Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late L. Pierce Carson. He passed away on May 20, 2017 at the age of 76. He was an impressive journalist who had a remarkable career at the Napa Valley Register. He possessed a cheerful and energetic personality in the Napa community and was a champion for local food, wine and art.

Pierce was born in Trenton, New Jersey in 1940 and attended Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania before serving our country in Vietnam from 1965 to 1966. After returning home, he began his career with the Napa Valley Register, a position he held for nearly fifty years before his passing last month. He will be remembered as a mentor of young journalists and for his sponsorship of the Tri-High Gazette, a student run section of the Register. Mr. Carson wrote about and loved Napa. In recent years, he found a second home in Prague where he enjoyed living part of each year.

In his nearly fifty years of work as a journalist, Mr. Carson showed himself to be a friend and champion of Napa Valley food, wine and art. For many years, he served on the board of the Napa Valley Symphony and made it his priority to review their performances. Pierce could always be counted on to lend his writing talents to good causes. Over a twenty-five year period he volunteered for the Napa Valley Academy Awards party to raise funds and awareness for AIDS and HIV prevention and treatment.

Mr. Speaker, Pierce Carson was generous, kind and an excellent writer. He brought our Napa Valley community together. His newspaper stories taught us the value of friendship, culture, generosity and good wine. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor his life and legacy here today.

HONORING THE LATE MR. L. PIERCE CARSON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late L. Pierce Carson.

He served Sweetwater Union High School District for 20 years, working at Chula Vista High School, Hill Top High School, and Mar Vista High School. Ernie was named principal to National City Middle School in 1992, and to Rancho del Rey Middle School in 1997. Under his direction, both schools achieved the title of California Distinguished Schools.

His time at Sweetwater Union High School District also included a term as the Area Superintendent in charge of Instructional Support Services and Student Support Services from 2002 to 2005.

Ernie was named the Superintendent of Lemon Grove School District in 2005. On April 28th, 2017, the Association of California School Administrators named Ernie as Superintendent of the Year in the San Diego and Imperial Counties.

Under his leadership, Lemon Grove School District has created a number of highly successful, specialized schools including the Dual Immersion Academy at Mount Vernon Elementary, the San Miguel Arts Academy, and the Lemon Grove Academy of Sciences and Humanities. Ernie has been a stalwart in the push for quality public education.

The Lemon Grove Academy campus is an example of the success that arose as a result of Ernie’s inventiveness. Ernie sought to create schools that are true community centers. Through a partnership with UC San Diego, and the Lemon Grove Library, a joint-use facility was created which featured medical and dental clinics to serve students and their families.

As I reflect on Ernie’s career, I am inspired by his dedication to promoting student achievement. I am truly encouraged by his commitment to bettering the lives of those around him.

Ernie’s dedication to students, commitment to excellence, and ingenuity truly made him a remarkable leader. Under his guidance, Lemon Grove School District has emerged as a mecca for innovative education. I wish him congratulations on his upcoming retirement.

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST HOWARD HERMAN HARGROVE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a remarkable person, U.S. Army Specialist 7 Retired Howard Herman Hargrove.

A native of Manson County, North Carolina, Spec 7 Hargrove moved to Mississippi in December 2005 to be near his only daughter, Gail Hargrove Marshall Brown. The late Spec 7 Retired Hargrove was among the thousands of Korean War Veterans who gathered in Washington, D.C. at the Pentagon on June 30, 2000. The ceremony was held at the Korean War Memorial on the National Mall to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of that war. The veterans were honored by President Bill Clinton who told them that this nation will never forget their bravery, service and sacrifice.

During his time as a Clinton, Mississippi resident, Spec 7 Hargrove actively attended Holy Temple Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi, pastored by the first female pastor of a Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi, Rev. Dr. Audrey Lynne Hall, who affectionately referred to him as “Papa Hargrove.” During one of the church’s Men’s Day programs on Father’s Day, Hargrove was recognized by the Pastor and the Church as its “Oldest Father”.

As a member of Holy Temple, he contributed generously to the church financially. During a time when the small, but growing church’s kitchen Ministry was in need of a new stove, Spec 7 Hargrove found it in his heart to purchase a commercial stove for the church which is still being used by the Kitchen Ministry today. He also contributed financially to a Metro-Jackson Karate program at one of the localYMCA.

