

If Bishop Ross was the rock of Goldsboro, Leila was his rock.

The Bishop's funeral service was a sight to behold. The streets of Sanford were basically shut down for the procession. A soldier played "Taps" to honor his military service. His casket was transported on the back of a firetruck. Everybody was there. Black, white, young, and not-so-young, bound together by their affection for this extraordinary man.

He will be greatly missed, but he is now home. May God bless this trailblazer and may God continue to bless his beloved community of family and friends.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JODEY C. ARRINGTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 21, 2020

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, unfortunately I was unable to be present for votes on September 17, 2020.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 194.

CONGRATULATING MELISSA COLLINS

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 21, 2020

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Melissa Collins, a second-grade science teacher at the John P. Freeman Optional School in the Whitehaven neighborhood of Memphis, who last week was inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame. This honor was just the most recent recognition of Dr. Collins' huge influence in the classroom as an Early Childhood educator and as a policy maker. She was also the winner of a 2010 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. During the East Room ceremony at the White House, President Obama jokingly asked Dr. Collins to consider tutoring his daughters. Among many of her accolades, Dr. Collins received the 2013 NEA Foundation's Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence, the 2014 West Tennessee Teacher of the Year Award, the 2015 Queen Smith Award for Urban Education from the Council of Great City Schools, the 2015 Kennedy Center-Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Award, the 2017 National Science Teachers Association Science Educator Development Award, and was one of six U.S. finalists for the \$1 million Varkey Foundation Global Teacher Award in 2018. Dr. Collins has taught at John P. Freeman for 21 years and has been a standout from the start. In 2007, she instituted the "Muffins with Moms" days to have students see their mothers read to their classes and, later, the "Dates for Dads" days for fathers to have lunch with their children at school. She also instituted the "Dress Up Friday" days so students could show off a little. In class, she has her students don lab coats to conduct their science experiments and has been known to incorporate music in her teaching, part of the rationale for the Sondheim award. "I learned to take a risk

for my students and myself. I allowed my students to drive their own learning and curiosity," she has said. "In the beginning, I would seek opportunities. Now, those opportunities seek me. I was chasing my dreams and now my dreams chase me." After graduating in 1992 from Whitehaven High School, where she played basketball and her father, Stanley, coached the football team, she earned a master's and doctorate from the University of Southern Mississippi while constantly giving back to her community. As a policy expert, Dr. Collins has travelled to India and Brazil and across the U.S. to confer with other recognized leaders, and to the Halls of Congress, where she has advised Senator ALEXANDER and me on best practices and good ideas. I value her insights and her passion for the students she loves. On Friday, students still learning from home will stage a drive-by parade in her honor outside the Freeman Optional School. She is a true inspiration, and I wish her well as she continues her astonishing career.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL AEROSPACE WEEK

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 21, 2020

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I along with Representative THORNBERRY, rise to recognize the United States aerospace industry. For more than 100 years, the American aerospace industry has moved, connected, secured, and inspired the modern world with countless technologies that play a role in our daily lives. The industry has made a tremendous impact, strengthening both America's economy and national security. The aerospace and defense industry's economic presence is felt in all 50 states, representing 1.8 percent of total U.S. Gross Domestic Product in 2019. And it's one of our country's best employers, supporting more than 2 million world-class workers in 2019 and providing them wages and benefits that are more than 40 percent higher than the national average. It also supports the U.S. National Defense Strategy by providing our military with the most advanced and effective platforms and systems in the world.

In keeping with industry's strong commitment to our country and its citizens, our nation's aerospace companies have answered the call to help assist with the public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Aerospace companies have used their unique skills and expertise to produce face shields, design and build portable ventilators, and deliver essential supplies to the front lines in effort to ensure our nation overcomes these unprecedented challenges.

While the history of the aerospace industry is filled with contributions to the technological advancement of humankind, from the development of flight to putting the first person on the moon, the future is just as bright. The industry is inspiring young Americans from diverse backgrounds to study and pursue science, technology, engineering, and math, so they can help drive future innovations. Through groundbreaking technologies like urban air mobility and planning the next great space

mission to Mars, the aerospace industry is working today to build a better, safer, and more successful tomorrow.

COMMEMORATING THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRILLING CONTRACTORS ON THEIR 80TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 21, 2020

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC) on their 80th anniversary. Formed in 1940, IADC's roughly 550 U.S. member companies employ more than 70,000 hardworking men and women and have played an invaluable role in bringing American energy to individuals, families, and small businesses all across our country.

The thousands of people who work each day to bring energy to market are essential to the State of Louisiana and to American energy independence. Energy produced in the Gulf of Mexico and throughout the country is crucial not only here at home, but also to our friends around the globe. American energy exploration and production helps keep energy prices low for families and small businesses, provides millions of people with good-paying jobs, and prevents hostile foreign regimes from using their energy resources to harm our allies.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic and economic shutdown has hit energy-producing states, and the jobs and communities they support, especially hard. It has crushed energy demand, and a foreign price war earlier this year exacerbated an already dire situation. This combination resulted in devastating lay-offs, oil prices plummeting to negative for the first time in history, and billions of dollars of planned investments lost.

But America's oil and gas workers are extraordinarily resilient, and the industry will recover from this downturn. The United States has vast reserves of oil and natural gas, resources that are produced here at home with some of the highest standards and safest technologies for energy exploration and production in the entire world. IADC has been, and will continue to be, a large part of that success.

I applaud IADC and the women and men who work each and every day to bring energy to individuals and families all across our country. I appreciate their work to advance innovation with a focus on safety, and I wish IADC continued success and another fantastic 80 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 21, 2020

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, for the floor votes on Thursday, September 17, 2020, I regrettably erred when casting my vote for roll call 194, the Motion to Recommit with Instructions H.R. 2694, the Pregnant Workers

Fairness Act. I had intended to vote “no” on roll call vote 194, against the Motion to Recommit.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE HONORABLE RUTH BADER GINSBURG, THE ‘NOTORIOUS RBG,’ ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT, FEMINIST ICON AND TRAILBLAZER, INSPIRATION TO MILLIONS, TIRELESS CHAMPION FOR JUSTICE AND FIERCE DEFENDER OF THE CONSTITUTION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 21, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary, as a direct beneficiary of her advancement of women’s rights, and as a longtime admirer of her vigorous defense of the constitution, I am honored but heartbroken to pay tribute to an American hero, a feminist icon, and role model to millions, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who died last Friday, September 18, 2020 at the age of 87 years old.

Today, tomorrow, and forever, the American people mourn the loss of a true titan, an American legend, and an inspiration.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Ruth’s family, friends, and loved ones.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg dedicated her life to defending the Constitution and protecting the sanctity of America’s democratic ideals, and we will forever be indebted to her service to this country.

Joan Ruth Bader, fondly nicknamed Kiki, was born on March 15, 1933 to an immigrant family and grew up in Brooklyn’s Flatbush neighborhood.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg often spoke of her mother’s large ambitions for her, and how the devastating loss of her mother’s death at an early age instilled in her the determination to live a life that her mother would have been proud of.

And so, she did.

Ruth Bader attended Cornell University where she met Martin D. Ginsburg, her future husband and love of her life to whom she was married for 54 years.

In 1954, at the age of 21, Ruth Bader graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Cornell with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Government on June 23, 1954 and was the highest-ranking female student in her graduating class.

A month after graduating from Cornell, Ruth and Martin were married and moved to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where Martin was stationed as a Reserve Officers’ Training Corps officer in the U.S. Army Reserve after his call-up to active duty.

To help support the family, Ruth Bader Ginsburg worked for the Social Security Administration office in Oklahoma, where she was demoted after becoming pregnant with her first child, Jane, who was born in 1955.

In the fall of 1956, Ruth Bader Ginsburg enrolled at Harvard Law School, where she was one of only 9 women in a class of about 500 men.

Harvard Law Dean Erwin Griswold reportedly invited all the female law students to din-

ner at his family home and asked the female law students, including Ginsburg, “Why are you at Harvard Law School, taking the place of a man?”

When her husband took a job in New York City, Ruth Bader Ginsburg transferred to Columbia Law School and became the first woman to be on two major law reviews: Harvard Law Review and Columbia Law Review.

In 1959, she earned her law degree at Columbia and tied for first in her class but despite these enviable credentials and distinguished record of excellence, no law firm in New York City would hire as a lawyer because she was a woman.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg became a crusader for women’s rights and an unstoppable force who transformed the law and defied social convention.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg, later affectionately known as the ‘Notorious RBG,’ was as instrumental and historically significant to the cause of women’s rights as was Thurgood Marshall to the cause of civil rights for African Americans.

As a young lawyer and Director of the Women’s Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, Ruth Bader Ginsburg litigated six landmark cases before the Supreme Court, winning five out of the six cases.

Like Justice Marshall, Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s uncanny strategic instincts and careful selection of cases were vital in her persuasion of the all-male Supreme Court to start dismantling the legal institution of sex discrimination one case at a time.

In 1975, Ruth Bader Ginsburg litigated and won *Weinberger v. Wiesenfeld*, which would become a landmark case in antidiscrimination jurisprudence.

In this case, the widower had been denied survivor benefits, which would allow him to stay at home and raise his son, based on a Social Security provision that assumed only women were secondary providers with unimportant incomes.

While some questioned Ginsburg’s choice to challenge instances of sex discrimination by representing a male plaintiff, Ruth Bader Ginsburg saw it as an opportunity to show the court that childcare was not a sex-determined role to be performed only by women.

As with many of her cases, her goal was to free both sexes, men as well as women, from the roles that society had assigned them and to harness the Constitution to break down the structures by which the state maintained and enforced those separate spheres.

As Ruth Bader Ginsburg continued to challenge the stereotypical assumptions of what was considered to be women’s work and men’s work, she was able to persuade the Court and the nation that discriminating on the basis of sex was not only wrong but violative of the 14th Amendment of the Constitution, which guarantees equal protection to all citizens under the law.

As the courts began to recognize the changing roles of men and women, Ruth Bader Ginsburg was able to advance gender equality with the understanding that women are capable of being heads of households or sole providers for their family.

In 1993, President Bill Clinton appointed Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the Supreme Court, making her the second woman to fill this position.

This historic appointment further symbolized the principle that women were equal to men in

every respect, that they could have successful careers and also could, if they chose, be devoted wives or mothers, thereby breaking barriers for generations of women to follow in her footsteps.

In fact, many of Ginsburg’s opinions helped solidify the constitutional protections she had fought so hard to establish decades earlier.

While we commemorate Justice Ginsburg’s work for advancing the women’s movement both as a Justice and as a lawyer, all are in her debt who cherish the progress made in the areas of LGBTQ+ equality, immigration reform, environmental justice, voting rights, protections for people with disabilities, and so much more.

Throughout her life, Ruth Bader Ginsburg worked to make the law work so that America would be more just, equitable, fairer, and better for all.

Whether it be in her legendary dissenting opinions or as leader when in the majority, Justice Ginsburg continued to advocate for the marginalized and most vulnerable.

In recent years, she may not have been able to control the outcome of the rulings, but she grew bolder in her dissents, often stating what should have been the outcome.

Throughout her tenure on the bench, Ruth Bader Ginsburg displayed her rigorous and incisive legal mind and employed her formidable skills as a consensus builder, but she could be tough and forceful when the moment demanded.

Nothing illustrates this better than her famous dissent in *Shelby County v. Holder*, in which the 5-to-4 majority negated the Voting Rights Act of 1965 by invalidating section 4 of the law, which neutralized section 5, the provision of the act that required jurisdictions with a history of racial and ethnic discrimination in voting to obtain preclearance from the federal government before any changes in voting procedures, from polling stations to voter photo IDs could go into effect.

It was in her scathing dissent Justice Ginsburg stated, “Hubris is a fit word for today’s demolition of the VRA” and that the majority’s logic was akin to “throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet.”

Unlike the others, Justice Ginsburg was able to see the ramifications of the ruling and its allowances for reinvigorated efforts of voter suppression.

Today, I join millions of individuals who are mourning the loss of this legal giant, feminist, and trailblazer.

Justice Ginsburg loved this country, so much so that she served the nation while enduring illnesses and undergoing treatments that would have incapacitated lesser mortals.

She inspired generations of women then and now to shatter glass ceilings, and her legacy will inspire new generations of women in the years to come.

As the news of her passing continues to reverberate across the country and around the world, it is important that we remember and honor what she stood for and continue fighting to realize the goal of equal justice under law.

I ask the House to observe a moment of silence to honor the memory of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the ‘Notorious RBG,’ one of the greatest jurists in our nation’s history, a tireless and unyielding champion for equal justice, and a fierce defender of the Constitution.