

MAJOR ROBERT ODELL OWENS
POST OFFICE

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5238, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1234 Saint Johns Place in Brooklyn, New York, as the "Major Robert Odell Owens Post Office."

Mr. Speaker, this bill is an opportunity for us all to pay tribute to a great American, a fighter for justice and equality, one of the most passionate advocates for educational opportunity, and a man who served in this body with distinction, Major Owens of New York.

Major Owens was born June 28, 1936, in Collierville, Tennessee.

He was educated at Morehouse College, from which he received his baccalaureate degree, and Atlanta University from which he earned a Master of Science degree.

Major Owens later moved to New York where he worked as a librarian before accepting an appointment from Mayor John V. Lindsay to serve as Director of the New York City Community Development Agency.

He also served as a faculty member in the Department of Public Administration at Medgar Evers College.

In 1974, Major Owens was elected to the New York State Senate and was reelected to serve a second term in 1978.

In 1982, Major Owens won a competitive primary to fill the seat of retiring Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman elected to the House of Representatives and the first woman ever to seek the Democratic nomination for President of the United States.

As the Member of Congress for the 11th Congressional District of New York, Major Owens represented a diverse district centered in Brooklyn, including low income areas of Brownsville and parts of Bedford-Stuyvesant, the large Hasidic community of Crown Heights, the heavily Caribbean areas of Flatbush and East Flatbush, and the more affluent neighborhoods of Park Slope and Prospect Park.

Affectionately known as the "Education Congressman" by his constituents, Major Owens fought tirelessly throughout his twelve terms in Congress to protect and expand educational opportunity for all Americans, especially those from economically and socially disadvantaged backgrounds.

As he often reminded his colleagues in the House, education was "the kingpin issue."

In an article he published in *Black Issues in Higher Education*, he wrote: "We have to believe that all power and progress really begins with education."

Major Owens served on the House Committee on Government Reform and the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

As the Ranking Member on the Education and Workforce Subcommittee for Workforce Protections, Congressman Owens helped lead the fight for minimum wage increases, blocked the attempt to eliminate cash payments for overtime, fought against efforts to roll back or repeal Davis-Bacon, and to weaken the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

As Chairman of the Education Subcommittee on Select Education and Civil Rights (1988 to '94), Congressman Owens was one of the earliest and strongest supporters of the Americans With Disabilities Act, which was enacted into law in 1991.

In recognition for his work to pass the ADA, Major Owens was awarded an honorary degree by Galludet University, the world's premier higher education institution serving deaf and hard of hearing people.

Major Owens loved serving in this body and he was a valued member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus and the Congressional Black Caucus.

As Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Task Force on Haiti, he led the successful three-year fight which restored the democratically elected President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman Owens was a legislator's legislator.

Major Owens touched so many lives in so many helpful ways that he will always be remembered by people he served so ably and selfless for more than thirty years.

H.R. 5238 will honor the memory of this great man by enshrining his legacy on a public building in his district.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5238, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1234 Saint Johns Place in Brooklyn, New York, as the "Major Robert Odell Owens Post Office."

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN
EDWARD J. MAROHN

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the retirement of Captain Edward J. Marohn, the Chief of External Affairs for the Coast Guard First District in Boston, Massachusetts.

Captain Marohn joined the United States Coast Guard at the age of seventeen and has served this country honorably for thirty-one years. He served in a variety of afloat, ashore and staff tours on both Coasts and on the Great Lakes. He also conducted counterdrug, fishery enforcement, search and rescue, and environmental protection operations from the Bering Sea to the Sea of Cortez. Further, while serving in Michigan, he coordinated the execution of over 7,000 search and rescue operations that resulted in saving or assisting over 1,200 lives and \$10 million in property.

Complementing his remarkable operational career, Captain Marohn served as the Coast Guard Liaison to the National Marine Fisheries Service Office of Law Enforcement in Silver Spring, Maryland; Assistant Chief of Enforcement for First Coast Guard District in Boston, Massachusetts; Maritime Drug Interdiction Officer at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C., and earned a Master of Marine Affairs from the University of Washington.

Recognized as an expert in fisheries management and enforcement, Captain Marohn has also served as the Coast Guard representative to the New England Fisheries Management Council, the Stellwagen Bank

National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council, the U.S. delegation to the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization, and the North Atlantic Coast Guard Forum. Further, he was the sole Coast Guard representative on the U.S. State Department led delegation to the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization, where he negotiated the first ever U.S. enforcement presence in this international fishery regime.

Captain Marohn pioneered the Integrated Maritime Security Operations program, an international approach to law enforcement on the northern border that involves joint operations between the U.S. Coast Guard and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. These operations continue to serve as a model for overcoming jurisdictional challenges along a shared international maritime border to improve security. He is also known as the primary architect of the Coast Guard's Ice Rescue Program, and received the 2005 Coast Guard Innovation Award for Operational Management to recognize his groundbreaking achievement of developing the first-ever Ice Rescue Manual.

Today Captain Marohn has been married to his wife Christine for 26 years, and together they have two daughters, Meaghan and Lauren.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Captain Edward J. Marohn as he retires from the United States Coast Guard. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his many years of dedication to his community and his country.

HONORING WILLIAM CLAYTON
TUCKER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. William Clayton "W.C." Tucker, well known as a Christian man of great character and integrity with an enormous love for the Lord and his family.

Mr. William Clayton "W.C." Tucker passed away surrounded by his family on Friday, July 13, 2018. He was born on February 25, 1950 to William Tucker and Olivia Smith Tucker. He was a 1968 graduate of Siggers High School in Shannon and a 1971 graduate of Mississippi Industrial College in Holly Springs.

Mr. Tucker shared 39 years of marriage with the love of his life, Mrs. Patty Tucker. They were blessed to have raised two wonderful daughters, Camille Young and Dr. Emily C. Tucker, and three lovely grandchildren; Amber and Kayla Young and William Tucker Young.

In 1989, while attending Union Baptist M.B. Church in Shannon, Mr. Tucker was ordained a deacon. He later joined White Hill M.B. Church in Tupelo where he taught Men's Sunday School classes.

After 35 years of hard work as a Senior Certified Engineer Technician, Mr. Tucker retired from the Mississippi Department of Transportation. Post retirement, he launched Tucker's Fresh Produce and sold fresh vegetables at the Tupelo Farmers Market.

Mr. Tucker was an avid gardener who was featured in the *Daily Journal*, the *Lee County Courier*, *Mississippi State Extension Publications*, *Mississippi Farm Bureau Magazine*, *Minority Landowners Magazine*, and *WTVA* for