Mr. Augustus for his life and we keep his friends and loved ones near and dear to our hearts.

Madam Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Franklin Augustus.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PETER VANG

HON. JIM COSTA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of Mr. Peter Vang. Peter passed away on Friday, May 18, 2019 in Clovis, California. He was a beloved and well-respected member of the community, and he will be missed by all who had the pleasure of working with him.

Peter was born on January 20, 1960 in Laos and immigrated to the United States with his family as a refugee after the Vietnam War. He was an embodiment of the American Dream. Peter and his family came to settle in the United States to start a new beginning. His own experiences as a refugee motivated Peter to help those in the Southeast Asian community assimilate to life in the United States. Peter loved the United States and became a naturalized citizen. He was very proud of this accomplishment.

Peter served as the Executive Director of the Lao Veterans of America, Inc., in Fresno, California. In addition to his professional career, Peter worked for the Fresno County Department of Social Services for over 21 years. As a commissioner for a professional career, Peter served on numerous commissions and received awards and recognitions during his lifetime. It was most fitting and appropriate that I appointed Peter to the Fresno County Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC), where he served with distinction as a commissioner for 22 years. His service to the community will not be forgotten.

Peter was preceded by his mother, See Yang and by his son, Richard Vang.

PETER PASSED AWAY ON FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2019

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of jazz legend Jim Cullum, Jr. who passed on August 11, 2019. Mr. Cullum hails from my hometown of San Antonio. For 60 years he exemplified what it means to be an artist. He is survived by his longtime companion, Donna Cloud; sister, Mary Conoly Hester; children, Bonnie Cullum, Blanquita Sullivan, Maré Conner-Foley, Chris Cullum, James Cullum, Katie Cullum, and Catlin Cloud; and six grandchildren. Although the San Antonio and Jazz community will mourn the loss of Jim Cullum, Jr., his impact will endure for many years to come.

James “Jim” Albert Cullum, Jr. was born on September 20, 1941 to James Albert Cullum and Conoly Prendergast Cullum. At an early age, he was drawn to music and the instrument he chose to play was the cornet, honing in his father’s records and who was a well-respected jazz clarinetist and saxophonist. In 1953, the family moved to San Antonio from Dallas. In 1963, the Cullum family established the Landing Jazz Club in the basement of the Nix Hospital, becoming the first nightclub on San Antonio’s historic Riverwalk. For decades, the Landing played six nights a week until the passing of Jim Cullum. Shortly after, the band renamed itself the Jim Cullum Band. Since then, the band performed over 300 jazz masses across the United States. The band and its members became ambassadors of the City of San Antonio, and played in venues like the Carnegie Hall, Austin City Limits, the White House, and the Kennedy Center.

Jim Cullum carried his performances throughout the world and taught music workshops locally. He served as the president of the San Francisco Traditional Jazz Foundation and created the Cullum Riverwalk Jazz radio program, syndicated on National Public Radio broadcasting. The weekly program reached 250 stations for 25 years.

Cullum was a historian at heart. He dedicated much of his time advocating for the preservation of San Antonio’s historic sites. He was known to live by the Golden Rule, holding strong convictions of integrity and respect. Notably, he inspired many to pursue their interest in music and would bring light into every room he occupied.

A mentor, artist, and activist are just a few words to describe such a remarkable individual. Madam Speaker, I am proud to stand and recognize this brilliant bohemian who dedicated his life to music and community. He will be greatly missed.