

In exchange, he listened to us, respected us and trusted us. He made sure we knew he was truly proud of us—memories we each now cherish. The result of his unwavering support was fierce loyalty from every member of his staff. We committed to doing everything in our power to fulfill his vision.

He was a unifying force, even in this era of partisanship. He would command order with a sharp rap of his gavel, elevate debate by noting that “we are better than that” and urge all of us to seek “not just common ground, but higher ground.”

Guided by his faith and values, he would look for and bring out the good in others, forming bridges through human connection.

He fully grasped the moment in which we are now living. He invoked history books that will be written hundreds of years from now as he called on us to “fight for the soul of our democracy.” As he said, this is bigger than one man, one president or even one generation.

He was acutely aware of his own transience in this world. He reminded us repeatedly that we are here “only for a minute” and that all of us soon will be “dancing with the angels.”

He would thunder against injustice, or on behalf of those who could not fight for themselves, and he would vow to keep battling until his “dying breath.” He did just that. His final act as chairman came from his hospital bed just hours before his death, as he continued to fight for critically ill children suddenly in danger of deportation.

He had so much left to accomplish, but he has left it for us to complete. As he told us presciently, “These things don’t happen to us, they happen for us.”

It is difficult to describe the emptiness we now feel. His spirit was so strong, and his energy so boundless, that the void is devastating.

But, of course, he left us with instructions: “Pain, passion, purpose. Take your pain, turn it into your passion, and make it your purpose.” He lived those words, and he inspired us to do the same.

Sometimes, after a big event, he would take us aside for a quiet moment and say, “I just want to thank you for everything you do and for being a part of my destiny.”

Today, we thank him for being part of ours. And we commit to carrying forward his legacy in the limited time allotted to each of us—to give voice to the voiceless, to defend our democracy, and to always reach for higher ground.

The authors of this tribute are current and former staff of the late House Oversight Committee Chairman Elijah Cummings, D-Md whose funeral is Friday. Their names are below:

Aaron D. Blacksberg, Abbie Kamin, Ajshay Charlene Barber, Alex Petros, Alexander M. Wolf, Alexandra S. Golden, Aliyah Nuri Horton, CAE, Amish A. Shah, Amy Stratton, Andy Eichar, Angela Gentile, Esq., Anthony McCarthy, Anthony N. Bush, Aryele N. Bradford, Ashley Abraham, Ashley Etienne, Asi Ofosu, Asua Ofosu, Ben Friedman, Bernadette “Bunny” Williams.

Beverly Ann Fields, Esq., Beverly Britton Fraser, Brandon Jacobs, Brett Cozzolino, Brian B. Quinn, Britteny N. Jenkins, Candace Phoenix, Carissa J. Smith, Carla Hultberg, Carlos Felipe Uriate, Cassie Fields, Cecelia Marie Thomas, Chanan Lewis, Chioma I. Chukwu, Chloe M. Brown, Christina J. Johnson, Christopher Knauer, Dr. Christy Gamble Hines, Claire E. Coleman, Claire Leavitt.

Courtney Cochran, Courtney French, Courtney N. Miller, Crystal T. Washington, Daniel Rebnord, Daniel Roberts, Daniel C. Vergamini, Darlene R. Taylor, Dave Rapallo, Davida Walsh Farrar, Deborah S. Perry,

Deidra N. Bishop, Delarious Stewart, Devika Koppikar, Devon K. Hill, Donald K. Sherman, Eddie Walker, Elisa A. LaNier, Ellen Zeng, Emma Dulaney.

Erica Miles, Fabion Seaton, Ferras Vinh, Fran Allen, Francesca McCrary, Frank Amtmann, Georgia Jenkins, Dr. Georgia Jennings-Dorsey, Gerietta Clay, Gina H. Kim, Greta Gao, Harry T. Spikes II, Hope M. Williams, Ian Kapuza, Ilga Semeiks, Jamitress Bowden, Janet Kim, Jaron Bourke, Jason R. Powell.

Jawauna Greene, Jean Waskow, Jedd Bellman, Jenn Hoffman, Jennifer Gaspar, Jenny Rosenberg, Jess Unger, Jesse K. Reisman, Jessica Heller, Jewel James Simmons, Jill L. Crissman, Jimmy Fremgen, Jolanda Williams, Jon Alexander, Jordan H. Blumenthal, Jorge D. Hutton, Joshua L. Miller, Joshua Zucker, Julia Krieger, Julie Saxenmeyer.

Justin S. Kim, K. Alex Kiles, Kadeem Cooper, Kamau M. Marshall, Kapil Longani, Karen Kudelko, Karen White, Kathy Crosby, Katie Malone, Katie Teleky, Kayvan Farchadi, Kellie Larkin, Kelly Christl, Kenneth Crawford, Kenneth D. Crawford, Kenyatta T. Collins, Kevin Corbin, Jr., Kierstin Stradford, Kimberly Ross, Krista Boyd, Kymberly Truman Graves, Larry and Diana Gibson, Laura K. Waters, Leah Nicole Copeland Perry, LL.M., Esq., Lena C. Chang, Lenora Briscoe-Carter, Lisa E. Cody, Lucinda Lessley, Madhur Bansal, Marc Broady, Marianna Patterson, Mark Stephenson, Martin Sanders, Meghan Delaney Berroya, Michael F. Castagnola, Michael Gordon, Michell Morton, Dr. Michelle Edwards, Miles P. Lichtman, Mutale Matambo.

