

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOE  
WILLIAMS**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2017*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Joe Williams, who passed away on February 8, 2017 at the age of 79. Joe was a loving husband, father and grandfather, who dedicated much of his life to public service. He was a leader in the community, eventually becoming the first African-American elected to the Fresno City Council in 1977. Joe was a friend to many, a mentor, and trailblazer. His presence in the community will truly be missed.

Joe Williams was born on May 8, 1937 in Biloxi, Mississippi to Brooke Lee Starks and Charlie Williams. At the age of nine, his parents, along with Joe, his brother, George, and his sister, Audrey, moved to Fresno, California. He attended Edison High School and enlisted in the United States Army upon graduation in 1956. After his service, Joe enrolled in Fresno City College. He would go on to earn a scholarship to play football at Fresno State, where he graduated with his Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Welfare.

After graduating, Joe began his career with the Fresno County Welfare Department. In 1968, he went to work for the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC), as the Director of the Fresno County Head Start Commission, where he would go on to work for 26 years. After two years, Joe was named Executive Director of Fresno EOC. He was the longest tenured Executive Director, serving in that role from 1970 to 1993. During his tenure, Fresno EOC expanded its budget from \$1.8 million to \$37 million, with 35 programs to provide services to 130,00 low income families annually. With the help of over 670 staff members, Fresno EOC was able to implement many programs including Palm Village family homeless shelter, open the first rural health clinic in Fresno County, and start a Meals on Wheels program for seniors. A sanctuary program for homeless youth was also established and named in his honor upon Joe's retirement. Under his leadership, Fresno EOC became a model for similar programs across the nation.

In 1977, Joe was elected to the Fresno City Council, making him the first African American elected to the council. He served two terms between 1977 and 1985. Joe was voted as Mayor Pro-Tem from 1984–1985.

In 1994, Joe joined Richard Heath and Associates, a privately owned company that aims to provide energy efficiency programs for underserved communities, serving as the CEO until 2005 and serving as board president through 2016. Along with his lifelong friends James Hendricks and Dr. James Aldredge, Joe formed HAW-Fifty Six, which provides services and housing in West Fresno. HAW-Fifty Six developed the Edison HAW Plaza and the first phase of a multi-family apartment complex in West Fresno, in collaboration with the Fresno Housing Authority. Joe volunteered his time, serving on numerous boards, including Community Medical Center Board of Trustees, California State University, Fresno Foundation Board and the Fresno Chamber of Commerce.

Joe is survived by his wife of 40 years Laura, their children Michael and his wife

Sonya, Winston, and Terri, his brother George, his grandchildren, great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life and service of Joe Williams. He will be remembered for the selfless way in which he lived his life, always looking to help those in the community who were in need. I join his family in honoring his life, love for his community, and service to his country. He will be greatly missed.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EQUALITY  
FOR ALL RESOLUTION**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2017*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, as Americans, we pride ourselves on being the most free and open society the world has ever known. Yet, for far too long, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Americans have been forced to live in the shadows because of who they are. Year after year, we see attacks on the LGBT community as governments at all levels look to institutionalize discrimination in the name of religious freedom. In 2015, we witnessed my home state of Indiana enact the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, giving businesses the right to refuse service based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

It is clear that the vast majority of Americans oppose this type of discrimination. After Indiana's law passed, the public and the business community came together to express outrage and successfully overturned Indiana's discriminatory law. However, we are still in need of a federal law to affirm the rights of all individuals to be protected from discrimination. That is why I am introducing the Equality for All Resolution to encourage Congress to take actions that ensure all Americans, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, know they are valued members of our society. From housing to employment to education, they deserve to live their lives like any other American, free from intolerance because of who they are.

A TRIBUTE TO AZURE  
CHRISTENSEN**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Azure Christensen for being named a 2017 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field.

The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

Azure is the Foundation Executive Director for HCI Care Services and Visiting Nurse Services of Iowa. In her 15-year career in non-profit development, she has helped raise over \$50 million for organizations in Central Iowa. The many causes she has worked hard to benefit include: creating opportunities for young children with cancer so that they can lead normal lives during difficult treatments, ensuring women have access to affordable healthcare, and providing easy access to quality higher education. Azure lives in Johnston with her husband, Zach, and her two young boys, Maddox and Grady.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Azure in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Azure on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

RECOGNIZING MS. ANDREA BROWN  
AS THE 2016–2017 OKALOOSA  
COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**HON. MATT GAETZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2017*

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Andrea Brown as the 2016–2017 Okaloosa County Teacher of the Year. For 18 years, Ms. Brown has served the Okaloosa County School District with exceptional passion and an unwavering commitment to serving others.

In Northwest Florida, we are fortunate to have some of the best teachers in the Nation. It is recognized that the teaching profession is one of the most difficult yet rewarding professions in existence. Ms. Brown has exceptionally performed her teaching duties, while also striving to be an active and supportive member of her team at Baker School.

Most recently, Ms. Brown has served as a Title One Remediation Teacher for both math and reading. Through her work, she has helped countless students improve their reading and writing skills. The effects of her guidance and instruction will continue to have a profoundly positive impact on her students for many years.

Her support and outreach extends beyond the classroom as well, through her service on the Homecoming Committee, involvement with the Aspire after school program, and with Okaloosa Online. Ms. Brown has displayed remarkable compassion and devotion by spending time outside the classroom helping others. I commend her for her steadfast willingness to serve those that matter most, the students and youth of our Nation.

For all of her admirable contributions, I am truly proud to have Ms. Brown as a constituent in Florida's First Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Ms.

