

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR JOHNNY NEAL MARLOW

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 6, 2019*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and military service of Command Sergeant Major Johnny Neal Marlow, who passed away on August 20th at the age of 68.

Mr. Marlow was born in Eupora, Mississippi on May 28, 1951. He answered the call to serve our great nation as Command Sergeant Major for the United States Army. He previously served with the Mississippi Army National Guard and was a retired Master Sgt. with the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol. Command Sergeant Major Marlow set an example for his community by his extensive military and public service. Before he passed, he was currently serving as a Command Sergeant Major with the Mississippi State Guard, as a Carroll County Sheriffs Deputy, as the Carroll County Veterans Service Officer, and was the president of Veterans Helping Veterans in Carroll County.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife Christy Costilow Marlow of Carrollton, Mississippi; his sons, Chris Marlow of Long Beach, Mississippi and Jeff Marlow of Ocean Springs, Mississippi; his sisters, Sheila Newsom, Carolyn Hodges, Peggy Brister, and Billie Garner; his brother Gayle Marlow; as well as eight grandchildren, one great-grandchild and many nieces and nephews.

Command Sergeant Major Johnny Neal Marlow's life was one of service, grace, love for his family, and community. He will be greatly missed by all whom he encountered.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAINT REST BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 6, 2019*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Saint Rest Baptist Church in Fresno, California on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. The church is a valuable part of the community and strives to make West Fresno a better place for all residents.

The church began in 1944 when West Fresno was growing. Reverend A.W. White organized and raised money to build the church. The first services were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Rogers. Reverend White did not know it at the time, but he would be the first of a long line of pastors of the Saint Rest Baptist Church.

Over the years, Saint Rest continued to grow. In its early days, congregants met in a borrowed army surplus metal building. In 1948, the congregation moved into a former retail storefront, before building its first church in 1950.

Saint Rest was without a pastor for some time, but finally Reverend Hudson Spencer Moore was named the seventh pastor of the congregation. Over the next two decades, the

church only continued to grow. As the church expanded its programs and outreach, it was clear it was also outgrowing its space. In 1978, church members constructed a new worship facility.

The congregation of St. Rest have been greatly involved in their community. Church pastors and members have instituted a number of programs to benefit the community. This includes a food and clothing ministry, house-to-house revival program, and marriage workshops. The church also supports local nonprofits, such as the Poverello House and the Fresno Rescue Mission. After being approved for 501(c)(3) status, Saint Rest established the Saint Rest Economic Development Corporation to increase economic opportunities for the neighborhood and create a stronger quality of life.

This church has had many leaders in its 75-year history, including Reverend M.F. Clay who took leadership after Reverend White. Reverend C.D. Davis started in 1946, then two years later, Reverend J.L. Hall during the metal building being dismantled. The first printed Sunday bulletin started in 1951 during Reverend Carter's leadership. Reverend E.C. Johnson became pastor and under his leadership, the church's mortgage was paid off. Reverend Hudson soon became head pastor and then Reverend Riggins.

In 2006, Reverend Shane B. Scott became senior pastor and had the church address renamed to 1550 E Rev. Chester Riggins. It was one of the many successes that happened in his tenure for Saint Rest Baptist Church. In 2013, Pastor DJ Criner became Senior Pastor and has traveled throughout the United States to preach. His dedication to the community continues to make a difference.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Saint Rest Baptist Church as it celebrates their 75th anniversary. I wish all of the members of the congregation continued health, happiness and prosperity.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DENA GROSS LEAVENGOOD

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 6, 2019*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Dena Gross Leavengood, a tireless advocate for Florida, our Tampa Bay community and indeed our planet. Her determined advocacy has left a profound impact on our community and almost impossible shoes to fill.

A Florida native, Dena graduated with a bachelor's degree in Zoology from the University of Florida and received her master's degree right here at the University of South Florida. Dena was a driving force behind The Florida Aquarium because, even then, she realized its key role in fighting climate change and saving our planet. Dena served the Aquarium in key positions, including director of educational outreach and community liaison.

There are so many areas where Dena was indispensable. I remember her perhaps most fondly when in my time as a County Commissioner, she worked with me to fight for health care for working families in her role as the founder of the Hillsborough Health Care Coali-

tion. Dena was legendary in leadership roles for women with the League of Women Voters and Athena, to name a few. Tomorrow Matters and the Sierra Club were among so many other places where Dena left her inimitable and indelible stamp. As a Hillsborough County Commissioner, Member of Congress and as her friend, I witnessed Dena's tenacity and steadfast commitment on behalf of her neighbors, friends, Tampa Bay families and people she would never know, except in her heart.

Dena's decades of activism and professional accomplishments earned her the love of our community and numerous accolades, including the 2010 Education Award from the Health Council of Pinellas County, the 2003 Human Rights Award from the Tampa Human Rights Council. She also received national recognition as community liaison with The Florida Aquarium.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of a grateful and saddened Tampa Bay community, we promise to reflect on Dena's life of service to improve the lives of our neighbors, our community and our country, and have it serve as a beacon and inspiration as we undertake the hard work of going forward without her—as Dena would certainly insist on us doing. Dena earned a special place in my heart and of the entire Tampa Bay community. Dena would be sorely missed in all times but especially in these challenging times—we will strive to remember our indefatigable, Happy Warrior, Dena, if ever we get discouraged.

IN RECOGNITION OF GERRY MEYER WINNING FOUR GOLD MEDALS AT THE 2019 NATIONAL SENIOR GAMES

**HON. LIZ CHENEY**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 6, 2019*

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate E.G. "Gerry" Meyer on competing and winning four gold medals at the 2019 National Senior Games in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

I am incredibly proud to call Gerry a constituent, and his gold medals in track and field are a point of pride for the entire state. His achievements, at the young age of 100, are nothing short of incredible. Gerry is a true Wyomingite and embodies the grit and determination that makes our state great.

Again, Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Gerry Meyer on winning four gold medals, and representing the best that Wyoming has to offer.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF DEPUTY CHIEF RICHARD H. BRADBURY, SR.

**HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 6, 2019*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated public servant from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who served our community with distinction for over four decades. At the time of his retirement, he was