

Missionary Society in Kentucky, In 1887, Miss Nannie B. Gaines served as a missionary in Hiroshima, Japan, going on to become the first principal of the initial girls' school in Hiroshima. She laid the foundation for the modern 21st century educational institution of Hiroshima Jogakuin, which now encompasses kindergarten, junior high, high school and university students. John T. Tigert was named Bishop after obtaining his undergraduate degree at Vanderbilt University, where he was part of the university's inaugural graduating class. His brilliant leadership moved the church forward in numerous ways. His son, John J. Tigert, Jr., would continue his father's legacy of leadership by becoming a Rhodes Scholar, College Football Hall of Fame inductee and President of the University of Florida. To ensure the future growth of the church, Doug Wilson planted the idea of building a Christian Life Center that was completed in 1996. This building offered after-school programs for children and helped to instill the values of the church in the next generation. Franklin First has seen numerous congregates go on to be ordained as Methodist ministers or serve as local pastors. This track record of success demonstrates their desire to spread the lessons they learned at Franklin First beyond just their membership. The lessons they learned from Miss Nannie B. Gaines are still seen in the church through their international missionary work. The church routinely leads trips to Haiti and Honduras, and in 2020 they sponsored 41 educational scholarships for children from the region. Franklin First also participates in numerous local missionary projects through Room in the Inn and Good Samaritan, while also organizing an annual Trunk or Treat event that provides a safe place for local community children. Throughout the past 200 years, this church has faithfully served Simpson County in numerous ways. I am proud to recognize Franklin First United Methodist Church for the incredible work they have done not only in their community and state, but throughout the entire world.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER DENNIS LEE HASSMAN

### HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 2020*

Mr. FLORES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Lieutenant Commander Dennis Lee Hassman, Jr., of College Station, Texas, who passed away on 12 April 2020.

Lieutenant Commander Hassman graduated from Texas A&M University in 1988 and subsequently enlisted in the United States Navy.

During his 20 years in the Navy, he served as a Remote Control Mission Commander and E-2C Airborne Mission Commander. Lee also served as a Naval Flight Officer and Antiterrorism/Force Protection Officer. In 2005, Lieutenant Commander Hassman received an MBA from the Naval Postgraduate School.

In 2008, Lee retired from the Navy and returned to Texas A&M University to serve as a member of the Office of the Commandant's staff and as a cadet training officer for A&M's internationally recognized Corps of Cadets.

During this time, he worked closely with cadets, providing guidance and direction to cadets at the unit, major unit, and Corps levels.

Madam Speaker, Dennis served his country proudly for many years, and his legacy will be forever woven into our American history. The passing of Lieutenant Commander Hassman will be deeply felt by all of those in the Texas A&M community and by his family and his friends.

My wife, Gina, and I offer our deepest and heartfelt condolences to the Hassman family.

I have requested the United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to honor the life, legacy, and service of Lieutenant Commander Dennis Hassman.

As I close today, I ask all Americans to continue praying for our country during these difficult times, for our veterans, for our military men and women who protect us, and for our first responders who keep us safe at home.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 2020*

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, quarantining in accordance with the Attending Physician's guidance after extensive interactions with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 168; NAY on Roll Call No. 169; YEA on Roll Call No. 170; NAY on Roll Call No. 171; and NAY on Roll Call No. 172.

### HONORING MARY M. BLACK

#### HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 2020*

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Mary M. Black, who passed away on March 21, 2020. A woman of courage and conviction, Mary relentlessly fought for a better life for our state's children and families. For 35 years, she served as chief executive of Black Family and Child Services of Arizona, an agency she founded after encountering systemic inequities in our state's child welfare system. Because of Mary's work, the needs and hopes of families of all backgrounds have been elevated and heard, and we are better for her presence among us.

Mary was a fearless champion of children. Having grown up in rural Louisiana with loving parents who endowed her with a strong sense of self-esteem, Mary's work was grounded in her firm belief that all children deserve a safe and supportive home. After graduating from Grambling State University, Mary became a social worker in Arizona's child welfare system, where she became acutely aware of the hardships faced in trying to place Black children in foster care and adoptive families. She responded with leadership and faith, dedicating herself not only to finding loving and caring homes for Black children, but also developing policies and programs that valued children of color and treated all families with dignity and respect. Mary's vision resulted in the founding of Black Family and Child Services of Arizona, which has become one of the

state's most respected nonprofit social services agencies. Since its inception, the agency has kept families together, found foster and adoptive homes for children in need, and created prosperity and opportunity for Arizonans of all races and backgrounds. Mary and her pioneering work have been recognized numerous times for its innovation and focus on human dignity.

