

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY SPECIALIST (SPC) MELVIN LEE HENLEY, JR.

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen Mississippi soldier Army Specialist (SPC) Melvin Lee Henley, Jr. who gave his life while in service to our nation on November 21, 2007, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. SPC Henley died at Camp Striker in Baghdad, Iraq of injuries sustained in a non-combat related incident. SPC Henley was assigned to the 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Georgia.

SPC Henley, a Jackson, Mississippi native, joined the U.S. Army after graduating from Provine High School in 1999. According to the Associated Press, he was among the top 10 students in his class.

George Watkins, SPC Henley's uncle, said his nephew always wanted to be a soldier. "He wanted to make a difference in other people's lives," Mr. Watkins said. "He had other relatives who had done the same. His grandfather fought in World War II, so he was following in those footsteps."

Amber Henley, SPC Henley's wife, said they were married less than two years when her husband was assigned to Fort Stewart. Three months later, SPC Henley received his deployment orders. "He hated to be away from us," Mrs. Henley said. "We were everything to each other." SPC Henley previously served one tour of duty in Iraq from November 2003 to November 2004.

In 2008, seven fallen soldiers were honored at a tree dedication ceremony held at Cotrell Field, Fort Stewart, Georgia. Members of the 92nd Engineer Battalion, 3rd Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division planted an Eastern Redbud tree along Warriors Walk to honor the soldiers who have died fighting in America's global war on terrorism. SPC Henley was one of the soldiers honored at the ceremony.

SPC Henley was awarded the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism (Service) Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Army Overseas Service Ribbon.

SPC Henley is survived by his mother, Maria Marquis; his wife, Amber Henley; and his uncle, George Watkins.

SPC Henley proudly served America and fought to protect the freedoms we all enjoy.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPACTFUL CAREER OF ED BONACH

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2017

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ed Bonach's retirement from an illustrious business career. Ed is a native of Minnesota who went to St. John's College, an all-male Catholic college in

Collegeville, Minnesota. Ed has had a 41-year career in life and health insurance, and most recently served as chief executive officer of CNO Financial in Carmel, Indiana. Ed joined CNO Financial Group as Chief Financial Officer in 2007 from National Life Group, where he served as executive vice president and chief financial officer.

Upon Ed's arrival, CNO Financial found itself in a time of severe economic struggle. Following the recession, CNO stock had plummeted to under 30 cents a share. Today, CNO stock trades at more than \$25 dollars a share. Additionally, in his time at CNO Financial, the company saw enhanced shareholder value, extended customer reach, and delivered strong financial and operational performance. Specifically, Ed oversaw 17 ratings upgrades as CEO/CFO, a total shareholder return of over 350 percent, increased gender and ethnic diversity to the board at CNO Financial, and the implementation of a common stock dividend in 2012, which resulted in five subsequent increases.

Ed's professional accomplishments are second only to his positive influence on our community. After relocating to Carmel from Vermont, he immediately set out to find organizations to support—along the way making connections with key community leaders to reassure them about the company's future and make himself accessible. Specific achievements include helping launch the Boys Scout's Growing Future Leaders capital campaign to fundraise for scouting and using the CNO Indy Monumental Marathon as a pipeline for shoe donations to the Boy Scouts's Soles 4 Souls program for needy children. Ed also served as Board and Executive Committee Member for Greater Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, Board Member and President of Boy Scouts of America—Crossroads of America Council, and a Board Member for Marion University to name a few.

CNO Financial prides itself on being a valued financial security partner of middle-income America, and Ed embodied that to the fullest. He understood that he didn't just oversee an insurance company, he and the thousands of employees at CNO Financial provided clients and their families services and products that provide peace of mind. I want to extend my best wishes to Ed, his wife of 40 years, Peggy, his two children, and five grandchildren on this next step in their lives. On behalf of all Hoosiers, I thank Ed for his professional contributions as well as his exemplary service and leadership in our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2017

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable and missed Roll Call Vote 647.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 647.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for Roll Call vote 642 on Thursday, November 30, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call vote 642.

COMMEMORATING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE METHODIST DALLAS MEDICAL CENTER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2017

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Methodist Dallas Medical Center for its 90 years of service in the Dallas community. The medical services provided by the United Methodist Church in the greater North Texas region have played a major role as our community continues to grow.

In 1924, a group of Methodist ministers and civic leaders came together to bring quality healthcare to the city of Dallas. With the help of many donations from the Methodist Church, local congregations, and others, the Methodist Dallas Medical Center, a 100-bed facility, was opened in 1927.

