

highest ideals of patriotism, courage, and sacrifice, including more than 6 years as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

Born in 1937 in Canton, Ohio, Colonel Cordier entered the United States Air Force through the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at Akron University in 1960, beginning a distinguished military career that spanned over two decades.

After training as a Minuteman missile launch officer, Colonel Cordier earned his pilot's wings in 1963 and was assigned to the 45th Tactical Fighter Squadron, flying the F-4C Phantom jet fighter.

On December 2, 1966, during his 176th combat mission, Colonel Cordier was shot down over North Vietnam. Captured and imprisoned for over 6 years, he endured harsh conditions in the infamous North Vietnamese prisons, in which he demonstrated extraordinary resilience and unwavering faith.

After his release in 1973, Colonel Cordier resumed Active-Duty service with distinction, directing air operations at Sembach Air Base, reactivating the Wiesbaden Air Force Base, and serving as an air attache in England.

Colonel Cordier's service to his Nation is dignified by numerous awards, including two Silver Stars, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, two Bronze Stars with Valor, the Purple Heart, seven Air Medals, the POW Medal, and the Air Force Commendation Medal. He retired with honors in 1985.

After the war, he worked tirelessly to dissuade animosity against the Vietnamese people and culture, instead advocating for diplomatic solutions to bring peace to the region and heal old wounds.

Colonel Cordier would return to Vietnam five separate times. A special note: On his second visit, this distinguished hero brought former POWs to help them find closure in their traumatic experiences as prisoners in Vietnam and to assist in their healing process.

Beyond his military career, Colonel Cordier was a devoted husband and father to his wife and daughter, Barbara and Ann.

Colonel Cordier's life and service are a testament to the values of duty, honor, country, and inspiring future generations to serve with the same dedication and courage. Therefore, I ask that all Americans take a moment to honor the legacy and life of Colonel Kenneth William Cordier, United States Air Force.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL AEROSPACE WEEK

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

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, in honor of National Aerospace Week, I

rise to recognize the vital role the aerospace industry plays in our Nation's economy, security, and technological leadership.

The United States is on the cutting edge of aerospace technology because of the people who dared to do the unimaginable, just like the Wright brothers over 120 years ago.

Because we dreamed big, we have flown faster than the speed of sound and put mankind on the Moon. We have made flying and space launch a normal occurrence. What used to be science fiction is now a fact of life.

Aviation has become an integral part of our society and our economy. Every day in the United States alone, nearly 3 million people fly on 45,000 flights. The industry continues to grow each year.

In 2023, the aerospace industry contributed \$425 billion to the U.S. GDP and supported over 2.2 million jobs. It is also a key tenet of our National Defense Strategy, equipping servicemembers with the most advanced and effective systems in the world.

As co-chair of the House Aerospace Caucus, I am proud to recognize our Nation's incredible aerospace industry and its workforce, our pilots, flight attendants, mechanics, engineers, and others who will help us continue to soar to new heights.

IN RECOGNITION OF MISS NAVAJO AMY BEGAYE

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

Mr. CRANE. Madam Speaker, last week, contestants competed in the 72nd Annual Miss Navajo Pageant in my district.

To become Miss Navajo, contestants participate in a rigorous weeklong annual competition which requires contestants to demonstrate proficiency in both Navajo and English languages, knowledge of Navajo culture and beliefs, business interviews, contemporary talents, and traditional skills such as sheep butchering and preparing traditional foods.

I recognize Amy Begaye, who has served as Miss Navajo for the past year.

□ 1100

I met Amy last year during her first trip to the U.S. Capitol and learned about her experience and background and the process of becoming Miss Navajo.

We have had a few chances to connect throughout the years, and I have been impressed with her hard work and professionalism. She has been a strong leader and an advocate for Navajo history and culture.

Madam Speaker, I thank Amy for her leadership as Miss Navajo over the last year. I wish her the best in her future endeavors and know she will continue to make the Navajo Nation proud.

SOLEMN REMEMBRANCE OF ARTHUR O. EVE, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. KENNEDY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in solemn remembrance of Arthur O. Eve, Jr., a remarkable individual and leader, affectionately known throughout western New York and beyond as Champ.

As the beloved son of New York State Assembly Deputy Speaker Arthur O. Eve and an educator, the late Lee Constance Eve, life lessons in civic responsibility, faith, and a strong work ethic were instilled in him early by his family.

As a standout football player who earned all-Catholic honors during his time at Canisius High School and shined on the field at the University of Texas at El Paso, Champ turned his athletic talent, natural leadership, and team-building skills into an opportunity to inspire and mentor countless young people through coaching basketball at Calvary Baptist Church, Hutch Tech High School, and Buffalo State University.

Through his coaching, he touched hundreds of lives for the better.

In his professional positions within a juvenile detention center and Educational Opportunity Center, Champ dedicated himself to empowering those in need.

At Buffalo's Municipal Housing Authority, Champ transformed the agency and set a national standard for compliance and inclusion, which led to the BMHA being recognized as a high performer by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Champ was a leader and a respected voice on issues impacting Buffalo's Black community, serving as president of the Black Student Union during his time at the University at Buffalo. He was the founder and president of Unity Coalition, widely recognized as one of the strongest organizing units in the entire State of New York.

