

Though an established Yorba Linda resident for over 50 years, Henry's roots began in Atlantic City, New Jersey. He was born on February 15, 1924 as the eldest child of five to Henrik and Anna Wedaa. As a young child, Henry discovered a love for aviation and spent time watching planes make emergency landings on a golf course near his home. Though uncertain of the future, he was resolute in his belief that he would one day take to the skies. Henry's prediction proved to be correct with the news of Pearl Harbor and the subsequent declaration of war. Like many of his time, Henry became part of the nationwide movement of young individuals who lent their youth and passion to protect the freedom of their beloved country. On January 5, 1943, at the age of 18, Henry joined the infantry but was soon transferred to what he knew to be his true calling—the United States Air Force. Assigned to the 467th Bombardment Group as a bombardier and aerial gunner, Henry and his fellow men left for Rackheath, United Kingdom on his 20th birthday. Beginning April 10, 1944, the 467th Bombardment Group would complete its required 30 missions in just 78 days. Henry solemnly watched events of the European Theater unfold as he sat on the nose of a B-24 Liberator 20,000 feet up in the air. Returning to the United States after his last mission, Henry was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters.

After his service in WWII, Henry graduated from Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1949, majoring in physics and chemistry. He then attended graduate school at the University of Arizona and was employed at the U.S. Naval Weapons Center in China Lake, California for eight years. It was during this time that Henry was met with the fortuitous opportunity to settle down in Yorba Linda, California. In 1970, three years after the incorporation of Yorba Linda, he began his second act of public service as a city councilmember. Henry would serve Yorba Linda for 29 years. During this extensive tenure, in which he served as mayor five times, Henry championed for a particular quality of life in Yorba Linda. The Yorba Linda in existence today that favors a semi-rural, low-density community owes its idyllic charm and methodical process of change to Henry's original vision. During his time on the city council, many iconic city projects were approved: the Richard Nixon Presidential Library, the SAVI Ranch Retail Center, the Yorba Linda Community Center, and over a dozen city parks. Henry represented the city council on numerous committees including the Southern California Association of Governments' Aviation Work Program Committee. Henry also acted as chairman of the governing board of South Coast Air Quality Management District and president of the Southern California Association of Governments.

Though public service was always at the forefront of his life, Henry also led a distinguished professional career that aligned with his passion for pure, unadulterated quality of life. Working in parallel as he helped shape Yorba Linda, Henry dedicated himself to specializing in transportation and environmental studies. As a founder of the California Hydrogen Business Council, Henry made a name for himself as a renowned advocate for clean air, alternative energy, and reducing emis-

sions. He urged for the development of hydrogen fuel cells in the 39th District and was awarded the Haagen-Smit Clean Air Award from California Air Resources Board for his commitment to accelerating the future of hydrogen vehicles and green sources of energy.

Henry is survived by his sons Eric and Jim, and daughters Karena and Tina. He also leaves behind an insurmountable legacy reinforced by the people whose lives were touched by his leadership and care. Madam Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in remembering Henry "Hank" Wedaa: an American patriot, a devout environmentalist, and a visionary father to the city of Yorba Linda.

TRIBUTE TO JOEY SANTOS

HON. MICHAEL F. Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2019

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in solemn remembrance of a good man from Guam—Joey Santos, whose passing came too soon on November 17, 2019, at the age of 49.

Joey was a shining star going as far back as the 1980s. He was a mentor to many and a friend to many more.

He attended the John F. Kennedy High School and played for the JFK Islanders basketball team. He proved what a valuable force he was even in his teens while playing high school basketball. Not long after graduation from JFK in 1988, he represented our island through his love of the game and decided to make an impact playing for the Guam National Basketball team. His dedication to the game showed through his determination and commitment with his countless hours on the court.

In 1991, he took on a role with the University of Guam and worked his way up the ranks to the position of Recreational Supervisor up until his resignation in 2010. After 19 years of service to the University, he decided to embark on a new path. He accepted a position with the Father Duenas Memorial School as a physical education teacher, and eventually promoted to Athletic Director. Joey also served for 20 years in the Air National Guard and retired in October 2017 as a staff sergeant.

Joey was a visionary for athletes. He wanted to help others maximize their potential and reach their goals. For a decade, he mentored high school athletes and truly led by example by demonstrating what it means to work hard—and not only on the field or on the court but in the classroom as well. He wanted our kids to succeed. He wanted to show them that anything was possible. He was much more than an Athletic Director, he was a hero to the students and he went out of his way to help others. Anyone who knew him was lucky to have a glimpse of who he was.

Joey is a man of strength and courage. He fought cancer so hard for his wife, family, students, and those who were counting on him. Joey had a heart of gold—and he not only portrayed that on the basketball court or through his duties on the job, but in his daily life.

Joey's wife, Selena Santos, said it best: "My Chamoru Rock left with his eternal wings to our Almighty Father."

Joey is survived by his wife, Selena, his children David, Tayler, and Shylah, and his five grandchildren: Tobias, Taeya, and Rocky. He is also survived by his mother Maria, and his siblings Jeanie, Joyce, and Jeffrey, and beloved friends.

I would like to convey my deepest sympathies to Joey's family, as well as extend my heartfelt thanks for his contributions to the community. Joey Santos will be missed by all who knew him.

HONORING ALEXANDER C.
MARTIN, ESQ.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. Alexander C. Martin, Esq. A native of Port Gibson, Mississippi, Mr. Martin earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Alcorn State University, in 1979, and a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Mississippi School of Law in 1982.

Since its establishment, in 1994, Mr. Martin has served as the District Attorney for the State of Mississippi's 22nd Circuit Court District. He is the first African American to serve as District Attorney for the state of Mississippi, since Reconstruction. Prior to his position as District Attorney, Mr. Martin served as an attorney for Southwest and Central Mississippi Legal Services. In addition, he spent six years as a prosecutor for Claiborne County as well as an adjunct professor at his alma mater, Alcorn State University.

In 2006, Mr. Martin received the Legal Award from the Claiborne County Chapter of the NAACP.

Aside from his career, Mr. Martin has been heavily involved in his community. He currently serves as a deacon at First Baptist Church in Port Gibson. For seven years, he was an assistant scout master for Troop 100 of Boy Scouts of America, Andrew Jackson Council. Since 2005, Mr. Martin has been the public address announcer for football and basketball games at Port Gibson High School. He is also a former mock trial coach for Mississippi Bar Association and Magnolia Bar Association.

Mr. Martin is a member of several professional organizations, including the Mississippi Bar Association, Magnolia Bar Association, Mississippi Prosecutors Association, National District Attorneys Association, Copiah County Bar Association and Claiborne County Bar Association. He also serves on the Mississippi Prosecutors Association Board of Directors, Mississippi Center for Legal Services Board of Directors and the Claiborne County Preservation Commission.

Mr. Martin is married to Mrs. Karen Martin and is the proud father of four children: Joecephus, Alexander C. Martin II, Jamila and Jaron Anthony and five grandchildren: Miles, Anna Rose, Alexander III, August, and Elijah.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Alexander C. Martin, Esq.