Andrea Brown for her accomplishments and her commitment to excellence in the Okaloosa County School District. I thank her for her service and wish her all the best for continued success.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES "DEEDLE"  
WALKER

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2017*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Charles "Deedle" Walker who will be turning 90 years old on March 4, 2017. Deedle Walker was born in East Tennessee in 1927.

He helped operate his older brother's gas station when the United States was at war during WWII.

He once entered a free throw contest shooting under-handed and managed to finish second after sinking 24 out of 25 free throws.

After graduating from Carter High School, he was offered a basketball/football scholarship at the University of Alabama. Unfortunately, he became ill from spinal meningitis and did not go there. However, he was lucky to later attend Carson-Newman College.

He hitchhiked to college daily to attend class and starred in basketball and baseball under the tutelage of legendary Coach Frosty Holt. He also signed a minor league contract with the Pittsburgh Pirates.

More importantly he met his future wife, Martha Dale Kitts, of Knoxville, Tennessee while at Carson-Newman.

While attending a friend's wedding, in which Martha was a bridesmaid, in Washington, D.C., Martha and Deedle became engaged. They were married later that day at the Capitol Hill Baptist Church on August 5, 1950.

Martha Walker later taught English and was the librarian at Carter High School where Deedle attended. Deedle enjoyed a 40-year career with the telephone company Southern Bell and its successors, and he was also a longtime basketball referee in the Knoxville area.

Deedle is an early riser and a hard-working man. In fact, he still greets anyone who sleeps past 8 a.m. on a Saturday morning with "Good afternoon."

Martha and Deedle had five children: Mark, Laura, Christopher (died in infancy), Joel and Don. They now have eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, with another one on the way.

I hope everyone will join me on March 4th in wishing Deedle Walker a Happy 90th Birthday.

CELEBRATING THE MILITARY  
SERVICE OF RAYMOND HOLUB

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2017*

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank a great man for his military service, Mr. Raymond Holub. Mr. Holub is a 92 year old veteran of both World War II and the Korean

War. Born in Pleak, Texas, Mr. Holub spent his teenage years working with the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Mr. Holub bravely volunteered to become a Paratrooper and served in the 17th and 82nd Airborne Divisions during World War II from 1943 to 1946. His ship was involved in an accident at sea and hundreds of lives were lost. After overcoming the dangers of the Atlantic, he and his fellow soldiers reached Germany. Upon reaching Essen and Berlin, Holub was reassigned to General Dwight D. Eisenhower's Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force, as an Honor Guard. Mr. Holub left the Army in 1946, only to reenlist and serve his country a second time, in the Korean War from 1950 to 1951. He received the Bronze Star for his military service.

He has been a resident of Liberty, Texas for 56 years. Mr. Holub remains an active member of the American Legion Post 658 in Crosby, Texas and VFW Post 912 in Baytown, Texas.

It is a tremendous honor to represent Mr. Holub in the U.S. Congress and I thank him for his selfless military service to this great nation.

A TRIBUTE TO TRINA FLACK

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Trina Flack for being named a 2017 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

Trina is a National Sales Manager at the Greater Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau, where she is responsible for attracting meetings and events to the Des Moines area. She finds herself busy outside of work with her involvement in many city, planning, cultural and leadership organizations. An Iowa State alumna and avid Cyclone football and basketball fan, Trina lives in Ankeny with her husband Adam, and their three children, Natalie, Tyler, and Emma.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Trina in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Trina on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2017*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, due to traffic delay surrounding a Vice President Motorcade, I missed two votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 95 and Yea on Roll Call No. 96.

IN HONOR OF LIEUTENANT  
GENERAL HAL MOORE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2017*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most courageous and distinctive military leaders of our time, Lieutenant General Harold "Hal" G. Moore, the commander at the Battle of Ia Drang in the Vietnam War in 1965. Sadly, LTG Moore passed away on Friday, February 10, 2017. A funeral mass will be held on Friday, February 17, 2017 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Auburn, Alabama, followed by a memorial service and internment at Fort Benning in Georgia.

Hal Moore was born in Bardstown, Kentucky on February 13, 1922. He began his military career in 1945 upon graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the infantry. His first tactical assignment was with the 187th Glider Infantry Regiment in Sapporo, Japan. After being reassigned, he made more than 130 test jumps with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he also jump-tested experimental parachutes. LTG Moore went on to serve in the Korean War as a regimental operations officer. In 1964, he was stationed at Fort Benning and commanded the newly formed air mobile 11th Air Assault Division.

As a lieutenant colonel during the Vietnam War, Moore was commander of the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment during the first major battle between the United States and the North Vietnamese forces in November 1965, the Battle of Ia Drang. Arriving with about 450 soldiers at Landing Zone X-Ray, a field near the Drang River in South Vietnam situated six miles from the Cambodian border, LTG Moore quickly realized he and his men were vastly outnumbered. Nevertheless, he vowed: "I'll always be the first person on the battlefield, my boots will be the first boots on it, and I'll be the last person off. I'll never leave a body." During the battle, American forces were able to gain the upper hand and lead the U.S. to a triumphant victory.

Alongside award-winning journalist Joe Galloway, who was in Ia Drang as a war correspondent, LTG Moore documented his experiences during the battle in the highly acclaimed 1992 book, *We Were Soldiers Once . . . and Young*. The book received such recognition that it was made into the film, *We Were Soldiers*. The proceeds from the book helped establish the Ia Drang Scholarship Fund, which aimed to help the children and