

TRIBUTE TO LEONID “LULU”  
SAHAROVICI

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent and friend, Leonid “Lulu” Saharovici, a longtime member of the Tennessee Holocaust Commission, who worked in a Nazi-backed Romanian labor camp in his youth and passed away last month at age 91.

Mr. Saharovici was educated at the University of Bucharest Law School and pursued a career in administrative law and teaching at his alma mater before he and his wife of 62 years, Frida, and their children Alex (Debra), then 12, Livio (Heidi), then 8, emigrated to the U.S. Mr. Saharovici was hired by National Mortgage in Memphis in 1972 and worked there until his retirement in 1994. He also taught Romanian and Romanian Culture classes at Rhodes College.

After attending a Jewish Holocaust survivors gathering in Washington, D.C., in 1983, Mr. Saharovici wrote to Tennessee lawmakers with the idea of creating a Tennessee Holocaust Commission, which became a reality two years later. I’m proud to have been a sponsor of that effort as a Tennessee state senator. Mr. Saharovici was named as a Tennessee Holocaust commissioner and served in that capacity for 33 years. In that position, he devoted his time to educating high school students about the horrors of the Holocaust in an effort to ensure something like it could never happen again.

Mr. Saharovici was an active member of the Baron Hirsch Synagogue congregation and was a life member of its Board of Directors. Mr. Saharovici also co-founded the Jewish Historical Society and served as its second president. He also collected Passover Haggadahs. As Chairman of the Belz Museum of Asian and Judaic Art, he gave guided tours of the museum through the years.

An avid fan of the Memphis Symphony and opera in Memphis, he served as Chairman of the Belz/Parker Ascending Concerts series and invited musicians visiting Memphis to stage concerts at LeBonheur Children’s Hospital, the West Clinic, Stax Museum and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

In 2010, Mr. Saharovici received the Jefferson Award for his efforts to improve society, his work educating the public about the Holocaust and his work bringing cultural and historical events to the city.

Mr. Saharovici lived a storied life and contributed in important ways to the adopted community he loved so well. I wish his friends and family my best.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
JERRY FORRESTER

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the passing of a distinguished leader from Gainesville, Georgia, retired Police Chief Jerry Forrester.

After serving 13 months in Vietnam as a United States Marine, Jerry Forrester returned to the states and joined the Gainesville police department in 1968. He became Chief of Police in 1985 and is credited with updating the department with modern policing standards.

While leading 65 officers in the police department, Chief Forrester worked hard to get ballistic vests and ammunition for officers as well as to increase their salaries. At the time, officers in Gainesville had to furnish their own weapons and ammunition, and it would have cost nearly \$900 per officer to outfit each member of the department with the necessary equipment.

Prior to his retirement in 1991, Chief Forrester successfully reorganized the department into three divisions, each with a separate commander. This restructuring laid a foundation for others to follow.

Chief Forrester will be remembered as a leader others tried to emulate. His dedication and integrity will ensure his legacy is never forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEW RALEIGH, N.C. HEADQUARTERS OF  
ADVANCED AUTO PARTS, INC.

**HON. GEORGE HOLDING**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Advanced Auto Parts, Inc. on the recent relocation of its headquarters to Raleigh, N.C.

I am proud that for the second straight year in a row North Carolina has topped Forbes’ “Best States for Business” list. Our well-educated workforce and low taxes continue to attract valuable businesses to the region from all over the world. North Carolina has cultivated one of the strongest business climates in the country and we are proud to open our doors to a wide variety of industries from retail to biotechnology.

I applaud Advanced Auto Parts for its decision to expand operations in our thriving Raleigh community and am excited for the future growth opportunities companies like these bring to North Carolina every day.

IN HONOR OF CAMERON TRAVIS  
GOOCH

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize the life of a brave young constituent, Cameron Travis Gooch, who recently lost his two-year battle with a rare pediatric cancer.

Born in July of 2008, Cameron was a thoughtful and determined individual who positively affected everyone he met. He is remembered by his friends and family for his “old soul” and unrelenting kindness and courage.

One of Cameron’s great loves was the game of baseball, our true American pastime. Cameron fell in love with the game at a young age, participating in Little League from the age

of 4 until he turned 9—even playing games when he was undertaking cancer treatment.

