

Lifetime Achievement Award. She stirred the hundreds of women packed into a New York City ballroom with her words of inspiration, her grace, and her commitment to advancing the health and well-being of others, even as she faced the fight of her life.

In 1984, Geraldine proudly proclaimed as the Vice Presidential nominee, "America is the land where dreams can come true for all of us." She didn't just believe this in her gut; she did everything in her power to ensure that, through equal opportunity, every girl and boy throughout the United States and around the world has the means to pursue their dreams of a productive and successful life.

I was privileged to know Geraldine Ferraro, and she leaves a proud legacy of courage, principled advocacy, and greater opportunity. All Americans owe her a debt of gratitude for her service and leadership.

#### HONORING LAFAYETTE STRIBLING CHAMPIONSHIP WINNING BASKETBALL COACH

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 31, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Coach Lafayette Stribling, Championship Winning Basketball Coach and Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Hall of Famer.

Lafayette Stribling, a native of Carthage, Mississippi in Leake County graduated from Harmony High School in Carthage. He attended Mississippi Industrial College in Holly Springs, Mississippi where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree and later a Master of Science Degree from Mississippi State University in Starkville, Mississippi. Coach Stribling has also studied at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Stribling coached high school boy's basketball for 26 years winning 741 games and 17 out of 19 Conference Championships. He was named Coach of the Year of the Choctaw Conference six consecutive years, and his team was Class BB State Champions in 1980. In addition to coaching boy's basketball, Stribling coached girl's basketball for four years. In the 1981 regular season, both the boys and girls teams were undefeated winning 67 consecutive games. He coached baseball for 15 years and won the 1971 State Championship. Subsequently, three players from that championship team went on to play baseball professionally. Throughout his 26 year high school sports career, Coach Stribling never had a losing season.

Coach Stribling spent over 20 years as the coach of the Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) Delta Devils in Itta Bena, Mississippi. During Stribling's tenure, the Delta Devils captured four SWAC regular-season titles and earned three SWAC tournament titles which lead to three trips to the NCAA Tournament (1986, 1992, 1996). Stribling was the winningest coach in Mississippi Valley State University history, with a record of 315–307.

Coach Stribling's accomplishments at Mississippi Valley included taking a squad that was down in the early 1980s and turning them into conference champions. In 1985, his Delta

Devils team played on national television against the number one team in the nation, Duke University. The game, televised on ESPN, saw Mississippi Valley fight a tough contest against the Blue Devils. At halftime, the Delta Devils led by three. Early in the second half, they led by seven, only to see Duke rally for an 85–78 victory. Though, the Delta Devils did not take home the win, their performance very well may have earned them a different type of victory. At the time, Mississippi Valley State University was facing closure. After a strong performance from the Delta Devils, the national attention Stribling's squad received arguably may have breathed life back into Mississippi Valley State University, forcing state legislators to reconsider closing its doors.

In 2005, Coach Stribling retired from Mississippi Valley State University as head coach of the Delta Devils. Soon, thereafter he came out of retirement and began coaching the Tougaloo College Bulldogs. In 2007, under the tutelage of Coach Stribling, the Bulldogs won their first conference championship in the school's history. That same year, Coach Stribling was named Gulf Coast Athletic Conference Coach of the Year and the bulldogs went on to play in the National Tournament.

At 76 years-old, Coach Stribling still believes his players should "work hard and play even harder"—that is in the classroom and on the court. His firm concept of "academics before athletics" left the 54 year coaching veteran with only seven of his original thirteen players in the 2011 National Tournament when some of his players became academically ineligible. In essence, Coach Stribling says, "You can look at it two ways. I always look at my glass as half full, not half empty. All seven of my guys know they are going to play every night. They are ready. I tell them we have seven players. That's two too many. You can't use but five at a time." To date, The Tougaloo Bulldogs have won three championships in just five seasons.

Coach Lafayette Stribling has inspired his players to never give up on or off the court. He has survived prostate cancer and congestive heart failure and continues to enjoy every moment of the game.

Again, I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting Coach Lafayette Stribling, a living legend and an inspiration to all Mississippians.

#### TRIBUTE TO COACH PAUL BRIGGS

#### HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 31, 2011*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Coach Paul Briggs, a great football coach who passed away on Monday, February 14, 2011, at the age of 90. Coach Briggs was Bakersfield High School's head football coach from 1953–1985. During those 33 seasons, his teams won 210 games, including four Central Section championships.

Coach Briggs was born in Providence, Rhode Island and grew up in Grand Junction, Colorado. He joined the Navy in 1943 and earned a Bronze Star for bravery and a Purple Heart. He played football at the University of Colorado and on the 1948 Detroit Lions. Then, Coach Briggs began his coaching career in 1949 at Rocky Ford High School in Colorado.

Continuously recognized for his great achievements in sports, Coach Briggs was a member of numerous halls of fame: the California Coaches Association Hall of Fame, Bob Elias Kern County Hall of Honor, Bakersfield High School Driller Football Hall of Fame, the University of Colorado Hall of Fame, and Citizens Athletic Foundation High School Hall of Fame. As a former player on one of Coach Briggs' Drillers teams, he was extremely knowledgeable about the game and was a tremendous leader.

Coach Briggs left Bakersfield High School after the 1985 season and continued his work with young athletes coaching at Orange Coast College. He spent 20 years there before retiring in 2005, having spent 57 years as a football coach.

Coach Briggs was a local icon and served as a great role model for the thousands of athletes he coached and taught during his career. He is survived by his daughter Paula and son-in-law Tom Parsons, grandsons Russell and Kevin Parsons, sisters Virginia Wilhite and Janet Dodrill, and his five nieces and six nephews.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH M. ALIOTO

#### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 31, 2011*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a friend of mine, Joseph "Joey" Alioto who passed away peacefully at his home on March 21, 2011 after a brave battle with cancer. He will be deeply missed.

I knew Joey through one of his many passions, Alioto's Restaurant which started as a fresh fish stall on San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf in 1925. He was often found greeting guests at the door with a big smile. He had a quick wit and a generous nature that was always welcoming.

Joey has joined his parents, Antoinette and Nunzio, and his sister, Michelle, and is survived by his wife of 36 years, Judy Alioto, and their four children Nunzio, Marc, Alexa, and Joey; his two siblings, my friend Francesca, Rose Marie Violante and her husband Cosmo; his mother-in-law, Ada Barone, his sister-in-law, Sister Claire "Bonnie" Barone, his brother-in-law, Joseph Barone and his wife Maricela. Uncle Joey was blessed with the love and support of his five nieces and nephews—Rochelle and her husband Kenneth Simurdiak, Matthew Violante, Gina and her husband Eric von Esmarch, Alessandro and Giancarlo Barone, and his five great grand nieces and nephews.

Joey generously contributed his time and resources to many local civic events and causes including Fisherman's Wharf Merchant Association, Fisherman's Wharf Community Benefit District, JIGs (Just Italian Guys), Kevin Collins Foundation, The Olympic Club, One Child at a Time, Ronald McDonald House, Salesian Boys' & Girls' Club, St. Ignatius Booster's Club, St. Ignatius Alumni, St. Ignatius Fathers' Club, Special Olympics, Toys for Tots Foundation, and numerous local school fundraisers. He served as President of the Port Tenants Association and the Fisherman's Wharf Merchant Association. In April of 2009, he was