

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING SAM YERIAN

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary bravery and selflessness of Sam Yerian, a young man whose quick thinking and decisive action saved three lives on June 12, 2024. At just 16 years old, Sam demonstrated remarkable courage, risking his own safety to help others in distress. Without his actions, a devastating tragedy would have occurred.

That day, Sam heard cries for help from Deer Lake and immediately sprang into action. Grabbing a life jacket, he jumped on his jet ski and raced to save two children drowning in the water nearly 200 yards from shore. Fighting against wind and waves, he pulled both children—neither wearing life jackets—onto his jet ski, preventing disaster.

As he made his way to shore, the children pointed to their grandfather, who had jumped in to save them but was now exhausted and barely afloat. Realizing the urgency, Sam made a critical decision—he removed his own life jacket and gave it to the man, ensuring he had a chance at survival before bringing the children to safety.

Sam then returned for the grandfather, who was unresponsive in the water. With incredible strength, he pulled him onto the jet ski with assistance onshore, got him to waiting emergency responders. After several days in the hospital, he made a full recovery—an outcome that would not have been possible without Sam's courage.

Beyond this act of heroism, Sam is a dedicated student-athlete and servant leader. Now 17, he is a junior at Clarkston High School, competing on the Junior Varsity Golf Team and the Varsity Tennis Team, which reached the State Championship last year. Just a day after he saved 3 lives on Deer Lake, he traveled to Puerto Rico for a service trip to build homes for those in need, further demonstrating his commitment to helping others. He also mentors younger students as a Link Leader and volunteers with Xceptional Heroes, an organization supporting young adults with cognitive and intellectual disabilities, earning multiple Pride in the Pack nominations for his kindness and leadership.

Mr. Speaker, Sam Yerian's heroism on June 12, 2024, was a reflection of his character—brave, selfless, and committed to serving others. His actions prevented what could have been a terrible loss, and his example continues to inspire his community.

HONORING MR. STEVEN CADE

HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate one of my constituents, Mr. Steven Cade, as he retires from federal service, marking the culmination of a military and civilian career that spans over 44 years of faithful service to the defense of our great Nation.

A graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Mr. Cade served as a Navy Surface Warfare Officer from 1985 to 2005. While on active duty, he completed sea-duty assignments in the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets and deployments supporting operations in the European, Indo-Pacific, Central, and Southern Commands. His major staff assignments included duty in Operations and Plans on the staff of Commander, U.S. Seventh Fleet; Special Assistant to the Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet; and as a program manager for U.S. Fleet Forces Command in Capabilities and Resource Integration (N8) and Readiness and Training (N4/7). He was also designated a Navy Foreign Area Officer for East Asia/Pacific while on active duty.

Mr. Cade began his civil service career in 2005, serving as Director for Fleet Capabilities and Force Development (N8/N9) at U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFF) in Norfolk, Virginia, the Navy's headquarters for global force management and the Naval Component Commander to U.S. Northern Command. There, he was responsible for integrated Fleet capability and readiness assessments to support Navy programming and acquisition planning, transition of new capabilities into the Fleet, and development of warfighting concepts of operations and experimentation programs. During his time at USFF, he also served as Deputy Director, Fleet Warfare Programs (N8B), leading warfighting capability analyses, and as Deputy Executive Director, responsible for Fleet readiness assessments, strategic planning, and headquarters administration. He was promoted to the Senior Executive Service in 2010.

On February 28th, Mr. Cade retires from Military Sealift Command (MSC), where he has served as the command's Executive Director for over seven years. At MSC, Mr. Cade provided inspired leadership and strategic vision in service to nearly 10,000 personnel assigned to 23 locations and aboard 140 ships, employing the Nation's largest contingent of merchant mariners, the 5,800-strong Civil Service Mariner workforce.

I want to especially recognize Mr. Cade's family for their endless support over these years. As he enters this new chapter, I join his friends and colleagues in wishing him fair winds, following seas, and well-deserved rest, relaxation, and quality time with his family, especially his wife Leigh-Anne.

I thank him for his service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.
RODNEY T. TAYLOR, JR.

