

Stephane was selected from among six finalists and now joins a cohort of esteemed teachers from across the nation as Talofoto Elementary School's first award recipient in 52 years.

Early in life, Stephane understood the value of education; growing up, her mother, grandparents, and mentors made it a point to emphasize that learning should be a priority. Yet it wasn't just a lesson she was told—it is a fundamental truth she witnessed firsthand. As a young girl, Stephane routinely helped prepare her aunt's classroom for the new school year and saw how her dedication outside of it deeply affected the lives of her students. Stephane's first-grade teacher also drew compelling connections between education and fun that further nurtured her love for learning and desire to make a difference. Paired with her aspirations for purpose-driven service, these formative experiences propelled Stephane onto a path that similarly shapes children's educational journeys. After receiving her high school diploma at the Guam Community College, she earned a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from the University of Guam (UOG). She then returned to the university and went on to obtain two master's degrees in both Administration & Supervision and Reading.

Today, Stephane celebrates over 16 years of teaching with GDOE and as demonstrated throughout her career, she has and continues to both redefine and reimagine the vital role of a teacher in empowering communities. Beyond ensuring her students are adequately supported with uniquely tailored instructional styles and assistance, her leadership within the larger school system has meaningfully contributed to improving the learning experience for countless Guam students. As both a curriculum coordinator and school site instructional coach, Stephane has extensively collaborated with educators across the island, advocated for the evolving needs of our children, and worked diligently to stand up a robust school community by cultivating greater relationships and communication with parents, faculty, staff, and students.

On behalf of the People of Guam, I would like to extend a sincere congratulations to Stephane Camacho Concepcion. Her unwavering commitment to collaboration, collective progress, and student-centered success both underscores the criticality of education for all and inspires learners and educators alike to similarly rise as catalysts for positive transformation. Stephane's selflessness, passion, and determination to meet students where they are to best help them get to where they can and dream to be offers renewed hope in the achievements we can realize through heart and hard work, and I wish her the best on the rest of her professional journey.

HONORING THE LIFE OF J. ROY ROWLAND

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I'd like to pay my respects to the late J. Roy Rowland, a pillar of our community who passed away on April 25, 2022, returning home to the Lord after 96 years of a life well lived.

Dr. Rowland was born in Wrightsville, Georgia in 1926. He served as a sergeant in the United States Army during World War II and practiced medicine in the middle Georgia area for 28 years.

Dr. Rowland later served his community both in the Georgia state legislature and the United States Congress, representing Georgia's Eighth District from 1983 to 1995, which included counties in today's Twelfth District.

Dr. Rowland was blessed with a servant's heart—a truth known well by his constituents, family, and all who were fortunate enough to call him "friend."

Dr. Rowland's passion for service persisted for decades after his retirement from Congress.

Ask any Member who followed him, and they will tell you they often fielded calls from Dr. Rowland seeking assistance with a constituent issue, tour request, or requesting support on a local issue.

Such was his lifelong dedication to the community.

In Galatians 5:13, the apostle Paul calls on us to serve another in love. We serve God by serving others.

Few men have heeded the apostle's call more thoroughly or more happily than Dr. Rowland during his 96 years on earth.

A true public servant, may he rest in peace.

HONORING BILL JONES

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mr. Bill Jones, the former Executive Director of the Melissa Area Chamber of Commerce. Following a distinguished thirty-eight-year career in public service, a grateful community thanks Mr. Jones for his leadership and dedication.

Prior to role with the Melissa Area Chamber of Commerce, Bill served for an impressive thirty years as President and Executive Director of chambers and economic development organizations in various municipalities including those of Grove, Oklahoma; Branson, Missouri; Dumas, Texas; Rosenberg-Richmond, Texas; and Bonham, Texas. Bill's steadfast leadership generated financial and membership growth in each of these organizations enhancing their effectiveness and ability to serve members of the community.

Mr. Jones would go on to enjoy a brief two-year retirement in Bonham, Texas where he spent his time managing the Fannin County Multi-Purpose Complex, a facility which he was instrumental in developing.

