

end, a moment etched in history and in the hearts of all who served.

Commander Dmetruk's commitment extended beyond Active Duty. In the Reserves, he modeled the Navy's core values of honor, courage, and commitment while continuing to impact lives through his civilian career and volunteerism.

Today, Commander Dmetruk and his wife, Suzy, serve as guardians for Honor Flights, welcoming veterans home and ensuring they feel the gratitude they deserve. He reminds us of the enduring importance of saying: "Thank you for your service," a simple act of recognition that carries profound meaning.

We salute Commander Dmetruk and all veterans who have shaped our Nation's legacy. May we honor their sacrifice with unwavering gratitude.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FORMER CONGRESSMAN FRANK GUARINI

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, at this holiday season, please let me pay tribute to a remarkable American, a patriot who has dedicated his life to building our Nation and world into a more just and livable planet.

I extend grateful holiday wishes to the now current oldest-living former U.S. Congressman, Frank Guarini of Jersey City, New Jersey. He and his family and friends are celebrating his 100 years of life as an American patriot, faithful to his family, his friends, Jersey City, and Hudson County.

His milestone life includes service in this House from 1979 to 1993. Hailing from Jersey City, New Jersey, Frank distinguished himself as an extraordinary patriot, a champion swimmer, and a World War II Navy decorated combat veteran of the Pacific campaign.

He rose to the rank of lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, and he continues to pursue his business and philanthropic interests as a proud son of Jersey City. Here, he served as a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee, specializing in international trade and fair taxation.

Frank endowed his alma mater, Dartmouth College's School of International Relations, as well as John Cabot University in Italy, the Italian American Foundation, and countless and endless works of good will toward others.

We wish him, his family, and friends, like former New York Members Charles Rangel and posthumously Ben Gilman and his family joy in these holidays. Celebrating Frank's life makes 2024 a memorable holiday season. I send heartfelt congratulations to Congressman Frank Guarini at age 100.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to place an important newspaper article in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Ohio). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

[From New Jersey Globe, Aug. 20, 2024]

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY, CONGRESSMAN FRANK GUARINI

(By David Wildstein)

America's oldest living former congressman; Jersey City Democrat served in N.J. State Senate from 1966 to 1972, ran for U.S. Senate in 1970, and was a congressman from 1979 to 1993.

Frank J. Guarini, Jr., who served as a congressman from a Hudson County district for fourteen years, celebrates his 100th birthday today.

The Jersey City Democrat is the oldest living former congressman from New Jersey, the oldest living former statewide candidate, the oldest living former state senator, and the oldest living member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Guarini had spent most of his life around politics. His father had represented Hudson County in the State Assembly in 1931 and 1932. A Dartmouth graduate, Guarini was a decorated World War II combat veteran.

A 40-year-old attorney and the chairman of the America Red Cross' Jersey City Chapter, Guarini decided to run for office in 1965 when reapportionment following the U.S. Supreme Court's One Man, One Vote ruling increased Hudson County's presence in the New Jersey State Senate from one seat to three.

Hudson County Democratic Chairman John V. Kenny and other party leaders picked Guarini and William V. Musto, an eleven-term assemblyman and the mayor of Union City, to run for State Senate on a slate with two-term incumbent William F. Kelly (D-Jersey City). Musto had been an automatic pick, but Guarini edged out Bayonne city attorney James Dugan.

The Democrats won the general election by over 100,000 votes.

During his first term, Democrats controlled the Senate and Guarini became chairman of the newly created Senate Air and Water Pollution and Public Health Committee.

Another round of reapportionment gave Hudson a fourth Senate seat in 1967, Kenny and the Hudson Democrats put Assemblyman Frederick Hauser (D-Hoboken), who had spent eighteen years in the lower house, on the ticket.

The four Democrats easily outdistanced their Republican rivals: Norman Roth, who had come within just 56 votes of winning a seat in Congress in 1956 against Rep. Alfred Sieminski (D-Jersey City); Cresenzi W. Castaldo, who had won 21 percent in a congressional bid in 1964; Eugene P. Kenny, who won 21 percent in his 1962 House campaign; and 31-year-old attorney Geoffrey Gaulkin, who later served as the Hudson County Prosecutor and Superior Court Judge.

In his second term, Guarini championed the construction of a new stadium in the Meadowlands and was among the first to meet with New York Giants owner Wellington Mara to pitch New Jersey as a future NFL home.

U.S. SENATE BID

In 1970, Guarini decided to challenge two-term U.S. Senator Harrison A. Williams, Jr. in the Democratic primary. A decade before the Abscam scandal that ended his career, Williams had been censured by the New Jersey NAACP for showing up drunk at a meeting where he was the main speaker.

