

Mr. Cannon was born on February 22, 1924 in St. Joseph, Missouri. He was called to serve in World War II in 1942, where he left his home state for the first time in his life. He studied basic air supply and aircraft construction in Florida and went on to receive specialized training on the B-29 Superfortress, which contained a remote-control turret and gunner. During a raid on Tokyo in March 1945, he began serving as a Technical Sergeant and gunner on the Salvo Sally B-29. On April 28, 1945, Salvo Sally was shot down in Southern Japan into the Pacific Ocean with twelve men aboard. Mr. Cannon was the only survivor.

Adrift in enemy territory, with only a "Mae West" life jacket, Mr. Cannon persevered until rescuers were deployed. After two days, The USS *Gato* submarine surfaced, and Mr. Cannon heard an American voice: "Is anyone there?" He ran across the submarine to the hatch where they pulled him to safety.

Moreover, Mr. Cannon and ten other individuals from separate missions were rescued by the USS *Gato* where they lived for a month-long trek to Saipan. He returned to United States soil on or around July 4, 1945 to his wife, Murrie, and four-month-old daughter, Julie, whom he had yet to meet.

Nearly 72 years later, Mr. Cannon was contacted by the son of the engineer behind Salvo Sally, Fred McDonald, as well as Don Langford, who were researching the bomber's story. During their research; Mr. McDonald and Mr. Langford contacted officials in Japan who forwarded their inquiry and sent reporters to St. Louis to Mr. Cannon's home to interview him.

As a result, Japan invited Mr. Cannon to Myazaki, Japan in May of 2018 for a ceremony honoring the crew of Salvo Sally. Mr. Cannon, his current wife, Imelda, Don Langford, Fred McDonald, and Judy Linquist attended the ceremony. There, Mr. Cannon was honored for his service and peacemaking efforts by officials in Japan. Not only was his experience honored, it was portrayed and preserved in a documentary that Japan made about Salvo Sally and the only survivor, Mr. Jack Cannon.

It is a privilege to stand today and honor Mr. Jack Cannon's bravery and service to the country. Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking and honoring Mr. Jack Cannon.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
WILLIE MCCOVEY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2018

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of a beloved icon, Willie McCovey, who passed away on October 31 in the Bay Area.

Willie McCovey was an indelible part of the fabric of the San Francisco Giants and the city of Saint Francis. For more than six decades, he gave his heart, soul, and full spirit to the Giants, as a player, a mentor for younger players, and a leader in the clubhouse. His familiar presence at Candlestick Park and then at AT&T Park even decades after his retirement provided a constant source of hope, strength, and inspiration for fans of all ages.

Willie made history as one of just a handful of players in the history of the sport to secure a Rookie of the Year Award, a league MVP, and multiple All-Star Game MVP Awards. He retired in 1980 with the most home runs hit by a left-handed hitter, a record that stood for more than thirty years. During his career, Willie led the league in home runs three times and in RBIs twice. He retired with 18 grand slams, second only to Lou Gehrig, and with 521 home runs and 1,555 RBIs hit. His style of play forever changed the game, forcing defenses to respond to his intimidating power and strength.

Willie lived the American Dream, from his rise from humble beginnings in the segregated South to his induction to Major League Baseball's Hall of Fame. The son of a railroad worker and one of ten children, Willie began working at age 12 to support his family, eventually dropping out of high school to work full time. By age 17, his extraordinary talent and potential had become legendary, and he signed his first professional contract, beginning what would be an outstanding, record-shattering career.

Yet, throughout Willie's time on the field, it was not only his ferocious power hitting that set him apart, but also his incredible generosity, joy, and love for the game. After his retirement, Willie continued to give back to his city and his team, and his kindness and graciousness earned the devotion of generations of San Franciscans. That the San Francisco Giants' annual most inspirational player award is named for Willie McCovey is a lasting testament to his contributions on and off the field.

Willie once said, "I'd like to think that when people think of San Francisco, they also think of Willie McCovey." What a blessing it is to have forged such a legacy. He will be missed by players, fans, and San Franciscans of all backgrounds for generations to come, and his memory will be cherished every time the Giants drive a home run into McCovey Cove.

May it bring some measure of comfort to Willie's cherished wife Estela, his daughter Allison, his grandchildren Raven, Philip, and Marissa, his sister Frances, brothers Clauzell and Cleon, Estela's daughters Christel Marise and Christel Faye, and all who were fortunate enough to know and love Willie, that so many grieve with them and pray for them during this sad time.

HONORING THE 2018 AGRICULTURIST OF THE YEAR GARY SERRATO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside my colleagues, David Valadao, to commemorate Mr. Gary Serrato as the Fresno Chamber of Commerce's 2018 Agriculturist of the Year. For over 30 years, Gary has devoted himself to the Fresno agricultural community by serving as an advocate and leader in his position as General Manager of the Fresno Irrigation District.

A third-generation farmer, Gary gained appreciation for agricultural work at an early age. He worked on his father's ranch near Fowler, California and eventually received a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business from California State University, Fresno in 1978.

Gary joined the Fresno Irrigation District in 1986, where he held the positions of Watermaster and Assistant Manager of Operations. As a result of Gary's hard work and significant contributions, he was appointed the General Manager of the Fresno Irrigation District in 2000.

As General Manager, Gary has skillfully navigated the district through some of the most trying times for California Agriculture. He is considered a leading advocate for Fresno County farmers and has effectively communicated numerous water issues to the public. Gary is a fervent believer in ensuring all Central Valley communities are provided with clean and accessible water.

Gary has also demonstrated a strong commitment to community service throughout his career. Gary is involved with the Fresno County Water Advisory Committee, Kings River Water Association and Upper Kings River Water Forum. He served on the board of the Community Food Bank for two terms and was elected to two terms as council member in the City of Fowler. Gary was also appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley and was appointed as the executive officer of North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me, Mr. VALADAO, and Mr. NUNES today in recognizing the career achievements of Mr. Gary Serrato. It is both fitting and appropriate that he is named the 2018 Agriculturist of the Year, as he retires from his position as General Manager of the Fresno Irrigation District at the end of this year. Gary has left his mark on the community and we are all grateful for his vision and leadership. I ask that you join me in wishing Gary and his family continued success and prosperity.