

style, "He had reached his target, after all; his blade was entering his target's body, over and over again, and he had every reason to think he had succeeded in his endeavor and was standing on the stage of history . . . But then he was dragged off me and pinned down. His twenty-seven seconds of fame were over. He was nobody again." Obviously, the author's anger at his attacker who had sought to serve his God at the cost of his victim's life, is tangible. He did suffer from PTSD manifested still in weekly nightmares, and credits writing this book to his literary agent, Andrew Wylie's urging, though reluctant and thinking that his time as an author was over, while expecting the publication of his twenty-first book, *Victory City*.

We are all better off for Rushdie's positive decision at a trying crossroad. Losing one eye and enduring six weeks in two hospitals, he however retained his biting humor, "Don't worry I'm the champion of draining fluids." Celebrating his "return to the world," he likened his joyful leaving the hospital to becoming a US citizen in New York in 2016, though this time surrounded by tight security. Ever pondering the meaning of the knife, the tool through which he was expected to die, the meticulous author offers profound reflections on his own artistic knife that is no less consequential without cutting into human flesh, "language, too was a knife. It could cut open the world and reveal its meaning, its inner workings, its secrets, its truths. It could cut through from one reality to another. It could call bullshit, open people's eyes, create beauty. Language was my knife."

Indeed, the author's heroic speaking truth to power before and after the ghastly attack that almost cost his life dedicated to the best in humanity, posits him with our revered teachers and sages uplifting humanity by pointing at its shortcomings. Rushdie reminds me of my late great friend, Eli Wiesel, winner of the Noble Peace Prize. Surely Rushdie too has earned it and/or the Nobel Literature Prize, for his immense contribution toward a sane world. Speaking on May 13, 2022, in the United Nations on behalf of PEN America on the writers' potential contribution in a troubled world facing the Ukraine war, Rushdie did not mince words, harshly criticizing Putin while praising Zelenskyy.

He also expressed grave concern on the role of white supremacy in turning America back and backwards, the deadly attack at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue, yet aiming sharp barbs at his own birthplace India for its religious Hindu-Muslim wars threatening democracy. Regarding himself as non-religious, his deep concern is with religion's proclivity for violence and its need to remain in the private sphere. Reflecting on the September 11 Twin Towers attack, "An aircraft could be a knife, too." He gratefully recalls deceased Egyptian author and Nobel Literature Laureate, Naguib Mahfouz, who opposed the Fatwa against Rushdie, prompting an Islamist terrorist to attack him on October 14, 1994, but he survived. This remarkable book's contribution—testimonial by a great author and humanitarian is both a warning and a celebration."

REMEMBERING THE OUTSTANDING LIFE OF THE LATE DOUGLAS A. HARGRAY

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Late Honorable

Douglas A. "Doug" Hargray, as he passed away at the tender age of 58, though a true fighter as a 31-year quadriplegic following a motor vehicle accident.

Doug was born May 21, 1965, in Chicago, Illinois. In his early years, he attended Charles Wacker Elementary School. As a courageous youth, he was an active member of the Cub Scouts and later the Boy Scouts of America. He attended summer camp at Culver Military in Culver, Indiana, from 7 to 10 years old. Doug was awarded first place in a science fair, allowing him to showcase his ideas at a District Science Fair thereafter. Doug then attended Saint Ignatius College Prep for high school in Chicago, IL, graduating in 1983.

Doug was beyond excited to have been accepted and enrolled at Xavier University of Louisiana, located in New Orleans, Louisiana, an institution in my district, of which I am a proud alumnus. After only one year on campus, Doug pledged the most auspicious fraternity Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc.'s Beta Iota Chapter, at Xavier University of Louisiana in 1984. To further define his true fraternal dedication, he was a life member of this outstanding organization, a great fraternity brother, and a mentor to many young men.

After his time at Xavier University, he enrolled at Meharry Medical College to pursue a master's degree in public health. Sadly, during his time at Meharry Medical College, he was seriously injured in a motor vehicle accident on April 21, 1991, leaving him a quadriplegic. He was to enroll as a medical school student later that year.

Doug's gift to serve as an exceptional role model did not only help youth, family, and friends; he also was a significant role model to those that cared for him as a quadriplegic; what a true gift from God. I know that I will miss the opportunity to connect with Doug. He has been a great inspiration to me, and I credit him for the encouragement he offered throughout my political career. His kind words have always been an inspiration to me.

