

gentleman who respected the views of his colleagues, as we all respected his.

It was during that time that Eni and I had the opportunity to travel together to the Republic of Korea, Japan and Taiwan to meet with the leaders of those nations and discuss the economic, political and security issues in the region. In those many meetings, Eni was an engaged participant who clearly had earned the respect of our allies. There were two of us—one Democrat, one Republican. But there was no partisanship on that trip. Eni came not as a Democrat but as a thoughtful Member of Congress who understood the realities of the modern day Asia-Pacific region.

I think you can tell a lot about an individual Member of Congress by what his colleagues and staff think of him. In all the years I had the privilege of knowing Eni, I never heard a negative word from anybody about him. His colleagues respected him—appreciating his hard work, his dedication to this institution, his service during the Vietnam War, and his love for American Samoa. And his staff thought the world of him—as did mine.

Mr. Speaker, to his wife, Hina, and his children, grandchildren, former staff and extended family—my sincere condolences. Eni was an outstanding public servant, a proud Samoan, and a great American. He will be missed. Rest in peace, Eni.

CONGRESSMAN ENI
FALEOMAVAEGA

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize the long career and dedication to public service of Congressman Eni Faleomavaega. Congressman Faleomavaega passed away on February 22, 2017. He served the people of American Samoa for over thirty years, first as Lieutenant Governor and later on as their Representative.

A true patriot, Congressman Faleomavaega served his country in the Army and eventually became an officer in the United States Army Reserve, having served during the Vietnam War as a captain. As a legislator, his achievements for the people of our nation and American Samoa came through his important work with the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Committee on Natural Resources. He fought tirelessly for the prosperity and wellbeing of his people. I am proud to be able to say that I was able to serve alongside Congressman Faleomavaega in the House of Representatives from 2009–2015.

It is my honor to commemorate Eni Faleomavaega today, and I take pride in recognizing a great American and public servant. Today, his commitment to public service lives on through his great nephew, Andrew Tuitele, who is currently an intern in my district office in Aurora, Colorado.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSMAN ENI FALEOMAVAEGA

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, today let's honor the life and service of our dear colleague, my friend, the late Congressman Eni Fa'au'a Hunkin Faleomavaega, Jr.

My memories with Congressman Faleomavaega extend back to small-kid time, in Hawaii—he was elected to Congress as American Samoa's delegate when I was just 8 years old. On his way to and from American Samoa, he would often stop in Hawaii, pay visits to his alma mater Kahuku High School, watch a Red Raider game or two, and visit with friends and family in Hawaii's vibrant Samoan and Polynesian community. I grew up understanding and appreciating Fa'a Samoa—The Samoan Way—which like the aloha spirit, refers to how we should respect and honor one another, no matter where you're from or your stature in life. He shared this Fa'a Samoa every day with his colleagues and others in Washington, seven thousand miles from his homeland. It was a very special thing to serve alongside him as a Member of Congress when I was elected in 2012. We served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and he often pulled me aside to talk story about his experiences on this committee, the places he'd been, and the people he'd met.

Eni was a warrior, a public servant, a devoted Christian, and a family man. He was born in Vailoatai Village in American Samoa. It's a beautiful and culturally rich island with that small-town feel where everybody knows everybody. Eni's father served in the military, so growing up, he moved around a bit. He lived in Guam and later moved to Hawaii and attended Kahuku High School and Brigham Young University on Oahu's northeast shore, eventually graduating from the main BYU campus in Utah. Eni was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints alongside his wife Hinanui and their family.

Eni was a soldier in the United States Army. He served honorably in Vietnam, earned the rank of Captain, joined the Reserves decades later, and unfortunately suffered from complications associated with his exposure to Agent Orange. Throughout his four decades of service in Congress (1989–2015), he worked hard for the people of American Samoa and for our veterans, caring for them deeply and fighting for them relentlessly. As a delegate, Congressman Faleomavaega was passionate about representing his people and ensuring the communities at home had the resources they needed, especially health care and other essential services. He stanchly opposed free trade deals so that the few but impactful industries of American Samoa would not be devastated. He always put the people first, and he served with all of his heart.

