

TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDER EDWARD
TAVLIAN

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mr. Alexander Edward Tavlian for his years of service to my office and the 21st Congressional District.

Mr. Tavlian was born on April 1, 1992 in Fresno, California. After graduating from Clovis West High School in 2010, Alex received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from University of California, Davis in 2014. He continued his education soon after, earning his Juris Doctor from California Western School of Law in 2017. He is now a member of the State Bar of California and a licensed attorney.

Alex first became a member of my Congressional Team in 2013 when he served as a summer intern in Washington, D.C. Mr. Tavlian's hard working demeanor and extreme talent left a strong impression on me and my staff, maintaining a close relationship with my office as he pursued other ventures. He re-joined my Congressional Team in 2017, serving as our Deputy District Director. Alex managed special projects and strategic initiatives, advising staff on pertinent district-level issues and coordinating media opportunities. He proved to be a strong asset across the 21st Congressional District, creating meaningful connections with community leaders and leading staff with wisdom and inspiration. Alex's wide breadth of policy knowledge combined with effective organizational leadership made him an invaluable member of my team and a true public servant to the people of California's Central Valley.

Throughout his professional career, Mr. Tavlian has shown strong passion and immense talent in the field of politics. He founded Sultana Media in 2014, a strategic communications and digital media firm serving political and public affairs campaigns. Servicing campaigns, presidential and local, Alex has become well known for his dedication and commitment to his clients. This past election cycle, Alex served as team Valadao's Campaign Manager.

Aside from politics, Alex also has a passion for the Nation's legal system. He has worked for and studied under multiple legal entities, including private law firms, the Fresno County District Attorney's Office, and the U.S. Attorney's Office. Being a licensed attorney himself, Alex brings a fresh legal perspective into each of his professional avenues.

Outside of work, Alex enjoys traveling across California, taking advantage of the sights to perfect his photography skills. He also is an avid sports fan, taking every opportunity to watch San Francisco Giants base ball and Oakland Raiders football.

This January, Mr. Tavlian will be moving onto new ventures. Knowing Alex, his character and work ethic, I have no doubt he will achieve many great things in his future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Alexander Edward Tavlian for his public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing him the very best in this next chapter of his life.

MASTER SERGEANT JOSHUA
WHEELER

HON. ROBERT PITTENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, Joshua Wheeler, a Master Sergeant in the United States Army, was killed in Iraq in October 2015 during a battle with ISIS. A highly-decorated combat veteran, he was awarded the Silver Star, Purple Heart, and Medal of Patriotism. Shortly before his death, he and his wife constructed a new home where they planned to raise their infant son together. The Wheeler's mortgage lender and servicer, Ditech Financial LLC, partnered with Lt. Colonel Richard Cantwell (Ret.), Chairman of the Patriot Military Foundation, to ensure Ashley was financially able to keep the home. I am happy that entities like this recognize the enormous sacrifice of all service members and their families, particularly Gold Star families like the Wheelers.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE EASTERN
HANOVER VOLUNTEER FIRE DE-
PARTMENT

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department, a brave group of men and women who every day put their service to the community above self.

The Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department was formed in October of 1967 with four charter members who placed second mortgages on their homes to pay for the new station. Since its founding the members of the Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department have operated primarily on donations from the community for many years while also hosting fund raising events including Bingo games, chicken dinners, crab feasts and door-to-door fund drives. Since then, the Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department has experienced significant growth and currently has twenty-four volunteer members and twenty lifetime members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of the Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department. Words alone cannot express our gratitude. May God bless the operations of the Eastern Hanover Volunteer Fire Department, and I look forward to seeing their excellence for many years into the future.

THANKING JACQUELINE "JACKIE"
HURDA FOR HER SERVICE TO
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
TIVES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Jackie Hurda for more than forty years

of outstanding service to the United States House of Representatives in several administrative and support roles. She lives in Virginia's 11th District, and I am proud to represent her in Congress.

Jackie is retiring after working for the House of Representatives for more than four decades. Her career with the House began when she moved from Pennsylvania to the Washington, D.C. area in March 1978 to work for the Honorable Richard Taylor "Dick" Schulze of Pennsylvania. Jackie served as the systems administrator until Congressman Schulze's retirement in 1993. She worked in the same capacity for the Honorable Jim Kolbe of Arizona from 1993 until 2000.

In 2000, Jackie transferred to the Office of Financial Counseling under the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), where she remained until her retirement. She started as a data entry specialist, but her work ethic and eye for detail resulted in a promotion to Financial Counselor within one year. She provided financial guidance and services to House offices to help ensure their expenditures adhered to applicable rules and accounting standards. Jackie's knowledge, experience, and attentiveness made her an invaluable asset to the House of Representatives over the years. She is well respected by her co-workers and colleagues.

Jackie and her husband Gary have four children; Abby, Randy, Maggie, and Gretchen; she has two grandchildren, Jake and Emma. Her parents, Fred and Rachel Graeff recently moved from Pennsylvania to live with her in Springfield, Virginia. Jackie is also active in her church and teaches Sunday school to three-year-olds.

I congratulate Jackie, and I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking her for her distinguished service to the House and the nation it serves. I wish her and her family all the best as she begins this new chapter in her life.

HONORING PASTOR KENNY
FOREMAN

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor Kenny Foreman, who passed away on December 16, 2018. I spoke three years ago on the impact he made on Santa Clara County and it saddens me that he has left us so soon. He was a beloved member of our community whose passing is deeply felt.

Pastor Kenny Foreman dedicated his life to the ministry. He started to travel the country at age seventeen as an evangelist minister. With his wife, Shirley, he continued his commitment to his beliefs and established the Cathedral of Faith in 1965. Since then Pastor Foreman was a pillar in our community's spiritual life. He has touched thousands of lives with a congregation of more than 12,000 members with over 70 ministries.

As his life's work, the Cathedral of Light, serves the spiritual needs of the community and gives help to those in need. One of the ministries, "Reaching Out," is a food assistance program that operates one of the largest and most efficient food programs in the state of California. Their mission is to serve the low-

income, disadvantaged, and homeless in Santa Clara County. Other ministries serve those recently released from incarceration, give support to those with addiction, and aid parents with children who have special needs. These programs are just a few that support our community and are emblematic of Pastor Foreman's life-long service to others.

I first met and worked with Kenny Foreman nearly forty years ago. I know personally of his love for God and his dedication to our community and especially to those in need. He was a remarkable man and someone I was privileged to consider a friend.

Pastor Kenny Foreman is survived by sons, Ken and Kurt; their mother, Shirley; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and countless friends. Mr. Speaker, our Santa Clara County community mourns his passing, but we are grateful for his life, his generosity, and his contributions. He has left our world a better place and will be dearly missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF DALLAS
"DALLY" LEON WILLIS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Dallas "Dally" Leon Willis—a husband, father, and friend.

Dallas Leon Willis was born in Dallas, Texas to Eunice Williams Willis and John Albert Willis. Mr. Willis joined the United States Marine Corps on October 6, 1941, after graduating from Cleburne High School. His duties during his military service included an assignment as a tail-gunner on a B-24 Liberator. Additionally, he served as a photography specialist, a role in which he helped map the South Pacific. Over time, he rose through the ranks to become Master Technical Sergeant before concluding his time with the Marine Corps on November 13, 1945.

He then worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, now known as AT&T. His leadership skills led him to join the Communication Workers of America (CWA) as the organizer of the annual Labor Day celebration in Odessa, Texas. He later assumed a legislative lobbyist position for CWA, during which he was instrumental in the passage of landmark telecommunications legislation. For his efforts, Mr. Willis was selected for the Texas AFL-CIO Labor Hall of Fame in 2015.

Mr. Willis was one of the most admired people to ever walk the halls of the Texas State Capitol. He was an individual who was always helpful. I recall when I joined the Texas Legislature, I could go to him for advice. In a resolution, the Texas Senate recognized him as the Dean of Texas Lobbyists.

CENSORED . . . ON SOCIAL MEDIA

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Media Research Center has released a report showing online media companies suppress conservative speech.

Their report found that "War is being declared on the conservative movement . . . and conservatives are losing—badly. It's the new battleground of media bias. But it's worse. That bias is not a war of ideas. It's a war against ideas. It's a clear effort to censor the conservative worldview from the public conversation.

Twitter Leads in Censorship.
Facebook's Trending Feed has been Hiding Conservative Topics.

