

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, January 11; Tuesday, January 12; and Wednesday, January 13, 2016, I took medical leave to attend appointments related to an upcoming hip replacement surgery and was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 34 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 598, as amended), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 35 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2321, as amended), "No" on roll call vote No. 36 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 583), "No" on roll call vote No. 37 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 583), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 38 (on agreeing to the Kil-dee Amendment to H.R. 1644), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 39 (on agreeing to the Cartwright Amendment to H.R. 1644), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 40 (on agreeing to the Sewell Amendment to H.R. 1644), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 41 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 1644, with instructions), "No" on roll call vote No. 42 (on passage of H.R. 1644), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 43 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 757, as amended), Pursuant to a unanimous consent request made by Majority Leader KEVIN MCCARTHY, and agreed to without objection, the roll call vote No. 44 and the motion to reconsider thereon were vacated and further proceedings on the question of passage of H.R. 3662 postponed as though under clause 8 of rule 20 through the legislative day of January 26, 2016, and "No" on roll call vote No. 45 (on passage of H.R. S.J. Res. 22).

IN HONOR OF GALIYA UMAROVA

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I inform this House that on January 4, 2016, Galiya Umarova, wife of Ambassador Kairat Umarov of Kazakhstan passed away.

The Ambassador and Galiya were married for thirty years.

Their son, Gaini, currently works for an international consulting group in Astana, Kazakhstan.

Galiya and her husband have known each other much longer than the beginning of his diplomatic career.

The two met in English class, where he entertained her with his funny stories.

Galiya grew up in Almaty, Kazakhstan's largest city and the country's foremost historical, financial and cultural center.

She dedicated her life to the promotion of the importance of education and was a passionate supporter of building progress in her home country, including her husband's work on behalf of his country.

For example, the Ambassador and Galiya were posted to the United States capitol three different times in the span of 15 years.

Known as the land of peace and prosperity, the beautiful country of Kazakhstan sits on 3,000 years of extraordinary history.

The country's development has been influenced by legends such as Alexander the Great and Genghis Khan.

For centuries, the Silk Road through Kazakhstan served as one of the world's oldest and most historically significant trade routes.

All of this has contributed to the richness of the Kazakh culture and its capacity to adapt and develop.

Much like her home country, Galiya Umarova adapted and developed as she accompanied her husband throughout his diplomatic service for his country.

In fact, Galiya adapted to the DC life by driving herself around town, navigating the hectic DC traffic.

Galiya and the Ambassador traveled the world over, spreading the imperative of cultural tourism, the beautiful culture of Kazakhstan and its over 140 different ethnic groups, while working to promote peace at home and in bilateral relations such as its relationship with the United States.

The couple embodied what former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan declared about their country: "Kazakhstan may serve as an example of a peaceful multiethnic country where ethnic diversity is a blessing, but not a curse."

Kazakhstan is located in the central part of Eurasia, almost equidistant from the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.

Indeed, throughout history, Kazakhstan was an arena for brisk commercial and political relations and it now plays an important role as a link between Europe, Central Asia and the rapidly developing Asian-Pacific region.

Notwithstanding her husband's busy diplomatic schedule over the past 2 decades, Galiya worked hard to bring balance into her family life.

For example, she always found time to enjoy comedy films with her family.

She also enjoyed a variety of hobbies such as tennis, golf, practicing yoga, growing her own natural fruits and vegetables in her garden.

Today, I hope my colleagues will join me in sending prayers and condolences to Ambassador Umarov and his family.

I also ask for a moment of silence in Galiya Umarova's honor and memory.

HONORING VETERAN EDISON THOMAS BROWN, JR.**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran, Mr. Edison Thomas Brown, Jr.

U.S. Army Veteran Edison Thomas Brown, Jr. is a Mississippi native who was born and reared in the hills of Holmes County within the U.S. Second Congressional District.

Born in the very late 1950's, Mr. Brown, and other youth like him, grew up during the heat of oppression, segregation and poverty of the Holmes County 1960s civil rights movement. Yet, Mr. Brown says, he nor his family ever viewed themselves as underclass.

Although poor by economic standards and conditions, he and his siblings learned early of the importance of working hard to make a decent living by two nurturing parents, who were farmers themselves and who also worked for white farmers as well, picking cotton and such. His parents were Edison Thomas Brown, Sr. and Ednora Randle Brown (both now deceased).

