In addition to these tremendous professional accomplishments, Fred was a family man and pursued many activities outside of the office. He enjoyed biking, hiking, running, photography, reading, art, music, traveling and spending time with his family, friends and many pets. Fred and his wife of 35 years, Rita Barreto, had two children, Michael Victor Langille (Shelly George) and Heather Marie Coffey and have a grandson, Dylan Michael Langille.

On August 6, 2015, Fred passed away in his home after a brave fight against prostate and bladder cancer. He was 73.

Mr. Speaker, I join family, friends and all those who have felt Fred's warm embrace in celebrating the wonderful life he lived. We will continue fighting to eradicate these terrible diseases that take our loved ones away with all the strength we have.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN
OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, January 11, 2016

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 23, I was present on the floor, but the vote closed before I was able to cast a vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "No".

RECOGNIZING MR. GORDON SNYDER FOR BEING NAMED THE 2015 NATIONAL MUSIC EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

HON. RICHARD HUDSON
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, January 11, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gordon Snyder for being named by Music and Arts the 2015 National Music Educator of the Year. Music and Arts is a national retail chain dedicated to providing musicians with the instruments and products they need to enhance their musical talents.

Mr. Snyder currently serves as Director of Instrumental Music at A.L. Brown High School, located in Kannapolis, North Carolina. He was nominated for the award by fellow educators, and had several students write letters of recommendation on his behalf. This is a testament to the respect Mr. Snyder has earned from both his peers and his students, and I am extremely grateful for his commitment to ensuring our community's students receive a high-quality education.

Although the National Music Educator of the Year award has been given for several years by Music and Arts, Mr. Snyder is the first recipient from the state of North Carolina. This is a particularly Snyderite accomplishment, as this year nearly 2,000 educators were nominated for this award. The winner of this award was selected for their ingenuity in their academic programs, and was also judged on the educator's impact in the community and their band's performance. Our community is fortunate to have Mr. Snyder dedicate his time and talents to educating our students.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Mr. Snyder for being named the 2015 National Music Educator of the Year and wish him well as he continues to make a positive difference in the lives of his students.

CELEBRATING LESTER WOLFF'S 9TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, January 11, 2016

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life, legacy, and the work of our esteemed former Congressman Lester Lionel Wolff, who is an exceptional father, husband, lawmaker, war hero and dear friend to many of us. Lester is not only an inspiration to future political leaders and public servants, but also an embodiment of diligence, persistence and success.

It is well known to those who know Lester that he will never stop working to make our country better. Lester, who has recently turned 97, is still working hard as chairman of the International Trade and Development Agency and frequently travels to Washington, DC from New York City to visit congressional offices.

Lester was born on January 4, 1919 and is a lifelong New Yorker. Married to the late Mrs. Helen J. Wolff, he has four loving children, Bruce, a prominent Washington lawyer, and Diane, an Adjunct Professor at the State University. He has four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Elected to the United States Congress in 1964, Lester served 26 years before retiring. It was an honor to work with him on a number of bills throughout the years. His service as Chairman of Foreign Policy Planning, Chairman of Asian Pacific Affairs, Chairman of the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control and Ranking Member of the Foreign Affairs Middle East subcommittee will not be forgotten.

One of his notable bills was the Foreign Assistance Act of 1969, which restored the initiative for direct peace talks between Israel and the Arab States. He also led the congressional delegation to meet with Deng Xiaoping, Father of Modern China. The Deng-Wolff conversation was credited by the Department of State for its particular importance in the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and the United States. He is the author of the Taiwan Relations Act signed into law on April 10, 1979. This landmark law has undoubtedly helped the United States maintain and enhance its ties with Taiwan for more than three decades.

Thanks to Lester, Taiwan is the United States' 10th largest trading partner, and the United States is Taiwan's largest foreign investor. Anyone who works with Lester is well aware of his prudence and expertise in foreign policy.

Despite his retirement, he and I went on a trip to Taiwan to speak to government officials and anyone who works with Lester is well aware of his prudence and expertise in foreign policy. Despite his retirement, he and I went on a trip to Taiwan to speak to government officials and anyone who works with Lester is well aware of his prudence and expertise in foreign policy.

To keep the Chibok girls on our minds, all of us here in Congress have worn red every Wednesday to signal the urgency of rescuing, recovering and reintegrating these young women back into the arms of their parents.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, over the Christmas 2015 break, 50 people were murdered and 114 others wounded in the northeastern Nigerian cities of Maiduguri and Madagali, Borno State, which is the birthplace of Boko Haram.

Today also marks 633 days since 276 Chibok girls were kidnapped from their dormitories in the middle of the night.

Violence on the citizens of the world in sacred places such as our homes, places of worship, educational institutions and recreational venues is unacceptable and detestable.

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