

## RECOGNIZING JIM VANCE

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jim Vance, who this week is observing 45 years in the District of Columbia at NBC4 Washington, where he has provided outstanding service to Washington, DC and the national capital region.

For more than four decades, Jim Vance has been the man the Washington region turns to on their NBC4 television screens. Jim has brilliantly made himself the preeminent anchor the region can trust to get the news straight, and at the same time, he has managed to become the friend people turn to because they like him. So great are Jim's talents and captivating personality, that NBC4 owes part of its success to Jim Vance.

A graduate of the historically black Cheyney University, Jim Vance was a teacher in Philadelphia before he decided to become a reporter. His first reporting jobs were at The Philadelphia Independent newspaper and at radio station WHAT-AM. Jim later accepted his first television position as a reporter for WKBS-TV in Philadelphia in 1968, and one year later, he moved to the nation's capital to be a general assignment reporter at NBC4. Jim made a fast rise to the anchor desk in 1972, where he remains to this day.

Jim Vance continues to thrive in his career. He can be seen daily on News4 at 6 p.m. and News4 at 11 p.m. with his co-anchor Doreen Gentzler. As a veteran television reporter, Jim's work has taken him across the United States and to locations around the world. Jim has been the recipient of a host of honors, including 17 Emmy Awards and induction in 2007 into the National Association of Black Journalists Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress are familiar with Jim's excellence, too, here in the nation's capital. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jim Vance for 45 years of extraordinary work as news anchor and reporter with NBC4 Washington and a favorite of the national capital region.

## HONORING ELI TAKESIAN

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**OF VIRGINIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eli Takesian, former associate pastor of the Vienna Presbyterian Church and decorated military chaplain.

Eli served in Korea and Vietnam, eventually earning the position of Chief Chaplain of the Marine Corps at Marine Corps Headquarters in Washington, DC. He passed away on May 20, 2014, at the Walter Reed National Medical Center.

I submit the following program notes from Eli's funeral. He was a true patriot.

Eli Takesian died on May 20, 2014 at the Walter Reed National Medical Center.

Born on February 28, 1932 in Methuen, Massachusetts, the son of Stephan and Koharig

Takesian and uncle to many loved nephews and nieces. Eli is survived by his sister, Helen Hagopian. His brothers, Raffi, Jack and Vartkes predeceased him.

Eli served in Korea with the 1st Marine Division from November 1951 to November 1952. Following his discharge from the Marine Corp, he graduated from Baylor University in 1957. He then continued his education at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland and Princeton Theological Seminary, receiving a master's degree in theology in 1960. The same year Eli was ordained a minister by the United Presbyterian Church. After serving a pastorate in Amsterdam, Ohio, Eli returned to the military as a Navy Chaplain.

Chaplain Takesian served two tours of duty in Vietnam and then spent 20 years as a senior chaplain, becoming Chief Chaplain of the Marine Corps at Marine Corps Headquarters in Washington, DC. While in Vietnam in 1968, even though he was not assigned to the unit, Chaplain Takesian joined the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines Regiment, 1st Marine Division on the battlefield in Hue City—one of the most famous and bloodiest Vietnam War battles. Eli brought prayers, support and hope to the wounded and the dying. In 2007, in his home town of Methuen, men of the 1st Battalion 5th Marines had a monument built in remembrance of his bravery.

During his service in the military, Chaplain Takesian was awarded a number of combat decorations including the Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars with Combat Vs and four Presidential Unit Citations.

He retired from naval service in 1987 and became an associate pastor of the Vienna Presbyterian Church retiring in 1995. Until his death, Chaplain Takesian continued to provide ministerial services to military retirement communities and churches in Northern Virginia.

While studying in Scotland, Eli discovered his passion for music and the arts. When serving as Chaplain on Governor's Island in New York, he met and fell in love with Broadway actress and vocalist, Margaret Broderson, who studied at Julliard. They were married in 1978 in the Chapel on Governor's Island. Eli and Margaret moved to Flacons Landing in December 2012.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations be made to the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation and the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation.

HONORING DR. EDWARD W.  
WRIGHT**HON. BARBARA LEE**OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Dr. Edward W. Wright. Known throughout the Bay Area as a physician, mentor, active community member, and devoted husband and father, Mr. Wright has left an indelible mark on our community. With his passing on May 29, 2014, we look to the outstanding quality of his life's work.

Born on June 2, 1922 in Fayette, Howard County, Missouri, Dr. Edward Wright was the fourth child born to William Marion Wright and Lunie K. Cameron. When Dr. Wright was five years old, he caught scarlet fever and was hospitalized for a long period of time. At this young age, Dr. Wright was inspired to become a doctor. He later moved to El Paso, Texas to

live with his aunt and uncle after losing both of his parents in an unfortunate tragedy. In El Paso, he graduated Douglas High School with honors, and he then went on to attend Sam Houston College in Austin, Texas. In 1943, Dr. Wright graduated Magna Cum Laude as a Pre-Medical student with a Bachelor of Science Degree.

In 1945, Dr. Edward Wright attended Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, where he partook in an accelerated program in Internal Medicine. At the age of 25, he graduated with honors and went on to complete his residency at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Tuskegee, Alabama. He became Chief Resident and served as a full-time staff physician until 1955.

Dr. Edward Wright and his family relocated to California in 1955, where Dr. Wright served as a Medical Officer for the Armed Forces at Ford Ord. After he completed his service, they relocated to Oakland, where Dr. Wright began a private practice in December 1958. Seven years later, he established and built a medical facility to serve families throughout Oakland.

In addition to his prolific career, Dr. Wright was an active member in the community. He volunteered at the East Oakland Boys Club, providing physical exams, counseling and financial assistance for camperships and uniforms. For the next 40 years, Dr. Wright served as a physician, mentor and father-figure to more than 1,200 boys at the North and East Oakland Boys Clubs. Dr. Wright was also active with the Oakland Chapter of the Lions Club, providing countless hours of Loyal Lions Service.

In 1969, he joined the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club and then served as President of the Board from 1980 to 1982. He was presented with the Man and Boy Trophy Award for his work with the Boys and Girls Clubs in 1964. Later, he received the Boys and Girls Clubs Service Award Medallion and then was honored during a formal tribute in 2000 at the First Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner.

On a personal note, I have known Dr. Wright, or "Piggy" as my mother, Mildred Massey, called him, since I was a child. He and my mother attended school together and were very close. We loved "Piggy" and will miss him tremendously. He was one of my earliest supporters when I first ran for public office in 1989 and, for that, I am deeply grateful.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors an outstanding individual, Dr. Edward W. Wright. As an Oakland resident, Dr. Wright's contributions have truly impacted so many lives throughout the Bay Area. I join all of Edward's loved ones in celebrating his incredible life. He will be deeply missed.

CONGRATULATING GREYHOUND ON  
ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. JOHN L. MICA**OF FLORIDA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Greyhound Lines on the 100th anniversary of its founding in 1914.

Greyhound is the nation's largest bus transportation system, serving communities nationwide with modern and environmentally friendly