

RECOGNIZING THE BAYTOWN SUN
ON ITS DESIGNATION AS A
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL
MARKER

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mr. BABBIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Baytown Sun for its designation as an official Texas State Historical Marker.

The Baytown Sun can trace its roots to the weekly newspaper The Goose Creek Gasser, established by Frank Boyer in 1919, two months before construction began on the Humble Oil & Refining Company's Baytown Refinery. The Gasser was created to serve the rapidly growing tri-cities of Goose Creek, Pelly, and Baytown, which evolved from oil boom towns to a permeant community. In 1924, new ownership the paper's name to the semi-weekly tribune, and again in 1929 to the daily tribune, when its circulation was around 4,500.

The financial strain of the great depression led the owners of Goose Creek's Tribune, The Pelly Telegram, and Baytown's Tri-Cities News-Herald to merge into a single paper, the Tri-Cities Sun, operating out of the Tribune's building. First published on July 19, 1931, it was renamed The Daily Sun two years later.

Goose Creek, Pelly and Baytown consolidated in 1948, and the paper, renamed The Baytown Sun, became the sole daily newspaper in the old tri-cities area. In 1949, the facility was greatly expanded, including a new press and, for the first time an air conditioned work space. That year, The Sun surpassed a circulation of 8,000 and employed forty individuals. In 1965 the sun moved to its current location. The first papers printed at the new location went out to more than 12,700 subscribers.

Longtime Publishers and editors of the Sun included William Pendergraft, Robert Matherne, Fred Hartman, and Preston Pendergrass. Janie Gray has served as Publisher since 2010.

Since 1919, The Baytown Sun and its predecessors have primarily focused on the area's local news and history, while providing readers with matters of state, national and international importance. Today, The Baytown Sun covers Southeast Harris County, Chambers County, and Southeast Liberty County.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize The Baytown Sun on its designation as a Texas State Historical Marker.

TRIBUTE TO COMMISSIONER
TIMOTHY (TIM) BRADFORD

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Tim Bradford graduated from Richard T. Crane High School on the Westside of Chicago where he was an outstanding athlete and well-liked student. He secured a job at

Western Electric before obtaining and rising to a senior level position at Quaker Oats where he worked for more than twenty-five years. He later became a successful entrepreneur and owned a dock fish feed franchise and had an interest in a St. Louis based Miller Beer distributorship. Tim was passionate about life, civic engagement and politics. He served as commissioner and President of the Olympia Fields Park District and Administrator of Rich Township. Tim's greatest legacy will be his service to the community and helping those in need is his passion, his mission. He was a well-respected pillar of the community who made sure that the south suburban community of Cook County was never overlooked.

To say that he was immersed in politics would be an understatement. Tim worked around the clock and became known as the Godfather of south suburban politics. He served as vice chair for Cook County Democrats, a Commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, Rich Township Committeeman, Rich Township Administrator, Matteson Rotary Club, Olympia Fields Police Board and countless other civic organizations, boards and commissions. Notwithstanding all of his external activities and affiliations, Tim was totally devoted to his wife of 51 years, Mary-Ann and all other members of the Bradford clan, his mother, his brothers, his children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other family members and friends. Timothy (Tim) Bradford was an extraordinary man filled with boundless energy, a great mind and a heart filled with love for his family and anyone that he might meet.

Love is patient, love is kind, love is generous, love is Commissioner Timothy (Tim) Bradford.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN
MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY
STAFF SERGEANT (SSG) ROBERT
LEE LOVE, JUNIOR

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Army Staff Sergeant (SSG) Robert Lee Love, Junior who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on December 1, 2006, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. SSG Love died from injuries he sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations in Ar Ramadi, Iraq. SSG Love was assigned to the 16th Engineer Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Glessen, Germany.

According to the Associated Press, SSG Love, a Livingston, Alabama native, graduated from Livingston High School in 1996. Mary Love, SSG Love's mother, said he enlisted in the Army following graduation and served in the military a total of eight years. Prior to deployment, SSG Love lived in Germany with his wife, Army Staff Sergeant (SSG) Brianna K. Love. The couple had a three-year-old daughter, Brianna. SSG Robert Love also had an 11-year-old daughter, Tanessa.

