

and public service continues to inspire many in our community.

Mary Parziale was born in Trapani, Sicily and arrived in the United States at the young age of 18 months. Mary lived in the North End of Boston, Massachusetts where she grew up to have 8 children of her own. At the age of 44, Mary received her driver's license and worked in a shoe factory until she was recruited by a police officer to work in the Labor Division at the Massachusetts State House. After 20 years of commitment to this new line of work, Mary retired.

Mary's lifetime commitment to our community and her work at the Massachusetts State House Labor Division has been invaluable to Massachusetts.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Ms. Mary Parziale today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.  
RICHARD ALLEN SHIRLEY

**HON. DOUG LaMALFA**

OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, January 22, 2019*

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the storied life of one of my constituents, decorated Vietnam War veteran Richard Allen Shirley.

On September 14, 1947 in the small town of Toppenish, Washington, our nation was blessed with Richard Shirley. A true patriot, Richard knew he wanted to serve our country, so he joined the United States Military. From 1964 to 1970, Richard proudly served six years in the United States Navy, four of those years aboard the USS *Yorktown* during the Vietnam War. While in the Navy, he earned several medals for his service, including the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

After being honorably discharged from the Navy, Richard moved to Biggs, California. For the next 46 years he worked at the Butte

County Rice Growers Association in Richvale, California, where he met his wife Terry. During that time is when I had the pleasure of getting to know Richard. He was always friendly, helpful, and never without a smile. Richard was always beaming about his lovely family and the sense of fulfillment they constantly brought to his life.

Seen as a father figure to many, Richard was the kind of man that would give someone the shirt off his back if they needed it. He often opened his home to strangers, and many of those strangers soon felt they were part of his extended family.

On Sunday, January 20, 2019, we lost Richard Shirley to a difficult battle with cancer. The sadness that many in Butte County feel right now is immense, but we must take comfort in knowing that his legacy will not be forgotten. May the Lord continue to guide his family and may they be consoled by the knowledge that they too will see Richard again someday.

Please join me and the constituents of California's First Congressional District in remembering and honoring the distinguished life of Richard Allen Shirley. He will be greatly missed.