

as he was with you. By being with him as he passed you truly fulfilled your wedding vow "until death do us part."

I once heard a Pastor of a younger congregation, who counseled many couples before marriage and continue in touch with them through a Married Couples club in the church, tell the story of the death of an elderly male member of cancer and saw at his bedside at the moment of his death his wife beside him holding his hands, mopping his brow, and giving him comfort. He said to the young people that evening that he knew there were many good ways for a marriage to begin, but there was no better way for a marriage to end.

I know, however, that what is important to you and your family at this time is that Kenny has been taken from you. May God give you the strength and courage at this time of sorrow to help you bear your burden of grief, and may He strengthen your faith in the resurrection promised by Jesus to provide hope of reunion in Heaven.

## IN RECOGNITION OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

### HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2005

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the brave survivors of this disease. The statistics for breast cancer are staggering. One out of every eight women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime, and 1 out of every 229 women in their 30s will be affected by the disease at some point in their lives. The unfortunate truth behind these numbers is that there is a limited amount of information available on women under 35 with breast cancer. The general sentiment is that women in their 20s and 30s are too young to contract the illness, but the reality is that women of this age are not immune.

Four young women have shared their stories of survival with each other as part of a support group called Nordie's at Noon, and they recently published a book of the same name documenting their stories. These women were in the first stages of their lives when they were diagnosed with breast cancer, and their stories, although different, are bound together by a common challenge. These courageous women are Patti Balwanz, Kim Carlos, Jennifer Johnson, and Jana Peters.

Patti Balwanz fought a long and brave battle against breast cancer. She was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 24, while working as an IT consultant. Her cancer metastasized to her bones, lungs and liver, but she used her experience to educate women about the disease. Patti stayed active in breast cancer awareness outlets during her treatment by serving as a Board Officer of the Ribbons of Pink Foundation and being honored with the foundation's "You Are an Inspiration" award. Patti also continued her education by receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree from Southwest Missouri State University and remaining active in the Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority. Until her death in 2003, Patti continued to educate women about breast cancer while bravely facing her own fight.

Kim Carlos was diagnosed with breast cancer during the planning of her son's second birthday party. After three years of extensive treatment including eight rounds of chemotherapy, a mastectomy with breast reconstruction, and treatments for lymphedema, Kim is now cancer-free. Currently Kim serves as President of the Board for the Greater Kansas City Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and she was recently selected to serve on the Komen National Public Policy Council. Kim is also a member of the American Cancer Society State Advocacy Committee. She has been honored by Lifetime Television and SELF Magazine for her efforts in educating women about breast cancer. Kim now focuses on advocacy full-time with her business, K.C. Consulting, where her focus is governmental and public relations and grassroots advocacy.

While five months pregnant with her first child, Jennifer Johnson was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 27. Her treatment involved chemotherapy and a mastectomy during her pregnancy. Jennifer completed her final chemotherapy treatment in 2000, and the next day delivered a healthy baby boy, Parker Matthew. Three years later, Jennifer had a daughter, Emma Grace, and she has been cancer-free for six years. Jennifer is active in several breast cancer advocacy groups including the American Cancer Society, the Susan G. Komen Association, the Ribbons of Pink Foundation, and the Pregnant with Cancer organization.

Jana Peters was 27 and engaged to be married when she received her breast cancer diagnosis. She has undergone several treatments since then including a mastectomy and chemotherapy. In 1999 Jana founded the Ribbons of Pink Foundation, a non-profit organization with the goal of promoting breast health and serving as a support for young breast cancer survivors. She is a member of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, and she is a volunteer for several breast cancer organizations and events. Jana continues her career in the clinical research industry in San Francisco, where she resides with her husband Chris.

We celebrate these courageous women who have battled breast cancer and those who continue their fight against this illness. Breast cancer survivors and supporters gather to raise awareness and encourage the access of information for breast cancer in young women. Thank you to Patti, Kim, Jennifer and Jana for sharing their stories of bravery and determination.

## THE 9/11 COMMISSION FINAL REPORT ONE YEAR LATER

### HON. CYNTHIA MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2005

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to enter the following into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

## THE 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT ONE YEAR LATER

A CITIZENS' RESPONSE: DID THE COMMISSION  
GET IT RIGHT?

*A Congressional Briefing Convened on the First  
Anniversary of the Release of the 9/11 Com-  
mission Report, Friday, July 22, 2005*

### EXCERPTS FROM THE TESTIMONY

*Opening Remarks: Rep. Cynthia McKinney:  
9/11 Families Report*

Lorie Van Auken, 9/11 Family Steering Com-  
mittee "Unanswered Questions and The  
Call for Accountability"

Behind the 9/11 Commission: Flaws in the  
Process

John Judge, staff and 9/11 Citizens Watch:  
"Staff Report—A Citizens' Critique"

Mel Goodman, former CIA, Center for Inter-  
national Policy: "Conflicts of Interest—  
A Commission Investigates Itself"

Omissions and Errors in the Commission's  
Final Report

Paul Thompson, author of *Terror of Timeline*,  
"NORAD/FAA, P-56 Responses, Pre-9/11  
Exercises"

John Newman, former NSA: "The \$100,000  
Transfer—Pakistan ISI, bin Laden and  
U.S. Intelligence"

9/11 in Historical Perspective: Flawed As-  
sumptions

Loretta Napolione, author of *Modern Jihad*:  
"The Underground World of Terrorist Fi-  
nancing"

Anne Norton, author of *Leo Strauss & the Pol-  
itics of American Empire*: "The Rise of the  
Neo-Conservatives"

Peter Dale Scott, author of *Drugs, Oil & War*:  
"Deep Politics: Contragate, Drug, Oil,  
Covert Operations & Terrorism"

Nafeez Ahmen, author of *The War of Truth*,  
"Afghanistan Mujahedin—Covert Oper-  
ations, Creating Terrorism"

Foreign Policy: Immediate Response and  
Recommendations

Wayne Smith, former diplomat, Center on  
International Policy, "The End of Inter-  
national Law?"

Bob McIlvaine, September 11 Families for  
Peaceful Tomorrows, Alternatives to Pax  
Americana and Permanent War

Domestic Policy: Immediate Response and  
Recommendations

Elaine Cassel, author of *The War on Civil Lib-  
erties*

Rebecca Daugherty, Reporters Committee on  
Freedom of the Press: "The Rise of Se-  
crecy After 9/11"

William Michaels, author of *No Greater  
Threat*, "The Patriot Act—Sunset of  
Freedom?"

Intelligence Reform: Immediate Response  
and Recommendations

David MacMichael, former CIA: "The Wall":  
Breaking Down the Division of Intel-  
ligence, Military and Law Enforcement"

John Nutter, author of *The CIA's Black Oper-  
ations*, "Covert Operations and Increased  
Intelligence Budget—Solution or Cause?"

### Opening Remarks

Rep. CYNTHIA MCKINNEY: Last year, we got the final report, an extensive, prosaically impressive report, but as some of us sat down to read it, the errors and omissions immediately jumped out at us. How was it that it took over an hour after the first transponder went off before planes were scrambled to meet the threat, all of them too late? What happened to those reports that surfaced within months of September 11th stating that seven or more of the alleged hijackers had come forward and claimed they were victims of stolen identities and were alive and well, living in Saudi Arabia, Morocco,