Mary's passion and leadership have inspired Arizonans to do justice, to love kindness and to keep fighting to ensure all children grow up in safe and supportive homes. We join her family in grief and gratitude, thankful that we bore witness to her work in Arizona and confident that her legacy will be felt for generations. Godspeed, Mary.

IN HONOR OF BISHOP L.D. SKINNER, SR.

#### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 2020*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay homage to an outstanding man of God, dedicated servant, and dear friend of longstanding, Bishop L.D. Skinner, Sr. Bishop Skinner transitioned from labor to reward on Saturday, July 18, 2020, at the age of 69. His homegoing service will be held on Friday, July 31, 2020, at the River Mill Event Centre in Columbus, Georgia. He leaves behind a loving family, a dedicated church family, and an appreciative community for his extraordinary life of serving God and humankind.

Bishop L.D. Skinner, Sr. was born in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, to the union of Richard, Sr. and Alethia Bembyr Skinner. He always had a thirst for knowledge and improving himself. A highly educated man, Bishop Skinner graduated from the North Carolina College of Theology with a Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies, A Master of Arts in Theology, and a Doctor of Theology Degree. He also earned a Doctor of Divinity Degree from Christ United Theological School.

He was a man of God who was devoted to his calling. He was the Founder and Senior Pastor of the Bread of Life Christian Center and the Founder and Presiding Prelate of Explosion Ministries Fellowship of Interdenominational Ministers. A gifted teacher and mentor, Bishop Skinner guided many in their ministerial calling.

But Bishop Skinner also knew that involvement in his community was an integral part of his calling as a Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Accordingly, he was involved in many social and civic organizations that had as their purpose the uplift of humankind. He served as Vice President of the Columbus Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, Vice President of the Columbus NAACP, Chaplain and Counselor at the House of Mercy, Volunteer Chaplain at Jack T. Rutledge Correctional Institution, a member of Dr. Creflo Dollar's Ministerial Association, Board Member of the Columbus Salvation Army, the Columbus NAACP, and the Urban League of Greater Columbus.

A man of many talents, he was also a gifted author. During his lifetime, he authored four

books to include: *Overcoming Grasshopper Mentality*; *How to Whip Negative Thinking in Eleven Easy Steps*; *Prayer an Awesome Weapon*; *Encounters with God*; and his final publication, *Ordered Stops*. These books help to impart his message as given by God to a broader audience as he impacted the world for Jesus Christ.

Mother Teresa once said that "At the end of life we will be judged by whether we lived to the standard set by Jesus who said: "I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was naked, and you clothed me, I was homeless, and you took me in." Bishop L.D. Skinner, Sr. lived his life to help other people because of his love for Jesus Christ, and humankind is better because he traveled this way.

Bishop Skinner accomplished much in his life, but none of it would have been possible with the Grace of God and the love and support of his wife, partner and co-laborer in the ministry, Lady Ruth McDaniel Skinner, his three sons, Darius, Darnell, and Darryl and his eight grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by his family but will also be missed by his community and all of those that he touched in his unique way.

On a personal note, I will always appreciate the support that Bishop Skinner provided me over the years. As he did for so many others, his counsel and wisdom provided me with an unvarnished truth that helped me to deal with tough issues. He always had an open door and an open heart. For that, I will be forever grateful.

Madam Speaker, my wife, Vivian and I along with countless others throughout Georgia and the nation salute Bishop L.D. Skinner, Sr. for his distinguished accomplishments in the ministry and his humble service to humankind. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to Bishop Skinner's family, friends, loved ones, and all those who mourn during this difficult time of bereavement. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDWIN H. COOPER

**HON. BILL FLORES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 2020*

Mr. FLORES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Edwin H. Cooper of Robertson County, Texas. Edwin passed away on 29 April 2020.

Edwin was born 3 September 1930 to Margaret and Leslie Cooper. He graduated from San Marcos High School in 1949 and enrolled in Texas A&M University, where he was a proud member of the fighting Texas Aggie band.

