

Mr. Speaker, due to the versatility of the CH47D Chinook Helicopter and the expertise and skill of "Mustang" aircrews, the combat units they transported were able to pursue and eliminate hundreds of Taliban and Al-Qaeda fighters in the region. By penetrating deep into the heart of the Taliban's stronghold, the Mustangs of Delta 113 were instrumental to the success of the ground forces in denying Anti-Coalition Militants respite and sanctuary in Afghanistan.

I take great pride in the sacrifice and outstanding performance of all of Oregon's patriots who serve our nation at home and abroad, and am particularly looking forward to joining the friends and families of Delta 113 in Pendleton on this weekend to officially welcome them back to our great state.

TRIBUTE TO DUANE B. HAGADONE

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw the attention of the House to an entrepreneur and philanthropist from my district whose initiative and vision are an inspiration to all Idahoans.

Duane B. Hagadone began his modest career selling newspaper subscriptions. With hard work and passion Duane worked his way up to editor, then owner of that newspaper. Much later he founded one of the most successful diversified publishing and hospitality businesses in Idaho history, the Hagadone Corporation.

On December 9, 2004, this lifelong resident of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, was inducted into the Horatio Alger Association, an organization that honors those who have overcome adversity and modest beginnings to achieve success. He now serves on that association's board of directors, and through determination and leadership has provided countless scholarships for underprivileged high school seniors.

Duane B. Hagadone was inducted into the Idaho Hall of Fame, and was named Most Influential North Idaho Citizen for the past 5 years for his many contributions to the welfare of Idaho and its citizens.

Duane B. Hagadone shines as a leader in the field of business and public works. He has given back endlessly to the State of Idaho and embodies a sense of civic virtue that makes him one of our state's greatest advocates and most valuable assets. I hope the House will join me in acknowledging Duane B. Hagadone's many contributions to Idaho, and his continuing example to us all.

TRIBUTE TO ST. CASIMIR'S
CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS POST
#652

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Casimir's Catholic War Veterans Post #652 on the occasion of its 60th anniversary.

The Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, Inc., (CWV), was founded in 1935 with the National headquarters located in Alexandria, Virginia. CWV joined other organized groups that were formed to guard the rights and privileges of veterans and included the protection of all our freedoms. Service programs help those who are sick and disabled and care for our hospitalized veterans.

St. Casimir's Post #652 Inc., Chapter of Philadelphia, Department of Pennsylvania, of the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, was established on the 2nd of April, 1946. The home post is located at 1524 South 2nd Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

In 1984, the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, Inc., was Congressionally Chartered and its Service Officers were accredited to the Department of Veterans Affairs. They are authorized to represent veterans and advance their claims to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

To quote the Post's constitution, it was established "to promote faith, hope, and charity with prudence, justice, fortitude, and to enjoy the blessings of liberty, to sustain domestic tranquility, and to develop peace and good will."

St. Casimir's extends help to veterans in hospitals and assists their families with any hardships; has honor guards at funerals of deceased veterans; and helps family members with red tape regarding burial arrangements. The Post also holds benefits to help veterans and their families who are in need.

I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring St. Casimir's Catholic War Veterans Post #652 for their 60 years of service and dedicated commitment towards our war veterans.

TRIBUTE TO KADE HINKHOUSE

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a true American hero, Lance Corporal Kade Hinkhouse. Lance Corporal Hinkhouse is a United States Marine from the 1st Marine Division, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment based out of Twenty-Nine Palms, California. Kade is from Burlington, Colorado.

At a young age, Kade was impacted by the devastating terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001. Because of his pride in our country and determination to protect America's values, Kade signed up for the Marine Corp just prior to graduating from high school.

Last year, LCpl. Hinkhouse was sent to the Middle East to serve in Operation Iraqi Freedom. On October 9, 2005, LCpl. Hinkhouse was severely injured while on his mission at Ar Ramadi, Iraq. After being stationed there for only one month, he and 12 others traveling in a small convoy were hit on the right side with an improvised explosive device. Kade's vehicle was in the middle. The explosion killed the Marine sitting next to him, and 4 other soldiers were injured.

LCpl. Hinkhouse sustained the worst of the injuries including a traumatic brain injury,

shrapnel in his shoulder, an open leg wound, and two collapsed lungs. He and the other 4 injured Marines were taken to the Baghdad hospital, where the medical staff stabilized Kade and amputated his right leg at the knee. The next day, Kade was flown to a military hospital in Germany.

His head trauma was very severe because of severe bruising and swelling. The doctors had to remove a portion of the right side of his skull to alleviate the swelling around Kade's brain. He stayed in Germany until Thursday, October 13, 2005, and then he was flown to Bethesda, Maryland. LCpl. Hinkhouse is now at Walter Reed Hospital receiving therapy and recovering.

Mr. Speaker, we are so fortunate to live in a country served by Marines like LCpl. Hinkhouse; I am grateful for the courage of our servicemen and women. We can maintain the blessings of our freedoms only because we have citizens like Kade who are willing to defend them.

I am proud to honor Kade for his courage and sacrifice on behalf of all Americans. I applaud Kade for his courage and selfless dedication to duty. Lance Corporal Kade Hinkhouse is the embodiment of the values that makes America the great Nation it is today.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
IRA ALBERT "SONNY" BEACH

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of the late Ira Albert Beach of Arkansas City Kansas, who passed away on February 3rd 2006.

Ira, known as "Sonny" to his friends, was a model American. Sonny was born without legs and with a deformed right arm. He spent the first years of his life in the Children's Hospital in Wichita, KS. After graduating from Winfield High School, he went on to junior college. At age 10, Sonny learned to drive a tractor with mechanical aides on his father's farm. Despite his disability, Sonny insisted on contributing to society with his work and his charitable ways.

Sonny paid his way through junior college by hauling five gallon milk cans around his neighborhood. After college he married and had four children. His motto was, "If man made it, man could fix it." Sonny made a living insulating homes, doing construction work, operating heavy equipment and backhoes, and picking up dead animals from farmers all over Oklahoma and Kansas and delivering them to rendering companies. Eventually Sonny sought out a position at General Electric. After a 36 year career, he retired from GE as a jet engine inspector. Sonny also served as an accountant for an oilman in eastern Kansas. At one time Sonny owned and operated a garbage collection business. Sonny was well known as a generous man who had a positive attitude towards life.

Although Sonny was born disabled, he insisted that he was not handicapped. He refused to park in handicap parking, and insisted on never accepting any form of government benefit available to the handicapped or unemployed. Despite hardships Sonny Beach was