

## EULOGY FOR MARY ELLEN SHEA

## HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 19, 2018*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege and honor of working with Mary Ellen Shea over the years. She was an extraordinary woman, loved by all at the Connecticut State Capitol. I include in the RECORD this obituary, written by her daughter, Mary Frances Shea.

My mom loved my dad. And he loved her. But before that she was born in 1932 in Hartford, to a single young mother. It was a bit unconventional for the times . . . but with the help of her grandfather she found, in her school and friends, something she was good at. She used her ample personality, unique style and insightful vision to draw people to her and with these gifts and she gave her life some structure.

She loved the friends she would gather throughout her high school and college years. She was drawn to people with fun, outgoing and stable lives.

She was nothing if not practical, easy to entertain and driven to make something happen. It was in this atmosphere that she met my dad, Bob. She was even-handed and spirited. He was a planner and a "don't sweat the small stuff" guy. He really made her laugh . . . always. Even this week in the hospital. He was always going for the laugh with her and he got it . . . often. Her laugh and "Oh Bob" was a constant in their home and our lives.

First they were a good team.

And then team leaders.

There are 5 of us. The starting 5.

Tom is smart like her. She was captured by Tommy. As a little boy he charmed her, he made her think. She was always listening for that thing he was going to say that was smarter and funnier and really sly. He is clever enough to savagely mimic her and get away with it while she laughed and laughed. She lit up when Tommy came into the room. None of the rest of us had that. He was the first and that was something.

When I was 6 she took me out to the back yard where we had a huge lilac bush. She cut a big bunch of them and I can smell the sumptuous smell right now. You can too. She wrapped them in wet paper towels and put a string around them. She gave them to me to bring to my teacher for the last day. Many of you know my mom spent years as a teacher.

She told me to say "thank you for teaching me".

I love that memory because it comes with an aroma. It is the aroma of love and gratitude. What a lesson.

Tim is her middle child. He is so much like her in that he takes care to make sure that everything is running smoothly, that everyone is okay, that the trains are running on time. He is a planner and, he, too is practical. He is the perfect combination of my dad and my mom. The middle. She counted on him. She felt great pride in his success as a family man. She loved his wife, Laura. She was awestruck and amazed by his charity and his kindness. She told me that, so I am telling all of you.

My sister was the great joy in my mom's life. She had the home team family. As we all struggled with the distance, Mary Liz shared her kids and family life joyously. They spent time in each other's lives, holidays and average days. My sis and my mother had a short hand, like there was always an inside joke. They were close in a way that

supersedes deep conversation, it was more about silliness, respect and ever a sense of fun that would find them at the garage sale or the UConn Women's game or just sitting down at dinner. My mom sincerely loves all of her children and grandchildren but it is unmistakable that Liz, David and their kids had more of my mom's fingerprint on them. It's true.

My mother had 5 and her last is John. John got away with everything and never had to do anything but look at her, to make her smile. She gave John a pass, loved absolutely everything he did and said, especially when he married Lisa. The rest of us would make note of the fact that John had different parents. He got the mom who was relaxed and chill, the one who let things slide just a little more. And John knew how to capitalize on his good fortune. The rest of us had parents, he had bud's. She loved her baby. Yes I said it. That's what he was to her.

If we all did anything perfectly, in my mom's eyes, it was to bring our children to Black Point Beach for the summer. It was there that their 8 grandchildren were drawn, like magnets to 31 Seabreeze where they would eat horribly sweet cereal—and watch Bananas in Pajamas videos—and be read to by Grandma. If you ask them, this was a unique and special bliss that they will forever share with only each other. That's how you make memories and families. She knew the special recipe. She has 8 grandchildren, all here, together with her new great granddaughter who is currently stealing the show. She loved her grandkids . . . each one uniquely and now from afar.

A few other things to note about my mom

As I mentioned, my mom was a teacher but in the mid-70's she got an opportunity to take a small job at the State Capital in the House Clerk's Office with a couple of her high school chums. She loved the characters and the drama of the daily policy making. She was good at it. She eventually worked for the then, Speaker of the House. He's here today Tom Ritter. She loved you, Tom. And she loved Shelley, too! If you knew her then, you knew how much she loved it there. Those Capital days . . . they were a very, very special time in her life.

In her 50's she found out about her birth father, discovered he had had 6 kids, who when she met, embraced her. That was fun for her.

My mom chose her friends carefully. As you all know, you who are lucky enough to have known her as a best friend (Ann, Sally, Maureen and MaryBeth) and others out there,

She was a great listener and in that way, she gave good, practical advice. Here's the formula. Listen, for a very long time. Consider carefully, and then, quietly, say something practical. There it is.

I can almost do it all myself, now. Try it for yourself.

If you were her friend, or her acquaintance her neighbor, congratulations. She was so lovely. You won.

