

SECTION 1. LUCAS LOWE MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11158 Highway 146 North in Hardin, Texas, shall be known and designated as the “Lucas Lowe Memorial Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Lucas Lowe Memorial Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

□ 1545

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 1250 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11158 Highway 146 North in Hardin, Texas, as the Lucas Lowe Memorial Post Office.

Chief Warrant Officer Lucas Lowe's life was defined by a call to service. On July 6, 2004, Lucas enlisted in the United States Army. He was deployed to Afghanistan for 11 months from 2005 and 2006, and Iraq for 14 months from 2007 to 2008. Lucas later attended Warrant Officer Candidate School at Fort Rucker, Alabama, where he also enrolled in flight school to become an AH-64 Apache attack helicopter pilot.

On December 28, 2016, Chief Warrant Officer Lucas Lowe passed away during a training flight with the Army National Guard. Lucas demonstrated in his short life the kind of commitment to service that should be an example to all of us. He leaves behind to cherish his memory his wife, Kami; sons, Clayton, Lance, and Logan; and daughters, Alysen and Tenley Lowe.

Naming a post office in Lucas Lowe's honor in Hardin, Texas, is a fitting tribute to honor and remember a young man who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to all of us.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1250, a bill to designate the U.S. Postal Service facility in Hardin, Texas, as the “Lucas Lowe Memorial Post Office”.

As my colleagues know, to fast-track a postal legislation, we collect co-

sponsorships from every other member of the State's delegation. When you come from a State as large as the State of Texas, this can certainly be easier said than done. Although everything is bigger in Texas, I am proud to inform you that we have the support of all 36 members of the Lone Star State of Texas' delegation to honor this American hero, Lucas Maurice Lowe, with the naming of a memorial post office.

Chief Warrant Officer 2nd Lucas Lowe of Hardin, Texas, was tragically lost to us during a training flight just after Christmas in 2016 during his time in the Texas Army National Guard. A hardworking man who loved being in the service, Lowe especially loved to fly.

After enlisting in the Army in 2004, Lowe completed an 11-month tour in Afghanistan in 2005 to 2006 and a 14-month tour in Iraq in 2007 to 2008. He later attended Warrant Officer Candidate School in Fort Rucker, Alabama, where he also attended flight school to become an AH-64 Apache attack helicopter pilot. He was an amazing soldier who faithfully served both God and his country.

However, when the world lost Lucas, we lost more than a dedicated pilot. We lost a man who always went out of his way to lift others' spirits and encouraged them to reach for higher success in life.

Lucas was a wonderful family man who loved his wife, his children, and his family more than anything else. He loved his children more than life itself. He loved camping in the woods, hunting, fishing, campfires, and good music. He enjoyed dancing, playing golf, cooking, and singing to brighten someone's day. He always had a way of making someone's day better.

Admired by all, his courage and dedication made him a natural-born leader. He touched the lives of all who knew him, and he lived his life with an optimistic spirit, always ready to take on the next big challenge.

Lucas is survived by his wife, Kami; and five children, Clayton, Lance, Alysen, Logan, and Tenley.

He is dearly, dearly missed throughout the Texas Guard, the entire Hardin community and Liberty County, and by those family and friends he left behind.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1250 introduced by Representative BABIN. The bill names a post office located in Hardin, Texas, in honor of Army Chief Warrant Officer Lucas Lowe.

Lucas Lowe joined the United States Army in 2004. He served an 11-month deployment in Afghanistan, followed by a 14-month deployment in Iraq. While deployed, Lowe served as a field artillery radar operator and then as a paratrooper.

When he returned home, Lowe attended Warrant Officer Candidate School and flight school at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Chief Warrant Officer Lowe was then assigned to the 149th Aviation Regiment in the Texas National Guard.

On December 28, 2016, Chief Warrant Officer Lowe lost his life during a training accident while flying an Apache helicopter.

He left behind a wife, three sons, and two daughters.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, I urge all the Members to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1250, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: “A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11158 Highway 146 North in Hardin, Texas, as the ‘Lucas Lowe Memorial Post Office’.”

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EVA G. HEWITT POST OFFICE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1526) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 Israel Road Southeast in Tumwater, Washington, as the “Eva G. Hewitt Post Office”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1526

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EVA G. HEWITT POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 Israel Road Southeast in Tumwater, Washington, shall be known and designated as the “Eva G. Hewitt Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Eva G. Hewitt Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 1526, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 Israel Road Southeast in Tumwater, Washington, as the “Eva G. Hewitt Post Office.”

Eva Hewitt was not just a business woman and postmaster, but she was often described as the heart and soul of Tumwater.

With her husband, Charles Hewitt, Eva established the Hewitt Drug Store which housed the Tumwater Post Office. Eva Hewitt started as an assistant, and later assumed the role of postmaster in 1915. Following the death of her husband in 1927, Eva Hewitt took over business operations of the drugstore with the help of her daughter, Laura.