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Rodney T. Taylor, Jr., who passed away on November 25, 2024, at the age of 80. Dr. Taylor was a dedicated psychologist and an influential figure in the field of addiction treatment.

Born in Winchester, Virginia, in 1944, Dr. Taylor grew up in Pennsylvania. In 1974, Dr. Taylor and his wife, Sushma Deva Taylor, moved to Marin County. Dr. Taylor dedicated his professional life to helping individuals and families facing the challenges of addiction. After earning his master's degree in counseling psychology and his Doctorate in clinical psychology, he served as Director of the Chemical Dependency Program at Gladman Memorial Hospital and later became Senior Clinician at Center Point, a nonprofit rehabilitation agency in San Rafael. Throughout his 38-year tenure he provided expert care and transformative counseling to help countless individuals achieve lasting recovery. Known as 'Doc,' he was respected by peers and former clients alike for his ability to connect deeply with others.

In addition to his work in Marin County, Dr. Taylor shared his knowledge and advice around the world. His contributions were valued by colleagues in the U.S., India, Australia, Europe, and South America, and his work continues to influence the work of addiction professionals today.

Dr. Taylor and his wife were married for over 52 years. Their bond was one of deep partnership, rooted in both personal and professional endeavors. Together, they traveled the world, bringing knowledge and compassion to communities in need. Dr. Taylor is survived by his wife, Sushma, his son Thaine, his two sisters, Jane Fox and Leanna Van Buskirk, and a host of friends, colleagues, and former clients who considered him not only a mentor but also a dear friend.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Rodney T. Taylor, Jr.'s contributions to the field of addiction treatment, his genuine kindness, and his unwavering commitment to making the world a better place will never be forgotten. He left an indelible mark on the countless lives he touched, and his legacy will continue to inspire those who had the privilege of working alongside him. Please join me in expressing appreciation for his lifetime of generosity and sincere condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

CONGRATULATING SOUTH DAKOTA'S DALLAS GOEDERT AND THE EAGLES ON SUPER BOWL LIX WIN

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate South Dakota's own Dallas Goedert and the Philadelphia Eagles on their Super Bowl LIX win on February 9, 2025. Dallas Goedert was born and raised in Britton, South Dakota. After graduating from Britton-Hecla High School, he was recruited by South Dakota State University's football program.

As a Jackrabbit, Goedert had 198 receptions for 2,988 yards and 21 touchdowns, including two straight 1,000-yard receiving seasons. Goedert's collegiate career at South Dakota State saw him as a two-time first-team Football Championship Subdivision All-American.

After an impressive collegiate performance at South Dakota State, the Philadelphia Eagles selected Goedert in the second round and 49th overall of the 2018 NFL draft. As of the end of the 2024 season, he has accumulated an impressive 349 receptions for 4,085 yards and 24 touchdowns while being challenged with injuries. Despite being placed on injured reserve on December 7, 2024, he returned for the playoffs and contributed to the Eagle's victory in the Super Bowl LIX, recording two receptions for 27 yards in a 40-22 win over the Kansas City Chiefs.

I am proud to recognize Dallas Goedert's outstanding perseverance and his impact as a role model for athletes and individuals across the nation. He is an inspiring reminder of the strength found in determination and hard work. I congratulate Goedert and the Eagles on their remarkable victory.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I regrettably missed votes on February 11, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted: Nay on Roll Call No. 38, On Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 122. No on Roll Call No. 39, On Agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 122.

REMEMBERING JEROME H. KERN: A CHAMPION OF THE ARTS, PHILANTHROPY, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Jerome H. Kern, a remarkable leader whose passion for the arts, philanthropy, and public service law

made a significant impact on Denver and beyond.

Jerry was a man of immense intellect, unwavering commitment, and profound generosity. He was a force of nature, a sharp legal mind, a tenacious leader, and an advocate for the arts, business, and public service.

Born in Brooklyn in 1937, Jerry graduated cum laude from the New York University School of Law, where he was a Root Tilden Scholar and managing editor of the New York University Law Review.

