

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Ivory C. Shepherd for an exemplary life that has been and continues to be an inspiration to all; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" Johnson, Jr., do hereby proclaim November 26, 2015 as Mrs. Ivory C. Shepherd Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 26th day of November, 2015.

LOOKING BACK: YOUNG WOMAN'S
LETTER TO HER MOTHER LOST
ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, as we remember those we lost 14 years ago, I submit one of the most poignant expressions I've seen since that grave day. Written by Anjunelly Jean-Pierre as a letter to her mother, whose life was lost on 9/11, this moving tribute both shows how inspiring her mom was to her and how her memory will be everlasting.

LETTERS TO THE LOST

(Collected by Sheila Weller)

On a clear day 10 years ago, nearly 3,000 people died. They were the sisters, brothers, boyfriends and mothers of young women who mourn them still—and who write intimate messages to them here.

Dear Mommy, last night I made a whole chicken with vegetables for dinner. You would have been proud.

My children, Brianna, seven, and Elijah, eight—the children you never met—loved it.

When I cook, I remember the meals you made. I was the only kid who had manicotti

for lunch on the first-grade school trip. Everyone else had a turkey or peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwich, but you were then the housekeeper for an Italian family, so you learned to make things they liked. Eventually your cooking talent landed you—an immigrant from the Dominican Republic with an elementary school education who had to learn English from scratch—a chef's job at Cantor Fitzgerald, on the 105th floor of the World Trade Center.

In the summer of 2001, I was planning to join the military. And then September 11 happened. It took me years to come to terms with the fact that you were gone. I actually kept your phone number in my cell phone until 2009! I had to keep you "alive" so that I myself could survive.

But after you died, I tapped into the passion for cooking you'd instilled in me. I went to culinary school, then was a sous-chef on Emeril Lagasse's show Emeril Green. Now I have my own catering business. The meal my clients like best is the Dominican rice-and-peas dish you made me as comfort food. I guess the love and heritage comes through.

I wish you could see your grandchildren. Brianna looks so much like I did at her age. As for Elijah, he has your perfectionism. I remember you said, "Children should have names that are strong and great in meaning." I gave Brianna her middle name, Maxima, in honor of you. And to keep your spirit alive, every Friday night we have tea and a relaxing talk about life, just like you and I did, to mark the end of a long week of work and school.

Being a single mom running a one-person business hasn't always been easy. I sometimes find myself driving boxes of cheesecakes and pound cakes to a customer and then dashing off to pick up the kids at school. But you, too, were a single mom, one who'd conquered so many challenges. You've remained my guiding force. And you always will be.

Anjunelly Jean-Pierre, 29, of Dumfries, Virginia, lost her mother, Maxima. Today she is a mom and owner of Max & Jax Café.

TRIBUTE TO THE STEWART-RONEY
FAMILY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, the Stewart-Roney family lineage has blessed us with descendants that have helped to shape our nation; and

Whereas, the Stewart-Roney Family has produced many well respected citizens, and the patriarchs and matriarchs of the Stewart-Roney family are pillars of strength that have touched the lives of many; and

Whereas, in our beloved Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, we are honored to have members of the Stewart-Roney family for they are some of our most honorable citizens in our District; and

Whereas, family is one of the most honored and cherished institutions in the world and we take pride in knowing that families such as the Stewart-Roney family have set aside this time to fellowship with each other, honor one another and to pass along history to each other through their family reunion in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Stewart-Roney family; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim July 17, 2015 as Stewart-Roney Family Reunion Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 17th day of July, 2015.