

HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF
SERGEANT GARY LEE MCKIDDY
ON 6 MAY 1970

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroism of Sergeant Gary Lee McKiddy of Ohio, who valiantly sacrificed his life on May 6, 1970, during the Cambodian invasion in the Vietnam War.

During the May 1970 incursion in Cambodia, then-Specialist McKiddy was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division as a crew chief/door gunner on a single-engine "scout" helicopter. On May 6, McKiddy was sent to Cambodia alongside friend and observer Jim Skaggs and Warrant Officer Tom Whiddon, the pilot, to identify and attack enemy strongholds. While on patrol, the helicopter was struck by enemy fire, causing the transmission line to burst and the helicopter to make a crash landing.

Based on the account of survivor Skaggs as well as the accounts of the medical evacuation team, all three men survived the initial crash. McKiddy, who was thrown from the helicopter, bravely and heroically charged back into the burning crash in an attempt to save both fellow crew members. After successfully rescuing Skaggs, McKiddy was killed while trying to save his pilot, Warrant Officer Whiddon. On June 24, 1970, McKiddy was posthumously awarded the Silver Star, the third-highest personal decoration for valor in the United States Armed Forces.

As we remember Sergeant Gary McKiddy on the 50th anniversary of his heroic sacrifice, I am drawn to John 15:13, which says, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Gary's actions that morning are a true example of gallantry and belief in the Warrior Ethos. I am confident that God was with Gary that morning and that Gary is with Him now in His heavenly kingdom.

Madam Speaker, I thank my friend and constituent Jim Skaggs for sharing this story with me and for continuing to honor the legacy of his fallen friend. We remember Sergeant Gary McKiddy for his bravery, and I pray for his friends and family on this special anniversary.

VIOLA GARCIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Viola Garcia for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Viola Garcia is a student at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Viola Garcia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Viola Garcia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF BUTCH, GUY, CLOYD, AND PETE STAFFORD

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the military service of Butch, Guy, Cloyd, and Pete Stafford. These brothers served our country for a combined 73 years.

Raised in the Bell Orchard community of Guilford County, North Carolina, the Stafford brothers farmed and worked the land, attended Jesse Wharton and Rankin Schools, and were members of Hillcrest Baptist Church. It didn't take long after turning 18 for any of these brothers to begin their service to our country.

Cloyd served eight years in the National Guard, Pete served 21 years in the National Guard, Butch served 22 and a half years in the Navy, and Guy served 21 and a half years in the Navy.

It's not often that you come across a family so devoted to service to America, which rep-

resents a piece of history larger than any one person. It shows a powerful belief and dedication to our country's bedrock principles of service, selflessness, and sacrifice. I'm thankful for their devotion to the United States. There's no question that the Stafford brothers set an example and passed down a legacy to their children and grandchildren that will live on for generations to come.

Please join me in gratitude for the Stafford brothers, who honorably served their country and have continued to be steward citizens in our community.

COMMENDING JACKSON GOODMAN
FOR HIS SUPPORT OF MOTHERS
& FAMILIES

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an incredible young man in TX-22. Jackson Goodman is a ten-year-old fourth grader at Epiphany Catholic School who at a young age is already making a sincere impact in our community.

Jackson has been gathering diapers and baby wipes through diaper drives for the past two Lenten seasons to help the Pregnancy Help Center. This needed center gives confidential and free care to people with unplanned pregnancies.

In his first year collecting donations, Jackson gave the Pregnancy Help Center almost two thousand diapers. He more than tripled that contribution the following year, donating over 6,900 diapers. This year, Jackson was able to donate over 7,000 diapers and almost 10,400 baby wipes to the Pregnancy Help Center.

These supplies may seem like an easy grocery store grab, but for some mothers and families they are a needed—and expensive—commodity. And, in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, they are harder to get than ever.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, we commend Jackson Goodman: an impressive young man who more than lives up to his last name.