

HONORING THE LEGACY OF
HERSHEL “WOODY” WILLIAMS

HON. DAVID B. MCKINLEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2022

Mr. MCKINLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Hershel “Woody” Williams. Williams was born the youngest of 11 children on a dairy farm in 1923 in Quiet Dell, West Virginia. In 1943, Williams enlisted in the Marine Corps and was sent to train at Camp Elliott in San Diego, California as a demolition man in the use of flamethrowers.

He served at the Battle of Iwo Jima with the 21st Marines, 3d Marine Division. During the battle, Chief Warrant Officer 4 (Ret.) Williams displayed a “valiant devotion to duty” and service above self as he “enabled his company to reach its objective” by charging enemy fortifications 5 separate times with his flamethrower.

On October 5, 1945, President Truman awarded Williams with the Medal of Honor for his actions, stating in his citation “Cpl. Williams’ aggressive fighting spirit and valiant devotion to duty throughout this fiercely contested action sustain and enhance the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.”

After World War II, he spent the rest of his life giving back to veterans and Gold Star Families, he worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for 33 years as a Veterans Service Representative, allowing him to continue serving veterans and their families.

Williams also established the Woody Williams Foundation to continue to serve Gold Star Families, and to date, the Woody Williams Foundation is responsible for establishing 104 Gold Star Families Memorial Monuments across the United States with more than 69 additional monuments underway in 50 states and 1 U.S. Territory.

Woody Williams’ selfless sacrifice as a World War II veteran, champion of service to Gold Star families, and was the last surviving Marine from World War II to wear the Medal of Honor. The Nation mourns the passing of this proud son of West Virginia.

He is a true embodiment of “The Greatest Generation.”

HONORING THE COURAGEOUS
CUBAN PEOPLE ON THE FIRST
ANNIVERSARY OF THE JULY
11TH PROTESTS ON THE ISLAND

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2022

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, I rise today in praise of the brave Cuban people who, one year ago, risked everything to demand freedom in every city and every province in Cuba. They did this knowing the consequences, and knowing that they were risking their lives, livelihoods, and would likely end up in prison. Much of the world remains in awe of their dedication and courage.

According to human rights groups such as CubaLex and Freedom House, more than 1,400 Cubans were detained, including approximately 45 children, in the wake of these

protests. At least 700 remain in prison since the July 11 protests began. To date, more than 550 protesters have been sentenced to more than 4,000 combined years in prison. Some have been sentenced to forced labor. Many, including children, were handed multi-year prison sentences for 6 to 30 years, and remain in prison to this day. Some of those in prison today include:

Jose Daniel Ferrer of UNPACU; Luis Manuel Otero Alcantara and Maykel “Osorbo” Castillo of the San Isidro Movement; Jose Diaz Silva of the Opposition Movement for a New Republic; Arianna Lopez Roque of the Julio Machado Academy; 17-year-old Emiyosian Roman Rodriguez who shouted “Patria Y Vida,” and was sent to a forced labor camp for five years; Duannis Dabel Leon Taboada, a 22-year-old barber who was sentenced to 14 years; Young women such as Lisandra Gongora Espinosa, and the Garrido sisters; Loreto Hernandez and Donaida Perez; along with hundreds of others.

I have been appalled by the Biden Administration’s lack of response to this historic upswell of support for democratic change inside totalitarian Cuba. Instead of unequivocal solidarity with the protesters, the Biden Administration instead has barreled ahead with failed policies to increase revenue to the regime. It has lifted restrictions on remittances, increased travel, and permitted support for “independent” and “semi-independent” businesses, which do not exist in closed Communist economies. For this reason, we know that weakened sanctions will only increase revenue to the Cuban military, which runs much of the Cuban economy including the tourism industry, and enrich the Cuban people’s oppressors.

Shamefully, the Biden Administration has requested, and is in the process of implementing, draconian cuts to the Office of Cuba Broadcasting at a time when the Cuban people need access to outside, independent information more than ever. And the administration has yet to attempt to provide internet access, and expand democracy programs, to assist the Cuban people achieve freedom.

Nonetheless, the United States will continue to stand with the Cuban people, and find ways to cut off revenue to their oppressors. We must ensure that the broadcasts continue, and that critical support to political prisoners, their families, and the democratic opposition continues. Despite the Biden Administration’s best efforts to appease and embolden the murderous regime in Cuba, the Cuban people will be free.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RODRIGO
“ROD” GARCIA

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2022

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, achievements, and legacy of Rodrigo “Rod” Garcia, a respected visionary, leader, and advocate, for his lifelong dedication to empowering the Hispanic community to achieve educational excellence, economic opportunity, and social equity.