A quiet, friendly man, who believed heavily in the love and unity of family, Spec 7 Hargrove succumbed to complications due to Alzheimer’s on June 27, 2010 at 2:30 a.m. in the VA Medical Center (Hospice Unit) in Jackson, MS. He had battled the horrific Alzheimer’s disease for nearly half a decade. His daughter, Gail, shares his memory and legacy by being a strong advocate in the fight against Alzheimer’s. She said, although he had forgotten who she was before he deceased, he never forgot the fact that he had proudly served his country in the military.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the late Specialist 7 Howard Herman Hargrove as a remarkable person who made a difference in his community and our country.

HONORING BRENNIE G. THOMPSON OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a remarkable person, Mrs. Bennie G. Thompson.

IN MEMORY OF HORACE SELLERS MERRILL
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House’s attention to recognize the late Mr. Horace Sellers Merrill of Heflin, Alabama.

Mr. Merrill always held a strong interest in politics. In 1964, he was elected Circuit Clerk
Mr. Speaker, Jay Templeton has led a dedicated career to serving young people, and has had a tremendous impact on our community.

A native of Washington State, Mr. Templeton graduated from Glacier High School and received his Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Washington in 1973. Mr. Templeton began working for the Boys and Girls Clubs in 1969. He has held nearly every position in the organization, from a rank-and-file program assistant to the highest leadership roles. He became Executive Director of the St. Helena and Calistoga Clubs in 1973.

Mr. Templeton received the Masters and Mentors Award in 2013 based on his contribution to the Boys and Girls Clubs movement over a sustained period, successful mentoring of Academy members, and demonstrated excellence in the Boys & Girls Clubs profession. Mr. Templeton is not only as the Executive Director of the St. Helena and Calistoga Clubs, but from a 47-year career with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. He is a model professional and executive—always keeping his focus on planning, development, leadership, and programming. He has received numerous awards and accolades over the course of his career. He has influenced the lives of thousands of children who have grown to become productive members of their own communities.

Mr. Speaker, Jay Templeton has led a dedicated and distinguished career with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. I am proud to have such a man working and living in our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL DAVID E. WILMOT
HON. TODD ROKITA
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Major General David E. Wilmot of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our Nation. General Wilmot distinguished himself through exceptionally meritorious service from October 24th, 1985 to July 30th, 2017, while serving as an Assistant Surgeon General and National Guard Bureau Surgeon, Headquarters Department of the Army.

His lasting contributions include an exemplary career as a family practice physician, flight surgeon, commander, and deputy headquarters surgeon, in numerous assignments across the Active and National Guard components of the U.S. Army. He quickly established himself as a unique combination of Soldier, leader, clinician, and key strategic thinker, culminating in service as the Assistant Surgeon General/Deputy Chief of Staff, Quality and Safety for U.S. Army Medical Command/Office of the Surgeon General, a position he was hand selected for.

His singular Warrior centered focus on reducing harm and enhancing the quality care through compassion, excellence, transparency and accountability resulted in better and safer care for Military Health System beneficiaries across the globe. He performed with consummate distinction in all of his assignments, the impact of which stems from his capacity as a proven senior healthcare executive, and dogged champion for quality care and patient safety. The distinguished accomplishments of General Wilmot culminate a long and distinguished career in the service of his country and reflect great credit upon him, the Army Medical Department, the United States Army and the Department of Defense.

General Wilmot is a native of Brownsburg, Indiana and married to Mrs. Lori Wilmot. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Major General David E. Wilmot as he and his family proceed to the next chapter in his remarkable career and continue to serve our great Nation.

HONORING MR. DAMIEN GREEN
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable young man, Mr. Damien Green of Clinton, Mississippi.

Damien Green was born on October 15, 1999 to Mr. and Mrs. Green. He currently a member of Jackson Revival Center Church, where he serves on the Media Team. He is a part-time employee at Metro 24 Bowling Center and MS Braves. During his spare time, Damien enjoys bowling and traveling. Damien, a 2017 graduate of Clinton High School, released the single "Bowling Team (Clinton Kingpins) and the Director of Football Operations of Clinton High School's 2016 to 2017 6A–State Championship.