The hospital persevered through the Great Depression and started to thrive in the middle of the century. The construction of new facilities, including a three-story student nurse's residence provided classroom space for nursing education and community programs. Additionally, the hospital itself grew to include 420 beds, expanding to more than four times its original size.

In 1995, Methodist hospitals expanded to opening the Family Health Centers. Currently there are 24 centers located across north Texas including locations in Arlington, Cedar Hill, Grand Prairie, Mansfield, Midlothian, Richardson, Waxahachie, and Wylie.

The Methodist Dallas Medical Center is now the main teaching and referral center for the Methodist Health System and one of the leading teaching and referral hospitals in all of Texas. The Medical Center now features 585 beds and 250 physicians that specialize in more than 60 medical specialties. It has been recognized among the top performers on key quality measures by The Joint Commission because of its evidence-based clinical processes that have been shown to improve care for heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, and strokes.

Its presence in the community is grounded in faith, and the hospital's ties to the United Methodist Church is strengthened by the presence of Methodist ministers and church members on governing boards, and its commitment to pastoral education, 24-hour chaplain services, and health ministries at local churches. Additionally, its wide variety of outreach activities, including mobile health screenings and local clinics help bring its services even closer to the community. I want to recognize the Methodist Health System, specifically the

Methodist Dallas Medical Center, for its remarkable service to the Dallas community by improving the community's member's health and well-being.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN ARMY SPECIALIST (SPC) JAVIER ANTONIO VILLANUEVA

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen Army Specialist (SPC) Javier Antonio Villanueva who gave his life while in service to our nation on November 24, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. SPC Villanueva died from injuries he sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol during combat operations in Hit, Iraq. SPC Villanueva was assigned to the 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Irwin, California, while serving with the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team from Mississippi.

According to the Associated Press, SPC Villanueva, a Waco, Texas native, graduated in 1998 from La Vega High School. He then attended Texas State Technical College for two years. In 2003, SPC Villanueva married his wife, Felicia Owens, in Temple, Texas. Later that year, he joined the U.S. Army. SPC Villanueva received advanced individual training as a 91W (healthcare specialist) at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. His first duty station was Fort Irwin, California. SPC Villanueva was assigned to Iraq in January 2005 as a combat medic.

Taliyah Villanueva, SPC Villanueva's daughter, posted a tribute to her dad on a memorial website. "I love you with all my heart," Taliyah said. "I wish you were here right now because I would get to see you every day of my life. Even if you are in heaven, I still can see you, me and my mommy together as a family. We love you." Felicia Villanueva, SPC Villanueva's wife, also posted a tribute on the memorial website. "I can't put into words the pain I feel," Mrs. Villanueva said. "I hurt every day I look at your daughter's face and I see you. I find myself in a daze at times because I daydream of the past and I wonder what we would have been like in the future. I miss you so much, and I will always love you. Until we meet again, continue to guide me in the path of success."

When former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger learned of SPC Villanueva's death in Iraq, he ordered all state capitol flags to be flown at half-staff. In 2007, President George W. Bush paid tribute to SPC Villanueva's sacrifice during the Fallen Soldier Memorial Ceremony at the American Legion Post and Unit 121 in Waco, Texas.

SPC Villanueva is survived by his parents, Wilfredo Rivera and Christine Lebron; his wife, Felicia Villanueva; and his daughter, Taliyah Ann Villanueva.

SPC Villanueva proudly served America and gave his life so others could be free.

AUGUST "GUS" SCHUMACHER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2017

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a biography and list of accomplishments of August "Gus" Schumacher. Additionally, I include a copy of the Washington Post obituary article of Mr. Schumacher.

AUGUST "GUS" SCHUMACHER—BIOGRAPHY AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS: (DEC. 4, 1939–SEPT. 24, 2017)

BIOGRAPHICAL

August Schumacher Jr. was born in Lincoln, Mass., on Dec. 4, 1939.

—Fourth-generation farmer.

—His father was one of the largest parsnip growers in Massachusetts.

—Gus grew up on a farm in Lexington, Massachusetts.

—His grandfather and great-grandfather were farmers in New York City.

—They grew winter vegetables in glass-enclosed hothouses.

Schumacher graduated from Harvard University in 1961 and attended the London School of Economics.

