

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, on February 19, 2024, western New York, the Communications Workers of America, and organized labor lost a towering figure: Terri Legierski.

Terri was a prominent member of CWA Local 1133 in Buffalo. She served as the legislative and political director, working tirelessly to further the ideas of union advocacy and workers' rights across the region, the State, and the Nation.

Terri was widely known for her energy and positivity in the fight for the labor movement. She was passionate and endlessly dedicated to the cause. Her work wasn't limited just to words, although she had no qualms in telling you what was on her mind.

It was also evident in her actions. Terri was committed to making things better for the next generation of workers, and she refused to take "no" for an answer.

As an elected official, I had the honor of knowing Terri for many years, and I had the privilege of calling her my friend. With Terri, you knew that she was going to fight until the end, and that extended to the political arena. If she believed in a candidate and their values, she was going to do everything in her power to ensure that they won.

She helped to form the political landscape of western New York from city councils to mayors, town boards to supervisors, county legislators and executives, State assembly members and Senators, and Members of Congress.

Whether it was a reception, a rally, or a picket line, Terri could work a crowd better than anyone. She was not the tallest person, but finding her was never a struggle because she would be front and center with a beaming smile and always dressed to impress in her CWA red.

I vividly remember her outside Mercy Hospital in south Buffalo during the Catholic Health strike, fighting with every ounce of strength she could muster to make sure that the workers' demands were heard loud and clear, and you know what? They were, with the workers soon after coming to a hard-fought and well-deserved agreement with the hospital system, ensuring not just fair pay and benefits for a hard day's work, but just as importantly, ensuring safer nurse-to-patient ratios because they knew that safe staffing saves lives. It is because of her work securing that contract, Terri Legierski saved lives.

As a former State Senator, one of the highlights of any legislative session was ACA's advocacy days. She would be there with her brothers and sisters in labor, advocating for critical legislation and teaching new members why civic engagement is so important.

Terri and I were always connected in the struggle for workers' rights and better healthcare environments for the workforce, which provided for better outcomes for those that they cared for.

□ 1230

Whether that is safe patient handling, safe staffing, helping striking

workers get access to unemployment benefits, or raising the minimum wage, if it was good for workers, Terri fought tooth and nail for it. Her track record speaks for itself. Every one of those issues was addressed by the New York State legislature.

In her final months, Terri worked through her illness, never letting the struggle for workers' rights take a back seat to her own needs.

In Terri's last days, she communicated that one of her greatest regrets in passing on was that she would not be there to watch me be sworn in on the floor of the House of Representatives.

However, Terri was very much in this room on May 6. Her spirit continues to be with us and resonates in the work that we do each and every day, as it will be as we carry on her legacy in the fight for workers and for the rights of organized labor everywhere.

She is survived by her husband, Mike; children, Tommy and Megan; daughter-in-law, Veronica; and grandchildren, Landon and Declan.

To Terri's immediate and extended family, all of western New York and supporters of organized labor mourn with you, and we thank you for sharing such a genuine and magnificent soul with us.

The world is a better place because Terri Legierski worked to make it so, and in her memory, we will continue that movement forward. May she rest in peace.

CONGRATULATING TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS ON WINNING 2024 COLLEGE BASEBALL WORLD SERIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and congratulate the 2024 College Baseball World Series champions, the Tennessee Volunteers.

The Big Orange got the job done last night, capping off a thrilling three-game series win in Omaha to complete a 60-win season and the first number one national seed to win the title since 1999.

Congratulations to Head Coach Tony Vitello, who has led the Volunteers to five straight NCAA tournaments, three College World Series appearances in 4 years, and the program's first-ever national title.

It was truly a team effort to reach this remarkable achievement. I include in the RECORD the names of the players, coaches, and support staff.

COACHES

Tony Vitello—Head Coach
Josh Elander—Associate Head Coach/Recruiting Coordinator

Frank Anderson—Assistant Coach/Pitching
Richard Jackson—Assistant Coach
Luke Bonfield—Director of Player Development

Parker Serrano—Student Assistant Coach

PLAYERS

Christian Moore

Ariel Antigua
Alex Perry
Cannon Peebles
Bradke Lohry
Nate Snead
Dylan Dreiling
Hunter Ensley
Cal Stark
Billy Amick
Ethan Payne
Reese Chapman
Charlie Taylor
JJ Garcia
Dalton Bargo
Robin Villeneuve
AJ Causey
Andrew Behnke
Colby Backus
Kavares Tears
Dean Curley
Blake Burke
Chris Stamos
Aaron Combs
Brady Robertson
Stone Lawless
Austin Hunley
Drew Beam
AJ Russell
Derek Schaefer
Kirby Connell
Blake Grimmer
Dylan Loy
Hunter High
Camden Bates
Luke Payne
Marcus Phillips
Matthew Davis
Brayden Sharp
Zander Sechrist

SUPPORT STAFF

Quentin Eberhardt—Director of Baseball Sports Performance
Sean McCann—Video Coordinator
Zach Stovall—Director of Analytics
Jeff Wood—Associate Director of Sports Medicine-Baseball
Chad Zurcher—Director of Baseball Operations
Adam Low—Assistant Director of Baseball Operations

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, what a way to make Tennessee proud. I congratulate the 2024 Tennessee Volunteers. The kings of college baseball reside on Rocky Top.

PROTECTING THE UNBORN

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked 2 years since the Supreme Court decision that restored the right to life for so many individuals. Since the Dobbs v. Jackson decision, an estimated 200,902 unborn children's lives have been protected. This is a tremendous achievement.