While at Texas A&M, Cooper was also a member of the Alpha Zeta Fraternity (scholastic) and was a distinguished student.

During the summer of 1951, Edwin married his high school sweetheart, Peggy Jean Martin.

In 1953, Edwin received a bachelor of science in wildlife management and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army. He attended Armor Basic

Camp in Fort Knox, Kentucky, before being assigned to the Second Armored Division in Baumholder, Germany.

After his honorable discharge, Edwin returned to Texas and his family to work as an Assistant Agriculture County Agent in Travis County.

Edwin's professional career combined his two loves: wildlife and Texas A&M University. Beginning as a specialist in wildlife conservation, he worked his way up to Director of Office School Relations and Coordinator of Special Projects—Education Information Services, all at Texas A&M University.

Edwin's professional experience also included specialist in wildlife conservation at the Texas Agriculture Extension Service, Assistant to President Earl Rudder, Director of Civilian Student Activities, Assistant to President Jack K. Williams, Director of Admissions; Dean of Admissions and Records, Director—Office of School Relations, and Coordinator of Special Projects—Education Information Services, all at Texas A&M University.

Mr. Cooper is the author of four books, including one entitled: "Forty Years at Aggieland," published in 2013, which detailed his career at Texas A&M.

Upon his retirement, Edwin and his wife, Peggy, moved to Camp Creek Lake in Robertson County, where he continued to enjoy fishing, hunting, and spending time outdoors with his family and friends.

Edwin's civic involvement included Vice President of the Bryan-College Station Jaycees, President of the Brazos County A&M Club, Councilman of the Texas A&M Association of Former Students, and Vice President of the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce, and Board of Directors of the Aggie Band Association.

Mr. Cooper has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the A&M Consolidated Independent School District, chairman of the Board of the St. Joseph Hospital, Class Agent of the Texas A&M Class of 1953, President of the Executive Committee of College Board-Southwest Region, and Trustee to College Board. He also served 2 years as chairman of the National Membership Committee of College Board. Edwin was enthusiastically involved in Methodist church activities in Bryan-College Station and in Franklin, Texas.

Madam Speaker, Edwin served his country proudly for many years, and his legacy will be forever woven into our American history. Edwin was not only a public servant; he was a proud Texas Aggie, a devout Methodist, and a committed family man. I will always remember Mr. Cooper because his signature is affixed to my Texas A&M diploma.

My wife, Gina, and I offer our deepest and heartfelt condolences to the Cooper family. I have requested that a United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to honor the life, legacy, and service of Edwin H. Cooper.

As I close today, I urge all Americans to continue to pray for our country during these difficult times, for our veterans, for our military men and women who protect us, and for our first responders who keep us safe at home.

HONORING SEVEN SPRINGFIELD POLICE OFFICERS

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 2020*

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to seven fine Springfield police officers after 25 years of service to their community. These men have dedicated their lives to serving and protecting Springfield, and their absence will be felt throughout the Springfield Police Department. They are shining examples of what it means to wear the badge and have served as strong role models for their fellow officers.

Maj. Greg Higdon, Sgt. Justin Gargus, Cpl. Chris Welsh, Capt. Kevin Grizzell, Lt. Chris Wells, Lt. Mark Schindler, and Sgt. David Stone are members of the Springfield Police Department's 39th Police Academy and have each earned the Springfield Police Department's Life-time Achievement Award. These men have not hesitated to risk their own safety for the good of their community, and Springfield is better for it.

Whether acting as the department's top commanders, the leading expert in gang activity, or head of the Zone 1 Patrol Division, these men have enriched and protected their community. The city of Springfield is grateful for their service and I join Springfield residents in wishing each of them the very best as they embark on their next chapters.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 2020*

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, on Monday, July 27, 2020, I missed roll call vote No. 167. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BOB GIBBS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 2020*

Mr. GIBBS. Madam Speaker, due to a medical test in my home state of Ohio, I was unable to attend the vote series on July 29, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 168, NAY on Roll Call No. 169, YEA on Roll Call No. 170, NAY on Roll Call No. 171, and NAY on Roll Call No. 172.

HONORING COLONEL DAVID MCINTYRE, PH.D.

**HON. BILL FLORES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 2020*

Mr. FLORES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. David McIntyre of College Station, Texas, who passed away on 8 June 2020.