

and Graham Bowers Solana (Mark) of Savannah, Georgia; three granddaughters, Mary Crane Palles of Columbia, Louisa Sims Bowers of Estill and Mary Tippins Solana of Savannah; eight grandsons, John C. Green (Deana) of Jacksonville, Florida, Corrin J. Green (Hanna) of Columbia, South Carolina, and Andrew N. Green, Mitchell D. Palles III, and Corrin Fitts Bowers III, all of Columbia; Joe, Henry and Gray Solana of Savannah; one guardian son, Thomas W. Folk, junior (Jan) of Barnwell; two great-grandsons, Patrick Bowers Green and William Fitts Green of Jacksonville, Florida; four nieces, Martha B. Simons (Paul) of Aiken, Laurie W. Hanna (Chris) of Estill, Stephanie W. Bates (Rob) of Chapin, and Tracy Wiggins of Columbia; seven nephews, deTreville Bowers (Polly) and Dr. Ford Bowers (Susan) both of Chapin, South Carolina, Ransley Bowers (Mary Wells) and Tison Bowers (Julie) of Columbia, Bill Bowers (Val) of Savannah, Georgia, Grover Bowers III (Derbi) of Okatie, South Carolina, and Bob Wiggins (Rachael) of Estill, South Carolina; one brother in law, R.G. "Bro" Wiggins (Kay) of Estill, South Carolina. First cousins, Betty Fitts, Cecilia Baker of Estill, Mary Eleanor Rouse, Robert and Mary Bowers of Luray; Paul Bowers of Allendale; Frances F. DeLoach of Beaufort; Deloris F. Jenkins of Barnwell, SC., Franklena Geiger of Atlanta, Georgia and Araminta E. Harris of Salisburry, N.C. He was predeceased by his brother, deTreville Bowers and survived by his wife, Evelyn Pendarvis Bowers Kuebler. The pallbearers for Corrin Bowers are his grandsons with his nephews standing nearby, in a group. The honorary pallbearers include: Harry Hanna, Montague Laffitte, Dr. Luke Laffitte, Clarke Baker, Paul Peeples, Dr. J.D. Rouse, junior, Ashley Bush, Dr. Harrison L. Peeples, Lester Cook, Richard Mixson, George Barber, Coy Johnston, Bill Ratcliff, Bill Stewart, Clyde Eltzroth, Harold Mack, Bill Sprague, Homer Peeples, Mendel Davis, Billy Wier, Billy Yonce, Bart Waller, Randolph Murdaugh III, Lee Bowers, Karl Bowers, Hughsie E. Long, Tony Reardon, Hugh T. Lightsey, Damian Centgraf, John D. Carswell, his faithful employees and his kind and loving caregiver Jerrod Steven Wilson. Visitation will begin at 3 p.m. Thursday, February 23, 2006, at 362 Wyman Blvd. in Estill, South Carolina and continue until 1 p.m. Friday when Mr. Bowers will be taken to the church.

Funeral is 3 p.m. Friday, February 24, 2006, at Lawtonville Baptist Church with Reverend Dr. James Norris, officiating.

Burial: Lawtonville Cemetery.

The family requests in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to Lawtonville Baptist Church Parsonage Building Fund, P.O. Box 1057, Estill, SC 29918.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF CERESE TEEL

### HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2006*

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, last month, Ceresse Teel retired as executive director of the Oktibbeha County chapter of the American Red Cross. Through 7 years of ice storms, wind storms and the mother of all storms—Hurricane Katrina—Ceresse served her community with diligence and a noble spirit.

During her time as executive director, she oversaw the chapter's expansion as they moved into new headquarters and purchased and outfitted an emergency response vehicle.

She opened and operated emergency shelters and provided leadership to more than 1,300 volunteers from the area.

Mr. Speaker, I hope Congress joins me in recognizing the public service of Ceresse Teel. The strength of our Nation dwells not in the halls of the Capitol but the hearts of our people. Ceresse loved her neighbors and served them. Mississippi has been blessed by her work and we honor her for her dedication, vision and compassion.

