

Since assuming the International Presidency and CEO role in 2018, Dr. Glover has led our Sorors powerfully to sustain us through the pandemic, and raised our voices on critical issues like Voting Rights and Black Maternal Health—ensuring that Sorors of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated are the VOICE of the movement, not the ECHO. Dr. Glover's Alpha Kappa Alpha Congressional Women's Roundtable continues to lead the charge toward solutions to create a better world for future generations by fighting for continued, meaningful investments in HBCUs, a comprehensive approach to ending the maternal health crisis in America, and protecting our democracy through safeguarding and expanding voting rights.

Dr. Glover has convened meetings with our Soror, Vice-President KAMALA HARRIS, to bring our community's needs to the highest level of our government, and is the Vice-Chair of President Joe Biden's HBCU Advisory Board.

I and every Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Soror, am indebted to Dr. Glover for her service to our Sorority. She is a living pillar of Black Excellence, and her leadership has and continues to lift up successive generations of Black leaders. As we celebrate her enduring legacy, her enriching sisterhood, and her exemplary service, let's remember the purpose that has animated her to succeed and to bring her community up with her.

#### HONORING THE CAREER OF LEE A. LUFT

#### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 11, 2022*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary career of a dedicated and highly impactful public servant in the State of Connecticut and the U.S. Coast Guard, Information Technology Specialist, Mr. Lee Luft. After nearly 43 years of diligent service in the U.S. Coast Guard, Lee retired on March 1, 2022. His retirement is to be honored at the United States Coast Guard Academy Officer's Club on August 12, 2022.

Born and raised in Connecticut, Lee graduated from Wilcox Regional Vocational Technical High School in 1976, certified as an electrician. Lee continued his studies in that trade at Hartford State Technical College in 1979, graduating with an Associate in Science Degree in Electronics and Technology. That same year, Lee changed career paths and pursued a new vocation, joining the U.S. Coast Guard's Research and Development Center (RDC) as a Digital Computer Maintenance Worker. For those who are not familiar with the center, it is the hub of Coast Guard operational analysis and mission execution solutions, located in the Fort Trumbull section of New London, Connecticut. The center is responsible for testing and evaluation in all the mission areas of the Coast Guard, including maritime law enforcement, environmental protection, and national defense preparedness, to name a few. During Lee's tenure, the work of the R and D Center was constantly evolving, as the mission requirements of the Coast Guard changed. The 9–11 attack on our homeland, the rising challenges of climate change, the increase in human trafficking and

drug smuggling at sea all occurred on Lee's watch. Like the entire team at the center, Lee was deeply involved in the Coast Guard's need to competently respond to new roles which hinged on highly functional information systems—his area of expertise. He remained at the RDC for a total of more than 39 years, advancing all the way to the role of Information Technology Specialist by the early 2000s. As a reflection of his ambitious nature and desire to improve his skill, it is also worth noting that Lee completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of New Haven in 1999.

Lee's service extended to several other sections of the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). From RDC he transitioned to USCG Command Control, Communications, Computers, and Information Technology (C4IT) Service Center Business Operations Division. He was later reassigned to C5ISC and specialized in Architecture and Engineering Standards. Lee was known to not back down from a challenge while at the Coast Guard, including the several opportunities he took up to represent both the Coast Guard and our Nation as Technical Delegate for the United States National Committee of the International Electrotechnical Commission in many places in and out of the country over his career.

As someone who began their career with an electrician apprenticeship, Lee has moved up the ranks to become a nationally and internationally recognized presence, representing the United States on shipboard network standardization and communication protocols used by all types of Marine Electronic Equipment. Lee has been a significant player in the development of the USCG Nationwide Differential GPS (NDGPS), as well as a principal in the design and development of the USCG Nationwide AIS Client/Server architecture, and all AIS interface and network protocols. He has been bestowed several awards for his innovative research, including the Hammer Award from former Vice President Gore for his role in the development of the Differential Global Positioning System and a Civilian Service Commendation Medal for his work at the Coast Guard RDC between 1979 and 2018.

Madam Speaker, Lee's contributions to the U.S. Coast Guard and the effectiveness of our Nation's strategic communications are immeasurable. His life's work is clearly deserving of an equal amount of gratitude. His life and career, dedicated to public service, exist as an inspiration to those who follow in his footsteps. Although his retirement from the U.S. Coast Guard undoubtedly leaves large shoes to fill, we are grateful that the U.S. Coast Guard will continue to receive his support in retirement. To these ends, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring, thanking, and commending Lee Luft for his successful commitment to the public well-being and safety by immortalizing his career through the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

#### CELEBRATING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRAIRIE DU ROCHER, ILLINOIS

#### HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 11, 2022*

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 300th anniversary of Prairie du Rocher, Illinois.

Three centuries ago, French settlers established roots along the Mississippi River, where an open prairie stretched from near the river's edge to tall limestone bluffs.

