

and Esme Rechnitz, as well as many dear friends and colleagues.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Robert M. Rechnitz for his devotion to his family and his immeasurable contributions to the greater Monmouth County community.

RECOGNIZING CLEARLY LOVED
PETS AND BOCA KITCHENS &
BATHS

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Wayne and Julie Huthmaker of Clearly Loved Pets and Gloria Duran and Shuky Conroyd of Boca Kitchens & Baths. These two small businesses have been selected as this year's SCORE of South Palm Beach Small Businesses of the Year.

SCORE is a nationwide nonprofit organization dedicated to helping small business get started, grow, and achieve their goals. They provide free mentoring and tools and offer workshops on vital business issues. The South Palm Beach Chapter has twice been voted the No. 1 Chapter in America.

Clearly Loved Pets has created a patent-pending clear enclosure for pets designed to decrease stress and improve aesthetics in your home. Boca Kitchens & Baths is a full interior design-build team that offers numerous professional services and designs. These two businesses represent the myriad of high-quality products and services provided by small businesses in our community.

Please join me in congratulating Clearly Loved Pets and Boca Kitchens & Baths on their success and well-deserved recognitions.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF ALAN
BARRY WOLF

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Alan "Big Al" Wolf, originally of Malden, Massachusetts, who passed away on October 26, 2019 at the age of 86.

Big Al's family would describe him as a simple man—not in a small way, but in a grand way. He was soft spoken, but you always heard him clearly. He said few words, but he always got his point across.

Alan grew up in the Boston suburb of Malden, son to Joseph and Florence, and brother to his sister Barbara. The family had a house right on the beach near an amusement park and boardwalk. It was here where his family shared so many weekends, events, and summer barbecues. Alan worked in the family business at Wolf Syrup Corp. His family always took so much pride knowing their Dad's syrup was in the soda fountains at the local lunch counters and pharmacies they went to around Boston.

Big Al was never a materialistic guy and only cared about a few things. He always had to drive a nice car—never flashy, but classy.

His kids say he would brag about the Cadillac convertible that he drove around when he first started dating his wife, Dolly. He was similarly forever sharply dressed and always had to wear a nice tie, shoes buffed, and pocket square peeking out.

The love Al had for his wife, Dolly, was indescribable. Dolly was his soulmate and their 66 years together was as Dolly would say, "an experience of love and life." From the day they met when she was 15 years old, there was no one else for him. It is truly amazing how much he loved her. In his eyes she was the most beautiful woman in the world and he never stopped thinking that until the day he died.

Coaching was a big thing for Al. He loved teaching the fundamentals of baseball and football and instilling a winning attitude. One thing that separated Al as a coach and parent was that he would always look after the more disadvantaged kids. He felt that he could make a difference.

Big Al loved his children and grandchildren. Alan, or Pappy as he was fondly called, was also known to give a few dollars each time he saw his grandchildren. His grandkids always knew that they had a friend and fan in Pappy Alan—and that he was always ready to offer a knuckle sandwich.

Alan had many loves and many opinions, but above all, he loved his family. I am very blessed to be a great friend of his son, Robert. My deep condolences go out to Alan's family and to everyone whose lives he touched. We'll miss Alan.

MR. EDDIE ROBINSON BIRTHDAY
RECOGNITION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Eddie Robinson who is celebrating his 99th birthday on December 15, 2019.

Eddie was born William Edward Robinson in Paris, Texas in 1920. He is best known for his 13-year Major League Baseball playing career from 1942 to 1957. During that time, he also served three years in the U.S. Navy, and married the love of his life, Bette, in 1955.

Eddie has what is described as charisma. It starts with an infectious smile that is always there for every story he tells and those he hears. He can remember the smallest detail that makes everyone lean forward in their chairs to make sure they hear every word. Eddie is constantly telling stories from his Major League Baseball days that thrill the hearts and minds of his listeners. He is such a gifted story teller it is as if we are all reliving the times of his "Boys of Summer" baseball days.

His more humorous side sometimes comes out with stories that he would never tell in public but shares with his close breakfast group known as "The Eastside Mafia". Eddie particularly loves telling stories of his days playing golf at Woodhaven Country Club in Fort Worth. It has been said that he was always so complimentary of a fellow's drive by saying, "Man what a beautiful drive!", only to follow up with his famous baseball trajectory of

a line drive which would put his well past the shot of his competitors.

Eddie is also a person that shares his good fortunes in life. Besides taking his friends to the Texas Rangers games, he was also instrumental in several projects around Fort Worth. He established the Woodhaven Neighborhood Golf Association's annual golf tournament, proving scholarships for local high school students in Fort Worth. He also helped his wife Bette raise funds to construct a clock tower and research library—East Regional Library of Fort Worth—which I had the pleasure of supporting during my time as Mayor of Fort Worth.

On behalf of Texas' 12th Congressional District, I offer my congratulations and best wishes on this special occasion.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COM-
MANDER CHRISTOPHER
RAGSDALE

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize those men and women who continue to serve this great Nation with honor—men such as Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Christopher Ragsdale, United States Navy.

For the past year, LCDR Ragsdale served on my staff as a Congressional Defense Fellow. A 2007 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, LCDR Flynn is a proud Surface Warfare Officer who served in MCM Crew BULWARK and onboard USS *Comstock* (LSD-45) and USS *Benfold* (DDG-65). During his assignment in my office, LCDR Ragsdale provided senior-level input for defense, veterans, foreign affairs and intelligence matters. Additionally, he executed his work as a liaison to the constituents of Virginia's First Congressional District with distinction.

Furthermore, LCDR Ragsdale provided exceptional support to me as a staff liaison to the House Armed Services Committee in my role as the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee Ranking Member. LCDR Ragsdale dutifully provided me with guidance on what the Navy's path forward should be in critical areas such as training, readiness, and manning. His recent experience in the surface community was invaluable to my work in Congress.

As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Shipbuilding Caucus and the Co-Chair of the Navy-Marine Corps Caucus, I relied on LCDR Ragsdale to organize quarterly events with government, military, and private sector leaders. These events allowed key decisionmakers to work together for the advancement of our future Naval Officers as well as the construction and repair of the ships on which they will serve.

LCDR Ragsdale also directly contributed to my goal of providing excellent constituent service to the people of the First District. He was responsible for bringing numerous constituent inquiries to a successful conclusion, and he leveraged his personal and operational experience in the Navy to respond to the most challenging inquiries. In addition to his efforts locally, LCDR Ragsdale took on projects with