

and women in uniform that one chapter of the Association of the United States Army, AUSA, named an award after her, sadly passed away on May 19. She was 83 years old.

Freeman understood the importance of the men and women stationed at Fort Campbell and worked diligently to ensure that these servicemembers and her community got the recognition they deserved. Freeman was one of Kentucky's civilian aides to the Secretary of the Army since 2008, holding a ceremonial rank equal to a lieutenant general. However, her contributions to our servicemembers began long before that.

She first became involved as an AUSA volunteer as a young Army wife in Fort Hood, TX, welcoming her husband back home from his first tour of duty in Vietnam. Freeman felt her husband and others returning from Vietnam did not get the recognition and appreciation they deserved. T.C. was right about this, as she was about so many other important issues concerning our Nation's servicemembers.

She decided to do something about it personally. She took care of wounded soldiers. She coordinated welcome-home events. She advocated on behalf of Army families on housing and quality-of-life issues that affected them. The Freemans moved to Hopkinsville and took up the cause of soldiers at Fort Campbell after T.C.'s husband, Army COL Bobby Freeman, was named garrison commander at Fort Campbell.

T.C. Freeman's support for the 101st Airborne Division, headquartered at Fort Campbell, was crucial throughout the years, especially in 1985 when 248 soldiers died in an air crash in Newfoundland while returning from a peacekeeping mission.

In 2009, Freeman was among the first nine honored as a "champion" of Fort Campbell and saw her portrait installed in the division's headquarters building. She served as chapter president and board member of the Tennessee-Kentucky chapter of AUSA. She was also an honorary member of the 327th Infantry Regiment and the 160th Special Operations Aviation regiments and a distinguished member of the 502nd and 187th Infantry regiments.

T.C. and her husband, Bobby, raised two sons who served in the Persian Gulf and a daughter who was an Army wife. Elaine and I want to send our condolences to the Freeman family and to the many who knew and loved T.C. I am grateful for the long friendship I had with her, and I know she will be deeply missed—especially by the brave servicemembers she worked so hard to support and their families.

An area publication, the Kentucky New Era, recently published an article detailing T.C. Freeman's legacy. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Kentucky New Era, May 20, 2016]

T.C. FREEMAN, TIRELESS FORT CAMPBELL  
ADVOCATE, DIES

(By Andrew Oppmann)

Clarissa "T.C." Freeman, known and honored by generals and privates alike as Fort Campbell's Mom for her devoted service and advocacy of the U.S. Army, died at 7 a.m. Thursday at Jennie Stuart Medical Center after a long illness. She was 83.

One of Kentucky's civilian aides to the secretary of the Army since 2008, Freeman battled pulmonary fibrosis for more than five years. However, despite the debilitating effects of the disease, her service to Fort Campbell rarely slowed.

Her husband, retired Army Col. Bobby Freeman, was a former garrison commander at Fort Campbell.

Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday at First United Methodist Church, Hopkinsville, and burial will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery-West. Visitation will be from 4 until 8 p.m. Saturday at Hughart, Beard and Giles Funeral Home, Hopkinsville, and from 2 p.m. until the funeral hour at the church.

As a civilian aide to the Army secretary, Freeman held the ceremonial rank equal to a lieutenant general. She used her status as a platform to call attention to the service and sacrifice of the soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

Hopkinsville Mayor Carter Hendricks knew Freeman as a "tireless, tenacious and caring advocate" for Fort Campbell.

At welcome-home ceremonies, Freeman often was seen handing off her cell phone to a young soldier who didn't have family present but wanted to call home.

Freeman was on a Chamber of Commerce committee that hired Hendricks to be the military affairs director in 2004. She became a dear friend and supporter, he said.

No task was too small for Freeman, and she always followed through on her promises, the mayor said.

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said, "T.C. understood the importance of the men and women stationed at the Kentucky (post) and worked diligently to ensure that these service members and her community got the recognition they deserved."

At a 2013 ceremony honoring Freeman, retired Gen. Richard A. Cody, former post and division commander, said, "T.C. was an Army wife and Army mom and a model for everyone here. She made a difference in the life of me and my family."

In 2009, Freeman and her husband were among the first nine honored as Champions of Fort Campbell, and their portraits were installed on a wall inside the division's headquarters building.

She was a life member of the Association of the United States Army, serving as a regional president, as well as chapter president and board member of the Tennessee-Kentucky chapter. The chapter in 2013 named a brigade-level award for membership participation in her honor.

Freeman worked as an aide to former U.S. Sen. Jim Bunning and current U.S. Rep. Ed Whitfield and was a member of the Kentucky Military Affairs Commission.

She was an honorary member of the 327th Infantry Regiment and the 160th Special Operations Aviation regiments a distinguished member of the 502nd and 187th Infantry regiments.

