garabed Zadigian, Hayotsian, Garabed, Shmavon, Mihran Kiremidjian, Bedros, Minas, Krikor Sumpadian, Bedros Genjian, Boghos Gegenozian, Hovhannes Mooradian, Khachig Mardigian, Hampartsoom Isheian, Siragan Stambolsian, Iskender Tasamkian, Hagop Bijoyan, Garabed Lezian, Hayrabed Balukjian, Hovhannes Varjabedian, Simonig Seferian, Misak Seremian, A. Khanjian, Onnig Baltayan, A. Nalbandian, H. Kapoolian, Karnig Pekmezian, Toros Pekmezian, S. Dingilian, L. Dingilian, L. Lootfiyan.

IN HONOR OF COMMISSIONER
PETE WHEELER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I pay tribute to an outstanding civic leader and public servant of Georgia, Commissioner Pete Wheeler, longtime leader of the Georgia Department of Veterans Service (GDVS). Commissioner Wheeler passed away on Tuesday, April 21, 2015. A funeral service will be held on Sunday, April 26, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at Decatur First United Methodist Church in Decatur, Georgia.

A Georgia man through and through, Pete Wheeler was a proud graduate of the University of Georgia and an attorney, admitted to the State Bar of Georgia in 1949. He served our nation with honor and distinction in the U.S. Army during World War II. In 1950, he joined the Georgia National Guard. He retired in 1978 with the rank of Brigadier General.

Pete Wheeler joined the Georgia Department of Veterans Service in 1949 as Director of the Education Division. In 1951, he was named Assistant Director of the Department. In 1954, he was appointed as the department's director but the title was later changed to Georgia Commissioner of Veterans Service. His strong and effective leadership was widely noted, for he was reappointed fifteen times and remained in charge up to his passing.

For 66 years, Commissioner Wheeler acted as a voice for Georgia veterans and worked tirelessly to advocate on behalf of these national heroes who sacrificed so much to safeguard our cherished liberties.

Shortly after his appointment as director of the GDVS, Commissioner Wheeler joined the

effort to recognize Veterans Day as a new federal holiday. He was named Georgia Chairman of the National Veterans Day Committee and partnered with then-Governor of Georgia, Herman Talmadge, to arrange a formal ceremony for the signing of the proclamation declaring the new holiday in Georgia. This ceremony became a tradition in the state that is still honored today. Due to a decline in health, 2014 marked the first year that Commissioner Wheeler was unable to attend but he certainly was there in spirit.

In 1966, in response to the needs of the first veterans returning from the Vietnam War, as well as those of their families and survivors, Commissioner Wheeler created the Supermarket of Veterans Benefits, a one-day informational event aiming to gather local, state, and federal agencies that provide services to veterans. The event was so successful that it became an annual signature event of the GDVS and has been replicated throughout the country.

In 1994, Commissioner Wheeler was appointed Chairman of the National World War II Memorial Advisory Board by President Bill Clinton, serving until the memorial's dedication by President George W. Bush in 2004. He served as a past president of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs and was a life member of the American Legion, DAV, and AMVETS.

The Georgia General Assembly issued a resolution in 1998 renaming the state's war veterans memorial complex in Atlanta, Georgia as the "Pete Wheeler Georgia War Veterans Memorial Complex." The complex includes memorials to Georgia veterans from the Spanish-American War through Desert Storm/Desert Shield. Earlier this year, Commissioner Wheeler approved the design for the next addition, a memorial honoring those killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, which will be dedicated on May 20, 2015.

On a personal note, Commissioner Pete Wheeler was a close friend of mine. I have truly been blessed by his friendship, counsel and inspiration throughout the years.