After law school, Jerry had a distinguished legal and business career. He initially worked as a senior partner at Baker & Botts, LLP, where he was the senior corporate lawyer in the New York office. For over 20 years, he served as the principal outside legal counsel to Tele-Communications, Inc. (TCI) and Liberty Media. He later became vice chairman and a board member at TCI and played a key role in major media mergers, including the AT&T/TCI merger and the Time Warner/Turner Broadcasting merger.

Jerry used his success in life to fulfill his true calling—relentless advocacy for the public good. As a trustee of NYU School of Law, he learned that the Root-Tilden Scholarship that had helped him get a start in life was being limited by severe budget deficiencies. He not only donated \$5 million to the program but also led a \$30 million endowment effort that resulted in the program's renaming as the Root-Tilden-Kern Scholarship. His dedication to public interest law has paved the way for countless students to pursue careers in service of the greater good. Since his efforts, more than 450 public interest lawyers have gone out to serve their own communities.

After Jerry and his wife, Dr. Mary Rossick Kern, moved to Denver, he learned that the Colorado Symphony was facing financial ruin. Not only did he save the symphony, but agreed to give a sustainable future by becoming CEO and President of the Board and leaving behind an \$88 million endowment that secures its place as a cultural cornerstone for generations to come. His advocacy for a world-class concert venue continues to shape the future of Denver's performing arts scene.

Beyond the arts, Kern's philanthropic contributions extended to public service and health care. He founded and chaired the Institute for Children's Mental Health, endowed a research chair at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, and worked tirelessly with Volunteers of America Colorado, sponsoring the construction of the Michael Kern Kitchen, which provides Meals on Wheels to those in need. In 2002, Jerry and Mary were honored with the Volunteers of America Humanitarian of the Year Award.

As a Root-Tilden scholar myself, I dedicated my career to public service—and Jerry was a strong model of how to make this happen.

His life was one of service, vision, and relentless advocacy for the arts and public good. His legacy will undoubtedly continue to inspire those who believe in the transformative power of culture, philanthropy, and law. I extend my deepest condolences to his family, friends, and all who were fortunate enough to know him. His memory will remain a guiding light for those who seek to make a meaningful impact in their communities.

REMEMBERING APOLINARIO "ARIO" YSIT, JR.

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Apolinario Ysit, Jr., a dedicated community leader, loving husband, father, and grandfather, on the occasion of his passing on Saturday, January 18, 2025, at the age of 87.

Born in Sacramento, California, on January 18, 1938, Apolinario, "Ario," grew up on his family's 13-acre ranch, where he learned the values of hard work and service. In 1948, he moved with his family to Niles, California, where he attended Niles Elementary and Washington High School while actively participating in the Boy Scouts of America.

In 1955, he met the love of his life, Joyce, while she was working at the Niles Movie Theater. They married two years later at the Little Brown Church of Sunol and built a beautiful life together, raising their children, Victoria and Jeffrey, in their Kikare Road home.

Ario proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1955 to 1957 before embarking on a successful career as a general contractor.

Even in retirement, he remained deeply engaged in public service, serving on numerous boards, including the Alameda County Planning Commission, where he was named Commissioner of the Year in 2003, the Alameda County Fair Board of Directors, and the Alameda County Fire Commission.

His passion for his community earned him the title of the "unofficial Mayor of Sunol," as he worked tirelessly to secure funding and resources for local projects. His leadership helped establish the Sunol Depot Gardens Park, and his dedication to civic engagement included work with the Citizens Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.), the Sunol Business Guild, and the Sunol Community Advisory Committee, among many other organizations.

Ario's unwavering commitment to Sunol and Alameda County will be remembered for generations. He was more than a leader—he was a friend, mentor, and advocate who embodied the spirit of service. His legacy of generosity, dedication, and love for his community lives on in all who had the privilege of knowing him. May his memory continue to inspire us all.

RECOGNIZING HARRY L. CHANDLER

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life and legacy of Harry L. Chandler—a revered veteran, esteemed member of our community in western Massachusetts, and a national hero.

Harry L. Chandler was born on March 6, 1921, in Holyoke, Massachusetts, to Louis and Ida Cohen. From an early age, Harry demonstrated a love for service and commitment to his community. He attended Holyoke Public Schools, leaving just short of graduation in