

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MAYOR JIM WEST

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 18, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the late Mayor of San Juan Bautista, Jim West, for his outstanding career in public service and his commitment to the people of the central coast of California. His professional accomplishments and leadership in the community have profoundly touched the lives of many.

Mayor West served his community in San Benito County for over 20 years in multiple ca-

pacities. He was appointed to San Benito County Parks and Recreation Commission, served as vice chairman of San Benito County's General Plan Update Committee, served on the United Way Board of Directors, and was the recipient of many honorable awards commemorating his outstanding character. In addition to his heavy involvement in the community, Mayor West also honorably served our country in the United States Marine Corps.

Throughout his ten years in public office, Mayor West served the City of San Juan Bautista as a dynamic and effective leader. Colleagues and friends alike praised his ability to compromise and put community needs at the forefront of his priorities. Mayor West was the recipient of two National Philanthropy

Awards, the Gavilan College Community Spirit Award, and the San Benito Community Leadership Award. His presence in the community transformed many lives, and he will be remembered as a distinguished community member, mayor, and friend.

Mayor Jim West's legacy is defined by his invaluable work as a public servant. His dedication to the community and to the people in his life serves as an inspiration to the Central Coast of California. He is survived by his daughter, granddaughter, and great-granddaughter, and his legacy will live on with them and in the memories of those of us who had the honor to know him. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring Mayor Jim West.

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