

HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE
THOMAS "TOM" SEAVER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam, Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Major League Baseball legend, Hall of Famer and military veteran, Mr. George Thomas "Tom" Seaver. He was a beloved father, husband, friend and one of the finest baseball pitchers our country has had the pleasure of watching.

Tom was born in Fresno, California to Betty Lee and Charles Henry Seaver. He attended Fresno High School and played on the baseball team. After graduating high school, Tom worked for his father's company in the raisin industry before joining the United States Marine Corps Reserve in 1962 stationed at 29 Palms in California until 1963. He served his eight-year commitment, remaining in the reserves until 1970.

Tom attended Fresno City College, while working and serving in the reserves. He began the 1964 season two inches taller and 30 pounds stronger at 6'1" and 190 pounds and quickly caught the attention of scouts. Tom had an 11-1 season, throwing at 90-mph for the Fresno City baseball team. He was recruited to the University of Southern California (USC) under the guidance of legendary coach Rod Dedeaux.

His talent and potential as a pitcher was evident from the start. In his first season at USC, Tom went 10-2, striking out 100 batters in 100 innings. He was drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers before returning to school for his junior year. He was signed by the Atlanta Braves in 1966, before landing with the New York Mets via a lottery.

In 1967, Tom was named an All-Star and won the National League Rookie of the Year award, after a 16-13 season and 2.76 earned run average. The Met's new manager Gil Hodges immediately saw Tom's potential and the two formed a strong bond. He was a part of the "Miracle Mets" that won their first World Series in 1969. From 1968 to 1976, Tom had a record nine consecutive 200-strikeout seasons. Tom would go on to play 11 seasons for the Mets, 6 seasons for the Cincinnati Reds, 2 seasons with the Chicago White Sox, before retiring with the Boston Red Sox.

A right-hander who earned the nickname "Tom Terrific," Tom won 311 games and struck out 3,640 batters over his 20-year major league career. He earned 12 All-Star selections, led the National League in wins 3 times. He also won three National League Cy Young Awards. He was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1992, earning 98.8 percent of the ballots cast by members of Baseball Writers Association of America. This was the highest voting percentage ever earned at that time. In 1988, the Mets honored his storied career by retiring Tom's number 41.

After his career in baseball, Tom worked as an announcer for the New York Yankees and the New York Mets. Tom and his wife established a winery in Calistoga, California, Seaver Vineyards along with his family. Tom enjoyed time with his family and his vineyard.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and their two daughters, Sarah and Anne.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and honoring the life of

baseball legend, Tom Seaver. His legacy will be remembered for many years to come. He truly was terrific. We join his family, friends and community in honoring his great life and legacy.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF JILL
RICE

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Jill Rice, who passed away on November 17, on her 78th birthday. After a hard-fought battle with Alzheimer's disease, Mrs. Rice is now at peace with our Lord, though she will be deeply missed by those who knew and loved her.

Jill was born in Memphis, Tennessee to Willie Clyde and Mary Lavelle Rowan White. She married Massachusetts native Richard Thomas Rice in September of 1960. Richard dedicated 20 years to the United States Navy before the couple moved to Mooreville, Mississippi in 1979.

Mrs. Rice was not only known as a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, but for her wide variety of interests and hobbies. As a Black Belt in Taekwondo, she achieved many awards among her age group. She spent her free time with her beloved grandchildren and kittens.

Jill Rice is survived by her husband of 60 years, Richard Rice; their daughter, Debbie; three grandsons; and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son Gary who passed away in 1999.

Mrs. Rice embodied a remarkable kindness and empathy felt by all those she knew. She will be greatly missed, and I join her loved ones in mourning her loss.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MAYOR JOHN FRANKLIN
GRIMES III

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Siler City Mayor John Franklin Grimes III, who passed away on October 20, 2020. John was a stalwart of the Siler City, North Carolina community where he served as mayor since 2013. He was a servant in the truest sense of the word, always willing to go to the back of the line and take care of the needs of others first. Unsurprisingly, he was one of the select few to be awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest civilian honor for remarkable service to the state.

John's character of service was ingrained at a young age as his father quickly signed up to join the U.S. Navy after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. John would say that, "Growing up, we presumed to have an obligation to serve in the military." Consequently, after graduating from Davie County High School, John received a scholarship to play football at Wake Forest in Winston-

Salem, enrolling in the school's ROTC program. Upon graduation, John earned a commission as a second lieutenant and served in the 3rd/8th Calvary in Germany during the Vietnam era.

Upon returning to North Carolina with his wife Cecilia, John was asked to serve as a local judge for the 1968 election to help identify and report election irregularities. After a break from public service where he helped build and expand the Cecil Budd Tire Company, John would re-enter politics through his work with the Chatham County Republican Party, eventually becoming its chair. In 1994 he ran (and led the ticket) for a seat on the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, becoming the first Republican elected to that Board in the 20th century.

In 1999, he was elected to the Siler City Board of Commissioners and served as Mayor Pro Term until his election as Mayor in 2013, his first of four terms. John continuously stressed how seriously he valued the input of his constituents, saying "If they don't hold (politicians) accountable, anything can happen."

Madam Speaker, our country needs more public servants like John Franklin Grimes III. The entire Siler City community is less whole today without John, but the impact he made and the lives he touched are a testament to how special a person he was. Please join me in celebrating his life and legacy.

IN HONOR OF SHELLY MASUR

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shelly Masur as she departs from the city council of Redwood City. When coupled with her 10 years of service as a trustee of the Redwood City School District, she has served constituents for a remarkable 15 years. When coupled with her related professional endeavors over even more years, it's fair to say that it's been an extremely productive chapter of her life.

Shelly has a distinguished career in education as an advocate. For the past five years, she led the nonprofit Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation. Under her leadership the organization hosted its first STEM symposium for 3,000 educators focused on diversifying the STEM pipeline, partnered with the California Department of Education by serving as a fiscal agent for grants secured by the department, created forums focused on standards implementation, and otherwise supported educational reform efforts throughout California. However, it was her service as a trustee of the school board that is her enduring contribution to education.

Serving on a school board in California is not for the faint of heart. In one year the district had to cut its budget by 20 percent. Shelly did her duty, but she went further. She and her colleagues educated voters about the importance of the district, and ultimately a modest parcel tax of \$67 passed, followed by a renewal at \$85. These measures strengthened district finances enormously.

The district is composed of 6700 pre-K to 8th grade students from around the globe. According to the district, Hispanic/Latino students

make up the largest ethnic group at 68 percent. Twenty-two percent of students are white, 6 percent are Asian/Pacific Islander, and 1 percent are African-American. Shelly always insisted that the programming for these students be first-rate, including but not limited to such important offerings as accelerated learning, developmental bilingual education, dual language immersion in Spanish, a gifted and talented education (GATE) program, Mandarin immersion and a program in music and the performing arts.

Advocating for equal opportunity for a high-quality education for every student is both a personal and professional passion of Shelly Masur. In 2013, her advocacy was noted by the influential Silicon Valley Business Journal which named her one of the "100 Women of Influence" in Silicon Valley. She recently ended her term as board president of Redwood City 2020, a public-private partnership engaging 800 plus community members to support the future of the school district and broader community development.

As a city councilmember, Shelly was equally passionate about the need for more housing and often endured strong opposition to building housing for all. For example, a proposal to allow more affordable accessory dwelling units was slated for major downscaling until Shelly developed a compromise that gained six out of seven votes on the council. A property owner near an affordable housing development filed suit to prevent its construction. Shelly and her colleagues fought the suit and ultimately the nonprofit sponsor was able to develop 20 affordable for-purchase new homes for very low and low income residents.

In the past eight years, including five when Shelly served on the council, Redwood City, with a population of 79,000 residents, added over 4,000 new housing units. Presently, over 500 affordable units are either approved or under construction.

Shelly Masur's professional experience includes extensive nonprofit work through seven youth and teen organizations including Teen Talk, the Adolescent Health Collaborative, the John Gardner Center at Stanford, and the Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation. Her husband, Josh, and her three children, Julia, Jacob and Noah, have also contributed to this remarkable woman's efforts, enduring countless hours without Shelly as she attended multiple late night meetings and forums over 21 years of personal and professional responsibilities. We thank them for their contribution to us all.

Madam Speaker, there are many who talk about public service, but few who bear the price and produce such widespread acclaim for their unwavering support of the public's best interests. Whether working on adolescent health, housing, parks and recreation, kindergarten or city infrastructure investments, Shelly Masur demonstrated a knack for getting the job done. Unlike some in public life, her record is real. Our community appreciates her brilliance, insightfulness and honesty. If we've learned anything in 2020, public officials of this caliber are needed to make democracy strong. Fortunately, in Shelly Masur, we have a pillar of democracy. We can truly say, "Thank you, Shelly. Job well done."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I was recently exposed to someone who later tested positive for the Coronavirus. Based on the recommendation of the Attending Physician, I am in self-quarantine. As such, I was physically absent from the House of Representatives on December 4.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 234 and NAY on Roll Call No. 235.

NATIONAL PURPLE HEART HALL OF HONOR COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANTHONY GONZALEZ

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate Amendment to H.R. 1830, the "National Purple Heart Honor Mission Commemorative Coin Act."

I would like to thank Leader SCHUMER for championing this issue on the Senate side, and the Gentleman from New York, Congressman MALONEY, for his work. We passed his version of this bill in the House back in September of 2019. Regardless of the chamber, I'm glad we have the opportunity to send this important bill to the President's desk.

The National Purple Heart Mission opened in 2006. The Purple Heart Mission is a New York State Facility that is dedicated to collecting, preserving, and sharing the stories of all Purple Heart recipients from all branches of service and across all conflicts.

Enrollments at the National Purple Heart Mission are voluntary and submissions are made by Purple Heart recipients, their families, or friends. Currently, there are 4,783 Purple Heart recipients enrolled from the great state of Ohio, representing: World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Somalia, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

These courageous men and women are recognized by the National Purple Heart Honor Mission, because surprisingly, the federal government does not maintain a comprehensive list. In fact, the only award for which there is a list, is the Medal of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, the National Purple Heart Honor Mission is an organization that deserves the recognition the commemorative coin will bring.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I was unfortunately unable to attend votes on Decem-

ber 4, 2020, due to unavoidable personal obligations. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 235.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD W. SCHMIDT

HON. HARLEY ROUDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of Richard W. Schmidt, who passed away peacefully on November 4, 2020, at the age of 90, with his wife and son by his side. A veteran, loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Richard will be dearly missed by his family and friends.

A graduate of Hoover High School in Glendale, California and an avid basketball player, Richard proudly served his country in the Korean War surviving freezing temperatures and combat as a sergeant in the U.S. Army. After the war, Richard returned home to work in the financial and real estate development sectors in Orange County.

Later in life, Richard loved to watch sports, play tennis, golf, and camp. Among his fishing buddies, he was known as "The Judge". After listening to one tall tale after another, he would annually award the coveted Fisherman of the Year trophy. After a few toasts around the campfire, Richard would climb into his sleeping bag for a well-deserved rest.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring and celebrating the life of Richard W. Schmidt for his service to our country, to his family, and to our community.

HONORING DICK STEPHENS' 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Mr. GARAMENDI, to recognize Mr. Dick Stephens on the occasion of his 100th birthday and celebrate his family's long legacy of shipbuilding in California. Dick is a world champion sailor, designer, and shipwright in addition to a proud husband and family man.

Dick was born into a boat-building family and gained an appreciation for the trade from a young age. He was always curious and felt at home playing in his father's boatyard. In 1928, at the tender age of 8, Dick salvaged a boat and transformed it, all while ingraining in him a passion for boats.

At the end of World War II, Dick and his three brothers, Theo and Barre took over their uncle Roy Stephens' company, The Stephens Brothers Boat Builders and Designers Company. Their uncle oversaw the construction and launching of over 700 vessels. The Stephens brothers contracted with the military during the Korean War and beginning of Cold War hostilities in 1953. They built many ships for the U.S. military during this period. In the 1960s, the brothers sold their company to the Wrather Corporation. After a short while, they