

Following his honorable discharge in 1968, Sergeant First Class Hayes worked as a citizen soldier in the Reserve and National Guard branches of the Army. He served as a Human Relations Instructor in the Air Force Reserves from 1975 to 1977 and as a drill instructor in the United States Army from 1988 to 1998. After his long tenure of service to our country, Hayes earned his GED and a Bachelor of Science degree from Medaille College. He worked as an aircraft mechanic and as a correctional officer at the Erie County Detention Center. He now resides in Cheektowaga with his wife of 25 years and has nine children and fourteen grandchildren, some of whom have continued his family's legacy of military service. Sergeant Hayes remains active in local and national veteran communities, including designing an original military jewelry line, serving as a greeter at a veteran clinic in Batavia, and working as a docent right here at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park. We recently met Roland at a Buffalo Naval Park event and were inspired by his service and story.

Many Vietnam Veterans returned home with little fanfare, including Roland Hayes, who has never received the recognition fitting of a soldier who served so valiantly and sacrificed so much. It has been our honor to share his story and pay tribute to his service, on behalf of a grateful nation. His story is one of resilience, breaking barriers, and beating the odds.

I ask all members to join me in remembering all the great sacrifices made by those who serve.

IN HONOR OF THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE CRAWFORD PATH

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bicentennial of the Crawford Path, the oldest continuously maintained hiking trail in the United States. For two centuries, the Crawford Path has opened New Hampshire's White Mountains to adventure-seekers and nature lovers of all backgrounds and abilities.

Originally built in 1819 by Ethan Allen Crawford and his father, Abel, the Crawford Path is one of America's most popular recreational trails. Following a mountainous ridgeline across miles of open alpine environment, the trail affords impressive views of the peaks and valleys of the White Mountains. The trail's convergence with the famed Appalachian Trail and its conclusion at the summit of Mt. Washington, the tallest peak in the Northeastern U.S., make it an attraction for experienced and recreational hikers alike. While the trail's popularity affords many visitors the chance to enjoy the natural beauty of the Granite State, its frequent use has unfortunately caused significant degradation of the beloved trail. Maintaining such a well-trodden path over such a long time is no small task. I am proud of the White Mountain Region's local legacy of over 100 years of active trail maintenance, with critical leadership from stakeholders such as the U.S. Forest Service and the Appalachian Mountain Club.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to

commemorate the Crawford Path's bicentennial and thank all those who have maintained it for their service to our community. I thank them for all that they do to make the Granite State such a wonderful place, to work, live, and play. Let us celebrate this exciting anniversary by committing ourselves to ensuring that Crawford Path remains a jewel of the White Mountains for another 200 years.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CARL EUGENE PORTER, SR.

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. RICHMOND. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Carl Eugene Porter, Sr. of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. An Army veteran and hall of fame athletic coach, he passed away on the evening of Wednesday, July 24, 2019 at the age of 88. He was well known to many as "Coach Porter".

One of four children, Coach Porter was born on February 10, 1931 in Columbia, Missouri before moving to Baton Rouge to attend Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, where he earned his bachelor's degree in Physical Education. After graduating, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army and served four years. He married his college sweetheart, Ivory Hawkins, on December 30, 1954.

After his service in the Army, Coach Porter began a career in education. His career began at Scotlandville Junior High School, where he led the Athletic Department to many championships over a nineteen-year period. In 1976, Coach Porter transitioned to Southern University Laboratory School as the Athletic Director where the Fighting Kittens earned many State Championships during his twelve-year tenure. With a record of 129–25 under his watch, many of his players went on to have successful collegiate and professional sports careers. Coach Porter was also well known for placing an emphasis of academics for the athletes under his tutelage.

Coach Porter's thirty-one-year coaching career led him to be inducted in the Louisiana High School Sports Hall of Fame in 1999. He also remained an active community and civic leader through his contributions to the NAACP, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, Kiwanis, the Fisherman's Club, and the Anna T. Jordan Recreation Center.

Coach Porter was widely known for his love of family, friends, church, music, and humanity, and many regarded him as a local icon. As a mentor, advocate, leader, and friend, Coach Porter left an indelible impact on all those whose lives he touched. His legacy of dedication and service to the Scotlandville community will be remembered now and many years to come. Coach Porter is survived by his wife, Ivory Hawkins Porter, his children, Carl, Jr., Tracy, Rudy, Rodney, and Lonzella, as well as his seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Carl Eugene Porter, Sr.

PERSECUTION OF FALUN GONG PRACTITIONERS IN CHINA

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, twenty years ago, in July of 1999, it was widely reported that the Chinese government began the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners. Reports of the Chinese government's human rights abuses against this group have continued during the last two decades.

Human rights, including freedom of expression and freedom of religion, should be universal. Members of Congress must work to promote tolerance and basic human freedoms worldwide.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH ALEXANDER

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize United States Marine Corps Private First Class (PFC) Joseph Alexander on the occasion of his receiving the Congressional Gold Medal issued to the Montford Point Marines. The approximately 20,000 Montford Point Marines were the first African Americans to enlist in the United States Marine Corps after an executive order issued by President Franklin Roosevelt in June 1941 took the first steps to end racial discrimination in employment with federal government agencies.

Originally from New Orleans, Louisiana, Joseph's personal service began when he was just 19 years old in June 1943. He went through boot camp at Montford Point, North Carolina, as the nearby Camp Lejeune was off-limits if you were not being escorted by a white Marine. When his training was complete, Joseph shipped out to fight in the Pacific theater where he participated in the effort to push Japanese forces out of the Marshall Islands.

Like many veterans, Joseph chose not to speak much about his experience during the war. He returned home, got married, raised five children, and settled in Hayward in 1972. Only recently, in an effort to get him connected with benefits through the Veterans Administration, did the family find documentation that connected Joseph to the Montford Point Marines.

Our community has rallied together to honor Joseph, who will be 95 years old in September. He recently received his own copy of the Congressional Gold Medal from the National Montford Point Marine Association at a ceremony hosted by American Legion Hayward Post 870 and American Veterans Post 911 at the Hayward Veterans Memorial Building.

Joseph, thank you for your service. Not only for your bravery in war, but also for your contribution to breaking down the barriers that prevented all people from fighting for our country and the freedom of its people.