

Device, Marine Corps veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Staff Sergeant Stanley R. Richards of Otway, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Engineman Third Class Edward C. York, Jr., of Jackson Center, recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Navy veteran of the Vietnam War.

Private First Class Laurace H. "Larry" Beckwith of Delaware, recipient of the Army Commendation with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

EOD 1 Benjamin I. Christenson (posthumously), recipient of the Army Commendation with "V" Device, Navy veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Specialist Donald F. Clutter III of Lodi, recipient of the Army Commendation with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Staff Sergeant David F. Hilliard of Steubenville, recipient of the Army Commendation with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Specialist Eric N. Hurdle of Williamsburg, recipient of the Army Commendation with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Global War on Terrorism.

Sergeant Harold L. Roberts, currently living in Parkersburg, West Virginia, recipient of the Army Commendation with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Sergeant First Class Mark E. Sexton of Galloway, recipient of the Army Commendation with "V" Device, Army veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Private First Class Leonard L. Staats of Akron, recipient of the Army Commendation with "V" Device, Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LESLIE "LES" OUTERBRIDGE

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 30, 2020

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of Leslie "Les" Outerbridge, a man who lead a life of selfless bravery and held a keen devotion to justice. Born in 1936, Les Outerbridge was raised in Chicago's Cabrini—Green Homes and initially attended Wells Community Academy High School at the age of 12, later leaving high school in 1953 at the age of 15 and volunteering to serve his country in the United States Air Force. An avid athlete as a young man, Outerbridge played three sports, football, basketball, and baseball on his Air Force installation. Later in his life, Outerbridge would return to school, receiving a Bachelor's in Science from Chicago State University in 1981.

Feeling that he still had more to give to his community and country after serving in the armed forces, Outerbridge joined the Chicago Fire Department in 1961. While dutifully and bravely serving his community, Outerbridge was not afraid to simultaneously fight the fires of injustice within the fire department. For much of the 1960s and 1970s, the percentage of minorities serving in the fire department was under five percent. Furthermore, when African-American or Hispanic firefighters were given the opportunity to put their lives on the line for their fellow Chicagoans, they found themselves stifled by a systemically racist department that made promotion unattainable.

Unable to stand by and watch this injustice pervade the department he was a part of, Outerbridge sprang into action. Working with key community leaders and activists including Father George Clements and Kermit Coleman, an attorney, and civil rights organizations including Operation PUSH and the Urban League, Outerbridge set out to end the unfair treatment of African-Americans in the Chicago Fire Department. Along with his fellow firefighters Jim Winbush and Wesley Thompson, Outerbridge founded the Afro American Firefighters League (AAFL).

Madam Speaker, it is difficult to understate the positive impact of the Afro American Firefighters league on the Chicago Fire Department. Outerbridge and the AAFL worked diligently to document the racial discrimination they found within the Department, and their work would lead to the United States Department of Justice filing suit against the City of Chicago, resulting in a consent decree that mandated the Department increase its total number of African-American firefighters from 125 to at least 400.

While work remains to be done to build a Chicago Fire Department that is reflective of the city it serves, the legacy of Outerbridge's work continues. In 2011, a lawsuit brought by African-American Chicago firefighters made it all the way to the Supreme Court of the United States, which ruled that over 6,000 African-American applicants for positions within the Chicago Fire Department could pursue a disparate impact claim against the city. The Supreme Court's ruling helped pave the way to a settlement that allowed almost a thousand applicants to reapply, and the possibility of monetary reward as compensation for the discrimination they faced. From the Cabrini-Green Homes to the Supreme Court—that is how far the lasting and enduring legacy of Les Outerbridge stretches.

In 2002, Outerbridge would author and publish a book detailing his life's remarkable journey titled "Memoirs of a Black Fire Fighter: Les Outerbridge, 1961–1995". Those close to him Outerbridge will remember him as passionate historian and an avid photographer.

My best wishes and prayers are with the Outerbridge family and all those who had the distinct privilege of knowing Leslie Outerbridge during his remarkable life.

HONORING GREATER MT. OLIVET MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 30, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable church, Greater Mt. Olivet Missionary Baptist Church.

On November 28, 1945, Rev. A.C. Alexander and a small group of people met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Whitley at 227 South Sixth Street in Greenville, Mississippi, to organize a church. Their first meeting was held on the third Sunday in December at the Greenville Industrial College located at 240 South Eight Street. Meetings were held each third Sunday until 1947, when the group moved to a wooden structure building at 239 North Seventh Street. The church was orga-

nized with eight members. However, the church membership did increase, and Rev. Alexander served as Pastor the years of 1945–1954. Then, Rev. Albert Johnson served as Pastor the years of 1954 to 1957.

From 1957–1976, Rev. H.A. Armstrong served as a Pastor. He surveyed the needs of the church and those needs were Christian commitment to the church, furniture for the church, and a renewed hope in Christ. Rev. Armstrong's first sermon title was taken from Nehemiah 4:6, "For the people has a mind to work." During Rev. Armstrong's tenure, Mt. Olivet built their 2nd Church building in 1972.

Dr. Hudson Augustus became the full-time Pastor of Mt. Olivet Missionary Baptist Church. During Dr. Augustus tenure, the 2nd Church building was paid in full. Dr. Augustus was a faithful shepherd of this church until his death on April 9, 2003.

Currently, Dr. Lee E. Morris, Jr., is the Pastor, and has been serving since 2004. Under the leadership of Dr. Morris, the church has attracted many new members and new ministries and a name change to Greater Mt. Olivet Missionary Baptist Church. Under Dr. Morris leadership, Greater Mt. Olivet built their 3rd church building, which includes a new sanctuary, an educational annex (9 classrooms), recreational complex (gym), and a pastoral parsonage.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Greater Mt. Olivet Missionary Baptist Church for its longevity and dedication to serving others.

IN MEMORY OF EARL "JIM" LINEBAUGH

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 30, 2020

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of an outstanding Pennsylvanian, Mr. Earl E. "Jim" Linebaugh. A member of the Greatest Generation, Mr. Linebaugh served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. A lifelong resident of Adams County, he was an incredible member of our community throughout his life.

Mr. Linebaugh was born on September 23, 1922, in Washington Township, the son of the late Amos and Lucy L. (Stine) Linebaugh.

In 1944, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. Following his service, Mr. Linebaugh was employed with East Berlin Feed Mills for many years before retiring from Sprenkle Feed Mills in York.

He was the husband to Mildred E. (McManus) Linebaugh, who died in 1986, and the late wife Loretta (Crook) Linebaugh. Mr. Linebaugh had ten children and numerous grandchildren, whom he adored. In addition to his work and life with his family, Mr. Linebaugh also was an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Abbotstown and a robust member of the Adams County community.

When he passed away on Thursday, June 4, 2020, at 97, Mr. Linebaugh left an indelible impression on both our community and our nation. On behalf of the 13th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, it is my privilege to honor the life and service of Earl "Jim" Linebaugh. I offer my deepest sympathies to