

HONORING PEACE EDUCATOR
COLMAN MCCARTHY

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2026

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the great Colman McCarthy, who recently passed away at the age of 87. For decades, Colman McCarthy cut a singular figure in Washington, D.C., known for both riding his three-speed Raleigh bicycle to work every day and for putting his sharp writing to good use challenging militarism, fascism, materialism, capital punishment, the war complex, and mindless overconsumption. Above all, he was a beloved colleague, active citizen, faithful friend, devoted husband, father, grandfather and irreplaceable teacher who dedicated his life to education for peace and justice.

Colman was born on Long Island, New York to a family of Irish immigrants. All he wanted to do when he graduated high school was write and play golf. He had just graduated from a small Jesuit college in Alabama with the intention of joining the PGA Tour when he made a small detour at a Trappist monastery in Georgia. He ended up staying there for five years, where he devoured great volumes of literature and wrote stacks of journals. Though he had taken vows as a lay brother, Colman could never quite cut ties with the outside world and would jump at every opportunity to donate blood at the town's Red Cross, where he could devour the newspapers and magazines. One day, the abbot gave Colman \$50 and an old suit and drove him directly to the airport.

Soon after landing in New York, Colman got a job as a sports journalist. It turned out he was much better at playing golf than he was at writing about it. He somehow still found his way to Washington, D.C. after he wrote a mildly critical piece about Sean Shriver, then the Director of the U.S. Peace Corps. Shriver hired Colman as a speechwriter because, he said, there were too many "yes men" surrounding him. Colman's career returned to journalism when in 1969 he became a syndicated columnist for the *Washington Post*, where he set his golden pen to opposing the Vietnam War and corruption. In 1985, he tired of simply writing about peace and founded the Center for Teaching Peace with his beloved wife, Mavourneen.

Over the next several decades, he taught free classes about peacemaking to hundreds of students at the Georgetown Law Center, Woodrow Wilson High School, and the School Without Walls before settling in at Bethesda Chevy Chase High School in Maryland's beautiful 8th District. He did not believe in grades, as he was convinced they were "academic violence," and perhaps it was this unshakeable conviction and his mad love for knowledge that made him so beloved and his classes so sought-after by his many students.

Colman opened every class he taught on peacemaking with the same routine. He would pull out a \$100 bill from his wallet and tell the assembled students that it would be theirs if they could answer every single one of his questions correctly, questions like: Who was Robert E. Lee? Who was Napoleon Bonaparte? Easy enough. But then the questions would get harder. Who was Dorothy Day?

What about Emily Greene Balch? Jody Williams? Jeannette Rankin?

The \$100 bill would go back into Colman's wallet. But he never used this long-practiced routine to embarrass or shame his students, young people whom he treated seriously and respectfully. He instead used the bit to make a point about our education system. Students have "been well taught about men who break the peace," he wrote, "but know little or nothing about women who make the peace." He would then offer his students singular opportunities to meet legendary Nobel Peace Prize winners like Adolfo Pérez Esquivel and the singer-songwriter Joan Baez, before introducing them anew to Lily Flores, the custodial worker at Bethesda Chevy Chase who shared her experience fleeing violence in El Salvador to build a new life in the United States.

Colman inspired an untold number of his students to channel their careers into politics for social good. Many of them have become social workers or public interest lawyers. A few of his students have run for Congress, like my great friend from Massachusetts, Representative JIM MCGOVERN. He was cherished by his friends and family alike.

Colman met the love of his life, Mavourneen "May" Deegan Colman, in 1967. She passed away in 2021. She not only shared his values but put up with his various vegan diets and his commitment to freeganism with good humor. They had three sons, John, James, and Edward and treasured their six grandchildren.

His radiant legacy lives on within his family and also among his many students, who will recall the only homework assignment he ever gave; at the end of his lessons, he would command his class to "tell someone that you love them today." We in Congress and the country would do well to remember it.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL (RET.) JOSEPH JAMES CALLAHAN, JR.

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2026

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Joseph James Callahan, Jr., a United States Army veteran who dedicated more than 20 years of service to our Nation.

Lieutenant Colonel Callahan began his military career after earning a Bachelor of Science in Biology and receiving his commission as Second Lieutenant through the ROTC program at East Tennessee State University. He was a member of the Quartermaster Corps where he deployed to Vietnam with the 173rd Airborne Brigade, serving under difficult and dangerous conditions in the Cha Rang Valley.

