

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING PFC ROBERT WALKER,
U.S. MARINE CORPS

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding work of PFC Robert Walker who celebrates 100 years of life on June 25, 2020.

Mr. Walker hails from Spokane, Washington, and worked many jobs before a call to serve his country during its hour of need inspired him to join the Marine Corps. After completing basic training and being assigned to the 4th Marine Division, he was sent to the Pacific Theatre where he fought in the battle for Iwo Jima from February 19, until March 4, 1945.

On March 4, 1945, Mr. Walker was severely wounded by shrapnel and immediately evacuated to Hawaii to be given proper medical care. On September 28, 1945, Mr. Walker was discharged from the Marines and began his civilian life again. His wife of over 50 years, Betty, whom he met in San Francisco where he spent most of his life prior to the war, was waiting for him when he returned.

The Battle of Iwo Jima was one of the bloodiest and most ferociously fought battles of World War II. Mr. Walker was one of nearly 70,000 Marines who bravely battled entrenched Japanese forces knowing full well that casualties would be high.

For his service, Mr. Walker was awarded the Purple Heart Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with star, the American Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal. After his decorated service in the Marine Corps, Mr. Walker began working for the California Department of Motor Vehicles where he retired from a supervising position.

Mr. Walker has said that one of the happiest days of his life was when he was released from the Marine Corps, but he will also testify that his time in the Corps changed and defined his life. The phrase, "once a Marine, always a Marine" comes to mind when one thinks of the valiant heart and storied life of our friend, Robert Francis Walker.

HONORING LORNA C. HILL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Lorna C. Hill, who is the founder of Ujima Theatre Co. in Buffalo, NY and has been a leader in the Western New York community for many decades.

Ms. Hill has broken all types of barriers throughout her life. She was the first woman accepted into Dartmouth College, graduating

in 1973. For this accomplishment, Ms. Hill has been honored by the Black Alumni of Dartmouth Association and the Office of the Dean of the College with a celebration in her name. After earning her bachelor's degree, Hill pursued her M.A. in Theatre at the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1978.

In 1978, Ms. Hill founded the Ujima Theatre Company currently located on the West Side of Buffalo. Through the years, Ujima has been a center for cultural acceptance, justice, and racial equality, as well as a hub for artistic vision, especially within the African American community. Ms. Hill continued her career in theatre and the arts as a poet, playwright, and performing on stage, in commercials, and in television.

While operating Ujima Theatre Co., Ms. Hill continued to share her artistic and theatrical talents at the Buffalo Academy of Visual and Performing Arts. As a dedicated public school teacher from 2008 to 2015, Ms. Hill touched the lives of her many students. Her passion for the art of storytelling fused perfectly with her role as an educator.

For her entire adult life, Ms. Hill fought for the rights of women and people of color. Ms. Hill is looked up to by many for her entrepreneurial spirit, service to Western New York, and dedication to cultural theatre and the arts. As such, she has been honored and awarded for her work by a multitude of local organizations including Buffalo Business First, Community Action Organization of Erie County, Erie County Chapter of the Links, YWCA, YMCA, Grass Roots, Inc., Zonta Club, Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, Artvoice, Arts Council, National Organization for Women, National Conference for Community and Justice, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Buffalo Urban League, Inc., The Women for Human Rights and Dignity Inc., and Langston Hughes Institute.

Ms. Hill's most cherished accomplishment is raising two children, Amilcar Cabral and Zoë Viola, as a single head of household.

Madam Speaker, I take this moment to recognize Lorna C. Hill, a dedicated performer, director, artist, community servant and educator. Her work and presence created an irreplaceable legacy that is felt deeply throughout Western New York and beyond.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF JUDGE CHARLES LLOYD
ELLOIE

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. RICHMOND. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Judge Charles Lloyd Elloie, a retired Orleans Parish Criminal Court judge, who passed away on Sunday, May 31, 2020 at the age of 82.

Born in New Orleans, Louisiana on April 6, 1938 to Joseph and Elizabeth Fredricks Elloie, Judge Elloie was one of five children and was

raised in the Lafitte Public Housing Development. A Pullman porter, his father worked on the Sunset Limited railroad while his mother was a domestic worker.

A student of public school throughout grade school, Judge Elloie attended Dillard University and graduated with a BA degree in Education. He was the first of five in his family to graduate from college. Following his graduation from 1960 to 1966, he served as a biology and math teacher in the Orleans Parish School System.

After his tenure teaching, Judge Elloie became an agent for the Prudential Insurance Company where he became the first African American hired in his region. In this role, he was successful in assisting individuals and expanding this critical service to many who did not have access prior. However, despite his success, he still yearned to address some of the unsettling societal inequalities he had seen and experienced throughout his life.

Naturally, Judge Elloie's desire to make an impact in his community led him to get involved in New Orleans politics. In 1968, he pursued a seat on the local school board, but ultimately fell short. However, he stayed determined and refused to allow this loss to deter him.

In 1969, Judge Elloie founded the Community Organization for Urban Politics (COUP) in partnership with his close friend, Attorney Robert Collins. Almost immediately, COUP became extremely influential in New Orleans and particularly powerful in the 6th and 7th wards.

That same year, he ran unsuccessfully for the House of Representatives, but just a few years later he served as Assistant to the Mayor and Director of Youth Opportunities. In those roles, he successfully promoted political engagement, provided recreational and workforce opportunities for young people, and held politicians accountable to ensure they addressed obstacles faced by people of color both economically and socially.

Prior to the election of former Louisiana Governor Edwin W. Edwards, Judge Elloie worked on his campaign and served as Assistant to the Governor from 1972 to 1975. Upon his departure, he ran for State Representative to represent an uptown district, but unfortunately did not garner enough votes needed to win.

Soon after, Judge Elloie decided to enroll in Southern University Law Center to pursue a career in law. During his tenure as a student, he served as Student Bar Association President. Upon graduating in 1979, Judge Elloie was prepared to become a legal servant of the people.

Beginning in 1980, for sixteen years Judge Elloie had a successful criminal law practice. His legal knowledge, his ability to connect with people, and his passionate pursuit of justice and equity for his clients all played key roles in his career as an effective criminal lawyer.

In 1995, Judge Elloie ran a successful campaign for the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court judge. In 2002, he was re-elected without opposition for a second term. In 2007,

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