

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO SHARON SHULTZE

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of a truly dedicated public servant, Sharon Shultze. Sharon was a tireless advocate for social justice and civility, a loyal senior Congressional aide, and generous mentor. Sharon dedicated her life to serving the poor, the downtrodden, and the most vulnerable. She will be remembered by all those who knew her for her selflessness and love. Sharon was born and raised in Lincoln, Nebraska and moved to San Diego after getting married. She was instrumental in creating a ground breaking program at the University of San Diego's Law School, the Mira Mesa Mediation Center, which helped people from diverse backgrounds resolve conflict peacefully and civilly. The center later developed into the National Conflict Resolution Center. Sharon worked for Bob Filner throughout his entire political career, from the San Diego School Board to San Diego City Council to the United States Congress. Sharon passionately served the people of San Diego for over three decades, taking on various responsibilities throughout Filner's different elected offices. One of her favorite projects while working for Congressman Filner was helping him chose the district winner of the Congressional Art Competition wherein high school students from every congressional district in the country compete for an opportunity to display their artwork in the halls of Congress.

Her favorite role, and the one she found most rewarding, was that of advocate. Sharon took the most joy out of writing legislation that promoted veterans and San Diego residents. Her contributions to the veteran community include helping to draft and pass the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008 which provides full, four-year tuition to military veterans attending public universities across the country who enlisted after September 11, 2001. Perhaps the achievement Sharon was most proud of in the veteran community was her contribution toward the passage of legislation in support of Filipino veterans and Merchant Marines who served the United States during World War II receiving full veteran benefits, which they had been previously denied. Sharon was an amazing, accomplished woman. Her strong worth ethic and professionalism made her a role model and devoted mentor to the young people who looked to her for guidance both in San Diego and in Washington, DC. My office and I were on the receiving end of some of her mentorship. Soon after I was elected to Congress, Sharon was the first to offer guidance and support. Her best quality, noted by many of her friends and family, was that Sharon was a gifted listener. She was there for whoever needed her help, without regard for her time and energy. Sharon bestowed unconditional positive support,

kindness, compassion, and empathy to those around her, assuring them that they were loved and valued. She shared her ideas and common sense with others, always making sure to keep people's best interest in mind. She never gave up on making a difference in the world.

Our thoughts go out to her partner of nearly 30 years, Doug Duffield; her three children, Blair, David, and Carol; and Natalie and Zachary, her two grandchildren, who made her heart smile.

IN MEMORY OF MS. KIMBERLY "KIM" A. PORTER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a beloved entrepreneur and dear friend of longstanding, Kim Porter. Sadly, Kim departed to her eternal reward on Thursday, November 15, 2018. On Saturday, November 24, 2018, friends and family gathered to celebrate the wonderful life of this exceptional woman at a homegoing service held at Cascade Hills Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Kimberly Antwinette Porter was born on December 15, 1970, in Columbus, Georgia to the union of Jake and Sarah Goodwin Porter. From the time she was eight years old, she was reared by her mother, as a single parent, and her grandmother, Ms. Lila Star, the owner of the renowned Royal Cafe in Columbus. As a young teenager, Kim attended the Mabie Bailey School of Modeling in Columbus, Georgia, and in 1988, graduated from Columbus High School where she was a musician in the marching band and Homecoming Queen.

At the age of 17, Kim won the Fresh Faces Model of the South Pageant in Hilton Head, South Carolina. Following her high school graduation, she moved to New York to embark on her journey to become a model, where she met Marsha Irving who became one of her closest friends. Her stunning looks and poised presence made her a contender for several of New York's top modeling agencies. Kim ultimately signed with the Wilhelmina Agency and garnered worldwide recognition, gracing the runways and covers for numerous global brands and premiere fashion magazines. She also worked alongside such legendary models as Kimora Lee Simmons, Veronica Webb, and Naomi Campbell.

In addition to her stellar career on the runway, Kim made a name for herself in the entertainment industry. She was the visionary behind Uptown Records, providing creative optics and a visual narrative that propelled the label and connected the culture of the South with New York City and the East Coast. As an actress, Kim appeared in numerous television series and films including *Law & Order*, *The*

Brothers, *The Cosby Show*, and *Mama, I Want to Sing*. With her cherished "best friends", Eboni Elektra and Nicole Johnson, she co-founded Three Brown Girls, an Atlanta based marketing firm that promoted celebrity events and emerging artists.

William Shakespeare wrote, "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players: they have their exits and their entrances; and one man in his time plays many parts. . . ." Kim elegantly played many parts and graciously used her influence to inspire others, leaving a lasting impact.

Maya Angelou once said, "A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies." Kim was one such great soul, who served humanity in a very special way. Each day she graced the people around her with an enthusiastic sincerity of presence. Her legacy on this earth extends beyond herself to those whom she inspired and supported, and for it, she will always be remembered.

Kimberly is survived by her beautiful children, Quincy, Christian, Jessie, and D'Lila; her father, Jake Porter; her grandmother, Ms. Lila Star; aunts, uncles, and a host of other family and friends including R&B singer, Albert Brown (Al B. Sure!) and music mogul, Sean John Combs (P-Diddy), all of whom will miss her deeply.

On a personal note, I have known and been associated with Kim and her extended family for more than 40 years. When she became Homecoming Queen at Columbus High School, her mother asked me to escort her during the half time activities when her father was unable to attend. Kim was a special young woman who had a sweet and gentle spirit and an infectious personality that endeared her to many. She gave others strength by always seeing and focusing on the positive side of life. I can say without reservation that Kim was one of the most sincere and warm-hearted people I have known.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the constituents of Georgia's Second Congressional District and people all across America and the world, in paying tribute to Ms. Kimberly Antwinette Porter for the inspiring life that she led. Moreover, we extend our deepest sympathies to her family, friends, and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that we will all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

HONORING JODY FLEDDERMAN

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Jody Fledderman for his contribution to our state and community.

Jody is a loyal friend and has been a wise adviser during my entire tenure in Congress.

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