My mom had a fulfilling and wonderful life.

Such a long and winding road of a life.

It's best to share twists and turns with somebody . . . and share she did. She often said that she was so lucky to have found and married my dad. She always said it. Remember how much I stressed fun and stability? Well, that is Bob Shea. I can attest that this is a great combination of strengths when conjuring a father, but as a husband it was the winning formula, for sure.

I'm going to sum up their marriage and it's going to sound simple but it is not, at all. Bob and Mary Ellen were nice to each other. They talked about everything. They were, without reservation, about family . . . and friends . . .

My mom loved my dad and he loved her.

# COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SANGAMON COUNTY FARM BUREAU

## HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 19, 2018*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to honor a remarkable organization, the Sangamon County Farm Bureau. The Sangamon County Farm Bureau in Central Illinois is an integral organization that promotes agricultural prosperity. After many years of success and service, the Sangamon County Farm Bureau is celebrating their 100th anniversary.

Sangamon County Farm Bureau was chartered on December 20, 1918 to unite farmers in the area and advocate for central Illinois agriculture collectively. Today, the group has almost 10,000 members supporting the agrarian community and economy throughout the county.

Not only does Sangamon County Farm Bureau provide a voice for farmers and promote the development of agriculture, but they also educate and empower future leaders in agriculture. Sangamon County Farm Bureau's Young Leaders program develops leadership skills for youth with agriculture interests. Additionally, Sangamon County Farm Bureau coordinates the USDA's Agriculture in the Classroom Program to teach students the important role agriculture plays in the state of Illinois.

Illinois has become a major economic force within the agricultural sector because of farm bureaus like Sangamon County that come together and enhance opportunities for local farmers, their families, and the community as a whole. I extend my sincere congratulations to Sangamon County Farm Bureau for their outstanding accomplishments and contributions to Illinois. I hope the organization continues to grow and prosper for the next one hundred years.

## RECOGNIZING DALE ELDRIDGE KAYE

## HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 19, 2018*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dale Eldridge Kaye of Livermore, California on her retirement. Dale has lived in the Tri-Valley for 17 years and has worked tirelessly to develop our community.

Prior to moving to California, Dale was involved in the Florida state government. She utilized her keen marketing skills to develop media strategies, execute presidential advance work, and to help bring the Super Bowl to Jacksonville in 2005. As Head of the Jacksonville Public Relations Department, Dale's exceptional marketing work for the Jacksonville Jazz Festival was nationally recognized by PBS. She continued to cultivate her love of the arts after moving to California as Vice President of the film company Gold'N Hen Productions in Los Angeles before moving to the Tri-Valley.

Upon moving to the Tri-Valley, Dale became the President and CEO of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce and Livermore Valley Film Commission. While at the Chamber, she helped promote Livermore businesses and began her work to attract top talent to the Tri-Valley area. One of her greatest accomplishments with the Chamber was the creation of the annual Innovation Forum. Each year this event attracts hundreds of business influencers and showcases innovative local companies.

After 12 years with the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, Dale founded the Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group. Utilizing the industry relationships she cultivated with the Chamber and her passion for business development and marketing, Dale transformed the brand and perception of the Tri-Valley. She has brought together 60 partner organizations, 25 board members, and 90 committee members to work towards the common goal of expanding the national influence of Tri-Valley innovators.

With Innovation Tri-Valley Dale launched both the annual “#GameChangers” Awards for business leaders and the “DreamMakers and RiskTakers” Awards for youth. Both of these events engage civic leaders and award local innovators for their groundbreaking work. Additionally, she was instrumental in launching the landmark “Tri-Valley Rising” report, which highlights the region’s economic strengths and promise. Her advocacy and marketing efforts have assisted the Tri-Valley in becoming recognized, as Innovation Tri-Valley calls it, as “The Heart of California Innovation.”

Dale has made an indelible mark on the Tri-Valley business community, and I am grateful to have worked with her to better California’s 15th Congressional District. I want to congratulate Dale on a long and successful career. I also want to wish her and her husband Ted, who has been her faithful partner during her tremendous work for the Tri-Valley, all the best in Dale’s retirement.

#### RECOGNIZING THE INSTALLATION OF THE 7/20 MEMORIAL

##### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2018

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the installation of the 7/20 Memorial in the City of Aurora. This memorial is dedicated to those who lost their lives, the wounded, and the countless families impacted by the theater shooting tragedy.

On July 20, 2012, thirteen members of our community were killed and seventy more were injured when a lone gunman senselessly opened fire in a crowded movie theater. The crime devastated our community, the families who lost loved ones, as well as those who suffered lifelong injuries. Aurora was a city in grief.