The Meridian Star newspaper interviewed members of SSG Love's family. Mary Love

said her son was liked by everyone. "He was a very sweet person who got along with everybody," Mary Love said. "Everybody loved him and he loved everybody." Robert Lee Love, Senior, SSG Love's father, said the loss of their son was difficult. "It has been hard, but we are holding up," Mr. Love said.

Graveside services for SSG Love were held on December 20, 2006 at the Pentecostal Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Russell, Mississippi. Elder Keith Tisdale and Bishop Marcell Evins officiated the funeral. SSG Love is survived by his wife, Brianna; his two daughters, Brianna, and Tanessa; his father, Robert L. Love, Senior; his mother, Mary Love; his two sisters, Rickitta Thomas and Evelyn Ford; and two brothers, Reginald Love and Jeremy Love.

SSG Love proudly served America and gave his life to protect the freedoms we all enjoy.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNNIE MYERS

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, In honor of Mrs. Johnnie Elizabeth Hammontree Myers, I would like to celebrate the amazing life she lived with my colleagues and others.

Johnnie was a long time close, personal friend to both me, and my father, Congressman John J. Duncan, Sr. There couldn't have been a stronger supporter of the Republican cause.

Born in 1919, in Greenback, Tennessee, Johnnie was brought up attending Pine Grove Presbyterian Church where she would become an elder, clerk, and life time member.

She volunteered her time in the community as well. She was a past chair of the Loudon County March of Dimes, president of the Loudon County Republican Women, and was the first female vice-chairman of the Loudon County Republican Party.

She was a staunch, dedicated Republican, but more importantly, she was a strong Christian and truly patriotic American.

When she wasn't serving her church, or our community, she was enjoying life to the fullest.

She cheered on the University of Tennessee men's basketball team as often as she could with the season tickets she held since 1962.

She also loved to embark on trips to new places including Hawaii, Alaska, Israel, and Europe.

Johnnie is an example to us all to live life each day with humility, compassion for others, and grateful hearts. She will be greatly missed by me, my family, and our community.

Mr. Speaker, this Nation is a better place today because of the life that Johnnie Myers led, and I hope that many people will read this tribute honoring one really outstanding woman.

HONORING THE CAREER OF DR.
DAVID ZOLDOSKE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. David Zoldoske on the occasion of his retirement after 35 years of dedicated service to the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology at California State University, Fresno (Fresno State). He has been a leader in the effort for sustainable irrigation techniques across California.

David earned his Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics from Fresno State. He worked as a student research assistant, specializing in irrigation, before being hired as a full-time research technician in 1983.

David has worked at Fresno State for over 30 years. He currently serves as Director for the Center for Irrigation and Technology, the California Water Institute, and was also named the Executive Director of Water Initiatives at Fresno State. Through this capacity, he guides the university's water technology, water resource management, and policy initiatives.

David has served in a number of leadership positions throughout his career. He served as the President of the Irrigation Association, and the American Society of Agronomy California Chapter. David was also the founding Executive Director for the Water Resources and Policy Initiative for the California State University System, Senior Fellow with the California Council on Science and Technology, as well as member of the "SMART" Water Application Executive Committee. David has also been named an Honorary Member of the American Society of Irrigation Consultants.

David has been a member of the California Department of Food and Agricultural Nitrogen Tracking and Reporting Task Force. He was Co-Chair of the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance Committee, Vice-Chair of the California Department of Water Resources Strategic Planning Caucus for New Water Technology, and served as a member of the A-2 Subcommittee to the SBx7-Agriculture Stakeholders Committee.

Over the years, David has received numerous awards from his colleagues and peers. This includes being named "Person of the Year" by both the Irrigation Association in 2013 and the California Irrigation Institute in 2015.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I applaud Dr. David Zoldoske for his many years of tireless work on behalf of the Central Valley. His dedication to education is extremely commendable. I have personally worked with David for years in my capacity as a Member of Congress and I can proudly call him my friend. I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the commitment, dedication and success of Dr. David Zoldoske, and wish him well as he embarks on new endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI U.S. AIR FORCE CAPTAIN (CAPT) KERMIT O. EVANS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of U.S. Air Force Captain (Capt) Kermit O. Evans who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on December 3, 2006, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Captain Evans died when the Marine Corps CH-46 helicopter he was riding in made an emergency water landing in western Anbar province. Captain Evans was assigned to the 27th Civil Engineer Squadron, Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico. He deployed with the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, Balad Air Base, Iraq. He was one of four service members who died in the accident.