Eva would continue to serve as postmaster until 1942. At the time, Eva Hewitt was the longest serving postmaster in Tumwater, where she oversaw a massive growth in the volume of mail in the Pacific Northwest.

Eva Hewitt also was a community leader and was widely regarded as Tumwater’s local historian. She was also active in the Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington and was the namesake of the Eva Hewitt Orthopedic Guild. The Hewitt Drug Store was eventually demolished for the construction of Interstate 5.

Naming a post office to honor Ms. Hewitt’s public service would help ensure that her pivotal legacy to her home of Tumwater, Washington, lives on.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1526 introduced by Representative HECK. The bill names a post office located in Tumwater, Washington, after Eva Hewitt.

Eva Hewitt was Tumwater’s first female postmaster. Before becoming postmaster, Eva and her husband owned and operated a drugstore in the small town they called home. The drugstore housed the Tumwater Post Office, and Eva started working there as an assistant.

In 1915 she assumed the role of postmaster and served there nearly three decades. Following the death of her husband in 1927, Eva took over the family business and served in both positions until her retirement in 1942.

Often described as the heart and soul of Tumwater, Eva was a community leader and a local historian. She spent her free time researching, preserving, and educating the public on the history of the Pacific Northwest.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Washington (Mr. HECK), who is the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. HECK. Madam Speaker, today indeed I do rise in strong support of H.R. 1526, a bill to honor the life and legacy of Eva G. Hewitt by renaming the Post Office in Tumwater, Washington, in her honor.

A few blocks from where we stand today is the Smithsonian Postal Museum, a museum that preserves and promotes postal history from every era. In it you can read about the rural letter carriers. This is personal with me. As it turns out, my grandfather was a rural postal delivery member of the post office from 1905 to 1944. Out of Henrietta, Texas, he for many years delivered the mail on horseback. One of the biggest days of his life was when he got a Model T. He, in fact, delivered letters right up to the day he died in 1944. You can read about him and a lot of other people in the museum.

Most notably you can learn about the women trailblazers who built the postal service into what it is today, women like Sarah DeCrow who in 1792 became the very first woman postmaster; or Ethel Hill, who in 1900 became the first woman listed as a full-time rural delivery carrier.

This year, in celebration of the city of Tumwater’s 150th anniversary—they call that the sesquicentennial—they are sharing many of the stories there about their own women trailblazers, women like Eva G. Hewitt. She was indeed Tumwater’s first woman postmaster during a very pivotal time in Tumwater’s history. So it is fitting to rename the post office for her.

In 1893 she and her husband, Charles, purchased that drugstore alluded to earlier right in the heart of Tumwater, and their drugstore became known as Hewitt Drug Store. It was the center of the community, and it housed a store and, yes, a soda fountain, and the post office, all under one roof.

She started as an assistant there, but—get this—prior to that time her husband was the postmaster, but it turns out when the Postal Service adopted civil service rules, she and her husband both took the examination. And guess what?

She passed; he didn’t; she became the postmaster in 1915. It sounds like something that would happen in my home.

So following the death of her husband in 1927, she took over the business and served there until her retirement in 1942. She was the very first person to hold the position of Tumwater postmaster. At the time of her retirement she was also the longest serving postmaster in that city’s history which dates back to 1824.

During her decades at the store, she saw a massive growth in mail volume throughout the Pacific Northwest. As a matter of fact, she once remarked that the volume at the Tumwater Post Office in terms of monthly mail in 1942

was equivalent to annual mail at the turn of the century.

Yes, indeed, the store was torn down and the post office was torn down to help make way for Interstate 5, the main arterial between Canada and Mexico that runs throughout the West Coast.

Although the drugstore may be gone, her legacy isn’t. As postmaster, as business woman, and as community member, it lives on. So I was delighted when the city approached me about this long overdue recognition for Eva. Very few post offices, let us note, are named for women, much less the women who carried out the mission of the Postal Service.

In fact, take note, of the 823 post offices that have been renamed, only 98 of them have been renamed for women—less than 12 percent. We have got a parity issue here, Madam Speaker. That is why I am even more than proud to introduce and support this bill.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the Olympia Tumwater Foundation for helping to tell Eva’s story. I thank the city of Tumwater for sharing her story with our community. And I want to thank all the members of my delegation who joined in to cosponsor this. Eva has earned her place in the South Sound history books that she helped write.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to support this bill to rename the Tumwater Post Office in her honor, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

□ 1600

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Washington for his comments and also encourage all of the Members to support this bill.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1526.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CORPORAL ALEX MARTINEZ MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1844) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 66 Grove Court in Elgin, Illinois, as the “Corporal Alex Martinez Memorial Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows: