

RECOGNIZING LTC BRAD CARVER  
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM MILITARY SERVICE

**HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2019*

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, on November 22, 2018, my friend William Bradley Carver retired from 28 years of service in U.S. Army Reserve. Today, I rise to pay tribute to Brad, a leader in the 11th Congressional District of Georgia, and a man who embodies the spirit of public service.

Brad was born in Valdosta, Georgia, the only child to Billy and JoAnn Carver, whom he has made proud by his multitude of life accomplishments thus far. Brad graduated from high school as Salutatorian and was voted "Most Likely to Succeed" due to his many achievements, including serving as a high school surrogate speaker for President George H.W. Bush's 1988 campaign. He continued his education at Duke University as an ROTC cadet, and graduated with Honors earning his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. He later earned his M.B.A. and J.D. from the University of Georgia.

While attending law school, Brad took a hiatus to serve as a 1st Lieutenant in the 341st A.G. Company in support of Operation Joint Endeavor and Operation Joint Guard, Tuzla, Bosnia. He was promoted to Captain in 2000 and served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel of the 335th Theater Signal Command at Camp Doha, Kuwait and Camp Bucca, Iraq in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Brad was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Exceptionally Meritorious Service. Brad continued his service in the U.S. Army Reserve for an additional 15 years, elevating to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Brad has also been serving the public by impacting conservative public policy and in supporting his beloved Republican Party. Brad has been engaged in local, statewide, and national Republican campaigns for the past 24 years. He has served as an elected officer in the Buckhead Young Republicans, Atlanta Young Republicans, Fulton County Republican Party, 11th Congressional District Republican Committee, and on the board for the Georgia Republican Party Foundation. Brad has also held gubernatorial appointments on the Georgia Board of Corrections and as Special Executive Counsel for the commission on water issues.

In 2006, Brad became a partner at the law offices of Hall Booth Smith, P.C., serving as senior managing director of government affairs. He was chosen as a James Magazine Top 4 Rising Star (2010) and one of Georgia Trend Magazine Top 40 Under 40 (2011).

Brad married Michelle in 2007 and their two sons, William Bradley Carver, Jr. (7) and Wesley Thomas Carver (4), regularly attend political events with their parents.

On behalf of Georgia's 11th Congressional District and the United States House of Representatives, I commend Brad for his service to his community, state and nation, and congratulate him upon his retirement from the U.S. Army Reserve. We are fortunate to have a man such as Brad Carver in Georgia's 11th Congressional District.

IN HONOR OF MILBRA DOLORES  
WALTERS MATHIAS

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2019*

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor the life of an amazing member of our community, Milbra Dolores Walters Mathias, who passed away on January 3, 2019 in Conroe, Texas.

Born on January 16, 1923 in Ace, Texas, Dolores lived a determined life. Prior to retiring in Montgomery, Texas, Dolores spent time in the banking industry and later ran a dry cleaning business with her husband in Houston, Texas. Beyond her professional endeavors, she also led a service-oriented life with the goal of improving the community around her. One of her greatest joys was the community she found at the Montgomery United Methodist Church, where Dolores was a longtime and active member.

To those who knew Dolores, it comes as no surprise that she spent much of her retirement serving those in need. Dolores took genuine pleasure in being around people, and she found great satisfaction in helping others. She served in the Volunteer Auxiliary of Conroe Regional Hospital for several years and later as a Veterans Administration Volunteer at the Conroe VA Clinic. Here, Dolores dedicated over 9,500 volunteer hours to our veterans—a remarkable accomplishment, and one Dolores was extremely proud of. In recognition of her kindness, selflessness, and thoughtfulness, she was rightfully awarded the President's Lifetime Achievement Award. This prestigious award highlights those like Dolores who go above and beyond to give back to their community.

She is survived by her nieces, Patsy Jackson, Betty Vanya and Charlotte Henner; nephew, Harold Stegall; and great nephews, Larence Jackson and Lynn Stegall; daughter-in-law, Joan Mathias; granddaughters, Nicole Panneton and Renee Mathias; and great grandchildren, Cooper and Ava.

While we mourn with her family, we also celebrate Dolores' life and her remarkable legacy of service. She was truly a joy to all who had the privilege of meeting her, and I know I join her family, friends, and the entire Eighth District of Texas in honoring her extraordinary life and her unwavering devotion to our veterans, her community, her friends, and her family. Dolores will be greatly missed.

INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONGRESS' SUPPORT FOR PROVIDING TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS TO HAITIAN NATIONALS RESIDING IN THE UNITED STATES AT THE TIME HURRICANE MATTHEW HIT HAITI

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2019*

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my House concurrent resolution, which expresses Congress' support for

extending Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to Haitian Nationals who resided in the United States when Hurricane Matthew hit Haiti on October 4, 2016.

Hurricane Matthew was the worst hurricane to hit the country in 50 years. It took the lives of over 1,000 people and directly affected 2.1 million Haitians with the internal displacement of 175,000 people and leaving 1.4 million in need of urgent humanitarian aid.

It is estimated that Hurricane Matthew resulted in damage that will cost Haiti \$1,000,000,000, or about 11.4 percent of its gross domestic product. This includes extensive damage to Haiti's roadways, bridges, buildings, and other critical infrastructure. Additionally, Hurricane Matthew resulted in tremendous destruction in Haiti's agricultural sector with crop losses estimated to be \$360 million.

Madam Speaker, as we all know, Haiti continues its efforts to rebuild from the 2010, 7.0 magnitude earthquake, and recover from the Cholera outbreak of the same year. With these tragedies in mind, and the knowledge that Haitians continue to work diligently to address these and other important issues, including creating strong democratic institutions, I encourage all Members to join me in letting the Haitian Diaspora know that we stand with them.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY 2019

**HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2019*

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD the following Presidential Proclamation on Religious Freedom Day 2019.

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

[For Immediate Release—January 15, 2019]

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY, 2019

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

On Religious Freedom Day, we celebrate our Nation's long-standing commitment to freedom of conscience and the freedom to profess one's own faith. The right to religious freedom is innate to the dignity of every human person and is foundational to the pursuit of truth.

The Pilgrims who landed at Plymouth shared an experience common to many of America's first settlers: they had fled their home countries to escape religious persecution. Aware of this history, our Nation's Founding Fathers readily understood that a just government must respect the deep yearning for truth and openness to the transcendent that are part of the human spirit. For this reason, from the beginning, our constitutional republic has endeavored to protect a robust understanding of religious freedom. On January 16, 1786, Virginia enacted the Statute for Religious Freedom to protect the right of individual conscience and religious exercise and to prohibit the compulsory support of any church. Authored by Thomas Jefferson, the statute set forth the principle that religious liberty is an inherent right and not a gift of the state. Jefferson's statute served as the inspiration and model for the legal architecture of the conscience