

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to commemorate the career of Mayor Mike Walsh and thank him for his selfless leadership. His service and commitment to the development of De Pere serves as an example for every public servant. I wish him the best in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAJOR
GENERAL CLINTON CROSIER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2020

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Major General Clinton E. Crosier, United States Space Force.

On Friday, December 20, 2019, President Donald Trump signed into law the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, creating the sixth branch of the United States Armed Forces, the United States Space Force. This was a historic moment; a watershed step to increasing our ability to protect and defend the American way of life. I can say, without a doubt, this would not have happened as swiftly and smoothly as it did without Clint's leadership as Director of the DOD Space Force Planning Task Force.

So how did a boy from Iowa grow up to help create the Space Force? Well, while he was traveling the world with his military family, he always had his eyes on the sky. When he began his collegiate education at Iowa State, he undertook a really easy major, aerospace engineering, and then sought out a commission in the United States Air Force in 1988 where he ultimately wound up flying satellites and launching rockets.

He quickly earned top honors in multiple space training schools and developed satellite-commanding processes that became the new Air Force standard. He then served in the United States Senate where he authored key Congressional language that improved the national space enterprise, and in the Office of the Secretary of Defense he was main interface to the National Security Council, charged with rebalancing America's space intelligence architecture. As the signature authority for dozens of international agreements with Allies, he improved United States space capabilities, and represented the United States at key meetings with North Atlantic Treaty Organization and United Nations.

With this breadth of experience, it's no wonder he was selected as the lead planner for the Presidentially-directed United States Space Force, coordinating efforts to shape the Congressional authorization of the first new military service in 72 years. Together with his team, he led the development of; the macro-organizational design, the stand-up of the initial force elements, the funding and manpower requirements, and the implementation of the policies and processes that governed the establishment of the United States Space Force.

His military awards include the Bronze Star combat medal for a yearlong deployment to the Middle East, the National Reconnaissance Office Director's Gold Medal, the Iowa State University Aerospace Engineering Department Distinguished Alumni Award, and the Lance P. Sijan Leadership award. This career of accolades is only possibly through the incredible

support of his family: his wife, Mrs. Shelle Crosier, and their three children: Clint, Stephanie and Kellie, along with six grandchildren.

Major General Crosier distinguished himself over 33 years of military service, representing the United States of America with the highest honor and distinction. Major General Crosier, as the "architect of the Space Force," is an inspiration for all of us who stand ready to serve our great country. We are grateful for his unique vision and commitment. I thank Major General Crosier. America will continue to defend the highest ground, and the Space Force will thrive, because of your noble efforts.

CONGRATULATING RICK KLEVEN
ON A WELL-EARNED RETIREMENT

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2020

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise together with my colleague from Minnesota Representative CRAIG to congratulate Richard "Rick" Kleven on his retirement at the end of June after more than 39 years with Thrivent. Throughout his nearly four decades of service with Thrivent, Rick has become a pillar of the Twin Cities community, leading Thrivent's government affairs efforts to educate federal and state policymakers about the important role that fraternal benefit societies play in society, helping people achieve financial security and live generous lives through important charitable and volunteer efforts that include disaster relief, partnering with organizations that address housing insecurity, and tens of thousands of individual service projects. These efforts have had a great impact not just in my district, but for the entire region and nation. Rick's dedication, commitment, and enthusiasm for Thrivent's unique mission—connecting insurance protection with community service—has been inspiring to watch and work with him on; for me, both during my time serving in the U.S. Congress and the Minnesota state House of Representatives.

A lifelong Minnesotan and proud "Iron-Ranger" who grew up in Grand Rapids, MN, Rick is a true Minnesota sports team fan, particularly a diehard for our Vikings. He received his J.D. from the University of Minnesota Law School and his B.A. from the University of Minnesota—Duluth. Rick has led Thrivent's Government Affairs activities for more than 17 years, and served previously in a number of roles as legal counsel and manager of corporate legal functions within the organization through his long arc of service which began in 1981 when Thrivent was Lutheran Brotherhood.

Rick has been a great advocate on policy matters on Thrivent's behalf, but also walks the walk of Thrivent's mission of service—something he learned from both of his parents, including his Dad who was awarded Itasca County's Outstanding Senior Volunteer of the Year in 2018. Rick has volunteered as a Big Brother, served as a board member for multiple nonprofit organizations, and epitomizes the ubiquitous Thrivent T-shirt that says "Live Generously." Recently, he served as Chairman of the Board of Gilda's Club Twin Cities, and played a crucial role in helping to raise money to build the organization's club-

house that provides support for people with cancer as well as their families and friends. Rick also served for 8 years on the board of Person to Person, a charitable organization that operates Meals on Wheels and various other programs to help the needy in the Twin Cities area. He also was part of the original start-up board of FINNEGANS, the first beer company in the world to donate 100 percent of profits back to local food shelves. Rick currently sits on the board of the American Fraternal Alliance, the nationwide coalition of not-for-profit fraternal benefit societies.

I, along with many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, including Representative CRAIG who represents Rick's hometown of Eagan, will miss seeing him here in Washington. I'm sure his friendly face and open heart will remain a pivotal part of the Twin Cities community for a long time to come. We wish him all the best and hope in retirement he can continue to indulge in his favorite hobbies: making the world better for his wife, two Aussies, and fellow Minnesotans as well as finding even more ways to support Rock n' Roll! Congratulations, Rick—Here Comes the Sun.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT "BOB" ALAN
STOCKTON

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2020

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an outstanding individual, Bob Stockton, who passed away at the age of 66 on May 13, 2020. Bob was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and one of Riverside County's most dedicated public servants. He will be deeply missed.

Bob was a southern California native, born in San Diego on December 20, 1953, the son of Robert and Beverly Stockton. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Engineering from California Polytechnic University, Pomona in 1978. Bob married the love of his life, Kelli Tyson, 16 years ago and between the two of them they have five wonderful children and four grandchildren. Kelli and Bob loved to travel, and Hawaii was at the top of their list. Some of their greatest adventures while traveling include riding a portion of the Tour de France route in 2004 and being baptized in the Jordan River in Israel by friend and pastor, Matt Brown in 2015.

To merely say Bob was a tireless advocate for Riverside County would not do him justice. He served on more organizations that I can name here, but they include: the Monday Morning Group; the Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce; Leadership Riverside; California Baptist University; Path of Life Ministries; the American Heart Association; the East Hills Chamber; and Western Municipal Water District. He also was a leader of his son's Boy Scout troop and "The Prop Guy" for his daughter's dance studio. He managed to do all of this while serving as the Vice President and Principal-in-Charge at Rick Engineering Company. He was, as Rusty Bailey, Bob's friend and the current Mayor of Riverside would say, a "true saint of Riverside."

Bob's service to the organizations in our community is matched only by his dedication