

CONGRATULATING PATRICE WALKER POWELL UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE ARTS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 17, 2014

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of a dedicated public servant, Patrice Walker Powell of the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA). Over her 23 years of service at the NEA, Ms. Powell has worked to broaden and deepen the NEA's reach with diverse and underserved communities across the nation.

At the outset of Ms. Powell's career at the NEA, she was charged with leading their Education and Access Department at the same time that the institution experienced significant cuts to its operational budget, forcing the agency to run with reduced resources. Ms. Powell successfully engaged the philanthropic community to develop bridge funding and protect multidisciplinary art centers that were cultural anchors in communities across the nation.

Ms. Powell developed the Arts REACH program, designed to work with each state arts agency to hold staff-led public seminars on NEA funding opportunities and work with state partners to determine potential applicants for grants. Over a three-year commitment to this program, Ms. Powell's efforts resulted in an overall 350% increase in NEA-supported projects in states that previously received direct NEA grants.

During her tenure at the NEA, Ms. Powell has been the point person for the agency's response to natural disasters across the country. Appointed to the National Coalition on Disaster Planning and Preparedness, an association of public and private funders and national cultural services organizations, Ms. Powell led agency efforts to work with state, regional, and local arts agencies decimated by natural disasters—most notably Hurricane Katrina. Ms. Powell worked to get necessary funding to areas stricken by disaster, and to ensure that Federal grant funding was properly utilized to preserve cultural treasures.

Ms. Powell's leadership at the NEA demonstrates her commitment to public service and dedication to advancing the arts to people and communities across the country. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Ms. Powell for her service and wishing her a happy, healthy retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO JOEL AND KIT
McNALLY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 17, 2014

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this occasion to congratulate Joel and Kit McNally, recipients of the 2014 James Howard Baker Award, established by the Milwaukee Community Brainstorming Conference. Joel and Kit McNally, having been married for more than 45 years, met while attending Indiana University where they both wrote for the college paper.

Kit McNally retired after providing 23 years of distinguished service as Chief Executive Officer of the Benedict Center, a non-profit, interfaith criminal justice agency that advocates for positive change in the criminal justice system. The Center initiated many programs under her watch, including the gender-responsive Women's Harm Reduction Program, utilized by both the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office and Milwaukee County judges as a diversion from prison program. Further, under her direction, the Benedict Center was a statewide leader in drafting a model Community Justice Act for Wisconsin designed to return money to local communities that reduced state incarceration costs through implementation of effective treatment and diversion programs. She has served on various national and local boards, committees and commissions and continues to serve as the citizen representative on the Executive Committee of the Milwaukee Community Justice Council which is comprised of top leaders on criminal justice issues in Milwaukee County.

Joel McNally is a national-award-winning Wisconsin journalist based in Milwaukee. Joel worked as a reporter, feature writer and satirical columnist at the Milwaukee Journal for 27 years. While at the Milwaukee Journal, his column was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize and he won a National Headliners Award for best local column. Joel is currently teaching at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and as a syndicated columnist, writes for the Capital Times, the Shepherd Express and other newspapers where he provides commentary on issues including racial and class inequities. He is also a television commentator on the weekly INTERchange Program providing the liberal point of view. Joel has served as a panelist at our local Community Brainstorming Forums Community Brainstorming has met monthly as a breakfast forum to discuss and advance the interests of African Americans in particular and Milwaukee in general since 1986. Joel and Kit McNally are regular attendees at Community Brainstorming Forums.

Mister Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Joel and Kit McNally who both continue to fight for the rights of the poor, disenfranchised and African Americans without the expectation of monetary benefit or public accolades. I value their service and am proud to call them friends. They have contributed greatly to the citizens of the Fourth Congressional District, the State of Wisconsin and the nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN H.
KREBS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 17, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of my good friend and former Member of Congress, John H. Krebs. John passed away on November 10, 2014 at the age of 87.

John Krebs was an honorable man, and a community leader whose unwavering service will be greatly missed. In addition to his two terms in the U.S. Congress from 1975–1979, Mr. Krebs was a civic and Democratic Party leader in Fresno, an attorney in private prac-

tice for over 30 years, an apprentice diamond cutter during his youth in Tel Aviv, and served in the U.S. Army.

While in Congress, he was best known for his authorship and enactment of legislation incorporating the Mineral King Valley into Sequoia National Park, thwarting Disney developers who wanted to turn the wilderness area into a major ski resort. To recognize his accomplishment, in 2009, President Obama signed legislation establishing the John Krebs Wilderness Area, covering 40,000 acres within the Mineral King Valley.

John Krebs was born December 17, 1926, in Berlin. His parents fled Germany only a few months after Hitler came to power, and he was raised in Tel Aviv. In his teens, he embarked on a career as a diamond cutter and joined the Haganah, a Jewish underground organization opposing the British rule, while also preparing to attend college.

Mr. Krebs moved to the U.S. in 1946 to attend the University of California, Berkeley. He graduated in 1950 and became a U.S. citizen in 1952. Following his two years in the Army, he attended the University of California Hastings College of Law and passed the California Bar in 1957. For the next three decades, he practiced law with the Parichan law firm, specializing in civil defense litigation.

Politics beckoned, and Mr. Krebs became an activist and leader in Democratic politics, playing a key role in local and statewide campaigns. In March 1970, he was elected to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, a post he held until his election to Congress in November, 1974. He was the first foreign-born congressman from California. In a 1978 interview, Mr. Krebs said: "It's a tremendous credit to our system. Here I can come to a community as an immigrant, really not knowing a soul, and 27 years later, I am elected to Congress."

He returned to Fresno after his tenure in Congress, and practiced law until his retirement. Mr. Krebs served on numerous boards and commissions, and was foreman of the Fresno County Grand Jury for two years. He and his wife enjoyed traveling, and relished visiting their grandchildren during the past 23 years. During his life, Mr. Krebs' high values, strong work ethic and caring for others have been an inspiration for his family and friends. His loving guidance as a husband, father and grandfather will be forever cherished.

Mr. Krebs is survived by his wife of 58 years, Hanna Krebs; his son Daniel Krebs of San Anselmo, California, daughter-in-law Susan and grandsons Clay and Peter; his daughter Karen Krebs Wood of New Canaan, Connecticut, son-in-law John and grandchildren Elizabeth, Caroline and Jack; and his 90 year old brother, Shlomo Krebs of Tel Aviv, his sons and extended family.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues to join me paying tribute to the life of John H. Krebs. It has been a privilege to have known John. His children, relatives, and friends have an extraordinary role model that they will hold in their hearts forever. His presence will be greatly missed but his legacy will surely live through those who knew him.