

Loretta had that rare ability to serve as a bridge between the worlds of policy and research, and the everyday lives of the people she cared about most. She mentored hundreds of physicians, nurses, public health practitioners, social scientists and community members to do the same. Those people went on to become tenured faculty members at medical schools, state officials and senior advisers in Congress and the White House.

A native of Massachusetts, she earned a BA in psychology in 1963 and Master's degree in criminal justice in 1972, both from Northeastern University in Boston. She had been a community faculty member at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science since 2010. A former foster youth herself, she fostered 20 children in addition to raising her daughter. She made a real difference in the world during her 77 years.

Loretta always insisted that "Everyone deserves the right to live, everyone deserves good health care, and we are all responsible for making it happen." I mourn her passing with all of those who loved her. I am grateful for her compassion, her dedication, and the work to which she dedicated her life: to empower families to lead truly healthy lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Ms. FRANKEL. Madam Speaker, on roll call votes 13, 14 and 15, I was not present because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on all three.

MEGAN O'GRADY—HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT FROM CAPE CORAL HONORS FALLEN POLICE OFFICERS

HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Megan O'Grady, a high school student from Cape Coral and founder of Blue Line Bears, for the work she has done to honor fallen police officers.

Through her non-profit organization, Blue Line Bears, Megan makes teddy bears using the uniforms of fallen police officers and delivers them to the officers' families. The daughter of a police officer, Megan was inspired to do something for the families of law enforcement in the wake of the murder of 5 police officers in Dallas.

Megan is especially grateful for the opportunity to make the bears for children and to provide them with tangible mementos of their loved ones. Since she started two years ago, Megan has made 454 bears for families in 36 states.

I am grateful for Megan and her commitment to honor police officers and I look forward to seeing what the future holds for Blue Line Bears.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, on Monday, January 8, 2019, I was unavoidably detained attending to representational duties in my congressional district and was not present for Roll Call Votes 13, 14, and 15. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

On Roll Call 13, I would have voted AYE on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 269, Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act of 2019.

On Roll Call 14, I would have voted AYE on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 4406, H.R. 251, Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program Extension Act.

On Roll Call 15, I would have voted AYE on Motion to Approve the Journal.

CONGRATULATING CRAIG W. FLOYD ON HIS RETIREMENT AS CEO OF THE NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL FUND

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Craig W. Floyd, who retired on December 31, 2018 as the CEO of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund after over 30 years of distinguished service.

Mr. Floyd has been a strong law enforcement advocate for over 40 years, beginning with the 10 years he served as Legislative Assistant for my late friend and decorated NYPD legend, Congressman Mario Biaggi. Mr. Floyd helped form the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund with Biaggi, serving as its CEO from the outset.

Under Mr. Floyd's leadership the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund has gone above and beyond in its mission of telling the story of American law enforcement. Mr. Floyd oversaw the construction of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, which was dedicated in 1991. This monument contains the names of over 21,000 fallen law enforcement officers dating back to the first documented line of duty death in 1791. Today, the Memorial Fund maintains the world's most comprehensive database of police officers killed in the line of duty.

During his tenure Mr. Floyd has also overseen the enactment of a federal law authorizing all American flags to be flown at half-staff on "Peace Officers Memorial Day"; enactment of a federal law authorizing 500,000 commemorative silver dollars to be issued by the U.S. Mint honoring the service and sacrifice of America's law enforcement officers and their families; publication of the book, *To Serve and Protect: A Tribute to American Law Enforcement*; 30 annual candlelight vigils honoring fallen police officers during the Memorial Fund's signature event, National Police Week, which attract a crowd of 30,000; and the open-

ing of the National Law Enforcement Museum on October 13, 2018.

As the son of an NYPD officer, I commend Mr. Floyd on his outstanding contributions to members of the law enforcement community and thank him on behalf of myself and all those who are undoubtedly better off because of his efforts. I wish Mr. Floyd all the best in his retirement.

HONORING LT. COL. HAROLD "HAL" FRITZ ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS MEDAL OF HONOR

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Harold "Hal" Fritz on the 50th Anniversary of receiving his Medal of Honor. Lt. Col. Fritz is one of 74 living Medal of Honor recipients.

A resident of Peoria, Illinois for the past 25 years, Lt. Col. Fritz honorably served our nation as a platoon leader in the Vietnam War. During his time as a Captain, Lt. Col. Fritz acted with great courage to receive the Medal of Honor. Captain Fritz was leading his fellow soldiers on a convoy when they were suddenly ambushed, and as a result, surrounded by the enemy. After receiving heavy fire, Captain Fritz was wounded, but instead of treating himself, he thought of those fighting alongside him. Captain Fritz responded swiftly by returning fire, directing the men with him, and treating their wounds. These extraordinary actions taken by Captain Fritz led him and his men away from danger. Lt. Col. Fritz showed immense bravery, and I commend him on his actions during the Vietnam War. The Medal of Honor is a great distinction and it is fitting that Lt. Col. Fritz actions are recognized in this way.

It is because of dedicated and selfless leaders such as Lt. Col. Harold "Hal" Fritz that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally honor Lt. Col. Hal Fritz on the 50th Anniversary of his receipt of the Medal of Honor.

HONORING FELIPE HUERTA

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I stand today to honor the life of Felipe Huerta, Jr. I was deeply saddened to hear that Felipe passed away on Sunday, December 16 2018.

Felipe served his community as an EMS medic for three and a half years. He also served his country as a Marine, having been deployed twice to Afghanistan. He was awarded the Purple Heart for the sacrifices he made protecting our great nation.

Everything we hold dear as a community, state, and country is owed to the brave sacrifice of service members like Mr. Huerta. Felipe was a true patriot and hero who will always be remembered for his dedication to