mentoring in the field for students in D.C. area middle and high schools. As a chapter, BNA of GWDCA continues to carry the mission of ''Empowering the Community through Education, Service and Caring'' and support the NBNA's theme, ''The Art and Science of Nursing.''

Particularly during the COVID–19 crisis, the nation understands that nurses are indispensable. It is more important than ever to recognize Black nurses, whose service has been overlooked for far too long.

I urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Black Nurses Association of Greater Washington, D.C. Area, Inc. for 46 years devoted to improving the lives of D.C. area residents and the profession of nursing.

HONORING THE LIFE OF 1SG STALEY JOHNSON SR.

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 15, 2021

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of 1SG Staley Johnson Sr. of Kannapolis, North Carolina.

Staley Johnson was born on December 4th, 1920 in Alexander County, North Carolina to Jonas and Nancy Johnson. After the 5th grade, Johnson left school to help provide for and support his family.

A native North Carolinian, Staley Johnson enlisted with the U.S. Army on December 6th, 1941, the day before the attacks at Pearl Harbor. Staley Johnson was just 23 years old at the time.

Johnson served heroically and courageously as a heavy machine gunner in the 330th Infantry. During his service in Europe, Johnson was wounded from gunfire in the back near La Barre, France on July 27, 1944 after arriving on the beaches of France just after D-Day. Johnson was involved in further action in Europe as the Allies closed in on Germany before Allied victory in Europe. Johnson received a Purple Heart, a Bronze Star, and several other awards for his valor and courage. After his discharge, he went to work for Cannon Mills, but remained active in the National Guard.

In April 1945, Johnson married Nellie Victoria Foster. They had four children; Staley Jr., Pamela, Jerry, and Kathy. The couple were married for over 64 years before Nellie passed away in 2010. Staley is the grandfather to six, great-grandfather to 12, and great-great-grandfather to two. His family and his church mean the world to him.

Often, Staley Johnson can be found singing ''Sweet Hour of Prayer,'' a song he learned while resting in a town the allies had just recaptured from Hitler's Army. He is known to be full of stories from World War II.

Madam Speaker, 1SG Staley Johnson Sr. is an American hero. His service to our country will never be forgotten. It is an honor and a privilege to represent Staley Johnson in the U.S. House of Representatives.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEACHER VICTIMS' FAMILY ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2021

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 15, 2021

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Teacher Victims' Family Assistance Act of 2021. American teachers are overburdened. In too many schools across our nation, infrastructure needs repair, teachers are underpaid, and classrooms are overcrowded. In addition to all these problems, teachers are also forced to contend with a gun violence epidemic, which has led to more and more deaths on schoolgrounds each year. In the face of this horrific reality, numerous teachers have died, often in an effort to heroically defend the lives of their students.

Surviving family members of these slain teachers are unquestionably burdened with immeasurable grief, but they are also left without the financial support their deceased spouse or parent provided them. While we must continue to tirelessly advocate for common sense gun laws, we must also ensure that those who lose family members in such senseless acts of violence are cared for through financial assistance that will help cover final expenses and support the care of surviving family members—just like we have in the past for public safety officers and for 9/11 first responders.

The Teacher Victims' Family Assistance Act of 2021 creates a compensation fund under the U.S. Department of Education that provides assistance to the immediate families of teachers and other school staff who are killed in a violent act over the course of performing their duties. The compensation fund provides funeral assistance, a death benefit to the next of kin, a monthly living allowance for the surviving spouse and children, and five years of undergraduate education assistance for each child.

It is my sincere hope that over time fewer and fewer families will be in need of assistance from this compensation fund after they experience the tragic loss of their spouse or parent. Until that time comes, we must do everything in our power to honor those dedicated, hardworking teachers who died in an act of violence by caring for their surviving loved ones.

Madam Speaker, I urge the House to expeditiously pass this measure. Doing so will reaffirm America's gratitude for our nation's devoted educators, who work tirelessly to enrich the lives of our children.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF KATHERINE STREHL

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 15, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend and colleague in public service, Katherine Strehl.

Katherine was born in Oakland, California on October 4, 1944, to Elizabeth Williams Strehl Kerley while her father was serving overseas during World War II. Her stepfather, Bob Kerley, UC Berkeley Vice Chancellor for Administration and Student Affairs, was an important part of her life and a mentor to her. Katherine died at her home in Menlo Park, California on January 24, 2021. She was 76 years old.

Katherine was a graduate of Skyline High School and a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of UC Berkeley. She earned a master's degree from Stanford University and completed the coursework for a Ph.D. in communications research. She was a 1979 graduate of the Coro Women's Program in leadership development.

Katherine had a successful 40-year career in public affairs, and received Santa Clara County's 1994 Women of Achievement Award. She was known for her commitment to collaboration between business, government and community. She served as the Manager of Community Affairs and Public Policy at Lockheed Martin Missiles and Space, and was Executive Manager of External Affairs at BART, then managed public outreach for the California Transportation Commission. She served on the Commonwealth Club's Silicon Valley Advisory Board, and on many Menlo Park commissions, most recently the Planning Commission.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in expressing our deepest condolences to Katherine's beloved husband of 22 years, Bill Dempsey, and to her family and wide circle of friends. She was a warm, loving, smart and accomplished woman, and we will miss her dearly.