

and memory of Kenneth C. Ryken, who recently passed away.

Ken was born in Walnut Creek, California on April 27, 1965, to proud parents Richard and Deanna Ryken. He grew up in the East Bay where he attended and graduated from Hayward High School in 1983. Upon graduating from high school, Ken went on to study at Chabot College, San Francisco State University, and the University of Southern California, where he received his law degree.

After graduating law school, Ken began practicing law with Sedgwick LLP, and in 1996 he joined the Alameda County District Attorney's office where I had the privilege of having him as a colleague. Ken served as the office's finance director and an assistant district attorney until his passing on January 5, 2020. Ken was frequently described as a "rock" and a "shining star" by his colleagues and superiors.

One of the accomplishments Ken was most proud of during his career was the creation of Clean Slate Services in collaboration with the East Bay Community Law Center. This practice helps reduce the pathways into the criminal justice system and removes barriers to employment and civic participation for people with criminal records. Ken's work was pivotal to the creation of this program, and it is only one of the many highlights of his career.

Ken's commitment to public service and his community extended beyond working for the Alameda County District Attorney's Office. Ken was a proud member of the 100 Club and the Hayward Rotary Club, and he served on the board of directors for the Hayward Area Historical Society. Outside of work Ken was known to be a music enthusiast who especially loved his bass guitar.

We lost Ken far too soon. He is survived by his wife of 17 years, Jean Luevano, as well as his children, Jackson and Lauren, grandson, Wesley, parents, Dick and Deanna, and siblings, Tim and Kathy. Ken loved spending time with his family and was always a proud husband, father, and grandfather. His legacy will live on through them and the everlasting impact he made on our community.

JIM LEHRER

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, today, I pay tribute to Mr. Jim Lehrer who passed away at the age of 85 last week.

Mr. Lehrer is dear to Texas' 27th district because he graduated from Victoria College, right in my hometown of Victoria, Texas, in 1956.

As a student, he wrote for the college paper, the Jolly Roger, and worked as a ticket agent at the Continental Trailways station downtown.

Today a plaque near the bus station he worked at 65 years ago honors his accomplishments.

After college, he sacrificially served our country for three years with the United States Marines.

He then went on to the Dallas Morning News, reporting on local politics before making the change to television.

He never forgot his Texas roots, despite the fact that he went on to have a distinguished career as a world-renowned journalist.

Over the span of his lifetime, he moderated twelve presidential debates, cofounded and hosted PBS NewsHour for 36 years, and authored numerous books.

Through much hard work and determination, he achieved great success as a journalist, and we are proud that he called Victoria home for a little while.

He is survived by his wife of six decades, Kate, three daughters, Jamie, Lucy, and Amanda, and six grandchildren.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, on Monday, January 27, 2020, I regret not being present for two vote sessions. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of the Never Again Education Act, H.R. 943, Roll Call No. 23, and voted in support of the Advancing Research to Prevent Suicide Act, H.R. 4704, Roll Call No. 24.

HONORING KING BROTHERS DAIRY FOR RECEIVING THE NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor King Brothers Dairy for receiving the New York State Agricultural Society's Business of the Year Award. For over 17 years, the NYS Agricultural Society has presented Business of the Year honors to both a producer and an agribusiness, recognizing the quality, leadership and innovation they demonstrate that enhances the integrity of the industry.

King's Ransom Farm, located in Schuylerville has been in operation for over 100 years. Jan and Jeff King's grandparents had been in the creamery business through the 1960s and in 2010, the family decided to return to their roots, establishing King Brothers Dairy. They began bottling and delivering milk from their own 1,000-cow herd to customers in their community and throughout the Hudson Valley. In 2019, they launched a retail store, selling over 34 flavors of ice cream and local products sourced from the area. When I visited the King Brothers Dairy in 2018 with USDA Secretary Perdue, I was impressed with their dedication to producing wholesome dairy products and providing excellent customer service. Their popularity within the community and their commitment to quality warrant this recent award.

Agriculture is an essential component of the economy in Northern New York and King Brothers Dairy exemplifies the quality and diversity of North Country farms. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to congratulate the entire King Family for this well-deserved recognition. I look forward to their future success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ENEDINA CELIZ RAPAN

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember and recognize the incredible life of Enedina Celiz Rapan, who passed away this month at the age of 93.

I was raised in a farmworker community with farmworker parents in the eastern Coachella Valley, where, for many of us, hardship and injustice can feel like the norm; and if it weren't for women like Enedina Rapan, many of us would still believe that it is true, and we would not be standing where we are today.

Enedina came to America at a young age to work hard, earn her living, and give her children a better life. And while she was working away in the fields, sweating in 120-degree heat with calloused hands, she witnessed the mistreatment of her fellow farmworkers and she saw their suffering.

If there is one thing about Enedina, it is that, when she saw injustice, she would speak up and get to work to fix it. So, when she saw farmworkers laboring for hours on end with no bathrooms nearby, she fought to bring restrooms to the fields.

And when she saw seniors in the community going hungry, she organized, asking for donations and cooking meals so they could have dinner to eat.

And Enedina devoted her life to standing up for people who were mistreated, discriminated against, and vulnerable. There was no voice too soft that Enedina didn't hear and elevate.

Enedina was a giant for our community, serving as a co-founder of Mujeres Mexicanas and Lideres Campesinas while working with the United Farm Workers of America and Cesar Chavez to stand up for the rights of farmworkers. She used her tireless will and unmatched strength to pick people up, fight for what is right, and make the Coachella Valley a better place for everyone who lives there.

I am better off because of Enedina's work. My family and the entire farmworker community of the Coachella Valley, we are all better off because of Enedina's work.

And she would not be happy with me for being up here talking about her, because she was so humble. A woman who elevated everyone's voice around her, she would never seek this type of recognition.

Madam Speaker, today, I want to make sure the country knows Enedina's story. I want to make sure you know about her contributions to our community and her unrelenting pursuit of justice. Enedina will be sorely missed, but her presence will be felt and her life, an inspiration for years to come.

MERCHANT MARINERS OF WORLD WAR II CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT OF 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of Congress, I rise in support