

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our thanks and best wishes to an organization that has created countless change and done so much for residents of the Hoosier state. I extend a heart-felt congratulations on this milestone anniversary and wish Indiana Black Expo another 50 years of success.

**MITCH McCUMBER RETIRES  
AFTER 22 YEARS OF SERVICE**

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 13, 2020*

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a great man and citizen of Southwest Missouri, Mr. Mitch McCumber, as he celebrates his upcoming retirement. For the last 22 years, Mitch has served as the CEO and General Manager of New-Mac Electric Cooperative and will have the longest tenure of any CEO or General Manager in the co-op's history.

New-Mac Electric Cooperative was incorporated in 1939 and serves nearly 18,000 member accounts primarily in Newton, McDonald, and Jasper counties. Under Mitch's leadership, New-Mac has enjoyed steady growth, and many of his colleagues contend that it would not be where it is today without Mitch's strong leadership.

Mitch is a certified public accountant and worked for a number of CPA firms before he joined the New-Mac team. He began his career with the co-op in January of 1995, rising to the general manager position in 1998.

McCumber is also an active member of his community where he lives with his wife, Becky, and has served on numerous boards and civic organizations including KAMO Power, Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives, Missouri Southern State University, Freeman Health Systems, Freeman Neosho Hospital, Community Bank and Trust, Consumer Electric Power Association, and Neosho Chamber of Commerce. He has served as the chairman for many of the aforementioned boards, and he is a member of both the American Institute of Certified Public Accounts and the Missouri Society of Certified Public Accounts.

I wish Mitch the very best as he embarks on this new chapter of life and I am grateful for his service to his community.

**TRIBUTE TO 1ST LIEUTENANT  
DAVID JOHN SCHMITZ**

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 13, 2020*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a hero and true American patriot, United States Air Force First Lieutenant David John Schmitz. Today we ask that the House of Representatives honor and remember this incredible young man who died in service to our country.

1st Lt. Schmitz was born in Santa Barbara, California on February 17, 1988 to Brian and Sherrie Schmitz. At the age of only 17, 1st Lt. Schmitz earned his private pilot's license

marking the start to his career in aviation. He attended San Diego State University where he enrolled in the University's Air Force ROTC program in hopes of becoming an Air Force pilot. His success in the program was evident and before completing his degree he enlisted in the United States Air Force.

His first duty station was as a loadmaster and instructor on a C-17 cargo plane where he participated in critical missions, such as delivering supplies to troops on the ground in Afghanistan and Iraq. It was during his time as a loadmaster that he met the love of his life and his future wife, Valerie Rudolph. With Valerie living in New Mexico and David stationed in Tacoma, Washington, the two began their relationship, which they navigated through long-distance and two deployments. They were married in 2013.

1st Lt. Schmitz completed his undergraduate degree through Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, keeping up his studies even while deployed. Once he completed his degree, 1st Lt. Schmitz earned a slot as a fighter pilot and was commissioned through Officer Training School. He completed his undergraduate pilot training with high honors and earned numerous accolades.

His great success led him to be selected to fly F-16 aircraft at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter, South Carolina. On June 30, 2020, 1st Lt. Schmitz was tragically killed when his F-16 crashed during a training mission. He is survived by his wife Valerie, their dog Toby, his parents Brian and Sherrie Schmitz, sister Laura Schmitz (Issac Stewart), and his grandmother Louise Schmitz, along with numerous relatives and friends.

As we look at the incredibly rich military history of our country we realize that this history is comprised of men and women, just like 1st Lt. Schmitz, who bravely fought for the ideals of freedom and democracy. Each story is unique and humbling for those of us who, far from the dangers they have faced, live our lives in relative comfort and ease. The day the Schmitz family learned of their husband, son, and brother's death was probably the hardest day they have ever faced, and our thoughts, prayers and deepest condolences go out to them. His sacrifice is forever etched in our nation's great history of freedom triumphing over oppression. 1st Lt. Schmitz's family has given a part of themselves in the loss of their loved one and we hope they know that the goodness he brought to this world and the sacrifice he has made will never be forgotten.

**HONORING RICHARD BURGESON**

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 13, 2020*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, Richard Dennis Burgeson of Bonita Springs, Florida passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 31, 2020, at the age of 74.

Born on January 18, 1946, in Oak Park, Illinois, Rich was the youngest of three sons to Gunnar and Alice Burgeson. Rich attended college at Bradley University in Illinois with his high school sweetheart, Maria Vorgias. Upon graduation from Bradley, Rich went on to teach 5th Grade in Oak Park. He married Maria on July 20, 1968 and they settled into

their home in Hinsdale, Illinois. After teaching for several years, Rich went to work at the Burgeson family business, Albin Carlson Company, a successful road construction company based in Illinois. Rich worked as the Chief Financial Officer at Albin Carlson until the family sold the business in 2005 and Rich retired. He and Maria moved to the Copperleaf Community in Bonita Springs, Florida soon thereafter where Rich was able to focus on his golf game and pursue his life long passion of boating. He was an active member of the Copperleaf Community and served on various committees within Copperleaf. Rich was a loving husband, father, father-in-law, and friend, but most importantly a loving grandfather. Nothing made his eyes light up more than when he was able to spend time with his four grandchildren.

Rich is survived by his wife, Maria Burgeson of Bonita Springs, Florida; son Eric Burgeson, daughter-in-law Christine Burgeson, granddaughters Caroline and Olivia; Danielle Burgeson Cashman, son-in-law Brendan Cashman, granddaughter Maeve and grandson Liam; his brother Donald Burgeson and his wife Norma; and his sister-in-law Mary Ann Burgeson. Rich was preceded in death by his parents, Gunnar and Alice Burgeson, and his brother Glenn Burgeson. The family has requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Richard Burgeson's name to the Copperleaf Charitable Foundation. Donations will be used to support local charities in the area. The Copperleaf Charitable Foundation is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Please send donations to: Copperleaf Charitable Foundation, Inc. ("In Memory of Richard Burgeson" 23101 Copperleaf Boulevard, Estero, Florida, 34135.

**IN CELEBRATION OF THE ROSIE  
THE RIVETER ROSE GARDEN**

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 13, 2020*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of the Rosie the Riveter Rose Garden at the McFadden Ross House in Dearborn, Michigan.

Rosie the Riveter is one of the most iconic images of female ingenuity, perseverance, and strength. As widespread male enlistment left gaping holes in the industrial labor force during World War II, the Rosie the Riveter campaign was launched to recruit female workers to join the wartime labor force and fill the gaps in male-dominated industries. The bandana-clad Rosie flashing her bicep quickly became one of the most successful recruiting tools in American history. Inspiring a "We Can Do It!" attitude among women across the country, the campaign prompted an estimated five million civilian women to enter the defense industry and commercial sector. Known as the "Rosies," the powerful women produced airplanes, ammunitions, and warships on a massive scale. They worked as riveters, sanders, welders, assembly line workers, Red Cross volunteers, and so much more.

The dedication of the Rosie the Riveter Rose Garden exemplifies our community's continued admiration for the Rosies and how important they are to Michigan's story. As part