They called the settlement Prairie du Rocher—"Prairie of the Rock." It once represented the western boundary of the United States; and it still stands as one of the finest historical and architectural examples of French Colonial Heritage in the United States.

Here they tilled the soil and built their homes, caring for their families, their community, and their land. Traditions, celebrations, and their social fabric have held fast to this day. In its tricentennial year, Prairie du Rocher seeks to preserve the historical significance of this city. In such a fast-moving, ever-changing world, it's more important than ever that we treasure such a unique past, as it moves forward in today's world.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating 300 years of Prairie du Rocher. May there be many, many more.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 2022 HIGH PLAINS HONOR FLIGHT

#### HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 11, 2022*

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of America's heroic veterans and to recognize the Honor Flight Network, which conducts annual trips for veterans to Washington, D.C., to tour the memorials built in celebration of their bravery. On May 15, 2022, High Plains Honor Flight gave many of our courageous veterans this extraordinary opportunity, flying them to our Nation's capitol. I am pleased to congratulate the May 15, 2022, High Plains Honor Flight and to acknowledge the World War II, Korean war, Vietnam war, and Gulf war veterans of Colorado who took part in it.

Madam Speaker, those who participated in this flight are as follows:

World War II Veterans: Frank Marsaglia and Willis Renter.

Korean war veterans: Frederick Ames, Marion Anderson, James Avgares, Harry Bieber, Eugene Bott, Myron House, Bernard Molley, Rudy Romero, Rupert Ross, Stanley Singer, Albert Vigil, Norman Vissering, and Kenneth Yarberry.

Veteran of both the Korean & Vietnam wars: James Coats.

Vietnam war veterans: James Aschenbrener, Michael Bagley, George Baker, Donald Bauer, Vernon Bauer, Robert Beers, Johnnie Bellington, Gerald Bragg, Kermit Bratten, Charles Breneman, Frank Brooks, Michael Brouwer, Keith Burner, Bruce Chandler, Monserrato Conder, Jr, Jackie Crow, Gary Davis, Barry Dibble, Walter Diehl, Rodney

Dimmick, Daniel Dorsey, III, Kenneth Dunnington, Gary Eisenberg, Danny Ely, Kenneth Emmons, William Esch, Richard Essebaggers, Mark Fidrych, Robert Fix, David Foster, Jerry Fox, Walter Fuller, Herbert Gagne, Ernest Gallardo, Chester Gallup, Robert Giguere, Douglas Gould, James Gregg, William Griffin, II, Ned Gurule, Richard Hannan, Dennis Hemphill, Wilfred Heppner, John Hohenstein, Robert Hopper, Carl Howell, William Hudson, Elias Huerta, Cy Johnson, William Kindel, Jr., Edward Kinsall, Rodney Knight, Rodney Koberstein, Richard Krebs, Dennis Laughlin, Gary Lebo, Donald Lebruska, Howard Leino, Charles Littrell, Francisco Lopez, Willard Martin, Clyde Martinez, John Martinez of Aurora, John Martinez of Fort Collins, Paul McMillen, Carl Meloche, Gary Merritt, Charles Miscio, Clair Morrison, Dennis Nagel, Daniel Nehls, Jerald Norris, Roy Orback, Larry Ouret, Edward Phillips, Ralph Phillips, Richard Phillips, Thomas Putney, Francisco Rioz, Terry Ritenour, George Ryan, Richard Sediva, Thomas Shover, Stephen Small, Larry Smith, Jimmie Smith, Jr., William Snyder, David Stalsworth, Jimmy Steggall, Richard Stokes, John Stude, Ronald Stugart, Newell Swanson, Dennis Swartz, Steven Tintes, Kenneth Trevithick, Kenneth Vegter, Kurt Voelkeit, Perry Walker, Robert Ward, William Weber, William Weigle, Robert Weiner, Jerry White, and Robert Wurdemann.

Veteran of the Gulf war: James Merryfield. It is my distinct privilege as the United States Representative of the 4th District of Colorado to recognize the honor, courage, and sacrifice of these heroes, along with that of all other members of America's Armed Forces. I thank them for their dedication and service to this nation.

#### OBSERVING THE LOSS OF JOSEPH SHELTRY

#### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 11, 2022*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the loss of a dedicated patriot, Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Joseph Francis Sheltry of Gales Ferry, Connecticut. A patriot at heart, LCDR Sheltry struck everyone he met with his sincere, personable and enthusiastic character. He led a distinguished career and fulfilling life prior to his untimely death on August 7th, 2020—a week before his 58th birthday. He is to be interred at Arlington National Cemetery this August, bearing us with a new opportunity to honor his memory.