Olivia Foster, Patricia A. Roy, Paul A. Brathwaite, Paul Kincaid, Peter J. Kenny, Philisha Kimberly Lane, Portia R. Bamiduro, Rachel L. Indek, Rebecca Maddox-Hyde, Regina Clay, Ricardo Brandon Rios, Rich Marquez, Richard L. Trumka Jr., Robin Butler, Rory Sheehan, Roxanne (Smith) Blackwell, Russell M. Anello, Safiya Jafari Simmons, Sanay B. Panchal, Scott P. Lindsay.

Sean Perryman, Senam Okpattah, Sonsyrea Tate-Montgomery, Susanne Sachsman Grooms, Suzanne Owen, Tamara Alexander Lynch, Theresa Chalhoub, Timothy D. Lynch, Todd Phillips, Tony Haywood, Tori Anderson, Trinity M.E. Goss, Trudy E. Perkins, Una Lee, Valerie Shen, Vernon Simms, Wendy Ginsberg, William A. Cunningham, William H. Cole, Wm. T. Miles, Jr., Yvette Badu-Nimako, Yvette P. Cravins, Esq., Zeita Merchant.

HONORING ALUMINUM CASTING COMPANY

HON. RUSS FULCHER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2019

Mr. FULCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a hometown business in Hayden, Idaho that is receiving the Department of Labor’s Honoring Investment in Recruiting and Employing (HIRE) Vets Medallion Award today. Founded as the Los Angeles Aluminum Casting Company in 1947, LA Aluminum has been a staple of the local community in Hayden since 1972. LA Aluminum makes castings for critical components that support the aerospace, automotive, dental, and military industries. As a third-generation family-owned business in Idaho, Robert Oswald and his daughter Sarah continue the great tradition of making American products for American companies in Idaho. That’s why I am proud to honor

the Oswald family and the wonderful employees of LA Aluminum for their investments in recruiting, employing, and retaining military veterans in Idaho. Our veterans answer the call to serve, protect our way of life, our system of government, and the freedoms that we want to enjoy every day. The HIRE Vets Award is the only federal-level veterans’ employment award that recognizes companies committed to hiring and retaining veterans. I thank the employees of LA Aluminum for prioritizing our veterans and those that answered the call to service. The HIRE Vets Medallion Award is a symbol of their culture, passion, and love for our country and our armed services.

RECOGNIZING DON GUINNIP’S CONSISTENT PRODUCTION OF HIGH-QUALITY SOYBEANS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Don Guinnip, a member of my Ag Advisory Board in the 15th district of Illinois, who was recently cited by the Illinois Soybean Association High Yield PLUS Quality program for consistently producing soybeans that rank very high in livestock feed value.

Don is a farmer in the Wabash River Valley near Marshall, IL., who makes a point to know the nutritional makeup of the soybeans he grows. He feels that this knowledge is essential to meeting the specific needs of the soybean industry’s largest and most important customer, the livestock producer. Livestock consume more than 70 percent of the U.S. soybean crop each year.

Don has submitted soybean samples for nutritional analysis for seven years. His 2018 sample of Stine Seed Company variety 38LE02 yielded a composite feed value of \$347.40 per ton, putting him in the top 15 growers in Illinois for feed value.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Don Guinnip on choosing soybean varieties that best serve livestock producers, and I encourage other farmers to maximize the U.S. feed-market opportunities as well.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB OF JASPER AND GEORGIA MOUNTAINS HOSPICE

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2019

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rotary Club of Jasper and Georgia Mountains Hospice for teaming up to host an important appreciation event for members of the public safety community in Pickens County, Georgia and the city of Jasper, Georgia.

At a time in our nation’s history when the men and women in law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services need our support the most, the Rotary Club of Jasper and Georgia Mountains Hospice are working together to carry the mantle by hosting a public safety appreciation dinner, Honoring Our Heroes, for

the sole purpose of recognizing and thanking those who put their lives on the line on behalf of our communities.

This is exactly the type of initiative that represents the true values of the good people in my district. While I am humbled by, and grateful for, their efforts, I am not surprised by this true reflection of their priorities and their character.

The often thankless undertakings of our men and women in public safety are what keep the fabric of our great nation together by saving our lives, protecting our property and providing peace of mind in an often chaotic world. On behalf of the people of Northeast Georgia, I want to thank the Rotary Club of Jasper and Georgia Mountains Hospice for making Public Safety Employees a priority.

HONORING THE ADIRONDACK DAILY ENTERPRISE'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2019

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor The Adirondack Daily Enterprise on their 125th year in operation.

Charles W. Lansing of Plattsburgh and Carl D. Smith of Malone established the Adirondack Enterprise in 1895 and on February 21st of that year, the first issue of the paper was published. Through mergers with other papers and continual improvement, they soon became one of the preeminent newspapers in northern New York. They have seen highs and lows over the years notably, when the Harrietstown Town Hall, which housed the paper, burned to the ground. Despite this setback, the paper continued to publish uninterrupted. In 1926, from their historic headquarters at the Old Enterprise Building, the Adirondack Enterprise ramped up to daily publication and became the institution we know today. The Adirondack Daily Enterprise remains a historic institution in the North Country. It is the only daily paper to serve the Adirondack Region, delivering important local news so that residents can stay informed about their community.

On behalf on New York's 21st Congressional District, I want to congratulate the Adirondack Daily Enterprise team for reaching this historic milestone. Local news outlets are an important component of the long-term health of a community and I look forward to them continuing to serve in that role into the future.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT MAJOR MICHAEL GRINSTON ON HIS SELECTION TO BECOME THE SIXTEENTH SERGEANT MAJOR OF THE U.S. ARMY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2019

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Sergeant Major Michael Grinston on his selection to become the sixteenth Sergeant Major of the United States Army.

Having grown up in Jasper, Alabama, in Alabama's Fourth Congressional District, Sergeant Major of the Army Grinston enlisted in the Army in 1987 to serve as an artilleryman. During his thirty-two years in the Army, his deployments included two tours each to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, as well as Desert Shield/Desert Storm and a deployment to Kosovo. He also served as the senior enlisted leader for the Army's first deployment of a division headquarters, with the First Infantry Division, in support of Operation Inherent Resolve from October 2014 to June 2015.

In addition to serving as the I Corps Command Sergeant Major, Sergeant Major of the Army Grinston most recently served as the senior enlisted leader for U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM), the U.S. Army's largest command. He is a combat veteran who has served in every level of leadership from gunner to his current role as the United States Army's senior enlisted leader.

His awards and decorations include the Army Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (two awards), and five Bronze Stars (two with "V" devices). He has earned the Ranger tab, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Drill Sergeant Identification Badge, and the Combat Action Badge.

Sergeant Major of the Army Grinston earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from the University of Maryland University College.

Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege to recognize such an accomplished and dedicated leader. I join his family, friends and colleagues in wishing him the greatest success in this new role.

INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS LEGAL SUPPORT ACT OF 2019

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Veterans Legal Support Act of 2019, which would allow the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide support to law school clinical programs that provide pro bono legal and support services to veterans, including assistance with disability claims and appeals and foreclosures. There are already at least 22 law schools that have clinics devoted to veterans' legal needs, including the William & Mary Law School Veterans Benefits Clinic, which serves as a national model for this idea and was the first recipient of a "best practice" certification from the VA. There are many other law schools, such as the University of the District of Columbia's David A. Clarke School of Law, that are interested in starting their own VA-certified clinics.

More than 400,000 veterans are waiting for their disability claims to be processed by the VA. With the assistance of lawyers and law professors, clinical programs provide free legal resources to assist veterans in processing their claims. My bill would merely build on what some law schools have begun to do for the last several years. More needs to be done to sustain and increase these programs.

I was a tenured professor of law and continued to teach one seminar after being elected

to Congress. I saw the expert assistance that clinical programs provide.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, a concrete measure that would assist our veterans, who have repeatedly put their lives on the line for this country.

RECOGNIZING AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2019

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the American Legion Auxiliary, the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization.

The American Legion Auxiliary is a premier service organization that has been a vital asset to our community. By providing support for our veterans, our military, and their families, the American Legion Auxiliary shapes a positive future in an atmosphere of fellowship, patriotism, and peace.

Founded in 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary boasts almost one million members from a range of different backgrounds. This past year, the organization oversaw more than 40 million volunteer hours and raised \$37 million for charities across the US.

Specifically, the American Legion Auxiliary's West Michigan chapter, Roger B. Chaffee Post 154, has been a pillar in our community through their support of veterans, sponsorship of local events, and youth development. Their tireless work has dramatically increased the quality of life for veterans and their families across West Michigan.

The post gets their name from the late Roger B. Chaffee, an American naval officer, aeronautical engineer, and NASA astronaut in the Apollo program. Roger B. Chaffee grew up in West Michigan and graduated from Central High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he excelled in academics and became an Eagle Scout. Sadly, Roger perished in the Apollo 1 fire on January 27, 1967, but his legacy continues to live on throughout our country and in West Michigan.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the American Legion Auxiliary and the Roger B. Chaffee Post 154 for their 100 years of dedicated service to veterans throughout our country and in West Michigan.

CONGRATULATING YOUNG AMERICA'S FOUNDATION ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR FOUNDING

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2019

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, today I offer my heartfelt congratulations to the Young America's Foundation (YAF) on 50 successful years of promoting Conservative ideals to the youth of our Nation.

Beginning in 1969 at Vanderbilt University, YAF has shaped itself as the preeminent organization in promoting and defending American