Google Search Aids Democrats.
YouTube is Shutting Down Conservative Videos.

Tech Firms Are Relying on (advisory) Groups That Hate Conservatives.

Liberal Twitter Advisors Outnumber Conservatives 12-to-1.

Tech Companies Rely on Anti-Conservative Fact-Checkers."

Conservatives are right to be suspicious of these social media/tech media companies.

COMMENDING MR. JACOB
BENNETT MIZNER

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Mr. Jacob Bennett Mizner for his service to my office and California's Central Valley.

Mr. Mizner was born on July 16, 1994 in Tulare, California to Kevin and Sharon Mizner. From an early age, Mr. Mizner developed a strong love for music, which led him to participate in productions at his local community theater and join Tulare Western High School's band and choir. After graduating from Tulare Western High School in 2012, Mr. Mizner furthered his love for the arts while participating in the musical and theater programs at Fresno Pacific University in Fresno, California in 2016. While attending Fresno Pacific University, Mr. Mizner, a lover of music, was involved in Fresno Pacific Concert Choir.

Upon graduating Magna Cum Laude in 2016 from Fresno Pacific University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Mr. Mizner joined my team as a Field Representative in Kings and Tulare Counties. As Field Representative, Mr. Mizner was known for his friendly, optimistic personality throughout both counties and his ability to create and foster connections with constituents, business leaders, and public officials.

In addition to participating in local musical groups, outside of work Mr. Mizner is an active member in Visalia First Assembly of God Church in Visalia, California. At Visalia First Assembly of God, Mr. Mizner leads small groups through the church's young adult program while also assisting in the planning and implementation of events within the church's community.

Mr. Mizner's faith and inherent love of helping those in need empowered him to volunteer with The World Race in January of 2017. Through this eleven-month mission trip, Mr. Mizner traveled to twelve countries throughout Africa, Asia, and Central America. In this role, Mr. Mizner was able to assist poverty-stricken areas by completing various tasks including working in orphanages and local prisons, overseeing and participating in manual labor projects, and teaching English in local schools.

In December of 2017, following this challenging and rewarding experience, Mr. Mizner continued his pursuit of helping others becoming the Constituent Services Representative in my District Office. Mr. Mizner's ability to listen to and connect with the people of California's 21st Congressional District is unlike that of anyone else and made him an invaluable member of my team. Mr. Mizner's determination, thorough work ethic, and genuine kindness did not go unnoticed by those he served and enabled him to truly excel in this position by going above and beyond to ensure the needs of every constituent were met. While Mr. Mizner's work for the 21st Congressional District will come to an end this January, his service to the Central Valley will continue as he becomes the Fresno County Field Representative for Congressman Devin Nunes. Knowing Mr. Mizner, his character, and his work ethic, I have no doubt that he will be successful in this new role and all future endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Mr. Jacob Mizner for his public service to the people of California's 21st Congressional District and wishing him well as he embarks on the next chapter of his life.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
LISA GREEN

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lisa Green on her retirement after a long, accomplished legal career and her eight years of service as the District Attorney of Kern County in California, which I represent.

Born and raised in Buffalo, New York, Lisa moved west to attend Fresno State University. Upon graduating in 1980, Lisa attended San Diego Law School, where she quickly made a name for herself at the San Diego Law Review and for her membership on the law school's Moot Court. Lisa graduated law school in 1983 and notably received the Order of Barristers award for her exceptional skills in trial advocacy, oral advocacy, and brief writing. She then deepened her roots in the Golden State, moving to Bakersfield to work for the Kern County District Attorney's office and immersing herself in a community she has since called home.

As Deputy District Attorney, Lisa quickly gained a reputation as a talented prosecutor. In 2001, Lisa was promoted to Supervising District Attorney, and she was again promoted to Chief Deputy District Attorney in 2009. In 2010, Lisa ran and won a historic election for District Attorney of Kern County, becoming the first woman in Kern County history to hold the position as the county's chief prosecutor.

Over her 35 years of practicing law, Lisa has blazed a career to be proud of. As a trial lawyer, Lisa fought to put some of the worst members of society behind bars. Throughout her career, Lisa prosecuted over 110 felony trials, most of them being for homicides and sexual assaults. Despite the inherent difficulty of these trials, Lisa handled each of her cases through strategic preparedness, composure