According to the Associated Press, Captain Evans, a Hollandale, Mississippi native, was an avid sports fan and athlete who was pleasant and giving. Margaret Evans, Captain Evans' mother, said her son liked taking things apart and putting them back together. "He also had an inquisitive personality that probably landed him in his military career as an explosives ordnance disposal technician," Mrs. Evans said. "He liked to see how things work."

Captain Evans graduated from Mississippi State University where he earned a degree in chemical engineering. Captain Evans enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in August 2001. Following graduation, Captain Evans entered officer training school at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama and received his commission as a second lieutenant in November 2001. He was promoted to captain in November 2005. In the second phase of his Air Force career, Captain Evans entered Explosive Ordnance Disposal School at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. Following graduation, he was stationed at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico. While he was serving at Cannon Air Force Base, his unit earned the Sergeant Stryzak Award as the best EOD flight in Air Combat Command. Captain Evans was the head of the bomb squad at the 27th Civil Engineer Squadron, Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico. In 2011, Cannon AFB officials honored their fallen comrade. They renamed the street in front of the 27th CE Squadron building as Kermit Evans Avenue.

Lieutenant Colonel (Lt Col) Stephen Wood, 27th Civil Engineer Squadron Commander, said Captain Evans considered the Air Force as a career at a young age. He said Captain Evans had a solid Air Force career as a civil engineer, but wanted to do more, and began exploring bomb disposal. "That top level stratification was repeated throughout his career," Lt Col Wood said.

A funeral service was held for Captain Evans at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nevada. A memorial service was held at the Simmons High School Gymnasium in Hollandale, Mississippi. Captain Evans was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia on December 12, 2006.

Captain Evans is survived by his parents, Charles and Margaret Evans; his wife, Perneatha; his son, Kermit Evans, Jr.; and his brother, Kervin Evans.

Captain Evans proudly served our nation. He entered into the military ready to fight for the freedoms we all enjoy. His sacrifice will not be forgotten.

HARK

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a poem, on behalf of Albert Carey Caswell, to honor the men and women of The Armed Forces and the families of the Fallen this Christmas.

HARK

(By: Albert Caswell)

Hark the herald Angels sing
Glory to the new born king
As our Lord up to heaven a new one brings,
Peace on earth and mercy mild
Across this Nation a mother just lost her
child,
Who on battlefields of honor stood tall the
while
God and sinners reconciled
As our Father looks upon his new Angel and
smiles,
Joyful all ye nations rise
For our freedom this day a hero died,
Join the triumph of the skies
A new Angel is on the rise.
Hark the herald Angels sing
Glory to the new born king
As a mother this Christmas stands with tear
in her eyes,
For us all her baby died.
Hail the everlasting Lord
Heroes like this heaven was made for,
Light and life to all he brings
As up in heaven his new Angel sings,
Here with healing in his wings
As down below in their sleep,
To his loved ones in his tears in comfort he
whispers again we'll meet,
Mild he lay his glory by born that no man
may die
As now in men and women of honor we un
derstand why
Bringing hope to all the land
As did this magnificent hero in his short life
span.

Peace to every child and man
As too was his plan.
Hark the herald Angels sing
Glory to the new born king
Come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant
As do those who stand guard so abundant,
Come ye oh come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold him,
Come and behold them,
Born the King of Angels,
Come let us adore him
Come let us adore him
Oh come let us adore him
Oh come let us adore them,
The Fallen.

Sing choir of Angels, sing in exultation
For those who did not waver, who on this
day have met our savior.
Sing all our citizens of heaven above
To all our heroes who gave the greatest love,
Glory to God, glory in the highest
Oh come let us adore him
Oh come let us adore him
Oh come let us adore him
Oh come let us adore them,
All the men and women who have died in war
then,
And the families who live in pain the more
then.
Christ the Lord