Born in 1962 to Claire and Joseph Sheltry, Joseph was raised in Boston. From an early age, his parents instilled in him the value of service to one's community and Nation. Immediately upon graduating Dominic Savio Catholic High School in 1980, it was with those ideals in mind that Joseph enlisted in the Navy. It would just so happen that in that same inaugural year of service with the Navy that Joseph met his life partner and wife of 37 years—Lorraine—while working as a hospital corpsman for the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

It wasn't long until Joseph and Lorraine married in 1983. Soon after that, in 1985, Joseph was selected for the Enlisted Commis-

sioning Program and went on to receive a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry as the Honor Graduate from the University of Idaho. From there, he was selected for the Nuclear Propulsion Program and served on the USS *Lafayette* and the USS *Kamehameha*. Understanding the value of continuing education, Joseph returned to school following these deployments and received his Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School in California in 1994, followed by a second master's degree just a few years later.

Armed with such an extensive background, Joseph was assigned as the Navigator on the USS *Grayling*, where he deployed out of Groton, Connecticut. At this point in time, Joseph and Lorraine were ready to establish more permanent roots with what was by then a growing family. Just a day before his deployment, they moved into their first home in the neighboring village of Gales Ferry, Connecticut, with their two children, Jaclyn and Erica. It was within those few short years that LCDR was attached to Commander Submarine Group 4 Norfolk. Madam Speaker, it is worth emphasizing, however, that the nature of Joseph's life story was an interwoven, dutiful balance between family and service to one's country, as the naval officer could not help but return home to stand by his wife's side as their third child, Leah, came into the world.

Their family full, these central, dual tenets of service for LCDR Sheltry reverberated through the remainder of Joseph's vibrant life. After 21 years of service with the Navy, LCDR Sheltry officially retired in August 2001. Just about a month into retirement though, he was stirred back to action following the September 11th attacks and heeded the call of our Nation in mourning, stationing at U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Bahrain. He remained dedicated to the strength of our Navy following his tour in Bahrain, returning to his family in Gales Ferry while picking up work at Electric Boat in the neighboring town of Groton, Connecticut. From there, LCDR Sheltry transitioned to the Naval Undersea Warfare Division Newport as the Sensors and SONAR Systems Department Head until his passing nearly two years ago.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to represent constituents, who, exemplified by Joseph Sheltry, are constituted by such selfless devotion. Joseph's work had a direct impact on the betterment of our Nation's security, and, despite such an early passing, his contagious bright personality continues to live on through all those who knew him—particularly his family: surviving him are his wife Lorraine, three daughters, mother, siblings and extended family. He had such a genuine attitude and motivation to his aura, which he always purposed toward uplifting those around him. His positive force will not soon leave us. To these ends, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring LCDR Joseph Francis Sheltry, a committed servicemember, father, husband and shipmate, whose resolute loyalty acts as an example to us all, setting his name into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as his final place of rest at Arlington National Cemetery is prepared for him.

HONORING LANCE CPL. EVAN STRICKLAND

#### HON. YVETTE HERRELL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 11, 2022*

Ms. HERRELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of 19-year-old Lance Cpl. Evan Strickland of Valencia County, New Mexico. On June 8, he was tragically killed during an Osprey helicopter crash at a training exercise near San Diego, California. Lance Cpl. Strickland graduated Valencia High School in 2020, where he made an immense impact on his fellow peers.

He chose to serve our nation honorably in the United States Marine Corps within the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing as a tilt-rotor crew chief. Lance Cpl. Strickland will be remembered for his good-hearted personality, kind character, and calling to serve our nation. My deepest condolences are with his family, friends, and loved ones during this extremely difficult time. While he will be deeply missed by our nation and our communities across New Mexico, we will be forever grateful and remember Lance Cpl. Strickland.

REMEMBERING WILLIAM FLYNN, JR.

#### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 11, 2022*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of William Flynn, Jr., who passed away on Saturday, June 18, 2022, at the young age of 87.

Bill was born on December 10, 1934, in Philadelphia, PA, the son of William Flynn, Sr. and Rose Flynn (Rossillo). He was proud of his Irish-Italian upbringing in South Philadelphia. Bill's family moved to Natrona, Pennsylvania, after WWII. During the Korean war, while attending St. Vincent's College he had enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Germany, while stationed there he got his first taste of life in Europe. When he returned to the states he would enroll at Youngstown College for engineering, he joined the fraternity Alpha Phi Delta. While attending college he married his high school sweetheart, Anne Sebak.

In 1963 he was hired by Packard Electric as an engineer, and the family moved to Warren, OH. Bill would work in many different capacities while there, and made many lifetime friends there as well. Bill and Anne and family were a staple of the Northeast Warren neighborhood, where neighborhood kids were welcomed as their own, which would be a theme throughout Bill's life. He had so many hobbies and things that he loved to do, and with each came along an entire group of good friends and he enjoyed all of their company. Hunting, sailing, wine making, tennis and his MG.

He was a gifted but humble artist. He spent many summers at Mosquito Lake sailing at the Cortland Conservation Club, and enjoyed the banter of the Panera crew. He could be seen cruising around in his MG with Elmo riding "shotgun." Nothing meant more to him then spending time with friends and family. Sadly