

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 interment 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 Gallopay, 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

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 "DEEDELE" 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 greatgrandchildren, 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.

grandchildren of veterans of the Ia Drang battle.

LTG Moore has certainly accomplished many things in his life but none would have been possible without the love and support of his late wife, Julia; his children, Harold Gregory Moore III, retired Lt. Col. Stephen Moore, Julie Moore Orlowski, Cecile Moore Rainey, and retired Col. David Moore; his eleven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, the nearly 730,000 people in Georgia's 2nd Congressional District, and all Americans, in extending our sincerest appreciation to Lieutenant General Hal Moore, an outstanding leader who, in addition to his selfless service and instrumental role in the Korean and Vietnam Wars, has the respect, admiration, and affection of his brothers-in-arms. Indeed, LTG Moore leaves behind a distinguished legacy of service and leadership in the United States Army.

RECOGNIZING BALDWIN COUNTY FAMILY CONNECTION

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Baldwin County Family Connection, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children across the great State of Georgia. This organization has done outstanding work to revitalize a county hit hard by the Great Recession.

In 2011, Baldwin County faced an unemployment rate of 16.5 percent and Harrisburg, one of its communities, suffered an unemployment rate of 25 percent. However, through a community of partners who were willing to work together and share their resources, the Baldwin County Family Connection was able to secure funding for a community garden, a walking trail, and a pavilion, providing places for families to gather and thrive.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to have an outstanding organization that restores health and vibrancy to the local community in my home district. It is my honor to congratulate and applaud the Baldwin County Family Connection for its commitment to serving children and families in the Tenth District of Georgia.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL KRANTZ

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 Michael Krantz 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.

Michael is the CEO of Adventureland Resort in Altoona, Iowa. He has played a key role in constructing the new Monster roller coaster and bringing the popular Jolly Holiday Lights event to Adventureland, where it has received record attendance. Michael also helped to develop and launch Spectator's Sports Bar and Grill in Altoona, and has been given the Tidrick Honors Award for his contributions to the Mentor Iowa program in 2016. Michael and his wife, Kim, have two children, Jack and Emery.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Michael in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Michael 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.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. LARRY PISTORESI, JR.

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 and career of Mr. Larry Pistoresi, Jr., one of Chowchilla's finest residents and public servants, and an exceptional leader of his community. Throughout his life, Mr. Pistoresi, Jr. strived to support and enrich the people of Chowchilla. His selflessness and devotion to family, church, and community have undoubtedly left the world a better place.

Larry Pistoresi, Jr. was born and raised as a 4th generation native of Chowchilla, in Madera County. In his youth, Mr. Pistoresi was an active and accomplished athlete, having played on both the football and golf teams at Chowchilla Union High School until his graduation in 1959. Mr. Pistoresi attended college at Santa Clara University and The University of Washington and later served in the United States Army after dedicating himself to his college ROTC program. Mr. Pistoresi was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in 1967, where he was awarded the Good Conduct Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

Mr. Pistoresi returned to Chowchilla after his discharge and worked at Pistoresi Chevrolet Oldsmobile with his father, Larry Pistoresi, Sr., grandfather, Pete, and uncle, Monte, as a car salesman. Something of a sales maverick, he consistently proved that nothing was too big or small to make a favorable deal for his clients. Mr. Pistoresi then set his sights on real estate development, and proceeded to undertake a transformative plan for the Chowchilla area by devoting more than ten years of his life to plan the construction of the Greenhills Estates neighborhood, which nearly doubled the Chowchilla city limit. He also led the effort to establish the Pheasant Run Golf Course,

which provides an excellent communal space for the many people seeking new recreational outlets.

Beyond his professional commitments, Mr. Pistoresi was involved in a host of public service engagements, including sitting on the Chowchilla Elementary School Board, serving multiple terms as a Chowchilla City Councilman, and served as Mayor of Chowchilla from 1975 through 76.

Larry Pistoresi, Jr. joins his father, Larry Pistoresi, Sr., and his mother, Bettie Pistoresi, and is survived by his stepmother Velma Pistoresi, stepbrothers Jerry and Kent Danieli, his wife of 47 years Linda Pistoresi, his daughter Laura Pistoresi, his son Daniel Pistoresi and wife Frances and son Bradley Pistoresi. He also leaves behind his loving grandchildren Samuel, Jackson, Noah, Stella and Micah, and countless friends and colleagues. His patriotism, altruism, and infectious personality will be deeply missed.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of Mr. Larry Pistoresi, Jr., illustrious and decorated role model for the people of Chowchilla, and an exemplary family man and friend. His life personifies the anecdote that sometimes a small pond needs a big fish to grow wider.

HONORING VELMA JEAN TIDWELL CONDIT

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the passing of Velma Jean Tidwell Condit. A beloved community member, Mrs. Condit dedicated her life to serving others.

After moving to Ceres from Oklahoma with her husband in 1967, she served the ministry with love and devotion. She spent her Sunday mornings teaching Sunday school, was a loyal member of the Women's Fellowship, and throughout her life supported her husband, Pastor Adrian Condit, as they served the Village Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

With a medical career spanning more than three decades, Mrs. Condit provided patients with compassion and care as a nurse at the Ceres Memorial Hospital and Scenic General in Modesto. She was equally as devoted to her work as she was to her community.

Although she is widely known for her service, she is also beloved by her family for her fried chicken and birthday pies. Mrs. Condit's greatest joy was cooking for and spending time with her family. Even after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2014, and soon after developing dementia, she continued to be a loving wife and mother and will be deeply missed. I offer my sincerest condolences to Pastor Adrian Condit, their children, and family.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Velma Jean Condit as we recognize her tremendous contributions and honor her incredible life.