So as we honor the life and service of this great man, Eni Fa'au'a Hunkin Faleomavaega, Jr., we send our deepest gratitude to his 'aiga (family) for their support and sacrifice over the years.

Traditionally, at a Samoan memorial service, guests give the grieving family hand-woven mats in a ceremonial exchange of gifts called fa'alavelave. We don't have one here today, but offer these words in their absence: Fa'afetai Tele Lava (thank you), Fa'amaua le Atua (God bless), and Fa Soifua.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, on March 17, 2017, I was unable to be present for the recorded votes on roll call no. 170, 171, and 172. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: AYE on Hanabusa Amendment No. 11, YEA on the final passage of H.R. 1367, and AYE on the journal vote.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM F. ADOLPH, JR. OF SPRINGFIELD, PA

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Honorable William F. Adolph, Jr. of Springfield, PA on his retirement and thank him for his decades of service to Delaware County families. Bill is retiring as Representative from the 165th Legislative District in the Pennsylvania General Assembly, where he served as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. After more than thirty years of public service, Bill has earned a record as a champion for the middle class, small and growing businesses and fiscal responsibility in Harrisburg.

Throughout his career in public service, first as a township commissioner in Springfield, as a lawmaker in Harrisburg and ultimately as the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Bill has always fought to ensure the taxpayer got the most out of every dollar government spends. He's fought to lessen the tax burden on job creators and spur economic growth. He's fought to ensure Pennsylvania's most vulnerable have access to the services they need. And he's fought to hold government accountable to the people it serves.

As important as his legislative achievements have been to Pennsylvania, perhaps his greatest legacy is the role model he's been to countless young people as a coach and through his decades-long involvement with the Springfield Youth Club. He's taught generations of Springfield's young people how to conduct themselves with integrity and responsibility—both on and off the field.

I thank Bill for all he's done for our state and our community, and I wish him the best in his retirement.

NATIONAL ROSIE THE RIVETER DAY: A TRIBUTE TO THE LONG BEACH ROSIE THE RIVETER PARK

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I am a proud co-sponsor of House Resolution 162, which will designate March 21, 2017, as National Rosie the Riveter Day. This honor has special significance for the City of Long Beach, California which I represent.

Long Beach is one of two locations in the nation that has a park dedicated to recognizing and preserving the history and legacy of the working women, including volunteer women, of World War II.

The Long Beach Rosie the Riveter Park was dedicated in March 2006. It is a 3.2 acre park that is just steps away from where tens of thousands of women worked at Douglas Aircraft Company during WWII, assembling the planes and bombers that helped our brave service members win the war. It is also located near what was the Long Beach Airfield (now the Long Beach Municipal Airport), where during WWII Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs), commanded by 24-year-old Barbara Erickson, flew the finished warplanes to military bases around the world.

The Long Beach Rosie the Riveter Park was inspired by former Long Beach City Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske, author of the book “Rosie the Riveter in Long Beach,” and designed by public artist, Terry Braunstein. It features a rose colored walk-way that winds through the park so that visitors can see photographs depicting the work and efforts of these women. Visitors can access a narrated tour via cell phone and hear the song by the Four Vagabonds—“Rosie the Riveter” that gave these women their collective and affectionate name.

At both ends of the park are a “compass rose” that have been etched and painted into concrete, marking the location of the park.

At the north end of the park are both a military memorial and wall with plaques commemorating the lives of those who have served our country in so many ways and outlined with a rose garden in the shape of a “V” for victory. The Long Beach Rosie the Riveter Park displays one of only two bas reliefs sculpted by Raymond Kaskey, who designed the same for the National World War II monument, here in Washington, D.C.