Throughout his 20-year military career, Lieutenant Colonel Callahan served in key leadership roles, including in command of the 5th Quartermaster Detachment and as an Army Advisor to the 47th Infantry Division Support Command of the Minnesota National Guard. He helped strengthen training and operational readiness. In 1987, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and later served at the Defense Logistics Agency Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, before retiring from the Army in 1990.

Reflecting his excellence and unwavering dedication to duty, he earned the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, and numerous additional commendations and awards.

His commitment to service didn't stop there. Lieutenant Colonel Callahan continued serving the public through 20 years of dedicated work with the Virginia Employment Commission before retiring in 2011. Even in retirement, he remained committed to helping others by donating personal items to patients at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, reflecting his compassion and patriotism.

As a fellow Army veteran, it is my honor to recognize and honor the service of Lieutenant Colonel Joseph James Callahan, Jr. I also want to thank Mrs. Callahan and the entire family for their support, sacrifice, and devotion throughout his years of service. His legacy will live on.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life, service, and legacy of Lieutenant Colonel Joseph James Callahan, Jr., a true American hero.

TRIBUTE TO HARRISON REARDEN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2026

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the remarkable life of Harrison Rearden on his 90th birthday. For at least eight of his nine decades, Mr. Rearden has exemplified the values of service, leadership, faith, and community. His extraordinary contributions to South Carolina and its citizens are leaving an indelible mark on our state and he continues to serve as an enduring example of what can be accomplished through dedication to others.

Born on June 6, 1936, in Edgefield, South Carolina, to Norris and Ruth Rearden, Harrison Rearden was raised in a rural community where the values of hard work, integrity, and perseverance were instilled in him at an early age. After graduating from Edgefield Academy in 1954, he continued his education at South Carolina State College where our paths first crossed when I arrived on that campus in 1957.

Harrison earned a degree in biology in 1958, before pursuing graduate studies at Indiana State University. Following his studies, he answered the call to serve his country by joining the United States Army and reporting to Fort McClellan in Anniston, Alabama. Upon completing his military service, he began his professional career as an educator.

Mr. Harrison transitioned into the insurance industry and spent fifteen years with Pilgrim Health and Life Insurance Company in Greenville, South Carolina where our paths crossed for a second time. In Greenville, Mr. Rearden quickly established himself as a respected civic leader. He served as President of the South Carolina Insurance Association, Executive Secretary of the Billy Graham Greenville Crusade, and became actively involved in civil rights activities through his membership in the NAACP.

In 1974, Mr. Rearden began what would become a distinguished twenty-seven-year career with the South Carolina Department of

Social Services. Through hard work, vision, and exemplary leadership, he rose through the ranks to become Deputy State Director. His dedication to public service earned him numerous accolades, including the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor, the Silver Crescent Award, a Concurrent Resolution for Public Service from the South Carolina General Assembly, and the South Carolina State Employee of the Year Award. It was during his service in South Carolina's State government that he and I formed a lasting friendship.

Even after retiring from the Department of Social Services in 2001, Mr. Rearden continued to devote himself to public service. His efforts have been recognized by organizations throughout South Carolina, including the Columbia Urban League, the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce, and the South Carolina State Employees Association.

He also served on numerous boards and organizations, including the American Lung Association, Central South Carolina Alliance, Babcock Center, Salvation Army Advisory Board, Richland County Planning Commission, and the South Carolina State Employees Association. He chaired the Richland-Lexington Airport Commission and served as Vice Chairman of the South Carolina Highway Commission.

Throughout his life, faith has remained a cornerstone of Mr. Rearden's character. He faithfully served as a Deacon at First Nazareth Baptist Church, a Board Member of the United Baptist Deacons of Columbia, and Chairman of the Deacon Ministry at First Calvary Baptist Church. His unwavering commitment to his church has touched countless lives and strengthened the communities he has served.

Harrison has always believed in the power of service, the importance of community, and the value of treating every person with dignity and respect. South Carolina is stronger because of his contributions, and countless individuals have benefited from his wisdom, compassion, and example.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in celebrating the 90th birthday of my good friend and mentor, Harrison Rearden. I thank him for a lifetime of service and wish him continued health, happiness, and blessings in the years ahead.

HONORING CORPORAL EMILEE SHACKLEFORD

HON. CLAY FULLER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2026

Mr. FULLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant and outstanding law enforcement officer protecting Georgia's 14th District: Georgia State Patrol Corporal Emilee Shackelford.