ACCORDING TO JOEL BERG, CEO OF HUNGER FREE AMERICA

"I had the high honor of working with, and learning from, Gus at USDA during the Clinton Administration. He was a giant who always pushed the envelope to get better programs and more social justice, across America and the globe. He was a driving force in creating the first federal program to enable seniors to obtain extra produce at farmers' markets. He was also the spark for the Dole-McGovern program, through which the U.S. enabled developing countries to start school meals program. When the stakes were high for people in need, Gus didn't take 'no'—even repeatedly—for an answer. He kept pushing for new ways to get bureaucracies to aid people in need. Perhaps his most important legacy was pioneering ways to reduce hunger and aid community food systems and, at the same time, transcending the stale debate over whether we should focus on just one of those goals. After leaving government service, he could have taken a well-earned retirement. Instead he upped his work to make fresh, healthy food affordable and available for everyone. As a person, he will be deeply missed. But his legacy has improved the world forever."

WORLD BANK

Took a job in the mid-1960s as a food project manager and agriculture development officer for the World Bank.

He spent the next two decades concentrating on technical appraisals for agricultural-related loans in countries including China, Egypt, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Developed livestock operations in western Brazil, lent assistance to herders in Kenya and projects in the Kosovo Province of what was then Yugoslavia.

After more than five years as agriculture commissioner, he returned to the World Bank to help restructure the farm sector in Central Europe after the breakup of the Soviet Union.

COMMISSIONER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE FOR MASSACHUSETTS

Between 1984 and 1990 when Mr. Schumacher was agriculture chief for Massachusetts, he created market coupon programs for seniors and low-income families with children.

Also served as the Massachusetts commissioner of food and agriculture; he was ap-

pointed agriculture commissioner in Massachusetts by Governor Michael Dukakis.

In 1992, Sen. John Kerry and Rep. Chet Atkins, of Massachusetts, authorized the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program into the federal budget, and today it is a almost a \$6 billion program that allows every WIC mother and child to get vouchers for fresh produce at farmers markets and supermarkets.

Gus raised \$17,000 from the state and the Chiles Foundation to create a Massachusetts pilot program that gave \$10 worth of produce coupons to WIC recipients to use at area farmers markets.

USDA UNDERSECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

USDA undersecretary of agriculture for farm and foreign agricultural services from 1997 to 2001.

Gus found that the commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act of 1935's (CCC) stated purpose was the "promotion and marketing of American agricultural products," not just large commodity crops. Gus told the USDA lawyers that he wanted to create a market nutrition program for seniors using the authority of the CCC. "They looked at me like I just jumped off the fifth floor," he recalled. "They said, no, that's not normal. I said, guys, it doesn't say wheat, corn, and cotton. 'Just write me a memo so I don't get indicted'."

In 2000, the program began with \$10 million in funding, and is now funded at \$22 million annually.

In 1997 he became U.S. Undersecretary for Farm, Foreign, and Agricultural Services in the Clinton Administration, and he wanted to try to install a program for low-income seniors at the federal level like the WIC Market Nutrition Program.

On his watch the state Agriculture Department launched "The Fresh Connection," a newsletter and free service that listed the sources and seasonal availability of foods.

SENIOR ADVISOR—WORLD BANK

Schumacher directed World Bank teams involved in major agricultural and forest sector re-structuring of post-Communist Poland. Project funding of \$450 million was disbursed under Poland Agricultural Sector Adjustment Loan (\$300 million) and Forest Development Project (\$150 million). He also led teams that developed the first Global Environment Fund (GEF). Which also produced four other successful GEF biodiversity protection projects in Slovakia, Czech Republic, Belarus and Ukraine.

WHOLESOME WAVE (WW)

Since 2008 he had served as founding board chairman of Wholesome Wave in Bridgeport, Conn., which seeks to increase access to affordable, locally grown fruits and vegetables.

In 2012, Wholesome Wave funding jumped to \$2.38 million for 306 markets and 54 partners in 24 states and D.C.—money WW uses to match the SNAP benefits that farmers markets would receive were they able to register themselves for EBT card use. Unlike now-defunct paper vouchers, EBT cards cannot be used at many farmers markets; most lack the equipment to process EBT purchases. Due to this, by 2004, SNAP spending at farmers markets had plummeted to \$2 million annually, from \$82 million in 1990. In order to accept electronic benefits, a retailer—whether it was a grocery store or a farmers market—needed authorization from the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), which authorization is hard for small businesses like farmers markets to receive. However, this authorization is recognized for its success in preventing EBT voucher fraud. WW circumvents this bureaucracy by using the aforementioned funds to create a match program for farmers markets similar to that used by the government through the SNAP program.