

CELEBRATING THE MILITARY
SERVICE OF BILL ANTONE

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank a great man for his military service, William D. "Bill" Antone. Mr. Antone is a one hundred year old World War II veteran of the United States Army.

Bill Antone was born on August 23, 1918, in Clarksdale, Mississippi, two and a half months before the end of World War I. Bill is the last remaining of his four siblings. Bill moved to Houston in 1929 where he attended Harris Elementary on Broadway at Manchester, Deedee Junior High School, and Sam Houston High School. During the depression in 1932, the family moved to Bryan, Texas where Bill graduated in May, 1935. Bill married Ammye Boggs on April 29, 1939. On October 29, 1937, Bill applied and was hired by Shell Refinery in Deer Park.

In April 1944 Mr. Antone was drafted into the United States Army and served in the Infantry. He was stationed at Fort Sam Houston and Camp Fannin in Tyler, Texas and was assigned as company clerk of Company A 59, 12th Regiment. Eventually, the Army sent Bill to Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia. After returning to Camp Fannin, the war ended and Camp Fannin was shut down. Bill was transferred to Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas where he was discharged from the Army in May 1946.

Following his discharge from the Army in May 1946, Mr. Antone returned to Shell Deer Park where he worked for over thirty-eight years. Bill and Ammye are parents to three children, five grandchildren, and many great grandchildren. Ammye went to be with the Lord on September 10, 2004. Bill was later blessed with eleven years of marriage to Jocelyn M. Williams-Antone who passed in 2017.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Antone for his selfless military service to this great nation.

HONORING THE 6TH CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT MILITARY
SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATION
BOARD

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the individuals who served on our 6th Congressional District Military Service Academy Nomination Board.

As a Member of Congress, I have the honor of nominating young Hoosiers from Indiana's 6th Congressional District to the United States Military Service Academies. Each Member of Congress may nominate up to ten candidates for each available vacancy to the Military Academy at West Point, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy.

Each year, the members of the 6th Congressional District Military Service Academy Nomination Board work with my staff and I to

evaluate the applications of young men and women from our District who are seeking admittance to a military academy. During my time in Congress, we have nominated more than 90 young men and women to these academies. Many of them have since graduated and are currently serving our country.

I want to thank all of the members of the Nomination Board, including, Nate LaMar, Jan Frazier, Robert Morrow, David Martin, and Kelly Poltrack for their service. The Board's insight and experience has always been helpful to me and my staff.

I appreciate their service on the Committee and their dedication to our country. I wish all of them continued success in whatever God has in store for them and their families.

TRIBUTE TO DOUGLASS BELLIS

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize Douglass Bellis, Senior Counsel at the Office of Legislative Counsel, U.S. House of Representatives.

Doug passed on Monday, October 15, 2018. He was born in Penn Yan, New York, on March 25, 1947. He graduated with Honors from Cornell University in 1968 with a double major in Government and Greek and Latin Classics, Language and Literature, and received his Juris Doctor degree from the Duke University School of Law in 1971. Since then, Doug worked at the Office of Legislative Counsel, U.S. House of Representatives, in Washington, D.C., rising from Assistant Counsel to Deputy Legislative Counsel and then Senior Counsel. He was universally recognized by legislative experts for his intellectually rigorous approach to legislative drafting and for his encyclopedic knowledge of court cases related to the Congress and its powers.

For almost 30 years, Doug also served as advisor to the Commonwealth Association of Legislative Counsel, consulting with foreign parliamentary bodies regarding the strengthening of their parliamentary institutions in the context of increased democratic participation in government. Since 2008, Doug also served as an Adjunct Professor at George Washington University. Throughout his life, he pursued his passionate intellectual curiosity about science, religion, philosophy, law, history and music. Doug is survived by his beloved wife Suzanne Bellis, his brother Vincent Bellis (wife Ann), his daughters Margaret English and Elizabeth Wolfe, Andrew English, Matthew English and Bradley English, and six grandchildren.

Among too many achievements to recount, Doug was responsible for codifying Title 11 of the U.S. Code consisting of the nation's bankruptcy laws, the first and only title of the U.S. Code not to originate in or go through the Law Revision Counsel's Office. Doug also worked extensively on the Federal Rules of Evidence and drafted numerous bills amending, restructuring, and improving the criminal statutes of the United States, including an ambitious, multi-year project to overhaul the federal criminal code. He drafted many articles of impeachment. Doug trained many counsels at the House Office of Legislative Counsel as well as countless Committee staff.

As Judge Robert A. Katzmann, Chief Judge U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit wrote, Doug "was a firm believer in the importance of dialogue between the courts and Congress, someone who believed that with improved communication, understanding and proper care, that government could be made to work better." Judge Katzmann came to know Doug through their work on a Governance Institute project whereby statutory opinions of the courts of appeals, identifying issues of possible interest to Congress, were sent to Congress for its information and consideration. Doug was a champion for the project for the last quarter century and he outlined his views in an essay published in 1997 in the Georgetown Law Journal entitled "A View from the House of Representatives." In 2008, Doug wrote an article on Congressional drafting conventions for the Federal Judicial Center entitled "Statutory Structure and Legislative Drafting Conventions: A Primer for Judges," a guide to be used by judges for clarification of intent, which is still used today. In 2011, Doug authored "The Role and Efficacy of Legislative Drafting in the United States: An Update on the American Drafting Process" for the Commonwealth Association of Legislative Counsel. In it, he wrote "Like the classic Puritan, the legislative counsel must be in this world, that is the world of politics, and yet not of it, in order to be effective. . . . So the legislative counsel is outside of the political process, and as scrupulously neutral as humanly possible, yet acutely aware of the political concerns of the politicians the legislative counsel works with."

Doug, describing the more day-to-day details of his professional role, wrote a few years ago, "With the Judiciary Committee, I continued to do criminal law and procedure and civil procedure, bankruptcy, civil and constitutional rights (including various hot button topics like abortion and guns), judgeships, some grant programs, and a miscellany of things like resolutions of inquiry and committee subpoenas. . . . I also had the Railroad Retirement and Railroad Unemployment acts, which were under the jurisdiction of the Commerce Committee and were heating up, leading eventually to a total rewrite of the Railroad Retirement Act and the addition of a somewhat complex experience rating scheme for 'contributions' under the Railroad Unemployment Act. I worked on a number of Voting Rights bill extensions and other civil rights matters starting in the mid to late 70's."

For decades, Doug worked with, or was familiar to, virtually the entire House Judiciary Committee staff, many of whom he could count as friends. Paul Taylor, the Chief Counsel of the House Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, said the following of Doug: "In his career, Doug was a spirited polymath. He had an opinion on everything, and it was an educated opinion. He was fluent in history, philosophy, law, and religion. He was a master of grammar who knew how to corral the most unwieldy legal concepts in the clearest and most concise terms. Doug worked wonderfully with a wide range of personalities. His calm, professorial manner was a solid rudder that kept the text of legislation on technical course through all manner of seas and crew. In his friendships, Doug was a consummate host, serving time-tested advice and ideas along with classic cocktails at