I will forever carry Doug as an Angel on my shoulder, guiding me to further propel in future life achievements. He will truly be missed, warmly thought of, and forever loved for endless years to come. Though his passing brings a tear to our eyes, may all the love, support, and great times bring a smile to our faces as we forever cherish his memories.

May he take his rest in God's Kingdom. His life, legacy, and impact on those he touched will forever be remembered.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANDREW S. CLYDE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, due to the Cloudstrike outage, I experienced extreme flight delays and was delayed at the Atlanta airport for twelve hours.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 356; NAY on Roll Call No. 357; and NAY on Roll Call No. 358.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. MCHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to cast my votes for S. Amdt. 3249 or H.R. 8812.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 356, and YEA on Roll Call No. 358.

RECOGNIZING THE PROFOUND SERVICE OF GIANNA EMANUELA MOLLA

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the living legacy of Gianna Emanuela Molla, MD—who has dedicated her life to the health of women and children as she serves and advocates for the sanctity of life. Her journey, intertwined with compassion, dedication, and profound faith, serves as an inspiration to all who seek to make a difference in this world.

Her mother, Saint Gianna Beretta Molla, showed immeasurable courage during her pregnancy while facing a life-threatening condition. In the end, she was forced to make the hardest choice, herself or her daughter. She heroically chose to prioritize her unborn child, demonstrating a profound act of sacrificial love as a testament to her unwavering belief in the sanctity of all life, a belief that guided her every action and decision.

Continuing in this legacy, Gianna Emanuela Molla has traveled the world bringing a message of hope, love, and maternal appreciation. She actively supports initiatives that promote life-affirming values and contribute to organizations that assist women facing difficult pregnancies. Her life of service extend beyond the confines of her clinic, touching many through her kindness, generosity, and unwavering faith.

Her service is a reminder that we must be grounded in a deep appreciation for life—because there is no greater gift.

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVE SHEILA JACKSON LEE

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, tonight, we mourn the loss of our dear friend, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE.

She was a fighter, a fierce intellect, and above all, a force. Her presence here in Washington—for almost 30 years—was unmatched.

Her constituents were not only the good people of Houston; they were the disadvantaged looking for an opportunity, the destitute

looking for a new start in our country, and the vulnerable looking for an advocate.

I have no doubt that her legacy of fearless leadership and commitment to her community will continue to inspire generations.

It would be impossible to distill Congresswoman JACKSON LEE's three decades of service in Congress here tonight but suffice it to say there was not a subject worthy of attention that she ignored.

As a Member of the Homeland Security Committee since it became a standing committee almost 20 years ago, Congresswoman JACKSON LEE fought for resources for first responders, help for those suffering the effects of natural disasters, and immigration policies that reflect our values as a Nation of immigrants.

Congresswoman JACKSON LEE's reputation preceded her. On Capitol Hill, it appeared that she could be in more than one place at once.

Within one hour, the congresswoman could be observed giving a floor speech, participating in a committee hearing on a topic she cared about whether or not she was a Member of the committee, and then giving remarks at an event to support a cause.

She was relentless, and every cause she took on was better because of it. The Nation owes her a debt of gratitude.

I am grateful that Congresswoman JACKSON LEE decided to lend her immeasurable energy and tenacity to the Homeland Security Committee. Her absence will be felt just as much as her presence, and we will miss her dearly.

Tonight, we continue our prayers for her family, friends, and constituents.

May God bless SHEILA JACKSON LEE.

TRIBUTE TO THE BURBANK COMMUNITY YMCA ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Burbank Community YMCA, located in Burbank, California.

The Burbank Community YMCA was founded in 1924 with a commitment to strengthen individuals through youth development, social responsibility and healthy living. Starting from humble beginnings in a single room, the Burbank Community YMCA has grown into a vital community resource, mirroring the national YMCA's vision of creating stronger communities and a more equitable society by providing comprehensive services and programs. The Burbank YMCA boasts an impressive 57,000 square foot Child Development Center, which provides educationally enriching after-school programs and preschool education, a three-story physical fitness facility, an aquatic center and indoor pool and the Y's Choice Café, which offers healthy refreshments as well as a social gathering area.

The Burbank Community YMCA has a wide array of programs in an inclusive environment to help children, individuals and families, regardless of age, socioeconomic status, race, gender, gender expression and identity, ethnicity, religion, cultural background or ability to reach their full potential and become stronger

in spirit, mind and body. Programs include family, adult and senior fitness, and youth sports such as swimming and diving lessons and events, baseball, and gymnastics, and "Learn, Grow, Thrive," an educational summer camp in partnership with the Burbank Unified School District for children and youth from low-income households. The YMCA also has the Social Impact Center which opened in 2021, an LGBTQIA+ Resource Center that supports LGBTQIA+ youth and their families, and a robust Youth in Government program.

The Burbank Community YMCA has been an essential force in Burbank, making a positive difference in individuals' lives. The impact over the past century is a testament to its hardworking, committed staff and volunteers, and the residents of Burbank are indeed fortunate to have such a beloved and revered institution in their community.

I ask all Members to join me in congratulating the Burbank Community YMCA for a century of dedication to the greater Burbank area.

REMEMBERING THE REMARKABLE LIFE OF JUDY SCHNEIDER

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and service of Judy Schneider. The stories told at her retirement reception in 2019 were full of laughter and more than a few tears. Talk about a life well-lived.

Judy started her public service career working on committees in both chambers focused on congressional reform. She then became an analyst at the non-partisan Congressional Research Service. As each of us well knows, Judy then went on to befriend, mentor, and provide so much more to Members of Congress and their staff as a specialist on all things Congress over the next four decades.

Funny, foul-mouthed, and just opinionated, Judy had a deep love of both democracy and Congress. Whether a Staff Assistant or a Chief of Staff, a Member of the House or a Senator, she consistently passed along her love and knowledge for how the game is really played in Congress.

Through her work, Judy sought to develop not only an educated Member or an educated congressional staffer, but to live up to what the Founding Fathers envisioned and expected of an educated constituency.

But the gift Judy shared and taught so many through her exacting lectures and conversations was to train each Member and each staffer so Congress functions better, so that democracy functions better.

It is my true hope that wisdom is never lost by those who have the honor of working in this institution and complex.

There have been 56 Speakers of the House of Representatives and 45 Presidents of the United States. There has only been one Judy Schneider.

To ascribe so many positive qualities to one individual might be seen as the usual gilding of the lily. In the case of Judy, it was simply the truth. My life, this institution of Congress, and our country are better off thanks to her 43 years of Congressional service and life here

on Earth with us. May her memory be a blessing.

PASSING OF REP. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, the people of Texas have lost a great leader and a devoted public servant, and we in the Congressional Black Caucus have lost a dear friend.

I join in sending my heartfelt condolences to her husband, Dr. Elwyn Lee, their two children: Jason and Erica, and their two grandkids: Ellison and Roy during this difficult time.

Congresswoman Jackson Lee was more than just a colleague. She was my sorority sister, a mentor, and a dear friend. She was never afraid to stand up for what she believed, and she never stopped fighting for the people she served.

There is no question that our Nation is better off for her decades of public service and her tireless advocacy on behalf of her constituents.

A champion for racial justice, police reform, and combating violence against women, Sheila will be remembered as a fierce advocate, not only for the people of Texas, but Americans all across this Nation.

To know that her life was cut short by a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer is heartbreaking. It is the very same disease that claimed the life of our dear colleague, John Lewis, and my beloved mother, Nancy Gardner Sewell. By the end of this year, an estimated 51,000 Americans will lose their battles to pancreatic cancer as well. This is why I have made it my mission to reduce racial disparities in this disease to double down on our Nation's effort to prevent, screen, treat, and eventually find a cure.

Sheila will be dearly missed in the House of Representatives. I will always cherish her mentorship and her words of wisdom. She always inspired us to work harder and fight harder for the people we represent.

I join my colleagues in celebrating her extraordinary life and career. May her legacy live on through the many lives she touched.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARCUS J. MOLINARO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, I was absent because of flight issues. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 356; YEA on Roll Call No. 357; YEA on Roll Call No. 358; YEA on Roll Call No. 359; YEA on Roll Call No. 360; YEA on Roll Call No. 361; and YEA on Roll Call No. 362.