Rodrigo “Rod” Garcia was born on March 29, 1943, in Los Angeles, California to Gene-

vieve Hernandez and Rodrigo Garcia. He earned an Associate’s Degree in Engineering from East Los Angeles College, and a Bachelor’s Degree of Science in Engineering from California State University, Los Angeles.

Rod served as a civil engineer for the City of Los Angeles and worked in Public Works, Building and Safety, and at the Port of Los Angeles. Additionally, Rod chaired the City of Monterey Park Planning Commission, and served on the Advisory Board for the Dean of Engineering at California State University.

Rod was one of the few Hispanic engineers amidst a tech boom in California in the early seventies. Despite being in the minority in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) field, he gathered a cohort of fellow Hispanic engineers determined to contribute and diversify the STEM industry.

In 1974, Rod founded and incorporated the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) with the mission of ensuring networking and education opportunities for Hispanic students and professionals in the Southern California region. Not too long after and with the collaboration of Administrators, professors, and students at California State University, East Los Angeles College, and the University of Southern California, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers established its first collegiate chapters.

The result of five decades of Rod’s high-spirited and fearless leadership propelled the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers to reach 13,000 members and 286 chapters nationwide. His unique ability of uniting community partners and leaders around the country will serve as evidence that closing the STEM education gap and increasing the number of Hispanics in STEM can and will be done.

Rod is remembered by his colleagues and thousands of current and former SHPE students and professionals for his devotion and service to expanding awareness, access, support, and development opportunities to Hispanics in STEM to realize their fullest potential and positively impact society. His legacy of empowering the Hispanic community to achieve educational excellence, economic opportunity, and social equity will guide many generations to come.

Mr. Garcia is survived by his wife, Cynthia Cathy Wong, and his children Marlene Tomasina Zamora, Marianne Pilar Garcia, and Rodrick Fitzgerald Garcia.

Madam Speaker, I extend my deepest sympathies to the family, colleagues, and friends of Rodrigo “Rod” Garcia, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing his incredibly life of service for others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2022

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I missed one roll call vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YES on Roll Call No. 338, Speier of California Part A Amendment No. 395.

I was proud to vote for final passage of H.R. 7900, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 that included Rep. Speier’s Amendment No. 395.

HONORING ROBERT T. DOYLE

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2022

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the significant career and accomplishments of Robert T. Doyle on the occasion of his retirement as Marin County Sheriff following nearly 53 years of exemplary service at the Sheriff's Office.

A Bay Area native and Marin County resident for five decades, Sheriff Doyle has dedicated his life and career to the public good. In 1966, he enlisted in the United States Army, serving stateside in California and Oklahoma, and overseas in Germany and Vietnam. Three years later, he left the Army to settle in Marin, joining the Sheriff's Office in November 1969.

Since 1969, Sheriff Doyle has excelled in a variety of roles across the Patrol, Custody, and Court Divisions, rising from the rank of Deputy Sheriff to Captain. He commanded both the Southern Marin Patrol Station and the Marin County Jail before being appointed Undersheriff in December 1988. In March 1996, he was then appointed to be Sheriff of Marin County. He went on to win reelection to the role six successive times. Throughout his tenure, he has stood out as a true leader in the community, always focusing on doing what was best for Marin County and its residents.

Sheriff Doyle's stewardship of the law enforcement profession extended outside of his official role in government. He served as President of the California State Sheriffs' Association, two-term President of the Marin County Police Chiefs' Association, and Chair of the California State Sheriffs' Legislative Committee. He was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger to serve as a member of the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, and by Governor Wilson to represent the State Sheriffs on the State Task Force on Court Facilities. He has diligently supported other community causes, serving as the Novato Youth Soccer Association Treasurer and as a member of the Fight Crime: Invest in Kids California Executive Committee.

Madam Speaker, Sheriff Robert T. Doyle's career is a sterling example of public service and dedication to the law and community. Please join me in honoring Sheriff Doyle on his retirement, and in wishing him the best of luck in future endeavors.

HONORING THE LATE NELSON L. GROVATT, JR.

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2022

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Nelson L. Grovatt Jr., a beloved member of our community who passed away on May 24, 2022 at the age of 93. Husband to the late Thelma and the father of the late Alan, Nelson is survived by his brother Clarence, his sons, Larry and Wayne, and his grandchildren, Travis, Kaitlin, Tyler, and Trever.