His love for baseball didn’t stop when Cameron left the field. He treasured learning about baseball’s rich history, complex rules, and following different stats on the game’s players and teams. On August 17, 2017, Cameron accomplished a remarkable feat when he officially became the youngest player to ever join the Houston Astros. When the Astros won the 2017 World Series, Cameron celebrated the organization’s first ever World Series win with the team.

Cameron also cherished having personal conversations with those he knew best, often teaching those much older than him a thing or two about how to live. He was wise beyond his years. One of Cameron’s most pressing wishes is for people to honor him by always choosing kindness—a fitting sentiment from an individual who always exemplified this often-times under practiced quality.

His parents, Aaron and Emmie Gooch; sister, Audrey Gooch; grandparents, Ron and Sharron Gooch, Ron Schmotzer, and Carol Gooch; paternal great grandmother, Mary Gooch; maternal great grandmother, Doris Taylor; and maternal grandmother, Sandy Williamson and many others all deeply loved and supported Cameron.

While we mourn with Cameron’s family, we also celebrate his incredible life and indelible legacy. He was a joy to all who had the privilege of meeting him. I join his family, friends, peers and the entire Eighth District of Texas in honoring his extraordinary life and his steadfast devotion to his friends and family. Cameron will be greatly missed.

CONGRATULATING JUDGE/  
EXECUTIVE JOHNNY HOBDY

**HON. JAMES COMER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Judge/Executive Johnny Hobdy of Allen County in the 1st District of Kentucky on his retirement after 14 years of public service. I am grateful for Judge Hobdy’s contributions to Allen County and admire his leadership and vast influence in communities throughout the 1st Congressional District.

A true public servant, he served in state government under Kentucky Governor Wallace Wilkinson. During this time, he developed a network of connections and an understanding of politics that would aid him throughout his career.

Judge Hobdy has also devoted his time to improving the lives of disabled youth through his involvement with the Center for Courageous Kids in Scottsville, Kentucky. This non-profit organization provides children with serious illnesses like cancer, sickle cell anemia, and muscular dystrophy the opportunity to experience summer camp at no cost.

Throughout his tenure, Judge Hobdy has also served as a Director on several local and regional boards, including the Chamber of Commerce, the Allen County Health Department, and the Barren River Area Development District.

I am honored to call Judge Hobdy a friend and constituent. I join with all those he has

served in congratulating him on pursuing a lifetime of passion and service and wish him continued personal success in his retirement.

HONORING DANNY HUSTON

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Danny Huston for his contribution to our state.

Danny is an institution in our state who has been dedicated to creating jobs in our community and around the county for years. He serves as the President of North American Midway Entertainment LLC, which is headquartered in Randolph County—within the 6th Congressional District. They operate the world's largest traveling outdoor amusement park, serving 15 million fairgoers every year.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Danny personally over the past few years. To me, Danny has been a close friend and trusted advisor during my tenure in Congress.

I want to thank Danny for his friendship and loyalty to me. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for his family.

RECOGNIZING TERRAN RENEE TYLER FOR HER POEM ENTITLED, DADDY, I LOVE YOU, WELCOME HOME

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Terran Renee Tyler for her poem entitled, Daddy, I Love You, Welcome Home. Terran is from Grants Pass, Oregon, and wrote this poem after joining an Oregon Honor Flight to the nation's capital with a group of World War II and Korean War veterans. She wrote this poem in honor of her father, SPC Tony Ryan Tyler, United States Army, and all veterans who lost their lives in service to our country in uniform. I'd like to include in the the RECORD the text of the poem.

Dear Stranger, I look around and take a deep breath staring up at the sky at another sunset. The band starts to play as another flag is raised over a fallen hero's grave. Nameless, faceless His story remains untold—Who is this stranger who died for me at just 28 years old? What were his hopes, his dreams? What did he have to go through so I could be free? So I could make my dreams a reality?

Dear Stranger, I may never know who you are, But I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart. For every trial that tested your strength, And for every time you've lost your way, Thank you for all your tears and strife, Now here I sit at the end of a very hard life, I know there are many others out there like you, And for each one this word rings true, \*Hero\*, For no two stories are ever the same, And you don't even know many of these people's names, Like you, they are strangers just the same, Nameless, faceless, Yet driven by the fear in their eyes, You chose to stand and fight, It didn't mat-

ter that you too were afraid; It only mattered what was right, A false hero wouldn't have stayed, He wouldn't have willingly welcomed the grave, Thank you all heroes young and old, The men and the women, The living and the dead, For every one of your stories untold. For each hero, a million tears could be shed, But my dear stranger, I would rather celebrate you instead.

