

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER
KANSAS ATTORNEY GENERAL
VERN MILLER

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of a quintessential Kansas lawman, Vern Miller, who passed away at the age of 92. Mr. Miller's career in law enforcement spanned over 50 years with terms as Sedgwick County Sheriff, Sedgwick County District Attorney, and Kansas State Attorney General.

A U.S. army veteran born and raised in Wichita, Mr. Miller's career in law enforcement began in 1948 when he started as a deputy for the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office, eventually serving three terms as Sheriff of Sedgwick County.

While serving as Sheriff, Mr. Miller drove the 155 miles to Oklahoma City University to attend night classes, earning his law degree in 1966. After passing the bar exam, Mr. Miller was elected as Kansas Attorney General in 1970 and again in 1972, winning all 105 counties in the state. As Attorney General, Mr. Miller vigorously enforced the laws of Kansas, focusing on drug rings and illegal gambling carts throughout the state.

Mr. Miller was a dedicated public servant whose work ethic and devotion to the law and to his fellow Kansans will be deeply missed. My heartfelt condolences go out to his family during this most difficult time.

CONGRATULATING KATORI HALL

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Memphis playwright, Katori Hall, who was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for Drama on Friday for her play "The Hot Wing King," which is set in a kitchen in Memphis. Ms. Hall won the prestigious national recognition as a nominee for a Tony Award for "Tina: The Tina Turner Musical," a Broadway musical about the singer from Nutbush, Tennessee. In its citation, the Pulitzer Board "The Hot Wing King" a "funny, deeply felt consideration of Black masculinity and how it is perceived, filtered through the experiences of a loving gay couple and their extended family as they prepare for a culinary competition." Ms. Hall, a graduate of Craigmont High School, first gained national acclaim for her 2006 play "The Mountaintop," set in Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spent his last night in 1968. That play, which debuted in London, won the Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Play. Hall is the creator of the cable television blockbuster "P-Valley," set in a Mississippi Delta strip club. I wish her well in what is already a very promising career.

TRIBUTE TO ROSELEE NICHOLS
ROBERTS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to my good friend and former House staff member Roselee Roberts, who passed away on April 22, 2020 in McDaniel, MD, on Maryland's Eastern shore. Roselee was a tireless advocate for America's space program and she will be deeply missed by many.

Roselee was born on April 24, 1942 in Baltimore, Maryland. After high school, she attended the University of Miami in 1960 and graduated with honors and a degree in math and economics in 1964. While in college, Roselee ran the campus speaker's bureau, where she met her future husband, William "Art" Roberts. After graduating, she was recruited and hired into a management position with AT&T's Southern Bell Co. at their Jacksonville, Florida office. About a year later, she and Art wed and moved to Reston, Virginia. A few years later, Roselee was selected to serve as a Junior Economist on President Lyndon Johnson's Council of Economic Advisers.

Following positions with the Office of Management and Budget and as Rep. Bill Nelson's (D-Florida) chief aide on the House Budget Committee, Roselee launched her space career by serving as a staff member on the House Science and Technology Committee's Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee. In 1985, she left Capitol Hill for a position in the McDonnell Douglas legislative affairs office, which later merged with the Boeing Corporation. In that era, the space and aeronautics industry was predominantly comprised of men with military backgrounds. To support and encourage women in the industry, Roselee helped establish Women in Aerospace. The group now includes more than 2,000 individual and corporate members.

In 2005, I was truly blessed to have Roselee head back to the House and serve as the staff director for the House Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee while I held the gavel as Chairman. With the space shuttle program and International Space Station facing significant challenges, the space industry was at an inflection point at that time. Thanks in large part to Roselee's determination and leadership, we were able to successfully pass and have a NASA authorization bill signed into law for the first time in five years. After serving in the House again, Roselee moved over to NASA headquarters for her final government post as the Special Assistant to the agency's Deputy Administrator.

Roselee is survived by her husband, Art, of 54 years; their children, Elizabeth (Libby) Roberts Holah and husband, Greg; and granddaughters Olivia Holah and Violet Holah, and Leigh Roberts Melton and husband, John; granddaughter Harper Melton and grandson Hunter Melton. I extend my heartfelt condolences to the Roberts family, her friends, and everyone fortunate enough to have known Roselee. Although she may be gone, the many contributions Roselee made to our country will have a lasting impact.

REMEMBERING NIKHIL BADLANI
FOR HIS TALENTS, PASSIONS,
KINDNESS, AND LASTING MEM-
ORY IN NEW JERSEY'S 11TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Nikhil Badlani, a talented and compassionate 11-year old boy from West Orange, NJ whose enthusiasm and laughter brought joy to all who met him.

Nikhil was an excellent student. He received straight A's and had an advanced understanding of science and math. From the time he was three years old, Nikhil knew all there was to know about dinosaurs and he brought his passion and curiosity for understanding the world into the classroom.

Beyond his studies, Nikhil was a talented musician and at the age of 11 he was already excelling at both the piano and trumpet. His talent was undeniable and he was accepted to play trumpet with the Youth Orchestras of Essex County. Nikhil also loved the theater and he was a captivating actor.

It is impossible to fathom that on June 11, 2011 Nikhil was tragically killed when a distracted driver failed to stop at a stop sign. Nikhil is fondly remembered by his friends and family for his talent, energy, and kindness. Nikhil's life inspired his family to create the Nikhil Badlani Foundation in his honor, which provides lessons for musicians, scholarships for graduating seniors and brings traffic safety awareness and advocacy to our community.

In the years since his passing, community members have come together to celebrate his life and promote traffic safety in his honor. As this year marks ten years since that tragic day, South Orange Township will commemorate this milestone with a moment of silence at the crash site before unveiling its new name, "Nikhil's Way." Nikhil will never be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CARE
ECONOMY AND IMPORTANCE OF
SUPPORTING HOME AND COMMU-
NITY-BASED SERVICES

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of the care economy and the need for significant investment in home and community-based services to meet the needs of seniors, people with disabilities, and caregivers who serve them.

The vast majority of America's seniors and people with disabilities prefer to receive long-term services and supports in the home or in the community. However, there are currently significant roadblocks to quality, accessible home and community-based services. Many HCBS are provided through Medicaid, which has restrictive eligibility criteria and often has long waitlists for these services. Additionally, the direct care workforce that provides HCBS face low pay and few if any benefits, resulting in high turnover that impacts the services they

provide. As a result, far too many Americans are unable to access to quality, affordable home and community-based services. While the American Rescue Plan provided important resources for Medicaid HCBS to meet the immediate needs of the pandemic, more comprehensive reforms are needed to ensure that all Americans can live with dignity in the setting of their choosing.

The Biden American Jobs Plan will help meet this need by providing \$400 billion for quality home and community-based services for seniors and people with disabilities. This investment will transform the care economy by investing in the HCBS workforce, allowing them to receive pay and benefits commensurate with the work they provide. It will allow seniors and people with disabilities to receive

the high-quality care they need in the setting of their choosing. More importantly, it will provide dignity for all who participate in the care economy.

I urge my colleagues to support the American Jobs Plan and this historic investment in the care economy.