IN MEMORY OF SAMUEL B. WARD,  
JR., LONGTIME CHESTER  
HEIGHTS FIRE CHIEF WITH A  
LEGACY OF PUBLIC SERVICE,  
COMPASSION, COURAGE, AND  
DEDICATION

### HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2006*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness and tremendous gratitude to honor the life of my good friend, Samuel B. Ward, a longtime Chester Heights Fire Chief, veteran, engineer and community leader. As his family, friends and neighbors mourn the passing of Sam Ward, I want to take a few moments today to remember his work and the difference he made in the community he served so bravely and selflessly.

Mr. Ward was born in Chester, but grew up in Chester Heights, a community with whom he had a life-long affiliation. After enlisting at the end of World War II, he attended Pennsylvania Military College, now Widener University, where he played football and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering.

Commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Ordinance Corps, he was detailed to the Infantry and served in Korea as a Heavy Mortar Platoon Leader and Executive Officer, earning his Combat Infantry Badge. After returning from Korea, he was assigned to the Tank and Automotive Command in Michigan before leaving the military and returning to Chester Heights.

After his military service, he returned to the fledgling Chester Heights Volunteer Fire Company, and was elected to positions of increasing leadership including Engineer, Assistant Fire Chief, and finally Fire Chief, a position he held for 35 years.

Firefighting is a matter of life and death, and individuals like Sam Ward assume an enormous responsibility when they accept the job of running a fire department. They are responsible for the lives, homes, and livelihoods of thousands of citizens throughout their community. And on a day-to-day basis they become directly responsible for the health and welfare of all the men and women they supervise. Chief Ward discharged his enormous responsibilities with real distinction. During his 35 years as chief, a good department became even better. Chief Ward was respected for his commitment to public safety and his ability to get things done.

An innovator in the fire service, he developed the first workable portable Air Bank in the county, a system which recharges the air packs worn by firefighters. As chairman of the

Delaware County Radio Committee, his work laid the foundation for the county-wide fire response radio and the 911 service.

Within the community, Mr. Ward served the borough of Chester Heights in numerous capacities, including Fire Marshal, Council Member and President of Borough Council. In later years, he used his expertise from the fire service to serve as Coordinator of Emergency Preparedness.

Mr. Ward's service activities also included a very active role in the Boy Scouts of Troop 260, where as a boy he earned his Eagle Scout. His leadership on the troop committee provided opportunities for boys of the area to experience adventure activities and other projects to enhance their scouting life. His other community involvement included various service organizations, including the Lions, Jaycees, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Concordville Rotary.

Mr. Ward worked throughout his career as a metal fabricator, eventually founding his own business, which had a reputation for quality and innovation for more than 34 years.

He married the former Mary Frances Ahearn, his high school and college sweetheart, in 1951, who died in 1995. He is survived by one daughter, Joan and four sons, Steven, James, Lawrence and Joseph, and one sister, Polly (Madeline); and seven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, the 7th Congressional District has lost an exceptional public servant, and I have lost a good friend. I wish Chief Ward's family, my heartfelt condolences and may they find comfort in knowing that the many people he impacted deeply value his dedication and generosity and the example of his life and work. Chief Samuel B. Ward exemplified the spirit of service that has made this country great. This man was a genuine community leader. He not only did his job well, he loved it, and the community he served. We are safer because of his life and service. I am personally grateful to have known Chief Ward as a friend, and mourn his passing.

#### SUPPORT FOR JAVITS-WAGNER- O'DAY PROGRAM

### HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2006*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues a startling statistic—the 50 percent unemployment rate of people with disabilities in this country. For those with severe disabilities, the number is even graver at 70 percent.

It is easy to focus on the disability of a person, not the ability. But people with disabilities want to work, and can work. We must recognize the potential of all Americans, and provide the opportunities needed to allow people with disabilities to become self-sufficient, independent, tax-paying citizens.

To that end, I am proud to support employment opportunities for people with disabilities, particularly through the Javits-Wagner-O'Day, JWOD, Program.

The JWOD Program uses the purchasing power of the Federal Government to buy products and services from participating, community-based nonprofit agencies dedicated to