

At the very young age of 37, Williams became a widow when her husband passed away unexpectedly in 1946. Her considerable strength and determination was apparent as she raised her four children on her own.

Williams credits her happiness to being surrounded by family and friends. Today, as she has outlived her four children, Williams is encircled by the love of her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

Baptized on May 6, 1910 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Cloutierville, she is deeply committed her Catholic faith. Williams still recites her rosary every night before she goes to sleep and is a faithful member of St. Rita Catholic Church in Alexandria, La.

As her friends and family prepare to join together on September 27, 2009, for a mass in her honor, Williams continues to exemplify a strong character of dedication, compassion and devotion.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mrs. Margaret Brossett Williams on this truly significant birthday.

HONORING LOUIS T. CAMPESE

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Louis T. Campese, a resident of my district in Upstate New York, for his heroic service during World War II and his ongoing work on behalf of our nation's veterans.

Mr. Campese served on the U.S.S. *Patterson* (DD-392), a naval destroyer stationed at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack of December 7, 1941. That morning, Mr. Campese and two of his comrades nearly lost their lives while rescuing a drowning sailor. For his extraordinary actions during the attack on Pearl Harbor and his service during World War II, Mr. Campese was awarded several medals, including the Pearl Harbor Medal, the World War II Victory Medal and the American Defense Service Medal.

Each year Mr. Campese reunites with other surviving shipmates of the U.S.S. *Patterson* to reminisce about their service together and reinforce the bonds of friendship. Mr. Campese served previously as treasurer for the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, Inc., and remains active in various veterans' organizations.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the extraordinary service Mr. Campese rendered on behalf of our nation during a time of great crisis. His bravery in the face of tremendous peril is an example for us all. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Campese and the many men and women willing to risk their lives in defense of the principles and freedoms we as a nation hold dear.

HONORING DOLPH CHIANCHIANO

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Dolph Chianchiano, Senior Vice

President for Health Policy and Research for his 30 years of service to the National Kidney Foundation.

As the co-chair of the Congressional Kidney Caucus, I have had the honor of working with the NKF and Dolph to educate my colleagues about the impact of kidney disease, and to shape policy and legislation to make the lives of patients better.

Being from Seattle, where dialysis treatments were first used, I have seen the power of research and innovation in the treatment of kidney disease. People live longer, more productive lives with kidney failure, and we continue to learn more every day.

Dolph Chianchiano has contributed to the understanding we now have about kidney disease in his role of administrator of NKF's research program, which has awarded nearly \$80 million in grants in his tenure. He made the important decision to expand the program to include not only physician research, but other members of the renal health care team: nurses, dietitians and social workers. He has cultivated a cadre of researchers, providing early career grants to researchers that go on to devote a career to improve the lives of kidney patients. Many kidney professionals have remarked, "I got my start through an NKF research grant."

Dolph has also been a tireless advocate for more research funding at the federal level, helping to guide the research agenda of the National Institutes of Health and other federal agencies. In the past three decades, we have seen many advances, and hopefully more will come, as we improve the treatment for kidney disease.

I have worked with the NKF for the 20 years I have been in Congress, and I look forward to many more years working with Dolph and the others associated with the Foundation. Congratulations on 30 years of service to kidney patients. I applaud you and wish you well.

IN HONOR OF SARA BIESIADNY OF GRAPEVINE, TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sara Biesiadny of Grapevine, Texas. Sara has been selected as a regional winner of a ConvaTec Comeback Kids Award. This very important program honors annually a group of individuals living with intestinal diseases or recovering from ostomy surgery.

The Great Comebacks Awards Program honors the achievements of children and teenagers living inspirational lives with Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis and/or an ostomy. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Great Comebacks Program. Each year regional awards are given to 12 people throughout the United States who have struggled with a chronic condition and have shown extraordinary strength and courage. Recipients are selected for having managed, despite daily struggles with their conditions, to live full and productive lives. In March of 2010, one of these recipients will receive the national Great Comebacks Award.

My constituent Sara, born with birth defects of the spine, bladder and colon, received an

ostomy shortly after birth. Despite this rough start in life, Sara has never wasted a moment's thought on "why has this happened to me?" In fact, she has refused to let her ostomy and other medical conditions get in the way of pursuing her love of sports and science. Even though Sara has undergone continuous medical procedures and surgeries since birth, she won't sit on the sidelines, and enjoys playing softball and basketball and swimming. In fact, as a freshman, she set her mind to join the high school golf team and has enjoyed three solid seasons with the team. Sara also has excelled academically. Sara, 17, is currently a high school senior and encourages others suffering from bowel diseases to remember, "Having an ostomy or bowel disease does not define who you are, only you can do that."

The Great Comeback Awards Program raises awareness of quality-of-life issues for people with Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, colorectal cancer and other diseases that can lead to ostomy surgery. These diseases are painful and debilitating; and while ostomy surgery is a procedure that can be life saving, it is also life-changing for patients of all ages. The spirit and courage with which a patient embraces life after ostomy surgery is what the Great Comebacks Program celebrates. My best wishes to Sara and her family.

COMMENDING THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 3

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate The American Legion Post 3 for their hard work, service and dedication to the Alexandria/Pineville area, and to the nation.

In 2009 alone, The American Legion Post 3 donated \$34,500 to more than 30 laudable organizations throughout central Louisiana. Post 3 will be honored with a "Legiontown USA" program and subsequent ceremony on September 16, the anniversary of the organization's congressional charter, as American Legion Day.

The "Legiontown USA" campaign was recently introduced to increase awareness of the activities and efforts of local posts in communities throughout the United States and worldwide. This movement is beneficial for it gives our courageous veterans the recognition they deserve.

On a national level, The American Legion is a patriotic, non-profit organization devoted to advocating for our veterans on Capitol Hill. It is an honor and privilege to have such a prominent and compassionate institution in the 5th District of Louisiana.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending The American Legion Post 3 for their loyalty and dedication to our nation's veterans, as well as for their tremendous service to the communities of central Louisiana.