Commissioner Wheeler has accomplished much in his life but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of his family. His wife of 59 years, Geraldine, and one daughter, Jane, preceded him in death. Mourning his memory and rejoicing his life are his daughter, Francis and son-in-law, Mark; son, Peter and daughter-in-law, Debbie; son-in-law, John; and six grandchildren, Matthew, Joshua, Joanna, Alex, Charles, and Jonathan.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 residents of the Second Congressional District and veterans all across Georgia, salute Commissioner Pete Wheeler for his outstanding public service and his everlasting commitment to improving the quality of life for our veterans. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Commissioner Wheeler's family and friends during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

HONORING HAROLD W. McGRAW III

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Harold W. McGraw III on his upcoming retirement from the board of directors of McGraw Hill Financial, the company that his great-grandfather founded in 1888.

Known to his friends as Terry, he joined the company in 1980, holding a number of leadership positions before being named chief executive officer in 1998—the third McGraw to hold that position.

During his tenure as CEO, Terry led the company's transformation from education and publishing into a credit ratings, benchmarks and portfolio-based company, with best-in-class brands that include Standard & Poor's, Platts and J.D. Power.

Though he retired as CEO in 2013, Terry remains active in the global business community and is a well-known voice in various key economic fields. In addition to chairing the International Chamber of Commerce, the U.S. Trade Representatives' Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations, and the U.S. Council for International Business and the Emergency Committee for American Trade, Terry also is a former Chairman of the Business Roundtable and the U.S.-India Business Council. He serves as a member of the board of directors of United Technologies and of Phillips 66, chairman of the Emergency Committee for American Trade (ECAT), and a member of the Business Council.

The company has always been a fixture in the New York City philanthropic community and, under Terry's leadership, employees have donated countless volunteer hours for causes and programs around the city. This has included everything from park clean-ups with the New York Restoration Project to reading to underserved elementary school children as part of the Read Ahead partnership. The company has provided scores of grants to arts and cultural venues as well.

Terry has devoted himself personally to several programs with which he has particularly deep relationships. He greatly increased corporate support—and personal contributions—to the New York Public Library, where he also serves as a Trustee. He continued the long tradition of McGraw family and company support for Hartley House, a nonprofit community center serving the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood of New York City. Terry also initiated the company's partnership with the South Bronx-based Morris High School Educational Campus, taking an active personal interest in the school by meeting and mentoring its students, speaking at events and launching an annual scholarship program.

Mr. Speaker, Terry McGraw has distinguished himself throughout his career as a skilled and savvy businessman, as well as a generous and civic-minded philanthropist. I ask my colleagues to support me in congratulating him on his countless achievements during a remarkable career.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

This year marks one hundred years since the tragedy of the Armenian Genocide. A systematic campaign of genocide against the Armenian people at the hands of the Ottoman Empire. What began with the killing of 300 Armenian leaders resulted in the deaths of one and a half million people and the forced exile of another 500,000.

It is often said that those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it, which is why each year I call on the President to officially acknowledge this terrible chapter of history by using the word "genocide." In a recent Detroit News article, a local resident said this, "The fact that 100 years later you still have to explain and prove that what happened to your ancestors was a premeditated crime on a massive scale really incurs a lot of pain for all Armenians."

In my home state of Michigan, 11,000 people of Armenian descent reside and may leading organizations have organized commemorative events leading up to April 24th. I have had the honor to attend many events at St. John's Armenian Church in Southfield where there stands a memorial which contains the remains of a genocide victim. We are also proud that the only Armenian research center attached to an American university is at the University of Michigan-Dearborn where the Center documents the Armenian genocide and current Armenian issues.

I am always pleased to co-sponsor Congressional resolutions that shed light on the true nature of this ethnic extermination, and honor its victims and survivors. On the 100th Anniversary, I recall with deep sorrow the stories passed down through families of death marches, labor camps, entire families wiped out, years of slavery, massacre, and starvation.

I respectfully request that all my colleagues join me today in honoring the victims and survivors of the Armenian Genocide.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the start of the Armenian Genocide.

In 1915, the Ottoman Empire orchestrated a murderous campaign that resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children, and forced hundreds of thousands into exile. Growing up in the land of William Saroyan, I learned the stories of this tragic time from the sons and daughters of survivors time and time again. Refusal to accurately recognize this crime against humanity as genocide