His father was also a U.S. Army veteran who served in World War II. In fact, Mr. Brown says he was inspired to volunteer to serve his country in the military by his father and eldest brother James, a U.S. Army Vietnam veteran. After graduating from high school at what is formerly known as Tchula Attendance Center (TAC) in Tchula, MS, he began his military career in July, 1975 at Fort Knox, Ky.

During his tour of duty, he was trained and served as a Track Vehicle Mechanic, specializing in diesel repairs. His U.S. military career also included service in Gelnhausen, Germany.

While in the military, he earned the rank of Specialist 4th Class (SPEC 4). Proud to serve his country, Mr. Brown is grateful that his military career afforded him many travels that he would not have afforded to make and opportunities he possibly would not have had.

Mr. Brown's tour of duty concluded at Fort Stewart, GA in 1979; however, he remained in reserve status until 1981, when he received an Honorable Discharge.

After the military, Mr. Brown took advantage of the GI Bill and began to educate himself (part-time) in Electronic Service Technology coursework. Over the years, he has served in several employment capacities in the Metro Jackson area. His longest stint was with McRaes Distribution and its merging operations, 1985–2001.

Today, a Clinton, Miss. resident in the Second Congressional District, Mr. Brown spends most of his time actively serving in Holy Temple Baptist Church of West Jackson, pastored by the history-making Rev. Audrey Lynne Hall. At Holy Temple as a deacon, he is Chairman and also serves as Sunday School Superintendent and teacher. He, his wife, Gail, and son, Edison, III, have also participated in the church's ongoing Homeless Outreach Ministry in which the church gives toiletries, snacks and other needful items to the homeless once a month at Poindexter Park near Downtown Jackson.

Mr. Brown's favorite scripture of the Bible in which he tries to live by is Proverbs 3:5–6—"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a special Veteran, Mr. Edison Thomas Brown, Jr., for his dedication and support to the Holmes County Community.

PATRICIA SPENCER

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2016

Mr. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of an extraordinary leader and passionate advocate for freedom and justice, Ms. Patricia Spencer.

Growing up in Montgomery, Alabama in the 1930s, Patricia Spencer followed in her mother and grandmother's footsteps becoming a member of the NAACP at the age of seven, a group which she was still a member of 72 years later. At the age of nineteen, while serving as Secretary of the local NAACP branch, Ms. Spencer received the news that her mentor on the NAACP Youth Council, Rosa Parks, was arrested while riding the Montgomery bus. Ms. Spencer immediately started churning out fliers urging others to boycott the bus. During this time Ms. Spencer also babysat Yolanda King, the first eldest child of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Ms. Spencer graduated from Alabama State University and then moved to Orlando, FL to take a position as an operator with Southern Bell, the first African American to hold this position. From there she moved to Detroit and served 13 years on the local school board. In recognition of her service to the Detroit area, the Martin Luther King, Jr. High School Auditorium and the swimming facility at Charles Kettering High School bear her name. In the mid 1990s she moved to Tampa, FL. Once settled in, she immediately started to volunteer with the Hillsborough NAACP branch, where she used her vast knowledge of the organization's rules to mentor members and secure funding for the branch. She served as Membership Chair and Area Director for the NAACP's state conference as well as Secretary of the Hillsborough County chapter. She will forever be remembered for her constant efforts to boost NAACP membership.

In addition to her work with the NAACP, Ms. Spencer also co-chaired the Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technologic and Scientific Olympics. This program recruits high school students to compete in science and visual arts competitions. In 2007, Governor Charlie Crist appointed her as a member of the Hillsborough County Civil Service Board.

Ms. Spencer will be forever remembered as a leader in the Tampa Bay community for her unequivocal support of justice and fairness. On December 15th, 2015, she passed away two days after her 79th birthday. Mr. Speaker, I join the Tampa Bay community in honoring Ms. Patricia Spencer for her lifelong commitment to service.