Last year, C-SPAN, in its “Cities Tour,” featured the Long Beach Rosie the Riveter Park because of its role in honoring the women who contributed on the home front during WWII.

As we celebrate “National Rosie the Riveter Day,” let us continue our efforts to recognize and preserve the history and legacy of working women, including volunteer women during World War II, as a way of promoting cooperation and fellowship among all American women and their descendants.

IN HONOR OF ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY'S WAR GARDENS

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Alabama State University upon its 100 year anniversary of planting war gardens to aid the United States efforts in World War I.

One hundred years ago, students, staff, and faculty of the then State Normal School at Montgomery, subsequently Alabama State University, assisted and advised residents near campus and in the City of Montgomery, Alabama on how to plant war gardens. Thanks to these efforts, it was reported that in March 1918 over 1,400 black homes in Montgomery had war gardens.

These gardens were important acts of sacrifice and rationing as commercially grown produce was shipped overseas to feed our troops and food-insecure Allies during The Great War or World War I.

Next month, the ASU Department of History and Political Science and university community will plant a Memorial WWI War Garden in commemoration and in honor of what was done on our campus a century ago.

The garden will represent the pride and commitment of ASU's campus to community and to country.

It was originally on March 21, 1918 that Alabama Governor Charles Anderson declared “Garden Days” urging Alabamians to grow war gardens, and this day on March 21, 2017 I declare “Garden Days” in tribute to what was done in the Montgomery community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor Alabama State University for its legacy of civil duty and service to both community and country.

IN RECOGNITION OF KITTY JURCIUKONIS

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kitty Jurciukonis for her achievements as a volunteer, professional, and elected official in southeastern Pennsylvania. In recognition of these accomplishments, Mrs. Jurciukonis was posthumously awarded the Women of Achievement Award from the Delaware County Women's Commission.

Kitty worked as a tireless advocate for her community, serving as member of the Springfield Township Board of Commissioners for nineteen years, two of which were spent as President. She was also a leader in the Suburban West Realtors Association, the Springfield School District Home and School Association, and Community Education Council. She even volunteered her time and talents to help open the Springfield School District's Parent Resource Center.

The current Springfield Township Commissioner says of Kitty: “I was humbled and honored to follow in her footsteps. . . She worked tirelessly with integrity and enthusiasm for the Township and the people she served.”

I honor all of the work Kitty accomplished in our community and the trail she blazed for the women inspired by her achievements.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for roll call votes 173, 174, 175 on Monday, March 20, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted “Yea” on roll call votes 173, 174, and 175.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF JUDGE BENTLEY KASSAL'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I hereby congratulate Judge Bentley Kassal on the occasion of his 100th birthday. Judge Kassal has dedicated his life to public service, and we are grateful for his contributions to the people of New York. As a member of the New York State Assembly from 1957 through 1962, Judge Kassal represented a significant portion of Manhattan's Upper West Side in the very same Assembly district that I would later serve. During his time in Albany, Judge Kassal, among other accomplishments, authored a bill establishing the New York State Council on the Arts—the very first arts council to operate in the United States.

Mr. Kassal was later elected to the New York City Civil Court in 1969 and then the New York Supreme Court in 1975. In 1982, Governor Hugh Carey appointed Judge Kassal to the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court. He continued in that capacity until 1993. Following his retirement from the bench, Judge Kassal has served as counsel at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher, and Flom, where he continues to provide assistance with litigation matters.

Judge Kassal is also a decorated war veteran, and was stationed abroad as an air combat intelligence officer for four years during World War II. In recognition of his distinguished military service, Judge Kassal has received the Bronze Star medal and the French Legion of Honor medal.

I am incredibly proud to count Judge Kassal as one of my constituents. The people of New York have been the fortunate beneficiaries of Judge Kassal's years of service. I wish him a warm congratulations on this special occasion, and thank him for his contributions to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote