

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE MEMORY OF  
WILLIAM P. BOWES, SR.

**HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 19, 2020*

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to mark the passing of a former constituent, William P. (“Bill”) Bowes, Sr., who dedicated much of his life to bettering his community and future generations in the North Shore/North Channel area of Houston, TX. Bill resided in his later years in Mont Belvieu, TX—but his contributions to the North Shore/North Channel area, where he spent much of his life, were truly inspiring. I want to take a moment to remember his extraordinary record of community service, even as we mourn his passing on March 28.

Bill was a proud graduate of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, NY. He may have been born in Des Moines, IA—but, as we say in Texas—he became a Texan as quickly as possible. Along with his beloved wife, Barbara, Bill moved to Houston in the late 1960s to work for a cargo surveying business, which grew with the growth of the Port of Houston. He raised a family and dedicated what extra time he had to serving his community. Bill’s obituary, which follows, explains the impact he had on his community—my constituency. That impact was, in a word, extraordinary.

Few people have had a more positive effect on the North Shore/North Channel area than Bill Bowes. His work with the North Shore Rotary Club, of which he served as president at the age of 81 years young, benefited a multitude of local, national and international charitable organizations. For decades, working with two Members of Congress, Bill helped select the most deserving young men and women in the Houston area for nomination to the nation’s service academies, including his beloved U.S. Merchant Marine Academy—helping them obtain an outstanding education while serving and protecting our country. In his later years, after moving to Mont Belvieu, he served on that town’s Planning and Zoning Commission.

All of that is encapsulated in the obituary that follows. One characteristic of Bill’s that his obituary doesn’t fully convey is his modesty. If you met Bill once, you were an instant friend—and you were a friend forever. But, if you met him just once, you’d never know the depth of his compassion; you’d never know how much time he devoted to his community; and you’d never know just how much he loved his family. That was because of his modesty and humility. But ask anyone else, anyone who knew him, and they would tell you how much he’d done for others and how enormously proud he was of his family. Not all lions feel the need to roar.

Madam Speaker, today, we ask ourselves how, and if, our nation will overcome the daunting challenges we face. We have no

doubt, most of us, that we will persevere and overcome—building a better life for future generations. But we ask who will give us the leadership and inspiration going forward. I suggest that the example of Bill Bowes shows us that each one of us—and all of us, together—can work to overcome the challenges that confront us. Bill’s example shows us that one individual, with an unwavering commitment to helping others, can improve a community and make life better today and for generations to come.

To Bill’s family, most especially his loving children, Bill Jr., Suzie and Tom, and their spouses and their children—to Bill’s many friends throughout the Houston area—to those who benefited from his charitable activities and community service wherever they may be—let me offer my heartfelt sympathy on your loss. While we mourn his passing, we know that what he did when he was with us made a difference for the better in the lives of countless others. And that provides us with some measure of comfort.

With that, Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD this moving and eloquent profile of William P. Bowes, Sr.

[From the Houston Chronicle, April 12, 2020]

William P. (“Bill”) Bowes, Sr. passed away on March 28th at the age of 82 years after an unexpected, but heroic, hospital-bound, 3-week fight for his life.

From the beginning of his life in Des Moines, Iowa to his premature end, Bill was known for his work ethic, integrity, ability to make friends, ability to lead and undying commitment to the mottos of his life—“service over self” and *Acta Non Verba* (“actions, not words”). An “army brat” son of one of General MacArthur’s commanders, Bill moved frequently in his youth. Despite these moves, he was always able to make fast friends with his new classmates, as evidenced by his election as high school Class President in the final of 3 high schools he attended.

After high school, Bill earned a Congressional appointment to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (Kings Point), where he spent his junior year touring the world by sea and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree, a U.S. Coast Guard license as Third Mate, and a Naval Reserve commission as Ensign. A chance weekend invitation for a home-cooked meal from one of Bill’s classmates resulted in Bill meeting that classmate’s sister and Bill’s future wife, Barbara, who became the love of his life. Bill liked to joke that he ended up paying for that “free meal” from his future in-laws the rest of his life. Bill and Barbara were married in the chapel at Kings Point. His hard work, financial support and charitable efforts on behalf of Kings Point earned Bill many accolades and awards, including the Alumni Association’s Distinguished Service Award, Outstanding Personal Achievement Award and the Daniel E. Meehan Humanitarian Service Award, as well as having a classroom named in his and a classmate friend’s honor.

Soon after his arrival in Houston in the late ’60s, Bill left an indelible mark on the North Shore community through his leadership of and fundraising for the North Shore YMCA, his role as President of the North

Shore Civic Association, his involvement with the North Channel Chamber of Commerce & Elks Club and, most notably, his involvement with the North Shore Rotary Club, whose members he viewed as his brothers and sisters.

Bill put his Kings Point experience and education to work as a ship and cargo surveyor—first in Manhattan and ultimately in Houston. In normal fashion, Bill earned the trust and admiration of the owner of the company that brought Bill to Texas and who eventually sold the company to Bill, Capt. Ira S. Derrick. Bill grew the company to have satellite offices in Fort Lauderdale, New Orleans and Chicago. Hundreds of millions of dollars of ship and rail borne cargo was inspected by Bill’s company. Bill’s professional reputation earned him many unique opportunities, including overseeing the packing for transport of a multi-million-dollar suit of ancient armor that was on display at Neiman Marcus, but the most cherished part of Bill’s career was being mentor and a second father and friend to many of his employees over the years.

Bill had a more active charitable and social calendar than most people half his age. Literally until the day he was hospitalized, he remained active in his community, including with the North Shore Rotary Club, serving as the club’s President last year at 81, a marshal at Eagle Pointe Golf Course, a board member on North Channel Water District, a member of the Scottish Rite (32<sup>nd</sup> Master Mason), a board member on Mont Belvieu’s Planning and Zoning Commission and a board member of the Kings Point Alumni Association. Bill’s almost 42 years of Rotarian work earned him many honors, including that of “Major Donor” with Rotary International. He frequently traveled to Mexico to work with his sister Rotary Club there. He also loved to host that Club’s members at his home when they came to Texas. Bill was most proud of his efforts to help grow a faith-based clergy certification program in prisons, which resulted in a material decrease in prison violence and recidivism rates. Bill was also an inactive Lieutenant in the Navy Reserves.

Bill’s greatest joy was family and friends. Bill’s strongest advocate and most sarcastic life partner was his wife of over 43 years, Barbara. Bill was Barbara’s biggest supporter as she pursued her law enforcement license, real estate license and an almost 20-year career working for Houston area Congressmen (Jack Fields and Gene Green). Bill participated in that Congressional relationship by serving many years as Chair of Congressman Field’s Service Academy Nomination Board, responsible for recommending young men and women for limited appointments to the various U.S. military and maritime academies, including Kings Point. After a 5-year battle against Stage 4 melanoma—a diagnosis that had given her just 2 months to live—Bill said goodbye to the love of his life. His life was never the same after Barbara’s death, but he never let the depth of his despair impact his continued contributions to his community or their family.

After Barbara’s death, Bill—aka Papa and Dad—continued to be a mainstay at family functions, whether holidays, birthdays, family trips to his ranch or spontaneous family dinners, and he rarely missed his grandkids’ many activities. He also loved to travel the world to see family and friends.

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

In the last few years, one of Bill's favorite family activities was spending time at his ranch in Central Texas, where he was irremovable from his mower and tractor when he wasn't deer, hog and turkey watching or playing card games, dominoes and corn-hole with his family and friends.

In addition to Barbara, Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Judge John G. and Margaret Bowes; his brothers, Jimmy, John and Harry; his niece Anne Bowes; his nephew Doug Williamsen; and numerous other beloved family members and friends.

Bill is survived by a lifetime of friends too numerous to recount; citizens of the east Harris County and Chambers County communities who have benefited from his love, devotion and charity for over 50 years; dear family friends and travelling companions, Bryan Wirwicz and Diane Tom; his thoughtful, loving neighbors; and, most cherished of all, his family.

Children: William P. ("Bill") Bowes, Jr. and daughter in law Trisha; Suzie Wilburn and son in law Mark ("Bo"); Tom Bowes and daughter in law Monica; and daughter in law Debra Bowes.

His beloved grandkids: Kelsey; Will; Haley; Bryan; Caitlyn; Ross; Mackenzie; and Kathleen.

Brothers and Sisters in Law: Barbara Bishop and husband Ed; Charles ("Chuck") and Paula Williamsen; Dana Bowes; and Carolyn Van Doren.

Nieces and Nephews: Dennis Harper and wife Shelly; John and wife Gina; Lisa Young and husband Steve; Bob and wife Debbie; Jim and wife Karen; Kristy Rigot and husband Jeff; Margaret and husband Richard; and each of their children.

Cousins: Marti; and Bob and wife Linda and their children.

Bill is gone, but he will live on in the hearts and memories of those he touched during a life well lived.

A celebration of Bill's life will be held at a later date. Friends of Bill wishing to make a memorial contribution in Bill's name are asked to consider either: USMMA Alumni Assoc. & Foundation (Class of 1962 Fund for Midshipman Professional & Leadership Development), 300 Steamboat Road, Kings Point, NY 11024 or North Shore Rotary Club, PO Box 9635, Houston, TX 77213 (In Memory of Bill Bowes).

#### REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JOHN ELLIOTT

**HON. TIM RYAN**  
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John Elliott, of Fairview Park, Ohio, who passed away Friday, March 20, 2020 at the age of 83.

Mr. Elliott spent his career in law enforcement protecting the people of Northern Ohio. He played a key role at the height of Cleveland's mob wars, and even helped start the U.S. Marshal's witness protection program in Northern Ohio in the early 1970s.

John Elliott bravely served in the U.S. Navy from 1954 to 1958 and as a Cuyahoga County sheriff's deputy until 1967. From there, he spent 23 years as a Deputy U.S. Marshal. It was in this role where John earned his tough reputation by providing protection to families of those who testified against organized crime. He also took part in numerous mob investigations, including into the infamous mobster Danny Greene.

His colleagues could not speak highly enough of Mr. Elliott's bravery, integrity, and reliability. As one former police chief put it, "he was one helluva good cop." Following retirement in 1990, John remained close to law enforcement while serving in the Cleveland police's Pipes and Drums Band.

John Elliott was the beloved husband of the late Clorinda (nee Calandrella) for 57 years; loving father of Peter, Thomas, Catherine and Patrick; grandfather of 12; great grandfather of 6; and brother of James.

I salute Mr. Elliott for his dedicated service to Northern Ohio. My deepest condolences go out to John's family and all those whose lives he touched, especially his son Peter, who followed in his footsteps into the U.S. Marshals Service. I thank John for his tireless work.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. WILLIAM GATES

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. William Gates, a pillar of his community and a shining example of the brilliant minds that ensure the greatness of our state. A talented urologist, leader in his field, artist, and philanthropist, the people of Mississippi will certainly feel the loss of Dr. Gates.

Dr. Gates knew from a young age of his ambition to become a doctor. In high school, he was mentored by a local urologist. Dr. Gates was never short of talents and interests. He played the piano, guitar, and saxophone while being an active sportsman. He was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout and continued to be engaged with the Boy Scouts of America. He attended Vanderbilt University and was a member of the Kappa Alpha Order. After completing his residencies, Dr. Gates served our country in the Alabama National Guard as a flight surgeon. He consistently invested in the Columbus and Starkville medical community and retired in 2005 after 36 years in private practice. He was awarded numerous titles both for his medical and civic leadership.

Dr. Gates epitomizes an enduring commitment to the health and livelihood of his community. I truly admire Dr. Gates's philanthropic efforts as well as his contributions to the practice of medicine in Mississippi. He will be missed as a friend, father, and husband, but his impact on Mississippi is immeasurable.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I regrettably missed one vote on Friday, May 15, 2020. I had intended to vote "yes" on roll call vote 107.

INDIA IS VOCAL FOR LOCAL

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I was grateful to read in The Wall Street Journal (May 13) that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a nationally televised speech pledged to boost economic self-sufficiency amid the Wuhan Virus pandemic.

With 1.3 billion people locked down since March 25th the country has suffered historic job losses as nonessential industries have been completely shut down. Prime Minister Modi is inspiring the people of India with the slogan "Let's be vocal for local".

America is fortunate to have such an incredible leader of the Indo-Pacific. I was present firsthand several years ago with Ambassador Nikki Haley to welcome the Prime Minister to the Center Ring of Madison Square Garden in New York City. Last year I was present at the historic Red Fort in New Delhi for the Prime Minister's Independence Day address, and later in Houston with President Donald Trump for the Howdy Modi event with over 50,000 attending in the largest welcoming celebration for a foreign head of state in the history of the United States.

I am confident with the obvious warm relationship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Donald Trump that the families of India and America will prevail over the Wuhan Virus.

Now more than ever India, the world's largest democracy will partner with America, the world's oldest democracy for mutual prosperity of creating jobs. With the dedicated leadership of President Kavee Kumar of the Indian American Chamber of Commerce there can be a replication of one of capitalism's most phenomenal successes. Indian Americans develop over half the hotels, motels, and hospitality centers across America with the leadership of AAHOA led by President Cecil Staton and Vice President Chirag Shah.

#### RECOGNIZING DEYONKA HICKEY AND FEED THE VETS

**HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, today, I recognize Deyonka Hickey and the non-profit organization Feed the Vets, for providing nutritious food and hygiene products for Arkansas' veteran community.

Feed the Vets was established in 2017 and serves veterans, retirees, active duty, guardsman, reservists, and their families throughout Arkansas. The organization is operated entirely by veterans who volunteer their time.

During this public health crisis Feed the Vets has continued to serve veterans by providing curbside pickup.

I commend Deyonka and the team at Feed the Vets for their dedication to serving veterans.