

State legislator, community businessman, and Magic Valley cultural historian. Steve, as he was called by his family and friends, passed away on December 31, 2021, at 77 years old.

Steve was born on September 30, 1944 in Baltimore, Maryland, one of twin sons of Vincent and Frances Hartgen. He grew up in rural Orono, Maine, spending his young years in the state's forests, and along its trout streams and coastlines. He graduated from Hebron Academy in Hebron, Maine, in 1962, and from Amherst College in 1966. He later earned an MA degree from Brandeis University in 1968, and a PhD from the University of Minnesota in 1976, both in American history.

He began his newspaper career while in college as an intern reporter at the Bangor Daily News in Bangor, Maine. He went on to work as a reporter and editor at The Minneapolis Star, and later at the San Diego Union and the Casper Star-Tribune as managing editor. He also taught journalism, media history and public affairs reporting at the University of Minnesota and Ohio State University.

Steve came to Twin Falls in 1982 as editor of the Times-News, working alongside then-publisher William E. Howard and general manager Richard High as Howard publications expanded across the country. By 1990, he was promoted to publisher of the Times-News.

In his years at the Times-News, Steve's leadership raised the newspaper's visibility and impact, making it one of the state's leading conservative newspapers. His common-sense and fiscally responsible editorial perspectives earned him much respect among business leaders, public officials and the community. It was during his time at the Times-News when we had the opportunity to meet and talk with Steve during our many interviews with the editorial board. We greatly enjoyed our lively visits with Steve.

Not one to be idle, Steve continued his involvement in the Magic Valley community after he left the newspaper in 2005. He became Executive Director of Business Plus, a Magic Valley economic development group, which brought hundreds of new jobs and more than \$2 billion investment dollars to the valley. The growth was so spectacular that then Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter called it the "Magic Valley Miracle."

Steve was a stalwart member of the Twin Falls County Republican Central Committee where he served as state committeeman for more than a decade, from 2008 to 2019. He also served on the Idaho Capitol Commission from 1998 to 2016, a group which oversaw the renovation and remodel of Idaho's premier public building.

In 2008, Steve was appointed to the Idaho House of Representatives by Gov. Otter where he served until 2019. While in the legislature, Steve chaired the Commerce & Human Resources Committee. He retired from the legislature for health reasons at the end of 2018 and was replaced by his wife Rep. Linda Wright Hartgen.

Following his retirement, Steve wrote extensively on the cultural history and patterns of life in the Magic Valley and southern Idaho, publishing "Tradition & Progress: Southern Idaho's Growth Since 1990" in 2019, and "Spirit of Place: Southern Idaho Values Across Generations" in 2020. Additionally, he wrote columns for several Idaho newspapers and blog sites on southern Idaho politics and cul-

tural changes. His books and columns frequently reflected his love of the Magic Valley, which he often called the best region in the best state in the best nation on the planet.

Beyond his media work and his public service, Steve maintained an interest in western history, particularly the settlement of southern Idaho. He was also an avid fly fisherman, an outdoor activity he learned as a young man in Maine.

In his later years, Steve developed health problems, but he continued to serve in public roles and did not think of himself as disabled in any way. Steve is survived by his devoted wife Rep. Linda Wright Hartgen and his family.

While we will miss Steve's common-sense approach to public issues, fiscal policy and statewide public affairs, we will miss his friendship the most. Rest in peace, good friend, and loyal servant.

HONORING QUINLAN-HAMMOND HALL OF HONOR

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, today we celebrate the dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony for the Quinlan-Hammond Hall of Honor at the University of Southern Mississippi.

The Quinlan-Hammond Hall of Honor is a state-of-the-art facility that represents the University of Southern Mississippi's commitment to honor our nation's heroes. The dedication ceremony will honor Joe Quinlan, USM alumnus and lead benefactor for the Hall of Honor, as well as U.S. Army Major General (Retired) Jeff Hammond, USM alumnus and former Golden Eagles Football Team Captain and Quarterback. These two gentlemen have earned this recognition for their service to the Golden Eagle community.

The University's Center for Military Veterans, Service Members and Families provides guidance and support to Student-Veterans in their academic and professional pursuits. Major General Jeff Hammond, who serves as the Center's Director, has led the University of Southern Mississippi to earn numerous prestigious recognitions, including the top Military Caring University across the State of Mississippi, designation as a Purple Heart Institution, and ranking No. 1 in the Southeast by Military Times in its "Best for Vets: Colleges 2021 Rankings."

