

Mr. Ilitch passed away last week at the age of 87. Mr. Ilitch was enthusiastic about sports, passionate about the city of Detroit, and dedicated to his family.

Mr. Ilitch was born in Detroit, MI, on July 20, 1929, to Macedonian immigrants, Sotir and Sultana. After graduating from Cooley High School, Mr. Ilitch served 4 years in the U.S. Marine Corps before returning to Detroit to play minor league baseball for the Tigers. Following a knee injury, Mr. Ilitch worked as a door-to-door salesperson, selling awnings, pots, and pans, in order to save enough money to start his own business.

In 1959, Mr. Ilitch and his wife, Marian, opened their first pizza store in the Detroit suburb of Garden City: Little Caesars Pizza. While Mr. Ilitch initially named the pizzeria Pizza Treat, his wife Marian convinced him to change it to Little Caesar, her nickname for him. Over four decades, Mr. Ilitch expanded the business to approximately 4,000 stores across North America and parts of Europe. The chain became well-known for its commercial tagline, "Pizza! Pizza!"

As Little Caesars grew to be one of the largest carryout pizza chains in the United States, Mr. Ilitch purchased the Detroit Red Wings hockey team in 1982, recognizing the great potential of a then failing team. By stocking the team with promising college players, Mr. Ilitch revitalized the Red Wings. Under Mr. Ilitch, the Red Wings won four Stanley Cup titles in 1997, 1998, 2002, and 2008, which led him to be inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 2003, as well as the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame in 2004.

In 1992, Mr. Ilitch acquired the Detroit Tigers baseball team—the same team that contracted him in the minor leagues. The Tigers reached the World Series twice under Mr. Ilitch's stewardship in 2006 and 2012.

An icon and pillar of the community, Mr. Ilitch never lost faith in the resurgence of the city of Detroit and the resilience of the people he loved so much. During the city's most challenging times, he poured his heart and passion into Detroit's renaissance. Mr. Ilitch played an active role in the community, supporting local organizations and residents. In 1987, Mr. Ilitch and his wife bought and restored the historic Fox Theater, rejuvenating the entertainment scene in downtown Detroit. He privately assisted civil rights activist, Rosa Parks, paying her rent when she moved into the Riverfront Apartments in 1994. In 2007, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs awarded Mr. Ilitch with the Secretary's Award for the "Little Caesars Veteran Program," which provided business opportunities to nobly discharged war veterans.

As an entrepreneur, leader, and kind-hearted family man, Mr. Ilitch will be greatly missed across Michigan as he touched the lives of many people throughout the State. Mr. Ilitch is survived by his wife of 63 years, Marian; 7

children, Denise, Ron, Michael, Jr., Lisa, Atanas, Christopher, and Carole; 22 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren.

I cannot express enough the impact Mr. Mike Ilitch had on the city of Detroit and the State of Michigan. He was truly a treasure to our community and an example of the American Dream. His passion, dedication, and leadership will be missed. However, I am confident his legacy will continue to inspire others to take action to strengthen the city of Detroit, the community he served with his whole heart.●

TRIBUTE TO CRADDOCK MORRIS

● Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, today, I would like to honor and thank Mr. Craddock Morris of St. Matthews, SC for 87 years of valuable reporting in Calhoun County. The Calhoun Times, a small weekly paper in our great state, has decided to cease publication after a truly amazing run of nearly nine decades of providing town residents with community news.

The Times was created by Craddock Morris's father in 1929. John Bunyan Morris, Sr., a 1950 graduate of The Citadel, ran it until his retirement in 1956, when Craddock took over. Although this local newspaper, based in St. Matthews, will no longer be published, I am sure the Morris family's legacy of good work will remain with residents all over Calhoun County.

I would like to recognize Mr. Craddock Morris, and his son Edwin C. Morris who joined the Times after serving in the Armed Forces, and their families for 87 years of delivering essential news to the people of Calhoun County.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:12 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 244. An act to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes.

H.R. 512. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to permit veterans to grant access to their records in the databases of the Veterans Benefits Administration to certain designated congressional employees, and for other purposes.

H.R. 609. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs health care center in Center Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania, as the "Abie Abraham VA Clinic".

H.R. 974. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in awarding a contract for the procurement of goods or services, to give a preference to offerors that employ veterans.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 931(c) of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-198), and the

order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the Creating Options for Veterans' Expedited Recovery Commission: Captain John M. Rose, United States Navy, Retired, Kenosha, Wisconsin and Lieutenant Colonel Jamil S. Khan, United States Marine Corps, Retired, Janesville, Wisconsin.

The message also announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2103(b), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following individual to the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress on the part of the House of Representatives for a term of 6 years: Ms. Patricia A. Atkinson of Carson City, Nevada.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 553(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the National Commission on Military, National and Public Service: Mr. Thomas Kilgannon of Centreville, Virginia.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 3(b) of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 15202), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the Medal of Valor Review Board for a term of 4 years: Mr. Brandon Clabes of Choctaw, Oklahoma and Mr. Brian Murphy of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), amended, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission for a term expiring on December 31, 2018: Mr. Larry Wortzel of Williamsburg, Virginia and Mr. Robert Glenn Hubbard of New York, New York.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 244. An act to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 512. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to permit veterans to grant access to their records in the databases of the Veterans Benefits Administration to certain designated congressional employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.