

RECOGNIZING THE YOWELL
FAMILY

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Yowell family, who have been an integral part of our Central Texas community since 1951. Across the years, the Yowells have tirelessly served the public through their participation in numerous civic organizations. Killeen and all Central Texas owe much to these devoted individuals.

The Yowell family's commitment to investing their gifts, talents, and abilities to improve Central Texas is a deeply held creed that speaks to the generosity and activism of true and devoted public servants. Civic-minded leaders like them work tirelessly to improve their communities, leading them to new heights and positioning them to continue into a bright future.

Starting with the late Bill Yowell, this proud family has committed their time and considerable energies to a wide range of civic causes, ranging from education to veterans to economic development. Their impacts on the region are vast, ever-lasting, and cannot be overstated.

Some go through life wondering if they have made a difference. The Yowell family does not have that problem. Their passion and selfless commitment to make Central Texas a better place is an example to us all. We cannot thank them enough for the immeasurable impact they have made. God bless them always.

RECOGNIZING MARY PETTINATO,
CEO OF HONOR FLIGHT CHICAGO

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Pettinato and her contributions to our community, our city, and our country throughout her distinguished service as the CEO of Honor Flight Chicago. Founded in 2008, Honor Flight Chicago provides a once in a lifetime opportunity for Chicago-area veterans of World War II and the Korean War by flying them to Washington, DC to visit memorials dedicated to their service.

Following Ms. Pettinato's graduation from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management in 2008, she cofounded the Chicago chapter of Honor Flight. This idea came after Mary asked of her father: "If you were on your deathbed, what's one thing you would wish you'd done during your lifetime?" He answered that his wish was to visit the World War II Memorial in Washington. On the subsequent trip they took to the Memorial, Mary was inspired to not only provide this opportunity to her father, but also to thousands of other veterans living in Chicago who might never have the chance to visit this and other historic monuments.

During the decade that Ms. Pettinato served as CEO of Honor Flight Chicago, the organization organized 88 flights from Chicago to Washington. They started with sixty veterans

on their first flight; now, they fly upwards of ninety service members on each trip and have had over eight thousand veterans participate in the program over the past ten years.

In 2015, Ms. Pettinato was honored by The Chicago Tribune as one of their "Remarkable Women" in a series of profiles written about inspiring women in the area. Mary's feature focused on her love of family, and how that passion led to the creation of the Chicago chapter of Honor Flight with three other women.

In the Tribune article, Ms. Pettinato offered an anecdote that demonstrates the achievement of Honor Flight Chicago. She recalls, "I was with one man, he was 92, and he was struggling with some things and having a tough day. As we got off the plane on the return for the welcome home celebration—he (had been) in a wheelchair the entire day—he said, 'I want to walk.' And he got out of his wheelchair and he had someone on his left and someone on his right and we were holding him very firmly and he walked through this procession. Someone leaned over and said, 'Bob, how was your day?' And he stopped and said, 'I've never been to heaven, but I'm guessing today was mighty close.'"

Madam Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the ten years of dedication Ms. Pettinato has shown to the veterans of Chicago. Through the Honor Flight experience, she has brought joy to many of our country's heroes.

HONORING THE EASTSIDE CHURCH
OF GOD IN CHRIST OF THE CITY
OF SAN JOSE

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Eastside Church of God in Christ (Eastside Church), whose ministry serves the City of San Jose through service and prayer. On February 17, 2019, the Eastside Church will celebrate a true milestone, its 50th anniversary. I would like to commend the Eastside Church for its half a century of fellowship and leadership in the San Jose community.

Founded by Pastor and Superintendent Sherman Harris, the Eastside Church has been at the heart of its members most important priorities—family and faith. It serves to inspire, uplift and gather all those who seek a deeper connection with God, and their community. It offers an opportunity to worship in community with others and serve others.

In 1979, Eastside Church moved to the East San Jose after outgrowing their previous location. The Church quickly became a beacon of hope and help to the Eastside through their Outreach Ministry, providing clothing and household goods for families in need and their Food Ministry Program, which distributes boxes of food to over 100 families on a weekly basis. They take special care to provide resources and activities for children in the community with the Back to School backpack program and the Sherman Harris Youth Center. The Center offers pre-school for low-income families, sports facilities and a venue for community functions.

Through its decades of service, Eastside Church has earned its place as a trusted source of hope and comfort in the San Jose community. As the Eastside Church of God in Christ enjoys its 50th Golden Anniversary Celebration, I join in congratulating them and wishing them the best for the next 50 years and beyond.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BISHOP
VAIFANUA
MULITAUAOPELE
SUIAVA

**HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN
RADEWAGEN**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bishop Vaifanua Suiava Mulitauaopele. He was a friend of many years, a trusted adviser, and a respected leader to our Samoan people in the islands and in the U.S.

A native of Laulili, American Samoa, Bishop Mulitauaopele lived a full and joyful life in the service of the Lord, and he was a blessing to far more people than any of us will ever know. Even as we feel a sense of loss at his passing, we know he would be the first to comfort us. Our hearts are with his dear wife Eva, the rest of his family and his many friends.

He served our country as well as his church, and retired from the U.S. Army as a decorated Veteran of the Vietnam War. He gave 20 years of service to medical missions in Samoa, and was engaged in an ongoing clinic project at the time of his passing that will be of great help to our people.

He was a spiritual and community leader, and always a man of great faith, compassion and integrity. He brought honor to our Samoan people. Bishop Mulitauaopele will be missed, and his life is worthy of our best memories.

At the service, Pastors Salt and their congregation sang beautiful Samoan hymns, and it was livestreamed to be available anywhere he was known.

In addition to his wife, Eva Gonzalez Mulitauaopele, Bishop Pele was also survived by his son Anthony V. Mulitauaopele (Lauren) of Inman, SC, and two daughters, Jennifer Cotton (Nikko) of West Columbia, SC, Laura Frick (Ted) of Little Mountain, SC.

He also had six grandchildren: Victor, Grant, Marla, Chloe, Callie, and Cash; and his sister, Sua Peko; and two godchildren, Lautofa and Sam. Finally, his two beloved dogs were Buddy and Sammi.

Thank you and goodbye (Soifua).

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK DEVLIN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant and long-time Congressional aide, Patrick J. Devlin, Sr. Patrick is retiring after 31 years of Congressional service this month, and I offer him a heartfelt thanks for his contributions and wish him well in his future endeavors.