As deputy commissioner of the Erie County Board of Elections and as a community leader, Champ supported democracy through his work, impressing upon others the power of a vote to express one's values and shape the future of our community and our entire Nation.

A man of great faith and devotion, Champ was an active member of Elim Christian Fellowship under the leadership of Bishop T. Anthony Bronner.

To me, Champ was a dear friend whose counsel guided me in many important decisions throughout my own career.

Through a lifetime of tireless advocacy, Champ had an impact on every single life in western New York, our great State of New York, and the entire Nation. He helped unite us like never before in Buffalo, and our great city's renaissance is a shining example of what Champ believed in: diversity,

inclusivity, and opportunity, and a world where everyone can succeed.

Transcending his passion for the community was his love and devotion to his family. He leaves behind his father, the Honorable Arthur O. Eve, Sr.; beloved wife, Kim; nine children, Arthur III, Shiana Denise, LaNeesha, Eric James, Louis, Ashley, Melzetta, Bobby, and David Paul; and eight grandchildren, Caiden, Rylee, Cailee, Kendall, Ari, Lucian, Maliha, and Lux, shared through their blended family; siblings, Leecia, Eric, Malcolm, and Martin; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

As we remember Arthur O. Eve, Jr., we grieve the loss of a beloved friend, celebrate a life well lived, and find solace in knowing that his legacy of service will live on.

Madam Speaker, may Champ Eve rest in peace.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam Speaker, 23 years ago, the events of 9/11 forever changed our Nation. Family members, friends, neighbors, and loved ones left their homes that morning never to return. Firefighters from across our district answered the call that day. Port Authority police officers would lay down their lives to save others, honoring the oath they made the day they put on their uniform for the first time.

Our hearts are heavy with the memories of those who were lost on that fateful day, but we haven't forgotten and we will never forget the bravery and courage of the New Jerseyans and all those who responded to 9/11. Their memory is a blessing and a solemn reminder of what is most important in our own lives.

I personally remember being a high schooler, standing across the Hudson River, watching countless men and women covered in ashes just trying to make their way home. We all realized in that moment that our Nation would never be the same.

Since then, more brave responders have died of illnesses caused by 9/11 than were lost on that day. This tragic reality is proof that there is more work to be done. We will continue to fight for 9/11 first responders and their families, to ensure they are given the resources, support, and gratitude for the sacrifices they made in service to others.

As we mourn today, let our memories be a reminder that in the wake of 9/11, we united as a country. We united not just in grief, but in resolve. We set aside our differences, we found common ground, and we healed together.

Today, as we face a Nation that feels more divided than ever before, I join my colleagues in remembering the challenges that we have overcome and the unity that made it possible. For

the sake of our country, let's recommit ourselves to finding that unity, once again. If we do so, we will truly honor all of the lives that were lost that day and in the years since.

REMEMBERING BILL PASCRELL, JR.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam Speaker, on August 21, New Jersey lost one of the greatest champions in our State's history.

Bill Pascrell was more than just a Member of Congress. He was a friend, a mentor, and someone who was loved and admired by many, myself included.

Bill was a true Patersonian, Paterson with one t, and his constituents knew that in him they had a fighter. He was always ready to speak up for what was right, and he served with purpose. Bill was tough, but kind; strong-willed, but a team player; and he always had a joke or story that would make you laugh.

His legacy has left a mark on this institution and our entire country that will never be forgotten.

Since coming to Congress last year, I knew I could count on Bill, and this place will not be the same without him here. I know the same is true for all of those who had the privilege of serving alongside him.

It is on all of us to continue Bill's legacy by continuing to fight for that which we know is fair and right. That is how we can rightfully honor such a great man, a great leader, and a great friend.

Madam Speaker, may Bill rest in peace. It was an honor and privilege to know him and to call him friend.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 9 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

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

Holy and eternal God, on this 11th of September, we remember a clear blue sky and a nation at peace. As that memory is now shattered by the destruction that followed, we pray the wisdom to claim Your eternal promises in our country's remembrance of that tragedy.

Like grass are our days, that flourish like flowers in the field. The wind passes over them, and they are gone. And so, in an instant, our country was robbed of its sense of security and bereft of thousands of its citizens, swept away by the winds of war.

We pray that Your steadfast love, O Lord, which is from everlasting to everlasting, to rise from the wreckage of that defining day in history. Bless the sacrifice of too many of our sons and daughters who gave their lives to defend the freedoms assaulted on that bucolic day and the decades that followed. Heal the enduring grief of countless families. Bring peace upon our world which remains in upheaval.

Remind us again of Your compassion for Your children. Freedom, by Your grace, is still to be found in You. Peace and justice, in Your mercy, are ours to preserve and uphold.

Ennoble us as a nation, each children of Your creation, with the assurance that our hope still rests in You alone.

God, bless America and receive our prayers as we offer them in the strength of Your name.

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. DAVIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING THE 23RD ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 23rd anniversary of September 11, 2001, a day where nearly 3,000 lives were stolen from us in a series of brutal terrorist attacks that would alter the course of our Nation's history.

On that fateful morning, families in New York and across America began their day like any other, only to face a tragedy that forever changed our Nation. Husbands and wives, parents and children, went about their routines unaware of the devastation that awaited them.

Their loss is immeasurable, but so too is the extraordinary bravery and sense of patriotism that emerged from that chaos. Our first responders, firefighters, police officers, and medics