

Pastor of First Monumental Faith Ministries in Albany, Georgia after over three decades of selfless service and was honored on Saturday, November 9, 2019, at 5:00 pm.

In 1984, Reverend Carter answered the call to preach the word of God and founded First Monumental Faith Ministries alongside his wife, First Lady, and Co-Pastor, LaVerne Shinault Carter. For the past 35 years, Rev. Carter has been the shepherd at First Monumental where he has ministered to the needs of his flock christening babies, baptizing believers, performing marriages, and consoling bereaved families while developing and honing his skills as a church administrator and inspiring spiritual leader. Under The Carters' dynamic and spirit-filled leadership, First Monumental Faith Ministries has experienced tremendous growth. But most importantly, under their leadership, First Monumental has been a beacon of hope and salvation for the congregation through its many ministries that share the good news of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Outside of the church, Reverend Carter has also proved himself a true servant of the community in which he lives. His drive led him to organize First Monumental Community Outreach, Inc. (FMCO) to help provide services to those in need. By utilizing its access to government grants, FMCO opened "Job's Place", the first assistance program for persons diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the Dougherty County area. Reverend Carter and FMCO also joined forces with the City of Albany & the Dougherty County Coalition to help end homelessness by leading the charge to acquire government funding from the Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) to support and transition over 15 families to self-sustainable living. Furthermore, Reverend Carter also extended the reach of First Monumental Faith Ministries through the Monumental Development Center and the Fluff-n-Fold Laundromat to aid in job creation for residents in the community.

Reverend Carter has achieved much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the Grace of God and the love and the support of his loving wife, LaVerne, and his children, Roosevelt, Jr., Roderald, Lorenzo, and Renorta.

On a personal note, I have been blessed by Reverend Carter's sage counsel and enduring friendship over the time that I have known him. He has always encouraged and supported me during my career in Congress and, I am proud to call him my friend.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District, in extending our sincerest congratulations and best wishes to Reverend Roosevelt Carter, I on the occasion of his retirement and in congratulating him for 35 outstanding years of leadership at First Monumental Faith Ministries, and for a lifetime of selfless service to God, the church, and to humankind.

HONORING MARINE RETIRED CWO-3 WARRANT OFFICER DANIEL PAYNE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend Mr. Daniel "Dan" Payne as he is honored as the 2019 Grand Marshal for the 100th Anniversary of the Central Valley Veterans Day Parade (CVVDP). Dan has dedicated his life to his country and the people of the Central Valley.

Dan was born in San Jose, California to Frank and Ubelia Payne on August 16, 1954. He attended local schools while working in the fields picking apricots and other fruits. He attended college but soon changed course. He enlisted into the Marine Corps in 1973, inspired by a television commercial about the branch. Dan told his then-girlfriend and now wife of 43 years Mary, that he was going to enlist the next day. He served as an enlisted member for 12 years, achieving the rank of Gunnery Sergeant. In 1986, he applied for Officers Candidates School and was accepted in February 1987. Despite severely injuring his knee, Dan continued his training to become an officer, graduating that same year.

Dan attended Electronics Radar Pulse Acquisitions Control HAWK Guided Missile, Command and Control Electronics Tech HAWK Guided Missile, HAWK Guided Missile Systems Tech, and Tactical Basics School TBS Quantico, Virginia. He has an associate degree in Law Enforcement, Missiles and Munitions, and an Electrical Engineering degree from Trinity University. A Decorated Desert Storm Veteran, Dan was the first Hispanic Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) in the HAWK Guided Missile field in the Marine Corps.

During his time in the Marines, Dan was a boxer and played multiple sports. He trained in Shotokan while he was in Japan and earned 4 black belts. He was named in Who's Who of Martial Arts and fought many different fighters, including Chuck Norris.

After being deployed and stationed around the world, Dan's last stop was in Fresno, California where he and his wife Mary, and two daughters Rebecca and Rachel, settled. In 1996, Dan retired as CWO-3 and began teaching at Fresno City College Training Institute. He was awarded the Center for Applied Competitive Technology (CACT) Teacher's Award in 1998. Dan was an ordained pastor while he was in the Marines and decided to continue this path after retirement.

Dan is also the founder and CEO of Cable Links Construction. The construction firm provides training for Lucent, Siecor, 3-M Amp, and other telecommunication companies. Their specialties are in fiber optics and high-speed copper cable. Over the years, Cable Links has also expanded into construction. Since its founding 20 years ago, Cable Links has grown into a successful small-business in the Central Valley. It has been featured in the Fresno Bee as one of the fastest-growing companies in the Central Valley, and twice was mentioned in Inc Magazine as one of the fastest-growing companies in the United States.

Following his retirement from the Marine Corps, Dan has served his community. Some of his many contributions include leading mis-

sion trips to Mexico for New Covenant Community Church for 15 years, and as music leader for Celebrate Recovery 12-Step Program. He was Co-Chair for Toys-for-Tots in 2011, Chairman of Central Valley Veterans K-9 fundraising for 11 years, Post Commander for American Legion Post 4, Executive Director of the California Veterans Action Alliance, Board Member of the Central Valley Veterans Retirement Home, and CEO since 2010 and announcer of the CVVDP since 2003.

Throughout his career Dan has received recognition, including as local television affiliate KSEE24's Hispanic Portrait of Success recipient in 1999; 2002 Business Man of the Year; honored with his 3 brothers and 2 sisters as the La Familia Silicon Valley Hispanic Veteran and Community Family of the Year in 2010; Guest of Honor for the Marine Corps Ball; the Gold Medal for volunteer work by President Bush in 2002; appointed to President George W. Bush's tax Sub-Committee.

Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to congratulate CWO-3 Warrant Officer Dan Payne as he celebrates his last year as CEO of the Central Valley Veterans Day Parade and is honored as their Grand Marshal. I have had the honor to work with Dan for over 20 years and he is more than well-deserved of this recognition. I ask that you join me in wishing Dan and his family continued success, health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING JANE LOIS WELLER'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. HARLEY ROUDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jane Lois Weller of Huntington Beach for her service to our country during World War II and to honor her recent 100th birthday. Born in Chicago just after World War I and raised during the Great Depression, Ms. Weller bore witness to some of the most tumultuous times in our nation's history. By virtue of this upbringing, and because of what many would call an ambitious spirit, Ms. Weller went on to lead a life dedicated to service, both to her country and to her family.

Just one year after graduating from Nursing School at the Evangelical Hospital in Chicago, Ms. Weller enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps in December 1942. After completing flight school at Bowman Field in Kentucky, she was stationed at Hickam Field on Oahu, Hawaii.

From Hawaii to the Mariana Islands to the Solomon Islands to the Philippines, Ms. Weller bravely risked her life to tend to many soldiers wounded on the frontlines. For her valiant service in active combat zones throughout the Pacific Theater, Ms. Weller was awarded two Bronze Stars.

After the war, Ms. Weller graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, continued to serve as nurse in the public sector, and raised her three children. She has always kept an active mind, enjoying hobbies including astronomy, biblical and classical studies, knitting, jazz piano, singing, and more. I ask that all Members join me in recognizing the remarkable life and service of Jane Lois Weller on the occasion of her recent 100th birthday.