A true gentleman farmer, anyone who knew Nelson could speak to his heart and passion

both for farming and giving back to his community. A lifelong resident of Rancocas in Westampton Township, and part of the third generation to farm on his family's land, he worked hard until he was 82, and was particularly known for his soybeans. Nelson always made time for people no matter how long the workday kept him out. He would often share his knowledge of farming with anyone eager to learn about the tractors, farming equipment, and what it takes to be successful. He loved his work and even after stepping out of the tractor for the last time, kept a small garden growing fruits and vegetables.

Nelson was also devoted to public service and was recognized as a Founding Father of Westampton Township. Extremely active in both his community and church, Nelson was dedicated to the growth of his hometown. A man of unwavering faith, Nelson served as a Deacon at various local churches while also taking on numerous roles within the community. From the beginnings of Westampton Township, he was a leader of the committee to develop its first police force and eventually served as the town's first Police Commissioner. He went on to serve on the Township Committee for 11 years and was elected Mayor for two years.

Outside his work, Nelson proudly worked to preserve the history of the township as it grew, often sharing his collection of Native American artifacts from the Ancocas Natives that had settled near the Rancocas Creek. He also loved recalling and sharing family stories alongside the robust history and knowledge of the Rancocas community.

Nelson was a kind soul that lived out his faith in all he did and never sought praise. We were lucky to live with Nelson as part of our community. My heart goes out to Nelson's entire family and for those that knew him, even for the most fleeting moments; he will be missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2022

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, on the evening of Thursday, July 14, 2022, I was unavoidably detained and failed to record my vote on Roll Call No. 346, DEGETTE of Colorado Part A Amendment No. 456 to H.R. 7900; Roll Call No. 347, EVANS of Pennsylvania Part A Amendment No. 461 to H.R. 7900; and Roll Call No. 348, CONNOLLY of Virginia Part A Amendment No. 495 to H.R. 7900.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 346, YEA on Roll Call No. 347, and YEA on Roll Call No. 348.

RECOGNIZING THE 34TH ANNUAL ROBERTO CLEMENTE GALA HONOREES

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2022

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Assemblywoman Yvonne

Lopez and Hispanic Federation as they are honored by the Puerto Rican Association for Human Development (PRAHD) at its 34th Annual Roberto Clemente Gala on July 22, 2022. It is my privilege to recognize the outstanding efforts of PRAHD and this year's gala honorees.

Former Executive Director/CEO of PRAHD, the Honorable Yvonne Lopez represents the 19th Legislative District of New Jersey and currently serves as Deputy Speaker of the Assembly. She is also Chair of the Housing Committee, a member of the Transportation and Independent Authorities committee, Financial Institutions and Insurance committee, and Joint Committee on Housing Affordability, as well as a member of the NJ Legislative Latino Caucus and National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators. She also served on the Complete Counts Commission and the New Jersey Puerto Rico Commission and previously worked in the private sector as Vice President/Community Affairs Manager for Wachovia Banks. In her capacity at PRAHD, Assemblywoman Lopez oversaw the operations and management of the organization while cultivating community and public relations. Assemblywoman Lopez truly embodies the spirit of the Roberto Clemente Award and I join with PRAHD in applauding her leadership and service to the community.

Partner of the Year Award recipient, Hispanic Federation, echoes the mission of PRAHD. Its advocacy efforts, programs, and public education initiatives support community organizations and strengthen individuals and families. Its work assists individuals to obtain health insurance, citizenship and civics education, job training, childhood literacy skills, college preparation, and more. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Hispanic Federation provided relief and recovery grants to local organizations and small businesses and held a national outreach campaign to educate Latinos on COVID-19 vaccines. Hispanic Federation continues to promote Latino interests and uplift the Hispanic community and its efforts are to be commended.

For nearly 50 years, PRAHD has provided outstanding support to our local communities. Its comprehensive services and programs promote self-sufficiency and community involvement. I applaud PRAHD for its dedication to improving the well-being of our communities and the evening's honorees for their commitment to service and action.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez and Hispanic Federation for their contributions to the community and congratulating them on this well-deserved recognition by PRAHD.

NORTHWEST ORDINANCE

HON. GARY J. PALMER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2022

Mr. PALMER. Madam Speaker, Wednesday was the 235th anniversary of the passage of the Northwest Ordinance.

The Northwest Ordinance, passed on July 13, 1787 under the Articles of Confederation, created the Northwest Territory which would eventually become the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin.