

CA who recently passed away at the age of 77 years old.

Ken was born on July 29, 1947, to Tom and Emily (McCornack) Freeman in Atascadero, CA. He was raised at Walking Y Ranch, in San Ardo the family's farm located on 4,000-acres. Due to the isolation of the community, Ken received a special Driver's License at the age of 14 allowing him to attend King City High School which was a 40 mile drive each way. While in high school, Ken played baseball, football, participated in FFA, and became an Eagle Scout.

Ken would go on to attend California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, earning his Bachelor's Degree in Agribusiness Management in 1969. Ken would marry his first wife Marilyn Wilson of 32 years, whom he met while they both attended Cal Poly. Ken would then attend the University of Nevada, Reno earning two Master's Degrees. During college, Ken worked as an oil field drill hand in San Ardo, at the Cal Poly Power Plant, and as a resource researcher in Reno.

Ken and his family would move to Yuba City in 1977. The young family would purchase Feather River Mills, Inc. a western wear, tack, animal supply, and feed store. He would serve as the CEO and lead the daily operations of the business for the next 26 years where he valued his staff, customers, and community. The family would keep the business going until 2003.

Ken also taught Ag Business, Business Management, and Animal Science classes at Yuba College for over 20 years and greatly enjoyed his students. In 2002, Ken married his second wife Sharron Perkey of 22 years, adding two stepchildren to the family. Ken loved Sharron deeply and was grateful for the many years they had together.

Ken was known as a community leader in the Yuba-Sutter area, founding several causes like the Youth in Agriculture and the Tri-Counties Jr. Rodeo. He was also one of the founders of Focus Marysville and the Marysville Historic Fair. He was also an active member of the Sutter County Masonic Lodge, Sutter County Sheriff's Posse, the Exchange Club, Yuba-Sutter Fair Junior Livestock Committee, Yuba-Sutter Chamber of Commerce, Yuba-Sutter Economic Development Corporation, and conducted fundraisers for Saint Jude Children's Hospital along with many other community groups.

Ken is survived by his daughters, Kim Freeman and Sandy Fowler, stepdaughter, April Rogers, sister Kathy Rossi, and 9 grandchildren. Ken was truly a leader, and his passing will be felt by all those who knew him. Rest in Peace.

HONORING AND REMEMBERING LYONETTE SUE THOMAS

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today to honor and remember Lyonette Sue Thomas, a woman of extraordinary strength, devotion, and kindness. Lyonette's life was tragically cut short on August 7, 2024, at the age of 38. Her passing leaves a void in the hearts of all who

knew her, and it is only fitting that we take a moment to reflect on the remarkable life she lived.

Lyonette dedicated her life to the service of others, most notably as a distinguished agent with the 15th Drug Task Force. Her commitment to her work was unwavering, and she served with honor, distinction, and a tireless spirit that inspired those around her. As the first female president of the Arkansas Narcotics Officers Association, she pioneered the path for women in this area of law enforcement.

Her dedication extended beyond her professional life; Lyonette was a loyal supporter of the Arkansas Razorbacks and the Dallas Cowboys, finding joy in every game and celebration. Her love for the great outdoors was equally profound—whether she was deer hunting, trout fishing, tending to her cows, or enjoying a ride on her side-by-side, Lyonette found peace and happiness in nature.

But above all, Lyonette's greatest joy was reserved for her family. Her daughter, Raylyn Sue, and husband Austin were the lights of her life. Her love for family was the foundation of her life, and it was in their company that she found her greatest joy.

Lyonette was also an adventurer at heart, embracing every opportunity to travel across the United States, creating memories that will be cherished by all who accompanied her. Lyonette's closest friends describe her as "a big deal, the main attraction, and someone who made a difference." It is evident that her kindness, radiant smile, and generous spirit touched the lives of many, leaving an indelible mark on all who were fortunate enough to know her.

As we remember Lyonette Thomas, let us honor her life by embodying the qualities she so beautifully exemplified—service, dedication, love, and kindness. Lyonette's legacy is one of love for her family, passion for her work, and a zest for life that will never be forgotten. May we carry her memory with us, and may her family find comfort in knowing that Lyonette's impact on this world was profound and lasting.

RECOGNIZING SERVICIOS DE LA RAZA

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Servicios de la Raza of Denver, Colorado in honor of their 11th Annual Raíces Latinas Gala.

Denver Chicano and Chicana activists first founded Servicios de la Raza in 1972 to provide community engagement and economic opportunities for low-income Spanish speakers throughout Colorado. Today, Servicios de la Raza provides a variety of life-changing services for all Coloradans, including a food pantry, clothing bank, job search assistance, and re-entry programs for Coloradans leaving incarceration. Last year, Servicios de la Raza served over 93,000 Coloradans.

The annual Raíces Latinas Gala is a celebration of culture and diversity and honors outstanding community leaders whose activism and community service exemplifies Servicios' mission of inclusion, justice, equity, and peace.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Servicios de la Raza for their Raíces Latinas Gala and thank them for their contributions to the Colorado community.

HONORING THE 108TH BIRTHDAY OF LAVERNE MYRICK

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Hazel Laverne Myrick on the momentous milestone of her 108th birthday.

Mrs. Myrick was born on August 20, 1916, in the town of Taloga, Oklahoma. As a member of the Greatest Generation, she demonstrated a strong work ethic and sense of responsibility while taking a job at her local drugstore from the young age of 12. Throughout her youth she enjoyed an active lifestyle, playing a multitude of sports, including golf, baseball, basketball, and bowling.

In 1975, Laverne moved to Harlingen, Texas, where she continues to reside surrounded by family and loved ones.

A devout Christian, her faith has held strong and inspires us all to never lose sight of our morals and values. Her life story and firecracker energy are an inspiration to us all.

I am proud to represent constituents like Mrs. Myrick whose wisdom and strength continues to have an unimaginable impact on our community and her loved ones. In the words of Laverne—"You do the right thing at all time, and at the right time. You don't do it just the first time. You do it all the time no matter how much it hurts."

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mrs. Hazel Laverne Myrick on such an exceptional occasion and wish her the best on her special day.

HONORING RALPH WALDO ANDERSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD the following Resolution in honor of Mr. Ralph Waldo Anderson.

Whereas, Ralph Waldo Anderson was born in Greenbush, Minnesota, on September 23, 1934. Known to all simply as "Waldo," from hardworking roots on the farm he has prospered to a full and active life.

Whereas, Waldo had his first airplane ride from a nearby farm field in 1946.

Whereas, Waldo enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1957. He trained as a mechanic and was assigned to Smoky Hill AFB in Salina, Kansas. There, he took flying lessons with the local military flying club, where he earned his Private and Commercial Pilot certificates.

Whereas, in 1959, Waldo was hired by the University of Minnesota as an instructor for the university flight facility at Anoka County Airport.

Whereas, by 1967, Waldo became the Chief Pilot for the University of Minnesota.

Whereas, Waldo transported university officials, including presidents and coaches, and made more than 1,000 organ transplant flights and medical assistance flights with hospital medics.

Whereas, in September 1972, Waldo rescued a student pilot after distress calls could not be heard by local air traffic control. Anderson was commended by the National Association of Air Traffic Specialists for his "calm, cool reassurances" that brought the plane back to a safe landing.

Whereas, Waldo retired from the University of Minnesota in 1996 but never from flying.

Whereas, Waldo has been an FAA Designated Pilot Examiner since 1967 and has flown more than 33,000 hours in more than 50 different aircraft.

Whereas, Waldo has been an instructor with the American Bonanza Society for more than 26 years.

Whereas, Waldo has provided flight instruction to countless pilots, including a NASA astronaut and more than 40 pilots now flying for commercial airlines, including two nephews who are captains with Delta Airlines.

Whereas, Waldo's vast network and experience also includes brushes with Hollywood. He has trained many celebrities, including Harrison Ford, and flew a 1929 Sikorsky S-38 in the movie "The Aviator" with Leonardo DiCaprio and Cate Blanchett.

Whereas, Waldo is an accomplished airplane appraiser, providing reliable appraisals to satisfied customers across the country. Among the more interesting planes that he tracked down was one of the original Bellanca's that made up the fleet for Hawaiian Airlines at its founding. The plane was restored and featured in the airline's 80th anniversary celebration and he was invited to visit the restored plane in Honolulu.

Whereas, for all these accomplishments and more, Ralph Waldo Anderson was inducted into the Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame in 2008.

Whereas, Waldo has been married to Ruth Anderson for over 59 years, raising five children together, and spends time in Minnesota and Arizona, with visits to every airport in between.

Whereas, Waldo celebrates his 90th birthday on September 23, 2024, and continues to fly, instruct, appraise, and enjoy planes, with no signs of stopping. Now, therefore, be it recognized,

That I honor Ralph Waldo Anderson for his distinguished career and outstanding service to the United States of America, to the state of Minnesota, to the profession of aviation, and to the instruction of pilots.

RECOGNIZING ARVADA ELKS LODGE NO. 2278

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Arvada Elks Fraternal Order Lodge No. 2278 of Arvada, Colorado for winning the Arvada Economic Development Association's 2024 Community Partnership Award. Each year this award goes to an Arvada organization that demonstrates a strong commit-

ment to serving their community through outreach, engagement, and impact on local issues.

Members began Arvada Elks Fraternal Order in 1963 with the mission of giving back to their community. Today, over 1,200 members support their mission of providing "charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity" to the local community. Their service projects have a wide reach, from providing drug-use education in schools and awarding college scholarships to Arvada high school students to purchasing groceries for families in need and raising money for the families of fallen law enforcement officers. Their philanthropy work has made a large impact on countless veterans, children, and families throughout Jefferson County.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate the Arvada Elks Fraternal Order Lodge No. 2278 for winning the Community Partnership Award and thank them for their contributions to the Arvada community.

HONORING SERGEANT LORENZO F. GARRISI AS THE AUGUST VET- ERAN OF THE MONTH FOR MICHIGAN'S 9TH DISTRICT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary service and contributions of Sergeant Lorenzo F. Garrisi, our esteemed August Veteran of the Month for Michigan's 9th Congressional District. Mr. Garrisi's life is a testament to courage, dedication, and unwavering commitment both during his service in the U.S. Army and his work in our community.

Born in Balestrate, Sicily, Lorenzo immigrated to the United States at the age of 7, arriving through Ellis Island, New York, before moving with his family to Detroit. After graduating from East Detroit High School, he attended Lawrence Technological University. However, at the age of 20, Lorenzo left his studies to support his family by working in the family business, Ornamental Iron Works. His sense of duty extended beyond his family obligations when he was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War on November 14, 1967.

Lorenzo's military career began with basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and he was soon assigned to the 11th Armored Cavalry, First Squadron (C Troop), under the command of General George S. Patton, Jr. His valor and resilience were evident throughout his service in Vietnam. By April 1968, he was deployed to Vietnam, where his bravery and leadership shone brightly. Within a year, Lorenzo was promoted to Sergeant at the age of 21, and he was entrusted with significant responsibilities, including serving as a driver for General Patton on occasion.

Lorenzo's service was marked by extraordinary heroism. He earned two Purple Hearts—one for surviving deadly crossfire while scouting to report back to his base, and another for sustaining shrapnel injuries in his face and back after an RPG attack on the tank he was driving. His selflessness and courage

were further recognized with a Bronze Star for saving his captain's life and carrying him to safety following an ambush.

After his distinguished service, Lorenzo returned home and married his wife, Antoinette, in the spring of 1971. Together, they raised three children. Lorenzo then embarked on a successful career as a builder, founding "Sunshine Homes" in the early 1980s. Now retired, Lorenzo continues to serve his community with the same dedication he showed in his military career. As the current president of the "Americans of Italian Origin" (AIO), he plays a pivotal role in the AIO Annual Seafood Dinner, raising thousands of dollars in scholarships for the children and grandchildren of local Italian Americans. Lorenzo also contributes to the Quality of Life Committee of "Focus Macomb," offering valuable recommendations to improve living conditions in Macomb County. His past involvement with the Italian American Chamber of Commerce further highlights his commitment to community service.

Mr. Speaker, Lorenzo F. Garrisi's life of service and leadership exemplifies the highest ideals of patriotism and dedication. His heroism in Vietnam and his continued community service serves as a beacon of inspiration for us all. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude and admiration for Sergeant Lorenzo F. Garrisi's exemplary service to our country and community.

HONORING THE PITT COUNTY ALL- STARS

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pitt County Girls Softball League 12u All-Stars for its historic win in the 2024 Little League Softball World Series Championship in its own home of Pitt County. It was an extraordinary achievement, especially since they won the World Series in their hometown representing their hometown. Twelve young female athletes represented Pitt County in the championship: Caroline Reynolds, Candace Lynn, Braelyn Johnson, Kenzie Carson, Emery Peebles, Anna Rose, Isabella Ford, Brooklyn Medhus, Emma Pilgreen, Aurora Edwards, Brooke Rose, and Mikalya Bateman led by three coaches: Percy Edwards, Brandon Peebles, and Brad Medhus.

Pitt County entered the tournament as underdogs but defied expectations by winning five consecutive games in the weeklong series. Coaches Edwards, Peebles and Medhus team's defense was so strong they never even allowed their opponents to score a single run. Even though Hurricane Debby's storms tried to damper and delay the series by two days, she didn't keep our Pitt County Girls 12u All-Stars down for long. These young female athletes and their coaches inspired a community that loves its softball and baseball. The girls and coaches put in so much effort practicing nearly year-round. These team members embody the best qualities of Pitt County: perseverance, dedication, and teamwork. With their mantra "Never give up", the 12u Allstars fought through a field of seven U.S. teams