

CELEBRATING GEORGE HYAK'S
100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to wish Mr. George Hyak, of Victoria, Texas, a heartfelt happy 100th birthday and thank him for his service to our country.

George is an example of a life well-lived. He and his precious bride Sarah met at church as young teens. They kept in touch with handwritten notes while he was deployed a few short years later. Their love has lasted for decades—February marked 71 years of marriage and brought them two children, six grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandson. George also co-founded Dicks Food Stores in 1938, which his family still operates to this day in my hometown of Victoria. His family recalls that from a young age as one of six children, he worked to help provide for his family. Throughout his life, George has worked with diligence and integrity and in service to others.

George was drafted in 1942 into the Army VIII Corps under General Troy Middleton. Two years into his service, June 6, 1944, became a day that not only shaped George's life but the course of our entire nation and indeed the world. George joined more than 160,000 troops on D-Day as the Allies launched the largest seaborne invasion in history. In the words of Winston Churchill, the operation was "undoubtedly the most complicated and difficult that has ever occurred." Starting as an infantryman, George landed on the beaches of Normandy with the second wave of troops and took on enemy fire. Mr. Hyak risked his life to help turn the tide of the war in Europe, which ultimately led to its liberation.

What's more, he also bravely fought at the Battle of the Bulge and was one of the first in the group to invade Ohrdruf, a German concentration camp. As the war in Europe was coming to a close, George was in Frankfurt, Germany, awaiting orders to deploy for the invasion of Japan. I can imagine the emotions they must have felt when they heard the war was finally over—and instead they'd be headed home.

When George returned home, he continued to operate Dick's Food Stores. The longevity of the establishment earned it the Texas Historical Commission's Texas Treasure Business Award. It's an honor bestowed on businesses for providing employment opportunities and boosting the state's economy for at least 50 years.

George continues to bless the lives of those who've come to know him, whether a fellow soldier or friend. As we look to celebrate Thanksgiving, we as a nation have a lot to be thankful for. George is one of them. May Mr. Hyak's life serve as a reminder of the price that he and others like him paid for our freedom.

God has always had a plan for Mr. Hyak, and for us today George Hyak's life paints a picture of sacrifice and duty that we can all learn from. I join his friends and family in celebrating 100 years and thanking him for his service to our nation. Happy 100th Birthday, George.

TERRE HAUTE SAVINGS BANK
150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Terre Haute Savings Bank for 150 years of service to the people of the Wabash Valley.

Since first welcoming customers in downtown Terre Haute on December 1, 1869, the bank has expanded to eight locations in Vigo and Clay Counties. Terre Haute Savings Bank has put a focus on supporting local communities and local nonprofit organizations.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Bart Colwell, CEO of Terre Haute Savings Bank, and all employees on a successful 150 years of business. As Terre Haute Savings Bank continues to "Believe in the Valley," I wish them the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on November 15, 2019 during roll call no. 617, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, Torres of California Amendment No. 2. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 618, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, Flores of Texas Amendment No. 3. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 619, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, McAdams of Utah Amendment No. 4. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 620, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, Davidson of Ohio Amendment No. 5. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 621, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, Stevens of Michigan Amendment No. 18. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 622, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, Torres Small of New Mexico Amendment No. 21. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 623, On Motion to Recommit with Instructions, H.R. 4863, United States Export Finance Agency Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 624, On Passage, H.R. 4863, United States Export Finance Agency Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING ISAAC DANIEL CONNER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Isaac Daniel Conner. Isaac is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Isaac has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Isaac has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Isaac has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Isaac Daniel Conner for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR KYLE
STACK'S LIFE AND LEGACY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Kyle Stack for her lifetime of service. Mayor Stack passed away on November 29, 2019 which greatly saddened our community. Her work as Mayor of the City of Trenton is worthy of commendation.

Mayor Stack served for 26 years as the city clerk, before being elected as mayor in 2011. During this time, she was the only Master Municipal Clerk in Wayne County for several years. As mayor, she was instrumental in addressing the very real issue of trains blocking crossings for too long, bringing together the Michigan Department of Transportation, Community and State Leaders to resolve this problem. Mayor Stack also worked diligently on the redevelopment of the McLouth Steel plant. She served on the Trenton Rotary Scholarship Committee, Trenton High School Hockey Team's John McKay Scholarship Selection Committee, and was the first woman president of the Trenton Rotary Club.

Mayor Stack's life stands as a role model of selfless service and demonstrates a tremendous love for her community. Beloved for her generosity and tenacity, Mayor Stack's reputation is a testament to the significant impact she had on Trenton and its residents. Her dedicated work has been critical in building and expanding the thriving community of Trenton. Mayor Stack was a champion for the residents of Trenton, a mentor to her colleagues, and her visionary leadership continues to inspire the community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mayor Kyle Stack for a lifetime of service to her community. We are grateful for her dedicated work and her compassion and leadership will be greatly missed.