

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING MR. JOHN BENSON UPON HIS RECOGNITION AS A GREAT PHILANTHROPIST

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, John Benson was nominated by Dr. David Mitzel; and

Whereas, John Benson had an experience on Christmas morning in 1989 that touched him so deeply he helped establish the ABC Wilson Fund in memory of 3 children whose lives were senselessly lost; and

Whereas, John Benson has worked diligently with the help of others to make the ABC Wilson Fund an endowment that is saving lives across Muskingum County by providing smoke detectors to all in need.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating John Benson and thanking him for his generosity to the people of Muskingum County.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF LANCE CORPORAL NORMAN WALLACE ANDERSON, III

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I humbly rise before you today to mourn the loss and to honor the life of a devoted United States Marine from Parkton, Maryland.

Lance Corporal Norman Wallace Anderson, III, died during active duty on the nineteenth day of October in the year 2005 while conducting combat operations against enemy forces in Karabilah, Iraq. Anderson was killed by a suicide vehicle-borne improvised explosive device.

Anderson, assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2d Marine Division, 2 Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, joined his division in June 2003 as a rifleman.

He returned to the States November of last year, and wed high school sweetheart, Victoria Worthing Anderson in August before continuing to active duty.

The Lance Corporal had aspirations of military life since he was a young boy. He dreamt of following in the footsteps of his father, Norman Wallace Anderson, Junior, a retired Army Ranger.

Anderson is remembered as a soldier who wished to serve his country so that his parents, his friends, and all of their families could keep their freedom.

A ceremony was held at Anderson's alma mater, Hereford High School, during a football

game on Friday, the twenty-first of October 2005 to honor the fallen soldier. Players wore Anderson's initials on their helmets and the school retired his number thirty-three jersey.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor a man who proudly devoted his life to serving his country for the safety of his fellow citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 570 on H. Con. Res. 260 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, November 4, 2005 I was unavoidably detained and thus missed rollcall vote No. 569.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 569, in support of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3057, making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, November 4, 2005, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall No. 569. The vote I missed was on agreeing to the conference report for making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 569.

TRIBUTE TO BOBBY GERALD

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant who

has served the residents of Marion, South Carolina ably for more than 30 years. Mayor Bobby Gerald is a product of Marion County, and is a lifelong resident of the community he serves. His tremendous impact on his hometown reflects his enduring commitment to the city and its people.

Bobby Gerald has served a remarkable 20 years as Mayor of the City of Marion. His success in the political arena is no surprise given his talent as a businessman. At the tender age of 16, Bobby began selling cars for Neil Padgett Motors. After graduating from Marion High School, he joined the sales staff full time and went on to win every salesmanship award given by Ford Motor Company. His natural abilities and good business sense led him to become the General Manager and Executive Vice President of Earl Collins Ford Motor Company in 1967, just seven years after his high school graduation. In 1980, Bobby purchased the business, which he still runs successfully today.

Yet being a successful businessman was not enough for Bobby Gerald. He also felt a duty to serve his community, and in April 1975 he was appointed to the Marion County Board of Commissioners. He first won elective office in January 1977 as a member of the Marion County Council, where he served as Vice Chairman. Two years later, Bobby became Chairman of Marion County Council, a capacity in which he served until June 1982. At that time he was appointed by the Marion County Delegation to serve on the South Carolina State Highway Commission. In June 1985, he resigned that appointment after being elected the Mayor of the City of Marion, a position he has held ever since.

As Mayor of Marion, Bobby Gerald has led his city through difficult plant closures and the decline in tobacco farming. Yet his community has embraced its rich history and small town charm and become a tourist destination. Main Street has been revitalized with many family-owned antique shops and quaint boutiques, and a National Register Historic District has preserved and protected many of the homes, churches and other structures. I am proud to have worked with Bobby on the preservation of the old Marion High School, which is a crown jewel of this community.

In addition to his elected and appointed positions, Bobby Gerald has also been very active in community organizations. He is a member of the Jaycees, Mullins Rotary Club, Civitans, the Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments, and the S.C. Automobile Dealers Association. He has held several leadership positions within these organizations at the local and state levels. He has won numerous awards and citations including the American Hometown Leadership Award in 1999, the Public Service Award in 1996, the Marion Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award in 1995, and the Historic Marion Revitalization Association Board of Directors Award in 1995.

Bobby is in partnership with a lovely wife, Frances, and the couple has three children

• 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.