In late 1969, Williams had released endorsements from eighteen Democratic county chairmen, in a bid to prevent a primary fight from Guarini, some party leaders offered him

the post of Senate Minority Leader—the incumbent, J. Edward Crabel (D-Milltown) was willing to give up—but Guarini (and Kenny) refused.

Guarini, who had won two Democratic primaries for State Senate with the support of the Hudson County Democratic organization, made a bid for an open primary. He essentially sought to end New Jersey's system of preferential ballot positions for organization-backed candidates more than fifty years ago, but without success.

He did that with the support of Kenny, the Hudson boss who had split from most of the state's Democratic establishment when he refused to back former Gov. Robert Meyner's bid for a third term against Rep. William Cahill (R-Collingswood). Cahill carried Hudson by fifteen percentage points.

Former New Jersey Attorney General Arthur Sills, supporting Guarini, attacked Williams for his alcoholism, a move backfired after the Democratic Senator had acknowledged his drinking problem.

With just the Hudson organization line, Guarini lost to Williams by 90,647 votes, a 66 percent-34 percent race. Guarini carried only Hudson County—he scored a 16,194-vote plurality (62 percent-38 percent)—and Williams won everywhere else.

After the primary, Guarini refocused on local issues. He proposed the construction of a freeway that would have connected Tonnel Avenue in North Bergen to Route 80, sponsored legislation to change the legal voting age in New Jersey from 21 to 18, attempted to legalize Jai Alai, and tried to persuade the San Francisco Giants to move to New Jersey and play in a new baseball stadium he wanted built in the Meadowlands.

The lifelong bachelor was the only senator to vote against a bill to make it easier for New Jerseyans to get a divorce.

But in 1971, Guarini decided to eschew a bid for re-election to the State Senate. That happened when reapportionment reduced Hudson's Senate delegation from four to three and Guarini became a redistricting casualty.

Hudson County lost a congressional seat in 1972, when a new district was created in Morris Warren, Sussex and Hunterdon counties. Rep. Cornelius Gallagher (D-Bayonne), had been expected to keep the seat—party leaders were going to tell Rep. Dominick Daniels (D-Jersey City), who was 20 years older than Gallagher, to retire. Gallagher was indicted on tax evasion charges and the accusations against him came at a considerable cost.

The Hudson County Democratic Organization, in deep trouble. Kenny had gone to prison and reformer Paul Jordan was elected Mayor of Jersey City in 1971. Guarini was a fierce critic of Jordan.

For a short time, there was talk of dropping Daniels and Gallagher with Guarini becoming the compromise machine candidate against Jordan's candidate, West New York Mayor Anthony DeFino. But they decided to stick with Daniels, who won the primary by a 51 percent-32 percent margin against DeFino. Gallagher came in third with just 15 percent of the vote, with 2 percent going to former Congressman Vincent Dellay, who had won the other Hudson House seat in 1956 as a Republican and later switched parties.

Guarini also explored taking on three-term Republican U.S. Senator Clifford Case in 1972, but party leaders settled on former Rep. Paul Krebs (D-Livingston) for a nomination not worth fighting for.

In late 1972, a list of potential gubernatorial candidates drawn up by Democratic State Chairman Salvatore Bontempo to take on Cahill the following year included Guarini, but he never made any moves to run.

Guarini supported State Sen. Ralph DeRose (D-South Orange) for governor in 1973. He signed on to help DeRose after the Hudson County Democratic Chairman, Francis Fitzpatrick, agreed to give the organization line to Superior Court Judge Brendan Byrne.

When Daniels retired in 1976, Hudson leaders agreed to give the seat to Assembly Speaker Joseph LeFante (D-Bayonne). Guarini sharply criticized the move to leave Jersey City without a congressman.

RETURN TO PUBLIC OFFICE

Guarini backed Thomas F.X. Smith, the city clerk, in the 1977 Jersey City mayoral election against Jordan's handpicked successor, Bill Macchi.

Smith won by a 54 percent-26 percent margin. The seismic shift in Jersey City politics in May caused Jordan to withdraw as a candidate for governor and led to the defeat of several incumbents in the June primary for State Senate and Assembly.

With support from Smith and Musto—and later from Bayonne Mayor Dennis Collins—Guarini was elected Hudson County Democratic Chairman, succeeding a Jordan ally, Bernard Harnett.

In late 1977, Guarini began seeking party support to challenge Case in the 1978 U.S. Senate race. He joined a field that included former New York Nicks star Bill Bradley, State Treasurer Richard Leone, Rep. Andrew Maguire (D-Ridgewood), and former State Sen. Alexander Menza (D-Hillside).

Smith had indicated that he would support Guarini if he ran, but he was also feeling pressure from Byrne, who wanted the Hudson line to go to Leone. Guarini announced he would not run and suddenly became a leading candidate to serve as chairman of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority, then a hugely powerful post.