Despite these major milestones in the fight to protect the lives of the unborn, Democrats across this country continue their efforts to allow for limitless abortions and their disgusting desire to make America one of the most pro-abortion countries in the entire world.

It is no secret. They are saying the quiet part out loud.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats plan to abolish the Senate filibuster and pass legislation to ban States from having laws that protect unborn children and mandate all-trimester abortion in every State up until the moment a baby is born. This is unconscionable.

Thankfully, Tennesseans agreed and took decisive action to protect children. Since the Volunteer State's pro-

life protections went into place, more than 12,000 lives have been protected annually. That is more than 24,000 new Tennesseans who are a gift to this world and that otherwise would not have been given a chance just a little over 2 years ago.

As a Christian, a father of two boys, and a husband, I always stand up for what is right and try to be a voice for the voiceless. At a time in our world's history where there are so many evils, I can't think of many that are worse than the horror of abortion.

That is why I am proud to have fought alongside countless others to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, pass pro-life legislation in this House, and fight back against the White House's desire to allow for on-demand, taxpayer-funded abortion. Mr. Speaker, this is certainly a cause worthy of fighting for.

HONORING TWO PENNSYLVANIANS FOR THEIR SERVICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a local World War II veteran in my district.

At 108 years old, Al Klugiewicz of Erie, Pennsylvania, embodies the spirit of America. I had a chance to meet with Al last week during the district work period. He is truly an inspiration. In fact, he is also the 13th oldest living man in the United States.

I sat and visited with him while he was in a hospital bed, and believe me, he is still sharp. He was talking to me about all the Presidents he served under.

He said: You know what, Rep? I was a member of the cavalry.

I said: That is interesting, Al. Why the cavalry?

He said: Because I got tired of walking. I would rather ride a horse.

He talked to me about his horse. He said the horse's name was Napoleon, and the horse was a great horse. In fact, he said he got to ride that horse when FDR had his second inauguration.

You look at this man and see him lying there in a bed but remembering the names of Presidents from decades ago. His dedication to his country was evident. He talked about Normandy and what happened on those beaches in those days.

Now, I had the honor of being there a couple of weeks ago when we commemorated the 80th anniversary of Normandy. I wish all Americans could have been there to see the number of people, the French people, who were just so over-the-top thankful and grateful for what our country did for them in World War II.

I like to think that somehow those types of things raise in us a political awareness, a love for our country that is always the first responder to anything that goes wrong in the country.

This man, Al Klugiewicz, 108 years old, spoke of America with great love and tenderness. He talked about his family. He talked about building a house, his own house. He built it himself.

He talked about going to work for GE in Erie when he got back from the war for 43 cents an hour. He talked endlessly about the colleagues he had and about the times he had, but more than anything else, he talked about his gratitude for being an American. He talked about the love he has for this country, for this Nation, and for the people he served so well.

Now, at 108 years old, Al is not planning on having many more birthdays. When I finally left him, I said: Listen, I want you to know, I will be praying for you.

He said: You know what, Congressman, I want you to know I will be praying for you, and I will be praying for our country because she is in great need of prayer right now.

That is a man who is 108 years old. His love of country, his service to country, his sacrifice to country, that is the type of person we want all of us to be.

Mr. Speaker, on a more somber note, I also have a friend who passed away. His name is Tim Schell. We just talked about Al Klugiewicz being 108. Tim passed away at the age of 72.

Tim Schell was an incredible person. He gave his entire life to helping others.

In 1983, he opened TMS Physical Therapy in Grove City, Pennsylvania, owning the operation and operating the practice. He later expanded the business to include clinics across our district.

Tim served in leadership positions for the Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association, American Physical Therapy Association, and on the Pennsylvania State Board of Physical Therapy. He was a tireless political advocate for his profession, championing legislative changes that have shaped the physical therapy industry.

In his personal life, Tim was dedicated to high school sports in Mercer County, where he served on the Mercer County Hall of Fame Board of Directors from 1996 to 2012.

This man gave generously. He always told me, MIKE, I don't want anybody giving me any credit for this. Please, anonymously, let's just look at it this way because that is what all of us should be doing. It is not that you have to be recognized. The fact is that you have to recognize those in need and try to do everything you can to help them.

Today, I had the opportunity to celebrate two incredible people, one who has celebrated his 108th birthday and the other whose loss at 72 years old we mourn.

Is it not time for all Americans to take a step back and be thankful for everything we have been blessed with in our lives? It is incredible to me that this country has been blessed with so much for so long by so many.

The best time I had last week was with Al Klugiewicz at 108 years old and talking about his horse Napoleon. He told me about a toast he gave to Napoleon, "Hurray for Napoleon. Yay!" This is a man 108 years old, lying in a bed talking to me. I hope that I am able to embody that spirit as I grow older.

At the end of it all, though, we are truly blessed. We are truly honored to be able to take the time to honor these people.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Almighty and holy God, You are our God, and we earnestly seek for You.

From deep within our being, there is a longing for You. Like thirst in a dry and tired desert, so we, weary of warfare, overwhelmed by these many days void of peace, long for the renewal that comes only from You. We cry to You from our wilderness of uncertainty and unrest and pray the respite of Your presence.

Breathe again Your spirit into our spirits. Form our minds to seek You. Turn our hearts that we would again love You; that in our disquiet and restlessness, we would once more find our rest in You; in our hunger and hopelessness, we would seek to discover the eternal satisfaction only You can provide.

Place now Your hand on our lives and guide us in this day ahead, so that however we may falter or fail, Your everlasting arms underneath will uphold us in our service to You in this place.

In Your eternal name, we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS)