

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF ADMIRAL DENNIS MATTHEW BROOKS

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 1, 2019*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Admiral Dennis Matthew Brooks.

Admiral Brooks was born on November 23, 1934 in Fairfield, Alabama. He married the love of his life Dolores (Lorrie) Gober following his graduation from the Naval Academy in 1957. They had three children, Mark, Amy and Allison and two grandchildren, James and Mary Katherine.

He served his country for 35 years until his retirement in 1992. His assignments included fighter pilot, test pilot and teacher at the Naval Academy. His command assignments included fighter squadrons VF-51 "Screaming Eagles" and VF-121 "Pacemakers", USS *Kansas City* and USS *Constellation*, Carrier Group Seven and Battle Force and Carrier Strike Forces of the U.S. Seventh Fleet. In 1988, he was assigned as the initial commander of the Combined Joint Task Force, Middle East, involving all U.S. Forces in the Persian Gulf. Ashore Admiral Brooks' major assignments included Director, Navy Space Command and Military Director of the National Reconnaissance Office.

The USS *Constellation* (Connie) under the command of then Captain Brooks was visited by Ronald Reagan shortly after the President's recovery from wounds received in an assassination attempt. Following his inspection, the President declared "Connie" to be "America's Flagship", presented the crew a presidential flag and announced: "Let friend and foe alike know that America has the muscle to back up its words, and ships like this and men like you are that muscle." Later the Connie gained her motto, "Go Ahead Make My Day", which was painted on the ship's island.

Following his Navy career, the Admiral and Lorrie retired to Pell City where he continued his service as Rotary District Governor for District 6860. His philanthropic efforts included Pell City's Habitat for Humanity, the Board of the Eastern Health Foundation and the Pell City Library Guild. He was an Eagle Scout and continued throughout his life to be involved in Scouting. Posthumously, the Greater Alabama Scout Council presented the "Heart of an Eagle" Award to his family.

Admiral Dennis Matthew Brooks, United States Navy (Ret), of Pell City, Alabama, passed away November 12, 2018. Admiral Brooks lived an exemplary life and brought out the very best in those who were fortunate to serve with him in the Navy and those who were fortunate enough to know him in civilian life.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the life of Admiral Brooks.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JEFFREY SEAN SHOEMAKER, GAINESVILLE FOR HIS GRADUATION FROM FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 1, 2019*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Jeffrey Sean Shoemaker, of the Hall County Sheriff's Office who recently graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico.

Captain Shoemaker has demonstrated a commitment to being a part of the next generation of law enforcement leadership. His career in public service is a remarkable example of the devotion and reverence to our country and its success that many in law enforcement share.

The FBI National Academy provides law enforcement officers across the country with the most up to date tools and training necessary to fight crime on a multilateral front. Programs such as the FBI National Academy course will help with the prevention and prosecution of even the most heinous crimes.

My father was a State Trooper for the State of Georgia, and he was relentless in his duty to protect and serve. As such, I am particularly appreciative of Captain Shoemaker's duty to serving the Hall County Sheriff's Office and I would like to take this opportunity to commemorate all women and men who serve in law enforcement. Their adherence to justice safeguards our liberties.

Furthermore, I congratulate Captain Jeffrey Sean Shoemaker on his completion of the program and I hope that he continues to find a sense of meaning and purpose in service to his country and the people of Georgia.

**HAYDEN WILLEY**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 1, 2019*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Hayden Willey for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Hayden Willey is a student at Three Creeks K-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Hayden Willey is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Hayden Willey for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF THOMAS NYE

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 1, 2019*

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life of Thomas Nye, a dedicated Marion firefighter, who led a life committed to proudly serving his town and his country.

Born and raised in Marion, Massachusetts, Mr. Nye was part of a family with a long tradition of firefighting. Before his time at the Marion Fire Department, Mr. Nye served in the Vietnam War as an automotive mechanic and regarded his military service with tremendous pride.

Following his time in the military he worked as a private auto mechanic, a skill that he carried with him throughout his life. Mr. Nye was appointed to service in the Marion Fire Department in June of 1974 where he worked tirelessly for forty-five years.

Described by his family as a "gentle soul," Mr. Nye was always there when someone needed a helping hand. His hard work and dedication to his community impacted hundreds of lives. Whether it was assistance with station maintenance, or filling in for some of the younger firefighters while they were working their private jobs, he would have done anything for anyone in need.

Mr. Nye left us too soon on February 27, 2019, at the age of 72, after responding to one final call. His commitment to his work and to the people around him will long be remembered by his colleagues, his friends, and our entire community.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Thomas Nye. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his lifetime of service to others.

**HONORING KAREN COLLINS**

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 1, 2019*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Karen Collins as the 2019 Honorary Alcaldessa for the City of Sonoma, California. Ms. Collins has been named Alcaldessa, the Spanish word for mayor, in recognition of her contributions to our community.

Ms. Collins is originally from Washington State. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History from Whitworth College, a Master of Arts in American Government from George Washington University and a junior college teaching credential from San Francisco State University. She is also a graduate of the Public Affairs Institute of Washington, D.C.

Ms. Collins is a tireless advocate for the preservation and protection of the environment and has worked diligently towards this goal. She is a current Commissioner of the Sonoma County Regional Parks and Recreation Commission, which she has also chaired three times. Ms. Collins serves as Vice President of the Board of Jack London Park Partners and chairs its government relations committee.