

Against overwhelming odds, Mr. Kull and a couple of other squads continued to fight. Members of the 5th Division arrived to relieve them on Christmas Eve. Travelling by truck back into France, he was sent to hold the Remagen Bridge, only just captured by American Forces. He recalled that once they crossed the Rhine River and then went along the Danube, they were met with sporadic resistance.

With the war in the European Theatre essentially over, his unit remained as part of the occupying forces and shipped back to France. He received many medals, badges and citations for his exemplary service including the Order of Leopold II with Palm Degree of Chevalier and the Croix d'Guerre with Palm Leaf cluster. He was awarded the Bronze Star with Oakleaf Cluster "for exemplary conduct in ground combat against the armed enemy on or about 12 November 1944 in the European Theater of Operations."

Mr. Kull left military service in 1945 and returned to the New York Fire Department where he retired after twenty-three years of service. He has three sons Richard, David and Chuck who reside in Colorado and Texas. Mr. Kull exemplifies incredible intelligence, courage, and perseverance, and we must show our due appreciation and honor to all the men and women who lost their lives to help end the war. I truly admire Mr. Kull for answering the call of duty during one of the most historic moments in our nation's history. On this day we pay tribute to his service to our country and wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

I ask that all Members join me in honoring the birthday of William J. Kull on June 29th.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RALPH LEE ABRAHAM

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. ABRAHAM. Madam Speaker, on Friday, June 26, I was unavoidably detained on Roll Call Vote No. 122. Had I been present to vote I would have voted "NAY" on Roll Call Vote No. 122.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, June 25, 2020, I missed votes due to flight changes and delays. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 116, and NAY on Roll Call No. 117.

SMITH REYNOLDS AIRPORT

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, the Smith Reynolds Airport—located in North Carolina's Fifth District—is set to be designated as North Carolina's first legacy airport.

Originally named Miller Municipal Field in 1927, the airport was soon renamed in 1942 after the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation made a donation to the airport.

Since its inception, the airport has served as an Army Corps facility and was the birthplace for Piedmont Airlines, the legacy carrier that merged with US Airways.

The Smith Reynolds airport has been a vital component of the Piedmont community. Through this designation, its impact will lead to further growth and innovation within North Carolina's aviation sector and will serve as a boon to the state and local economy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I am back home in Green Bay, Wisconsin on paternity leave with my family. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 120; YEA on Roll Call No. 121; and NAY on Roll Call No. 122.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the following roll call votes. Had I been present for them, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call 120—Veto Message to Accompany H.J. Res. 76, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability"—NAY, Roll Call 121—Republican Motion to Recommit on H.R. 51—YAY, and Roll Call 122—H.R. 51—Washington, D.C. Admission Act—NAY.

TRIBUTE TO DOTTIE REICHARD

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD a statement on behalf of my predecessor, Congressman Barney Frank.

One of the great bargains the American people get is the hard work done by the unselfish men and women who work for members of Congress.

No one I have been lucky enough to work with exemplifies that better than Dottie Reichard, who died last week after a great public career.

Sometimes the smartest things you do take the least effort. I inherited Dottie in 1980 in my first run for the House from my predecessor, Fr. Robert Drinan. No decision I made in fifty years in government did as much good, not just for me, but for the people and values I tried to serve.

She was an exemplary combination of all the virtues required to make government work the way it is supposed to. A first rate intelligence, unshakeable integrity, and unstinting compassion rarely coexist in equal force in one person with perfect political instincts, great organizational ability, and niceness. They did in Dottie.

The skill, generosity and absolute efficiency with which she coped with two unconventional and sometimes challenging personalities—Fr. Drinan and me—were all the more remarkable for how easy she made it look. But she didn't fool everybody. When I had the sad responsibility to share the news of her death with the people she had worked with, the genuine sadness was universal that we lost someone special.

No politician ever had a better supporter, teacher, friend, counselor, or—most of all—colleague—than I had in Dottie Reichard.

RECOGNIZING THE LATE PEDRO SALAS FOR HIS DEDICATION TO MANY CONTRIBUTIONS HE MADE FOR HIS COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Pedro Salas, a Vietnam War Veteran and active member of his community in Buffalo, New York. Salas, also known as Pete or Pello, was born in Moca, Puerto Rico in 1949 to Ignacio Salas-Lorenzo and Maria Gonzalez-Soto de Salas, and moved to Buffalo's West Side in the early 1950s with his family. Salas' family was deeply involved in the flourishing Puerto Rican businesses within the growing Latino neighborhoods.

Salas graduated from Grover Cleveland High School in 1968 and earned his degree at the University at Buffalo, where he was also a member of the University's Latino Student Organization, PODER.

Salas was drafted into the Vietnam War, where he courageously served in the United States Army. He was stationed in Germany and received an honorable discharge as a ranking Specialist. Salas' extensive career also included working for General Motors and Westinghouse, as well as serving as an academic counselor at the University at Buffalo, and as a counselor at the New York State Division for Youth. Salas' dedication to civil service is also reflected in his active membership in the American Legion, where he served as an active contributor to the Francis A. Lombardo American Legion Post. Salas was also one of several veterans who worked to found the Gabriel A. Rodriguez American Legion Post 1928, and he served as the organization's First Commander, in which he recognized the contributions of Latino veterans in Western New York.

In addition to Salas' dedication to his community, he was also a loving husband to his wife Ana Lopez, and a loving father to his three children: Mariana, nicknamed Mimi, Pedro Jose, nicknamed P.J., and Michael. Salas is also survived by his three grandchildren: Nick, Mari, and A.J., as well as his brother, Arturo. He was a dedicated sports fan, who was actively involved in local Puerto