

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MS. LORENZA “LORI”
GUERRERO

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Lorenza “Lori” Guerrero, a beloved nurse from McAllen, Texas, who passed away due to COVID-19 on July 7, 2020 at the age of 72. Lori was a hero; always putting others before herself.

As our nation navigates an unprecedented global pandemic, healthcare providers like Lori Guerrero are working day in and day out to care for our constituents. Lori began her career as a licensed vocational nurse in 1971, and after 49 incredible years serving her community as a nurse, she passed away from COVID-19.

Lori will not only be remembered for her courageous efforts to serve her community, the Rio Grande Valley, fight COVID-19, but also for her decades of work helping victims of sexual assault as a sexual assault nurse examiner. At one point in her career, she met with as many as seven victims a day. Furthermore, she worked with local law enforcement to provide training and develop programs so those victims could be better served.

These are just two examples that showcase Ms. Guerrero’s selflessness and devotion to her community. The daughter of migrant workers, Lori never complained and was always ready to work. Her work ethic and compassion led her to be who she is today; an icon in the Rio Grande Valley.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Lorenza “Lori” Guerrero could have retired when she heard that a global pandemic was looming, but she chose to help the sick in her community. I stand here today to recognize Ms. Guerrero for going above and beyond the call of duty. Lori paid the ultimate sacrifice, one that we will not forget. Her legacy will undoubtedly inspire future generations to follow in her footsteps.

IN HONOR OF CHRIS PEIRCE

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chris Peirce, who is being honored for his work as the Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) New Hampshire State Commander. VFW works to ensure that all veterans are recognized for their service and sacrifice on behalf of our nation. During his time as State Commander, Commander Peirce helped organize the delivery of meals to veterans around New Hampshire, conducted in person and virtual “buddy-checks” on fellow members, and worked tirelessly to ensure that no veteran feels isolated during this stressful time.

Chris Peirce was born in Newbury, Massachusetts and has been serving our country in one form or another ever since. Commander Peirce entered the Marine Corps in July of 1980 and as an artillery section chief, he participated in Operation Urgent Fury, the invasion of Grenada. In 2004, he was deployed as First Sergeant of the 172nd New Hampshire National Guard as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. He retired as a First Sergeant from the NH Army National Guard in 2006 after a combined 26 years of service.

Commander Peirce joined VFW at Post 1088 Kingston NH and maintains his Life membership there. He has held all positions at the Post level including Post Commander and All State Post Commander. At VFW he has been the Chairman of OTI, the Special Olympics, and the Patriot’s Pen. He has also been a member of the Finance Committee and the All State Judging Committee. Finally, Commander Peirce has represented the state of New Hampshire on the national Iraq/Afghanistan Committee for three years.

Outside of VFW, Commander Peirce worked as an Engineering Project Manager for 21 years with Mersen before retiring. His legacy of service continues with his son who is on active duty with the Air Force.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire’s First Congressional District, I want to thank Commander Peirce for his service to our country and his dedication to his fellow veterans. I congratulate him on his successful term as State Commander, and I thank him for all he does to make sure that veterans in our state are remembered and valued.

IN MEMORY OF PASTOR DAVID
ROQUEMORE

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of David Roquemore, esteemed pastor of Greater New Light Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan.

Pastor Roquemore knew at a young age that he was destined for a career in the clergy. He was deeply moved by the power of prayer and gospel music. Pastor Roquemore began his pastoral profession at Church of Our Faith Prayer Tabernacle, where he served as a faithful member of the renowned Voices of Prayer Tabernacle choir. Pastor Roquemore found his passion for prayer through song in Detroit’s burgeoning gospel music scene. He performed with the era’s powerhouse principal vocalists Hulah Gene Dunkin-Hurley, Louise McCord Williams, and his brother Richard Roquemore. The choir recorded, “The Love of God,” which became an instant hit. Affectionally known as “Rock”, he remained a faithful member of the church.

On August 7, 1982 a group of individuals assembled to deliberate the possibility of orga-

nizing a church. The meeting participants included Reverend D. W. Roquemore, Sister Madeline Roquemore, other individuals who elected Reverend Roquemore as pastor of the newly formed Greater New Light Missionary Baptist Church, inaugurating a thirty-seven-year commitment.

Pastor Roquemore committed to religious scholarship, earning degrees from William Tyndale College, Tennessee School of Religion, and Union Baptist Seminary. He also served in leadership roles for a number of organizations, including Executive Secretary of Council of Baptist Pastors and Detroit Vicinity, Secretary of Westside Ministers Alliance, Chairman of Health and Human Services Detroit Water & Sewerage Department, and professor of Tennessee School of Religion. Pastor Roquemore’s commitment to serving the needs of others earned him great esteem and respect.

Please join me in tribute to the memory of Pastor David Roquemore, a spiritual leader, who will be missed by his family, friends, and flock.

NATIONAL HEROES DAY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor heroes from the theater shooting in Aurora, Colorado on July 20, 2012. Twelve lives were taken, seventy were injured, and hundreds suffered emotional trauma. Yet even in this tragedy, we saw incredible heroism that night—those who sacrificed themselves to save others, those who helped others while badly wounded themselves, and lives that were saved by the tireless efforts of first responders and medical teams.

These men inspired me to act on a National Heroes Day Resolution:

John Larimer, age 27, was a Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class and cryptologic technician who was stationed at Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora for about a year. He was murdered protecting his girlfriend and his friend inside the theater, jumping into action to protect them once the shooting began. John was the youngest of five siblings from Crystal Lake, Illinois.

Jonathan Blunk, age 26, served his country in three tours in the Middle East. His desire was to become a Navy Seal. He was at the theater with a girlfriend when the shooting started and immediately pushed her under the seats, saving her life. Jonathan was shot multiple times and suffered a fatal gunshot wound to his heart. He left behind a widow and two small children in Reno, Nevada.

Matt McQuinn, age 27, was in love with his girlfriend and wanted to marry her and start a family. When the shooting began, he leaned over his girlfriend to get her out of harm’s way. She was shot but survived. He was shot nine

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