I finish my letter and tear it up, Then I toss it to the ground, as the wind picks up, Scattering the pieces. The sky's grown dark, And the stars are out, My dear stranger, are you up there now? Are you looking down on me, laughing, crying, smiling? Gazing out over the cemetery, I suddenly see, A million buried heroes, standing in uniform by their beds. They're each smiling, and one by one bowing their heads. As soon as I blink though, they all fade away, Leaving one lone hero standing by a grave. He salutes and looks me hard in the eye, I run to hug him, then start to cry. The wind whispers his name in my ear, The one etched in my heart, that I've longed to hear. Though I know I'm really standing there alone, I can't help but whisper, "Daddy I love you, welcome home".

In memory of SPC Tony Ryan Tyler, United States Army.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in thanking Terran for her thoughtful words recognizing the sacrifice of America's brave service members and their families. We owe them a profound debt of gratitude for their heroism in the defense of the freedoms and liberties we cherish as Americans.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD WATTENBARGER

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Donald "Don" Wattenbarger. This October, Don celebrated his 50th year of service as a member of Oildale Mutual Water Company's Board of Directors, marking a significant milestone in a lifelong career of distinguished service to his community.

Born in the City of Tulare in California's Central Valley, when he was five, Don's family moved to Bakersfield where he established roots that have lasted a lifetime. It was in Bakersfield where Don attended school, met and married his beloved wife, Connie, raised his four children, and made a name for himself in our local business community as a general contractor.

However, Don's most lasting impression on the Kern County community has been his longstanding role on the Oildale Mutual Water Company (OMWC) Board of Directors. First elected in 1968, Don applied his personal character and integrity, as well as the skills and talents accrued over his career as a general contractor, to revolutionize the way OMWC conducted business, starting with constructing a new building for the company. When he was first elected to the Board of Directors, OMWC struggled to pay its employees, who helped service the company's 5,000 customers. Today, OMWC employees receive lifetime company healthcare coverage and the company's customer base has more than doubled to 11,000 today. This is in no small part because of Don's leadership, and his constituency agrees: as an OMWC Board member,

Don has successfully been re-elected every year for half of a century.

Don Wattenbarger is a shining example of exemplary public service, and it has been an inspiration to watch his leadership at OMWC over his many years of service. I recall a time when it was suggested that OMWC raise its rates to solve a \$4.5 million short fall. Don refused to pass the buck on to his customers and resolved to work with his colleagues on the Board to solve the problem in a manner that was fair to the community. For me, this story best exemplifies the type of man Don is: responsible, ethical, and determined. It is my hope that the career Don has built these past 50 years on the board serves as an example for those seeking to serve their community, and Judy and I wish him all the best as he continues his work for many more years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF JEFF GEE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jeff Gee who is leaving the city council of Redwood City, a community he has served as a councilmember since 2009. He has also served twice as Mayor, in 2014 and 2015. However, the beginning of his public service was 20 years ago when he served on the Architectural Review Board and later on the Planning Commission. He was particularly well prepared for the city council when he entered office during that difficult year of 2009.

Redwood City is growing rapidly under global influences. It is also composed of young and old, many families and newly-arrived singles. According to the Census Bureau, its population has increased 15% since Jeff Gee joined the council. Box.com, Google, dozens of pharmaceutical and biotechnology startups, two major hospitals, a shipping port, and a regional transportation hub now fuel the city's growth.

In the downtown area, thousands of new apartments dot the landscape. During the Great Recession, the city council adopted a downtown plan that offered 20 years of planning certainty to potential investors. When the economy took off, developers created 20 years of growth in less than a decade. Jeff and his colleagues on the council played a major role in shaping the modern downtown of Redwood City.

On the east side of Highway 101 is a road lined with trailer parks. During his time on the council, Jeff was a strong advocate for residents whose trailer parks became filled with floodwaters during severe winter storms. His advocacy led to an effort by multiple agencies to construct the Bayfront Canal project which will allow water to be accepted by the existing canal and to be funneled to an adjacent salt pond to prevent flooding of the residents. These parks, which I have personally toured, are filled with children and hardworking heads of households. They owe Jeff Gee a major vote of thanks for his efforts to normalize their lives.

In addition to local advocacy, Jeff represented Redwood City and San Mateo County on numerous multi-jurisdictional and regional boards. Among his thousands of hours