As the wife of a decorated Vietnam aviator, and mother to two sons who served in the Persian Gulf and a daughter who was an Army wife, Freeman told an Army interviewer in 2009 that she knew what other spouses were going through when their husbands and wives were deployed.

"The first Army family I took care of was mine," she said.

Freeman first became involved as an AUSA volunteer at Fort Hood, Texas, as a young Army wife.

She told an Army journalist that when her husband returned from his first tour of duty in Vietnam, she was disappointed and saddened by the reception he received. She vowed to do something about it.

"They didn't understand how important our Army was," she said in a 2009 article. "I always feel the need to give something back to our soldiers and to their families."

And give back she did. She was involved in taking care of wounded soldiers. She planned welcome-home events. She tackled granular issues that troubled Army families, such as ID card and housing problems.

She hosted luncheons, consoled families in their grief and, as a champion of Fort Campbell, was a fierce advocate for funding of the post that straddles the Kentucky and Tennessee borders.

Cody, quoted by The Eagle Post in a 2013 article on the AUSA award named in her honor, said Freeman was diligent to greet soldiers as they returned or departed for duty overseas.

She would look around for a soldier who had no one waiting for him or her and would give him or her a hug and a thank you.

"When they (the soldier's family) can't, I stand in for them," she said.

Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, at a 2009 ceremony covered by Army journalists, called Freeman "a national treasure and a hero."

When she was a VIP or special guest at an event, Myles said she would always divert the spotlight to the soldiers.

"I've watched CASAs like T.C. make a difference in soldiers' lives in ways green-suiters couldn't do," he said.

Cody, in the 2013 article, recalled how Freeman "wrapped her arms around this great division" after 248 soldiers from the 101st died in air crash at Gander, Newfoundland, while returning from a peacekeeping mission shortly before Christmas in 1985.

The Freemans moved to Hopkinsville when Col. Freeman was named garrison commander at Fort Campbell. They remained there after he retired from the Army.

Freeman's passion for the soldiers of Fort Campbell never ceased, even as her illness limited her mobility in recent months. She was active on social media and often sent out messages of support to the division while on bed rest.

"There is a lot that can be done to help our soldiers," she told the Army journalist in 2009. "There are no boundaries to what goodness one can contribute for the benefit of the soldiers."

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. HOUSHANG KHORRAM

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate a distinguished Kentuckian who is an accomplished doctor and who works to save lives and heal the sick in eastern Kentucky. Dr. Houshang Khorram practiced as a pediatrician for 50 years at Appalachian Regional Healthcare in Middlesboro, KY, and he retired this past January after his five decades of service.

Dr. Khorram originally studied medicine in Iran, attending the Shiraz Medical Science University. He knew from the beginning of his medical career that he wanted to specialize in pediatrics. After taking pediatrics specialty classes in Iran, he came to America;

first to Baltimore, MD, and then, in 1965, to Kentucky. He has been a proud resident of the Bluegrass State ever since.

In his time at Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Dr. Khorram served as chief of the pediatric department, chief of medical staff, and president of the board of directors at the Daniel Boone Clinic. In his time as a physician, he has seen many advances in medical technology and implemented them in his practice.

I want to congratulate Dr. Khorram for his five decades of service at the top of the medical field and wish him well upon the occasion of his retirement. I know he will have as much success in whatever endeavor he chooses next as he has had in his chosen field. I am sure his wife, Toby, and their two children are very proud of him, and Kentucky is glad to have benefitted from his work and service.

An area publication, the Middlesboro Daily News, recently published an article highlighting Dr. Khorram's life and career. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Middlesboro Daily News, Feb. 12, 2016]

DECADES OF DEDICATION  
(By Kelsey Gerhardt)

Appalachian Regional Healthcare in Middlesboro is a place where lives are saved, babies are born and broken bones are set. Dr. Houshang Khorram has seen it all in his 50 years as a pediatrician.

Khorram's story starts during his time as a student at Shiraz Medical Science University in Iran.

"I loved kids. I've always loved kids and that's how I knew what I wanted to do," said Khorram.

He completed his pediatrics specialty classes in Iran and came to America to work at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland for a couple of years.

In 1965, Khorram started working for the ARH in Floyd County, Kentucky and moved to the Middlesboro ARH five years later. He has lived and worked in Middlesboro ever since.

"Actually, I came here to live for just six months, but I'm still here. I love the people and I love the area and I love nature so there are a lot of things that have kept me here," said Khorram.

He has seen many advances in the medical field, including technology and equipment which he believes have not only benefited pediatrics, but the way in which doctors are able to care for patients.

"So much that we have now, we didn't have it 10 or even 20 years ago. CT scans, MRI's, sonograms have helped a lot and now it's easier to make a diagnosis and it's more reliable," said Khorram.

Khorram retired from ARH on January 1 and received a special award for his time. Throughout his decades at ARH, Khorram served as the chief of the Pediatric Department, chief of Medical Staff and the president of the board of directors at the Daniel Boone Clinic.