Corporal Shackelford embodies the true spirit of the badge. She recently shared that at the beginning of every shift, she laces up her boots and places her badge over her heart, knowing she is giving her absolute full commitment to keeping her community safe. She entered law enforcement to make a deeply positive difference, and she is doing exactly that every single day.

Recently, Corporal Shackelford was the target of unfair media attacks simply for being

highly effective at her job. For enforcing the law and holding unlicensed drivers accountable on our roads, referring any illegal immigrants she apprehends to federal immigration officials.

Media reports sought to attack her for being responsible for 78 percent of her agency's illegal immigrant arrests in Walker County.

I rise to praise her for being responsible for 78 percent of her agency's Walker County arrests, and hope that her colleagues will rise to meet her example.

In a time when the rule of law is frequently undermined, she refused to back down. She stood strong for public safety, and she has earned the overwhelming respect and gratitude of the citizens she protects, putting them first.

The people of Northwest Georgia are grateful for her courage, her resilience, and her steadfast service. It is my distinct privilege to recognize Corporal Emilee Shackelford today.

HONORING BENJAMIN TWIGGS FOR 60 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN MICHIGAN'S CHERRY INDUSTRY

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize Benjamin Twiggs, "The Original Cherry Store," as they celebrate 60 years of offering the finest cherry products in the country.

Since 1966, Benjamin Twiggs has crafted cherry goods from 100 percent homegrown Michigan fruit, providing beloved treats for locals and visitors alike. As part of the larger cherry industry, their multigenerational enterprise has helped make Traverse City, the cherry capital of the world.

Benjamin Twiggs is owned by Leisa Eckerle Hankins, a fifth-generation Leelanau County cherry farmer and one of the most respected leaders in the Michigan cherry industry. The Eckerle family farm, operated by Leisa's parents, Jim and Shirley, spans more than 300 acres in Suttons Bay and includes six additional farms across Leelanau County, encompassing more than 20,000 cherry, peach, and apple trees. Leisa's parents, husband, and children work the farm year-round, and her son, Zach, plans to eventually take over the family business. The Eckerle family represents the best of Northern Michigan—hard work, strong family roots, and a deep commitment to their community.

To advocate for herself and her fellow farmers, Leisa founded the Michigan Cherry Growers Alliance in 2024, helping give cherry farmers a stronger voice at the legislative level. This past April, she was appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to the Michigan Cherry Committee, a state-level body established to create greater marketing opportunities for Michigan's cherry growers. Her work as owner of Benjamin Twiggs and as an industry leader has helped strengthen and revitalize Michigan's cherry industry.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Benjamin Twiggs, "The Original Cherry Store," for 60 years of dedicated service to Traverse City and the cherry industry of Northern Michigan. On behalf of Michigan's 1st Congress-

sional District, I want to thank Leisa and the Eckerle family for their hard work, dedication, and stewardship of a proud Northern Michigan tradition, and wish them continued success in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF OLD FORT NIAGARA

HON. CLAUDIA TENNEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2026

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 300th anniversary of Old Fort Niagara, one of the most significant historic landmarks in the United States. Established by the French in 1726 at the strategic junction of the Niagara River and Lake Ontario, Old Fort Niagara has stood for three centuries as a symbol of our Nation's rich history, resilience, and enduring spirit.

Occupied at various times throughout history by French, British, and American forces, the fort has played a pivotal role in major conflicts, including the French and Indian War, the American Revolution, and the War of 1812. Today, it continues to honor the legacy of the soldiers who defended it, preserving their stories as a testament to the military service and sacrifice that helped shape our Nation.

As Old Fort Niagara commemorates its 300th anniversary, we honor the generations of soldiers, civilians, historians, educators, and volunteers who have worked tirelessly to preserve and protect this site. Their dedication ensures that future generations will continue to learn from and value the rich history and legacy of this landmark.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Old Fort Niagara on its 300th anniversary and in recognizing the educators, historians, and volunteers who have made invaluable contributions to the preservation of American history.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAMPTON ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2026

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hampton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, as it celebrates 75 years of service to the Hampton Roads community. Chartered in 1951 and tracing its roots to the Beta Kappa Chapter established in 1937, the Hampton Alumnae Chapter has built a proud legacy of sisterhood, scholarship, service, and social action that continues to strengthen our communities today.

Throughout its history, the chapter has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to improving the lives of others. Its members have supported educational opportunities through scholarships and youth mentoring programs, helped address food insecurity through partnerships with the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank, and invested in communities both