Shortly after moving to Melissa, Texas, on January 6, 2014, Bill would come out of retirement to begin his tenure as the Executive Director of the Melissa Area Chamber of Commerce. Due to his vast knowledge and experience in economic development, he would guide the Chamber during a pivotal time of rapid growth.

Bill Jones is highly esteemed within the community as evidenced by his election as the first President of the Trails of Melissa Homeowners Association, appointment to the Texas Chamber of Commerce and Business Executives, and role as the Community Partner for McKinney Buick GMC.

Now as he enters retirement, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in commending Bill Jones for his many efforts and his dedication to serving the Melissa business community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF KAREN SMITH

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the incredible life of Karen S. Smith of Gloversville, New York. Karen was an active member of the Fulton County community, and she will be dearly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her.

Karen was born on December 22, 1946 in Indiana. She graduated from Gloversville High School and attended SUNY Brockport. Karen then obtained her master's degree in reading education from the College of St. Rose. After graduation, Karen began her career as a teacher dedicated to serving some of the youngest members of the Fulton County community. She taught at many schools throughout New York, including Mt. Carmel Elementary School, in the former Oppenheim-Ephratah Central School District, the Tryon School, and in the Greater Amsterdam School District. Karen's commitment to improving her community was evident through her teaching, and Fulton County is better off because of her service.

Karen was an integral part of the Fulton County Republican Committee for over twenty-five years. During that time, she served as the committee secretary, a state committeeman, and the chairwoman of the Gloversville City Committee. She also loyally served as the president of Fulton County Women's Republican Committee and as the president of the New York State Federation of Republican Women. Additionally, Karen was an active member in the Fulton County Republican Chairman's Club and the Fulton County Republican Club. Karen brought much needed leadership to all of her roles and shared her extensive expertise with the Republican Party of New York.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I thank and honor Karen Smith for her incredible life of service and extend my deepest condolences to her family, friends, and the entire Fulton County community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLOTTE KLEEMAN

HON. MIKE GARCIA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Mr. GARCIA of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, memory, and legacy of a great Californian and one of the great philanthropists in California's 25th District, Charlotte Kleeman. A devoted servant to her community, a loving wife, and an amazing mother, Charlotte exemplified what it means to give back and live your life in the service of others.

Like many who are blessed to call the 25th District home, Charlotte was not a native of Santa Clarita. Born in Chicago and raised in North Hollywood, she came to Santa Clarita in 1965 with her family, where she wasted no time in immersing herself in the philanthropic community. Throughout her life, she served on the board of the local Child and Family Center, Boys and Girls Club, Foundation for Children's Dental Health, and Samuel Dixon Family Health Center, in addition to serving on the Foundation committee for College of the Canyons and as an ambassador to the local Chamber of Commerce.

Both Charlotte and her late husband Frank, were recognized as Santa Clarita's Woman and Man of the Year in 1996 and 2002, respectively. Even after earning this prestigious award recognizing her lifetime of contribution to charitable causes in her community, she was still driven to continue finding ways to give back in any way that she could. Her contributions to the many non-profits and organizations in our valley are immeasurable, and our city is a better place because of her efforts.

I have long held the belief that charity is one of the most important moral cornerstones of our great nation. There are few things more honorable than living your life in the service of others, and Charlotte Kleeman is the benchmark for what it means to give back, help others, and blaze a trail of light that touches countless lives. We will always remember her service to the Santa Clarita Valley, and we will continue to honor her memory through acts of charity and by helping those in need.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MARC BARONCINI ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Marc Baroncini of Perrysburg, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Marc's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2026. Attending one of our Nation's military academies offers the opportunity to serve our country and receive a world-class education. At the same time, these young men and women undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Marc brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2026. While attending Perrysburg High School in Perrysburg, Ohio, Marc participated in community service for Zoar Lutheran Church. He competed in cross country and track and field, earning a varsity letter in both sports. After graduating Perrysburg High School in 2021, Marc went on to attend the United States Military Academy Preparatory School in New York.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Marc Baroncini on his

offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Marc will excel during his career at the Military Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF LT. JIMMY "COTTON" MCCOY

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Lt. Jimmy L. "Cotton" McCoy, Retd., a decorated veteran of the Vietnam War who folded his earthly tent and transformed to eternal rest on Monday morning, May 23, 2022, after a period of declining health. Cotton, as he was universally known, was born the third of six children to Noel and Katie Putt McCoy. Growing up on Canal St. in east Tupelo, he attended Lawhon School, graduated from Tupelo High School in 1965 and attended ICC for two years.