If given the opportunity to start all over again, he undoubtedly would.

"I encourage my kids to go into the medical field. It's a great place to be and I would go back, go again to medical school if I could," laughed Khorram.

He enjoys hiking and reading pediatrics books in his free time. Since retirement, he is looking forward to having time to spend with his grandchildren.

Khorram has been married to his wife Toby for 54 years. He acknowledges her sacrifices and support that have allowed him to be a doctor. Together they have two children.

# REMEMBERING SUMNER SLICHTER

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I was saddened to learn that Sumner Slichter, who for three decades was the chief policy adviser to former Wisconsin and U.S. Senator Russ Feingold, died May 16 in his home in Alexandria, VA, after a battle with brain cancer. He was 62 years old.

Sumner Pence Slichter was born August 31, 1953, in Urbana, IL, to Nini Almy and Charles Slichter. He was the oldest of four children and is remembered as being a kind and loving older brother to his younger siblings.

As a student attending Dr. Howard Elementary, Edison Junior High School, and Champaign Central High School, Sumner played viola in the school orchestra. He left for the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1970, where he majored in mathematics. Sumner continued to play viola in student ensembles and the UW orchestra, where he sat first chair.

At the age of 19, Sumner began what would ultimately be a long and rich career in politics. His first job was on Ed Muskie's 1972 Presidential campaign. Later that year, he worked as an assistant at the Democratic National Committee convention in Miami Beach. From there, Sumner worked for campaigns and offices of State representatives in Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

In 1981, an encounter would forever change Sumner's life. That year he met a Milwaukee lawyer named Russ Feingold. At that time, Russ Feingold was working as a Democratic Party counsel on a close recall election. Sumner helped convince his new friend to challenge an incumbent for the 27th district State Senate seat. Feingold won the election in 1982, and Sumner followed him to the State capital. Sumner and Russ would spend the next three decades working side-by-side in Madison and Washington, DC.

Working in the Wisconsin State Senate, Sumner helped design Feingold's trademark progressive initiatives that focused on the aging, consumer-focused banking policies, budget discipline, and tax policy.

It was during his time in the State capitol that Sumner met Pam Russell, who was working as a legislative attorney. They were married in 1990.

While they lived in Madison, Sumner had a thriving social life. He was a member of a city intramural league softball team, the Soft Balls, and he and his friends and teammates often took advantage of Wisconsin's beautiful State parks, going on annual camping trips to Governor Dodge and Rock Island, among others. Sumner en-

joyed hosting friends at the summer cottage on Lake Mendota built by his grandfather, and in fact, it was there that Sumner held Russ Feingold's first fundraiser for the 1982 State senate campaign.

In 1992, after 10 years in the Wisconsin Legislature, Russ ran for the U.S. Senate. Sumner was there with his boss, playing an important strategic role on the campaign. Many Wisconsinites still remember the funny, light-hearted campaign ads that Feingold ran in that campaign. Sumner was one of the campaign staffers who crafted those unforgettable ads.

When Russ was elected to the U.S. Senate, Sumner and Pam relocated to northern Virginia where, on the day after they arrived, their daughter Sarah was born.

Sumner worked for Russ in the U.S. Capitol for 18 years. He was Russ's policy director and helped shaped Senator Feingold's progressive legacy. Think about some of the courageous acts that defined Senator Feingold's work in the Senate: the McCain-Feingold Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, his votes against the Defense of Marriage Act, the Iraq war, and the sole nay vote against U.S.A. Patriot Act. For each of those votes and bills, Sumner was right there alongside Russ, counseling and helping in any way he could. He also helped Feingold author a resolution to censure President George W. Bush. It is no wonder that Russ said of his friend, "Sumner was at my side for every vote I took in 28 years as a legislator, and I didn't vote until I sought his wise counsel."

It is one thing to do good work for your boss, but it is another thing to treat your peers and colleagues with dignity, respect, and affection. Sumner was a great mentor and friend to his fellow staffers. Former Feingold chief of staff Mary Irvine remembers, "It was quite a thing really how many issues Sumner worked on . . . A great solo player and an awesome team player. He must have spent hours and hours on the Senate floor on any number of issues but was always on duty for the entire lengthy budget resolution votes. Sumner was an amazing expert on the Senate budget process and on parliamentary procedure. He was a great political mind—there was no issue that Sumner couldn't figure out and explain to the rest of us."

Outside of the Capitol, Sumner loved to cook for his friends and family. He was a movie buff who had a penchant for remembering lines, music, actors, and directors. He never lost his love of music and was always quick to respond to a danceable song.

From his Madison days, Sumner brought annual Nixon Resignation and Derby Day parties and camping traditions to his family and friends in the D.C. Area. He had a deep love of dogs and was very attached to his pets.

Sumner Slichter's passing is a loss for all of us here in the Senate. We grew accustomed to seeing his smiling face right at this boss's side.