But instead, Guarini decided that the Hudson congressional seat should return to Jersey City and that LeFante would be a one-term congressman.

After LeFante left Congress, Byrne put him in his cabinet as Commissioner of Community Affairs.

Guarini won 82 percent of the vote in the Democratic House primary against two minor candidates, and 64 percent in the general election against Republican Henry Hill, a Kearney councilman.

As a freshman congressman, Guarini was assigned to the powerful House Ways and Means Committee. He also served on the House Budget Committee.

During his fourteen years in Congress, Guarini became one of the House's experts on international trade issues. He was part of the first U.S. trade mission to China, served as a delegate to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and sponsored the Caribbean Basin Initiative that created increased trade with Caribbean and Latin American nations.

Guarini played a major role in revising the Internal Revenue Code in 1986 and led efforts to modernize trade and tariff laws.

He also led the fight against the proposed Westway project in Manhattan, which sought to construct an above-water roadway adjacent to the West Side Highway. Guarini's success helped protect New Jersey's view of the New York skyline, something that helped pave the way for redevelopment in places like Jersey City and Hoboken.

In 1986, he defeated Albio Sires, then a West New York gadfly running as a Republican, with 71 percent of the vote. Sires is retiring this year after fourteen years in Congress as a Democrat.

Congressional redistricting in 1992 redrew Guarini's district to include a substantial number of Hispanic voters in North Hudson that had previously been in a Bergen Coun-

ty-based district—and the addition of parts of Newark, Linden, Elizabeth, Woodbridge and Perth Amboy—Guarini declined to run for re-election rather than face a primary against State Sen. Bob Menendez (D-Union City). Menendez had been eyeing a run for Congress.

After leaving Congress, Guarini continued to practice law and became a highly successful real estate developer.

President Bill Clinton appointed him as U.S. Representative to the General Assembly of the United Nations, a post that carried the rank of Ambassador.

Guarini spearheaded a lawsuit against New York that led to the U.S. Supreme Court returning 90 percent of Ellis Island to New Jersey.

Jersey City's main post office is the Congressman Frank Guarini Post Office, and other buildings bear his name: a library; a New Jersey City University; the business school, Institute for Government and Leadership, and the college president's residence at St. Peter's University; John Cabot University's Rome campus; and the Hudson County justice complex.

AMERICANS WANT SECURE BORDERS

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, beyond the usual incompetence on the border security that the Biden-Harris administration has exhibited, they are now sneakily selling off materials intended for the border wall in Arizona. These are materials that taxpayers have already paid for and were meant to secure our southern border.

Earlier this year, I visited the border once again and saw firsthand the challenges that our agents, local law enforcement, local businesses, and local communities face every day and the impact that these challenges have on them.

Border agents are stretched thin as they work around the clock to try to protect us, yet this administration continues to undermine their mission at every turn.

This isn't the first time. Last year, they sold off materials intended for a critical 20-mile stretch of border wall, leaving gaps. The gaps are easily found, and they pour through. Members should see the trash and the stuff that is on the ground in the arroyos from the people passing through illegally because they have a green light.

Their actions sent a clear message from this administration: border security isn't really a priority for them, even though Vice President HARRIS tried to pretend so in this last election.

Americans want secure borders. Instead of addressing this crisis, the administration is doubling down on failed policies that are just putting our border at risk.

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DO NOT GET RID OF 14(C) CERTIFICATES

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I will address the Biden administration's treatment of community rehabilitation providers. I think many people would be aware of them as a place for people with some disabilities, perhaps Down syndrome, whatever, to work because their abilities are a little less than a lot of other citizens.

In any event, in order to operate these places, they need 14(c) certificates to have people work for under minimum wage. They can afford to work for under minimum wage because they are getting other benefits such as SSI.

However, these facilities are very important to them. It gives them a purpose in life, a little bit of independence to earn their own paycheck, and a chance to socialize with so many other people they wouldn't otherwise.

I am going to introduce legislation shortly to make sure the Biden administration, on the way out the door, does not get rid of 14(c) certificates, which are necessary for these valuable citizens to work full time.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NOTRE DAME ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

(Mr. WIED asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WIED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate my high school alma mater, Notre Dame Academy in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Last month, for just the third time in our school's history, the Notre Dame Tritons football team won the Division 3 High School State championship.

The Tritons used the State championship to cap off a perfect season with a 49-28 win over Catholic Memorial.

A special shout-out to their coach, Mike Rader, on an incredible season.

I also will give a special shout-out to senior running back, Christian Collins, who rushed for a record breaking 408 yards and 5 touchdowns.

Mr. Speaker, we are all very proud of the Tritons and look forward to their future success. I congratulate them again.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WIED. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, December 17, 2024, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.