Cotton answered the call of his country and served in the U.S. Army during the heart of the Vietnam War. He was a mortar man with the 173rd Airborne Division and a paratrooper. For his bravery and courage, he received many medals including the Bronze Star—declining a Purple Heart because he felt others deserved it more than he. Determined to continue in public service, Cotton graduated from the Miss. Law Enforcement Academy and became a police officer for the City of Tupelo. For 35 years, Cotton became a beloved figure among the citizens as a motorcycle cop and street patrolman. He always tempered justice with mercy whenever possible and was a strong mentor/teacher for many young people who just needed a steady force and guidance to get back on track in life.

Cotton retired in 2006 with the rank of Lieutenant. A great southern storyteller, Cotton endeared himself to family and friends with his yams and clever personality. He never met a stranger and loved being a citizen of Tupelo and Lee County. Cotton was a lifelong member of the East Heights Baptist Church, a Mason and Shriner, an avid gardener and gun collector.

Cotton was a dedicated servant of God, country, and state. My prayers will be with those mourning his loss.

RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS. VASTOLA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, on Friday, May 27th, Alfonso and Rose Marie Vastola of King George, Virginia celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were joined by family and close friends to celebrate the occasion.

Alfonso and Rose Marie met in Newark, New Jersey at an Italian-American club dance in the neighborhood where Rose Marie grew up shortly after Alfonso immigrated to the United States from Italy. They were married at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Vailsburg, New Jersey in 1972 and were blessed with one daughter, Maria.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Alfonso and Rose Marie on this exciting occasion. Happy 50th wedding anniversary.

REMEMBERING JOHN A. DUTRA

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 3, 2022

Mr. SWALWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise along with Representatives KHANNA and LOFGREN, to recognize the life of John A. Dutra, former member of the California State Legislature, Vice Mayor, and 10-year member of the Fremont City Council, who passed away on May 29, 2022.

A son of immigrants, John was raised in Oakland and began his career as an engineer in the private sector and then worked at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

While working at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, John began working part-time as a realtor at California Realty. In 1972, John moved to Fremont to begin his own company, John A. Dutra Realty, which expanded to a large presence in Pleasanton with over 95 agents. The company would later open offices in Castro Valley, Livermore, and Tracy, and became the Number One Real Estate Company in the East Bay. The company flourished as a real estate development and investment firm.

During this same period, John was appointed to the Fremont Planning Commission, where he served four years, followed by the Fremont City Council, where he served ten years. He vigilantly oversaw the city's fiscal status while pushing for new social services, including the construction of the city's first homeless shelter and one of the city's first affordable housing projects.

John was subsequently elected to the State Assembly, and during his six-year tenure was a member of numerous standing committees, including, Budget, Housing and Community Development, Judiciary, and Insurance. He also chaired the Transportation, Information Technology, and Veteran Affairs Committees. Among other accomplishments, he led the funding for the retrofitting of the east and west spans of the Bay Bridge and secured over \$1,000,000 to retrofit the historic Mission Church in Mission San Jose.

Beyond his impressive public service and private sector career, nothing was more important to him than family. John is survived by his wife of 65 years, Bernadine F. Dutra; his children, John, Cynthia, Anthony, Dominic, and Diana; his 13 grandchildren; and 9 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Bernadette.

His dedication to his family and service to his community was always at the forefront of his mind and a trait that lives on in his family and every life he touched. John will be remembered by all those he impacted by his strength, brilliance, vision, and heart.