HONORING BARBARA CLARK

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Barbara Clark for a job well done on the occasion of her retirement. This is a milestone for the executive director who led the Network of Victim Assistance for 25 years. NOVA, which serves Bucks County and the Philadelphia area is recognized for its high quality services for the most vulnerable in the community. Under her direction, NOVA evolved from a small victims services organization to a large, financially sound, nationally recognized organization with high standards of services available to crime victims, including—children, the elderly and people with disabilities. As executive director, Barbara Clark led the way and was widely recognized and honored for her ability to create problem-solving

groups and find solutions and funding to accomplish the work—the creation of a community free from violence and harm. Among her many accomplishments is the ability to fund the agency and its projects. Under her guidance, the budget and the capacity of NOVA rose from \$235,000 in 1991 to more than \$3.3 million today. Another initiative that defined her management ability was the NOVA comprehensive capital campaign she launched in 2008, called Voices Against Violence. The goal was set at \$1.9 million, but at the end of the campaign \$2.1 million was raised. Once again, her knowledge, dedication and her outstanding management abilities led the way. Barbara has the appreciation and gratitude of her colleagues, those she mentored, and the community she served. In so doing, she has set an example for others to follow.

JARVIS GLOVER

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2016

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service and dedication of an extraordinary community servant, Mr. Jarvis Glover.

Born and raised in Port Tampa, Mr. Glover has been fondly known as its unofficial Mayor. Mr. Glover started his career with Hillsborough County in 1975, at a time when our nation, and our own community, was progressing and on the cusp of tremendous growth. Beginning as a groundskeeper, Jarvis served to improve the lives of the citizens of Hillsborough County, Florida in many capacities throughout the following four decades of his tenure. Mr. Jarvis recently retired from Hillsborough County, after serving with unwavering discipline and integrity and inspiring future generations of public servants.

Mr. Glover's outstanding work ethic and stalwart dedication have made an indelible mark on day-to-day County business and represents the values that this community upholds. Mr. Glover has had a big heart for public service, which has perhaps made him Hillsborough County's greatest ambassador and he is revered by everyone.

Mr. Glover's commitment and devotion begins with his family. He is quick to credit his loving wife, Clara, as a driving force in his life. His own children, La'Daishia and Jarvis Jr., have supported and followed in their father's lofty footsteps into public service.

Mr. Glover's praise and admiration by everyone he meets has not happened overnight. He has earned it by demonstrating a daily pledge to serve his colleagues and neighbors with respect and hard work. His example of genuine enthusiasm for public service should serve to motivate so many answering the call to join our public agencies, which have a profound impact on millions in almost every aspect of their lives. Hillsborough County is a better place because of Mr. Glover. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join the Hillsborough County community in thanking Jarvis Glover for his decades of exceptional service.

HONORING REV. ROBERT L. MILLER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a God-fearing and impressionistic man, Rev. Robert L. Miller. Rev. Miller has shown what can be done through tenacity, dedication and a desire to serve God.

Rev. Miller has done many things throughout his life, but inside he has always been a preacher. At 89 years old, he can't see himself ever hanging it up, because it's his calling. Some of the members of the church have said their church will close its doors if he leaves.

He is currently serving five churches on a rotation schedule where he will do two services a Sunday except one Sunday a month, he only does one service.

Forty years ago in July is when he first took the pulpit at New Mount Zion M.B. Church. Eleven years later in June 1986, he began serving his fifth church, Locust Grove M.B. Church.

He also preached at Providence M.B. Church from 1971 until 1986. He has served as vice moderator of the Sharkey County Baptist Association and is currently the moderator of the Warren County Baptist Association.

He was ordained in December 1968 and started serving his first church just weeks later.

The profession is so much a part of his soul; oftentimes he slides into preacher mode mid-conversation. The only job Rev. Miller has ever had besides being a preacher was a letter carrier for 25 years.

At 18, Miller was drafted and left high school to join World War II. He spent time in France, England, Belgium and Germany as a medic. Once the war was over, he returned to Vicksburg to finish his high school degree at Bowman High School.

Rev. Miller married two years later and had eight children with his wife of almost 30 years. She passed away in 1979. He was remarried in August 2013 to Elease Fisher Miller.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Rev. Robert L. Miller for 40 years of service to New Mount Zion M.B. Church.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. ROBERT STUCKY

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2016

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Robert "Bob" Stucky on his retirement after twenty seven years of dedicated service to the City of Kingsburg.

Mr. Stucky was born on January 3, 1954 in Reedley, California. Growing up in the Central Valley, Mr. Stucky attended local schools and graduated from Reedley High School in 1972. Bob and his wife Donna have two children, Tim and Lisa.

On August 15, 1988, Mr. Stucky began working as a Maintenance Worker with the City of Kingsburg Public Works Department.