The new Quinlan-Hammond Hall of Honor will provide more than 1,700 USM Military Students and Student-Veterans with a home of their own that is commensurate with the honor of which they are deserving.

Today is a special day. The dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony for the Quinlan-Hammond Hall of Honor symbolizes the University of Southern Mississippi's continued commitment and gratitude to our nation's heroes for their unwavering dedication to our country. As a Marine veteran and USM alumnus, I want to thank the University's Administration, the USM Foundation, and the more than 150 USM alumni donors who made the construction of the new Quinlan-Hammond Hall of Honor possible for their commitment to honor those who serve. SMTT.

Semper Fidelis.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, on February 7, I was absent for recorded vote No. 32 on agreeing to the amendment on the Buck of Colorado Part B Amendment No. 1. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

IRAN UNVEILS MISSILE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the clearest revelation of Iran with duplicitous intent in the insane nuclear agreement discussions is uninterrupted missile development designed for nuclear attacks on Israel and the United States.

The murderous boasting of capabilities is confirmed by a Reuters report by Parisa Hafezi published by February 9, 2022. While negotiators blather with meaningless deadlines, the delivery systems continue unabated.

It is crucial we stand with Saudi Arabia and our Arab Gulf partners.

I appreciate the efforts of the America Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) to alert the American people of the growing threats. President Betsy Korn and South Carolina Midlands coordinator Dr. David Kulbersh are crucial for raising the alarm over Iran's murderous intent. I am also confident the venerated American Jewish Congress led by Jack Rosen will raise awareness of the growing threat.

[From Reuters, Feb. 9, 2022]

IRAN UNVEILS LONG-RANGE MISSILE AS
VIENNA NUCLEAR TALKS RESUME

(By Parisa Hafezi)

DUBAI.—Iran unveiled a new domestically-made missile with a range of 1,450 kilometers on Wednesday, state TV reported, a day after Tehran and Washington resumed indirect talks to salvage a 2015 nuclear deal.

Iran, which has one of the biggest missile programmes in the Middle East, says its ballistic missiles have a range of up to 2,000 km (1,200 miles) and are capable of reaching its arch-foe Israel and U.S. bases in the region.

State TV displayed the new surface-to-surface "Kheibar Shekan" (Kheibar buster) missile, which refers to an ancient Jewish oasis called Kheibar in the Arabian Peninsula's Hijaz region that was overrun by Muslim warriors in the 7th century.

"This long-range missile is domestically manufactured by the Revolutionary Guards (IRGC). . . . It has high accuracy and is propelled by solid fuel and is capable of penetrating missile shields," Iranian state media reported.

Tehran regards its missile programme as an important deterrent against the United States, Israel and other adversaries. It has rejected Western demands to halt its ballistic missile work.

"Iran will continue advancing its ballistic missile programme," Iran's armed forces chief of staff Major General Mohammad Bagheri told a ceremony at an IRGC base

where the new missile was displayed, Iranian media reported.

**RECOGNIZING THE SPRING SWING
SUN SAFETY PARTNERSHIP BE-
TWEEN MOFFITT CANCER CEN-
TER AND MAJOR LEAGUE BASE-
BALL**

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. STEUBE. Madam Speaker, my colleague, Mr. DONALDS from Florida, and I are grateful to recognize the Spring Swing Sun Safety partnership between Moffitt Cancer Center and Major League Baseball. This partnership works to prevent skin cancer by offering sun safety education and free skin cancer screenings at Spring Training baseball games. Such efforts are important here in Florida, the Sunshine State, where we see a high incidence of melanoma and other deadly forms of skin cancer.

We are pleased, therefore, to join with Moffitt Cancer Center and Major League Baseball to raise awareness to combat this disease. It is important to limit sun exposure when possible, wear sunscreen if you are in the sun, and have your skin checked by a health care professional once a year. We hope all baseball fans safely enjoy Florida's sunshine and the great tradition of Spring Training baseball in our state.

**IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
ORVAL MULLEN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY**

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Orval Mullen, an outstanding citizen from Van Wert, Ohio who will celebrate his 100th birthday on February 22, 2022. Orval has led a long, productive life, and his family is very grateful to have the opportunity to celebrate this significant birthday with him. Reaching this momentous milestone provides the opportunity to recognize Orval's many accomplishments in life, but especially his service to our country.

During World War II, Orval served as a field lineman in the Eighth Regiment of the Fourth Infantry of the U.S. Army from October 14, 1942, to September 25, 1945. Orval landed on Utah Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944, and he fought in the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944. In April of 1945, Orval and the soldiers of the Eighth Regiment assisted in the liberation of the concentration camp in Dachau. He was awarded two Purple Hearts for his service. He also received a Bronze Star and the French Legion of Honor, as well as several other medals.

After completing his military service, he started O.H. Mullen Sales in the 1950s and owned and operated the business until the mid-1980s. His company manufactured, sold, and distributed archery equipment. He married Luella Conley on October 24, 1942, and they were together for 74 years until her passing in

2016. They had three children: Dr. Orval Lee Mullen, James Mullen of Oakwood, and Judith Wieging of Willshire. The family has grown to include grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who will join the community in best wishes for his 100th birthday.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Orval Mullen's 100th birthday. Orval is most worthy of this recognition, and I thank him for serving our country. On behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Ohio, I wish Orval a very happy birthday and his family all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARIE NEWMAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Ms. NEWMAN. Madam Speaker, I was regrettably detained during the following votes in question. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 286, YEA on Roll Call No. 392.

**HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
OSCAR G. JOHNSON VAMC DIREC-
TOR JAMES RICE**

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the 33-year career of the Director of the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center, James Rice. Through his commitment to our Veterans and his local communities, James has become an indispensable part of the State of Michigan, the Upper Peninsula, and northern Wisconsin.

James was born in Clare, MI and attended Central Michigan University for his Bachelor's and Master's degrees. Following college, he started his career in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) in 1990 as the Safety & Occupational Health Manager at the Allen Park VAMC in southeastern Michigan. In addition, he served in a VHA leadership position in Washington, D.C., as the Acting Director of Safety and Technical Services. After successfully serving in multiple roles within the Veterans Integrated Services Network (VISN) 11 and 12 for over two decades, James was appointed to Acting Director for the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in 2011.

Under Director Rice's outstanding leadership, Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center continues to set the national standard for medical care within the VHA and serves tens of thousands of our nation's Veterans across the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and northern Wisconsin. Along with his work at the Iron Mountain VAMC, he oversaw six Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Michigan and Wisconsin including Ironwood, Hancock, Marquette, Menominee, Sault Ste Marie and Rhinelander to offer Veterans the support and care they need closer to home. In addition, Oscar G. Johnson continues to receive 5-star ratings from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and has been nationally recognized through several VHA-related

awards including the Best Experience Award for Level 3 Medical Centers, the Best Patient Experience Award, and the Dickinson County Chamber of Commerce's "Large Business of the Year Award." For fiscal year 2021, James was also awarded the Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award for his decades of leadership in VISN 11 and 12 and longtime dedication to our Veterans.

Madam Speaker. I ask you to join me in honoring the career and service of Director James Rice. The example he has set over the last three decades inspires us all and will continue to do so for future successors of his position, Michigan and Wisconsin's retired servicemembers, their families, caregivers, and the VA staff he proudly led will forever be thankful for his contributions. We wish him the best on his future endeavors and look forward to seeing what his next mission will be.

**COMMENDING ISRAEL-BAHRAIN
SECURITY COOPERATION AGREE-
MENT**

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the historic signing of the security cooperation agreement between Israel and Bahrain, which took place on February 3, 2022. This security agreement is the first of its kind between Israel and a Gulf nation.

Since Bahrain signed the 2020 Abraham Accords and took the important step of normalizing relations with Israel, the two countries have significantly deepened their bilateral relationship. Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz travelled to Manama, Bahrain's capital, to sign this agreement and celebrates the agreement as "a new high point" in the countries' relationship.

The MoU agreement is designed to help advance intelligence cooperation, establish a framework for military exercises and strengthen ties between the countries' defense industries. As Israel and Bahrain continue to strengthen their cooperation, the signing of this memorandum of understanding (MoU) is a key step.

This historic agreement comes at a time of increased danger in the region as Iran continues to threaten the security of its neighbors. The MoU will help deepen regional security cooperation and resilience, which is critical to defending the interests of the United States, Israel, Bahrain, and many other countries in the region.

**HONORING THE ACCOMPLISH-
MENTS OF JOE WHITESIDE**

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the distinguished accomplishments of Cadet Chief Petty Officer Joe Whiteside of Killingworth, Connecticut. As a young resident of Eastern Connecticut, Cadet Whiteside's committed service to the