

he championed expanded scholarship opportunities for veterans and active-duty service members, doubling the school's Yellow Ribbon funding to ensure broader access to graduate education through the GI Bill. He also served as a faculty adviser to SMU Military Veterans, providing mentorship and advocacy for students transitioning from military to academic life.

Beyond higher education, Specialist Myers continues to serve his community through board leadership with Goodwill of Dallas, the Baylor Scott & White Dallas Foundation, King Ranch, and The Peregrine Fund advancing causes of workforce development, healthcare, and conservation. His influence has inspired countless students and colleagues, including his own daughters, who credit his Army service for shaping their values of selflessness, humility, and strength.

Specialist Myers' honorable service and continued dedication to education, veterans, and his community reflect the highest traditions of the United States Army and bring great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

COMMEMORATING STEPHEN
MOYLAN

HON. MARY GAY SCANLON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate one of Philadelphia's great figures, Stephen Moylan. As we approach America's 250th anniversary, I find it fitting that we reflect on the individuals whose service and sacrifice helped lay its foundation.

Born in Cork in 1737, Stephen Moylan emigrated to Philadelphia in 1767 after experiencing religious persecution. Like so many immigrants, Moylan came to America seeking freedom and opportunity and went on to play a critical role in the fight for independence.

During the War for Independence, he served in several key positions, including as the second Quartermaster General of the Continental Army, Commander of the Fourth Continental Light Dragoons, and a trusted aide to General George Washington. Moylan is also credited as the first to have used the phrase "United States of America" reflecting his belief in unity among the colonies.

Moylan was a man of many accomplishments. Notably, in 1771 he was elected the first president of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in Philadelphia, an organization established on the principles of welcoming and supporting Irish immigrants. Today the organization continues his work by promoting Irish culture, education, and providing aid.

On January 14, 2026, the Friendly Sons and Daughters of St. Patrick, in partnership with Irish America 250, co-hosted an event at Villanova University to honor Stephen Moylan. This kick-off commemorated the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and highlighted the Irish contributions to American History and culture.

Ultimately, Stephen Moylan's life and legacy serve as a powerful reminder of the role Irish immigrants have played, and continue to play, shaping the American Republic. His service to Philadelphia, the Revolutionary cause, and to

generations of Irish Americans reflects the long-lasting values of unity, service, and liberty shared among the Irish and American people.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CECIL EDWARD
"EDDIE" FLOYD

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the extraordinary life and legacy of Dr. Cecil Edward "Eddie" Floyd, a distinguished physician, visionary leader, and devoted servant to the people of South Carolina, who transitioned on January 15, 2026. His life's work reflects a rare combination of professional excellence, civic responsibility, and deep commitment to family and community.

A native of Lake City, South Carolina, Dr. Floyd was educated in Lake City Public Schools. He went on to attend the University of South Carolina, earning his bachelor's degree, before pursuing his calling in medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina. Following his medical degree, Dr. Floyd completed his internship at Charity Hospital in New Orleans, Louisiana, an experience that further shaped his dedication to compassionate, high-quality care. Board-certified in both General and Vascular Surgery, he built a medical career marked by skill, integrity, and an unwavering focus on patient well-being.

Beyond the operating room, Dr. Floyd exemplified leadership through service. He dedicated countless hours to strengthening institutions that serve the public good, including his role as Chairman of the Board for MUSC Health Florence Medical Center. Over the decades, he served on boards for numerous organizations spanning healthcare, higher education, finance, conservation, and public policy—always bringing thoughtful guidance, steady leadership, and a deep sense of responsibility.

Dr. Floyd's impact extended into higher education and civic life through long-standing service on the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees, including his tenure as Chairman, and through leadership roles with financial and philanthropic institutions. His counsel was sought at the state, national, and international levels, including service as a Delegate to the United Nations General Assembly and participation in organizations shaping healthcare policy and medical education.

His distinguished service was widely recognized. Dr. Floyd was named a Distinguished Eagle Scout and received honorary doctoral degrees from Francis Marion University and the University of South Carolina. Among his many accolades was the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor—a testament to both his professional excellence and moral character.

At the center of Dr. Floyd's life was his family. He shared a loving marriage with his wife, Kay Baker Floyd of Timmonsville, and together they raised three children—Dr. Coleman Floyd Buckhouse, Cecil "Bubby" Edward Floyd, Jr., and Emory "Sissy" Kay Floyd. He was a proud grandfather to nine grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in honoring the life of Dr.

Cecil Edward "Eddie" Floyd—a healer, a leader, and a servant whose legacy will continue to inspire South Carolina for generations to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LEDA A.
MELIDEO

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Leda A. Melideo, of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, who passed away on December 20, 2025.

Leda A. Melideo was born on December 1, 1929, at home in the Lakewood section of Pittsfield, the daughter of the late Frank and Ida Curini Tranquilli. Her family later moved to the Morningside neighborhood, where she attended Crane School and went on to graduate from St. Joseph's High School as a member of the Class of 1947. A woman of deep faith, Leda was a lifelong parishioner of Sacred Heart Church, where her values of compassion, gratitude, and service were reflected throughout her life.

On April 29, 1950, Leda married the love of her life, Anthony Melideo. Together, they shared 63 years of marriage and built a family rooted in love, devotion, and togetherness. She was a devoted mother to four children: Nancy (Houghton) Smith of Greenfield, Massachusetts; Joseph P. Melideo of Fultonville, New York; Anthony A. Melideo, with whom she resided; and Thomas A. Melideo and his wife, Gabriela, of Vienna, Virginia. She was predeceased by her husband, Anthony; her brother, Faro; and her sister, Diana Carlon. Leda's legacy continues through her family, including her three grandchildren—Marissa Kelleher and her husband, Sean; Sophia Melideo; and Samuel Melideo—her two great-grandsons, Callan and Nolan Kelleher, and several nieces and nephews who were blessed by her love and guidance.

Known affectionately as "Nonni," Leda was a bright light to all who knew her. She possessed a remarkable ability to find joy in everyday life and to inspire that same joy in others. Her contagious laughter, warm smile, and kind spirit made everyone feel welcome, and she was the heart of countless happy memories that her family and friends will cherish forever. Above all, she found her greatest joy in spending time with family and friends, embracing each moment with gratitude and grace.

I am honored to recognize Leda A. Melideo for a life beautifully lived—one defined by love, faith, family, and kindness. Her legacy will endure in the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to know her, and her memory will remain a lasting blessing to the Pittsfield community and beyond.

RECOGNIZING BRUCE NELSON
BLACKMON

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens

of the 24th District of Texas. The 2025 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Master Sergeant Bruce Nelson Blackmon, United States Air Force, of North Richland Hills, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Master Sergeant Blackmon served honorably in the United States Air Force from 1978 to 1998, dedicating twenty years to the maintenance, repair, and readiness of critical aircraft in support of American combat operations around the world. As a sheet metal craftsman with the 305th Maintenance Squadron under Air Mobility Command, he played a vital role in ensuring that aircraft returning from combat during the Gulf War could be

rapidly repaired and returned to mission-ready status directly supporting air operations and the safety of troops on the ground. His superior technical skill, leadership, and dedication earned him numerous awards and decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with four devices, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two devices, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award with three devices, and the NCO Professional Military Education Ribbon.

Following his military career, Master Sergeant Blackmon continued his lifelong commitment to service through his work and within his community. For more than twenty-five

years, he worked as a kitchen designer and salesman, helping rebuild and restore homes devastated by natural disasters including Hurricane Charley and Hurricane Ike. Known for his humility and willingness to help, he has driven hours to assist friends and family in need repairing plumbing and lighting, installing cabinetry, or simply providing comfort and companionship to those hospitalized or struggling. His community service reflects the same sense of duty and compassion that defined his military career.

Master Sergeant Blackmon's steadfast service, both in uniform and as a civilian, exemplifies the highest traditions of the United States Air Force and brings great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.