Out of this tragedy some good has come. To start, our first responders and caregivers admirably aided those physically and mentally injured. Our community also came together and has continued to support those impacted on that terrible day. Now on July 27, 2018, the City of Aurora is dedicating a memorial designed by the world-renowned artist Douwe

Blumberg. Mr. Blumberg’s piece entitled “Ascentiate” is located in a memorial garden added to the City of Aurora’s Municipal Waterwise Garden. The sculpture displays eighty three cranes outstretched in flight to represent the victims of the shooting. Thirteen clear cranes in the middle of the garden represent those who lost their lives. This memorial is designed to provide comfort to those in need.

I also want to acknowledge the efforts and commitment of 7/20 Memorial Foundation which made this day possible: Board Officers: Theresa Hoover, Heather Dearman, Rena Medek Tiina Coon, Heather Bailey and Board Members: Bill Hoover, Terry Sullivan, Megan Sullivan-Jenks, and Jansen Young.

Let us all remember this tragedy by recognizing the 7/20 Memorial Foundation for commemorating the victims and their families.

#### SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE ON OUR COLLEGE CAMPUSES

##### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my colleague Congressman TED POE holding this important Special Order Hour to honor survivors of sexual violence on our college campuses, and in particular the brave members of the 12th Woman, a group of survivors from Texas A&M University who are speaking truth to power about their experiences. Judge POE has been unwavering in his pursuit of justice for victims of sexual violence on the bench and in Congress. I applaud his strong advocacy and tireless dedication to this incredibly important cause. He is a true ally and his legacy on this issue will continue to help countless victims and survivors move forward.

When parents drop off their children for their first year of college, we expect our institutions of higher learning to keep them safe. But that’s not the reality for 20 percent of young women and six percent of young men who are destined to become victims of sexual assault on campus. To make matters worse, survivors are constantly told that they are responsible for their assault—from being penalized for so-called ‘code of ethics’ violations, like drinking at parties or going into other students’ dorm rooms, to being blamed for not fighting back.

That includes a brave survivor at Texas A&M who had the wherewithal to alert her school that her rapist was allowed back on the swim team after being suspended for only one semester and not being subject to criminal charges. The school’s response speaks volumes—“I regret your displeasure with the perceived impact, and I wish you all the best as you continue to seek healing.” The school’s failure to protect the survivor and other potential victims is unacceptable.

They are not alone. Universities continue to inadequately deal with perpetrators across the country—from expulsions after graduation, to honor code violations that carry less of a penalty than plagiarism, to allowing perpetrators to directly cross-examine their victims about their past sexual history during the so-called investigative process. This kind of antiquated victim-blaming and -shaming must end.

That is why I am introducing the bipartisan Hold Accountable and Lend Transparency or HALT Campus Sexual Violence Act with my colleague Congressmen TED POE and BRIAN FITZPATRICK, to ensure that our colleges and universities do everything they can to hold perpetrators accountable and to provide the support survivors need and deserve.

#### IN HONOR OF ROGER STAUBACH’S LIFE AND HALL OF FAME CAREER

##### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2018

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Dallas Cowboys’ Hall of Fame Quarterback Roger Staubach, with a poetic tribute by Albert Carey Caswell. Roger is a great Patriot, a fine Husband, Father, Civic Leader, and is great example for all our children to follow. He has given back tirelessly to his Nation and community. And brought two Super Bowl Championships to America’s Team the Dallas Cowboys. I ask that this poem penned in his honor by Albert Carey Caswell be included in the RECORD.

ROGER THAT, STAUBACH. CAPTAIN AMERICA,  
COME BACK.

(By Albert Carey Caswell)

In the Game of Life will we go deep with all  
our light?  
And in our lives what promises to our souls  
will we keep so bright?  
Will we take the high road to greatness or  
low road and to lose sight?  
And when it’s third and long is it victory or  
defeat to which belongs?  
Is ours a life of honor, courage, and char-  
acter so strong?  
And upon those football fields of green  
Where men of might and speed have con-  
vened  
With size and girth and strength to victory  
to gleam  
When, came The Dallas Cowboys America’s  
Team on the scene  
While, over the years has emerged here,  
one of the greatest franchises in The NFL’s  
history  
As one Midshipman would help lead the way  
to franchise greatness indeed  
Roger That, Staubach . . . Captain America  
. . . Comeback to victory  
And on these fields of green,  
from where all leadership streams  
Is the quarterback  
As men of destruction come rushing in to  
crush you,  
as life gets mean  
Whose leadership directs the point of attack  
there as seen  
Who are armed with courage and skill  
Who must lead their offense into combat  
with their sheer will  
As titans amid kayos come crashing all in at  
speed,  
wreaking havoc to make you bleed  
For no other position demands more skill  
and intuition  
Or more guts and determination to stand tall  
and make split decisions  
With only micro seconds to make the right  
decisions  
The difference between winning and losing,  
while skillfully into the D they make their  
incisions  
Leading the team down the field with your  
heart and soul and decisions  
To cross that goal line for six,