

he granted me the privilege of writing an edition about the Non-Aligned Movement. The Conference on Non-Aligned Nations was held in Havana, Cuba and I received credentials as a journalist to cover this impactful summit on behalf of the Black Scholar and the Sun Reporter newspaper.

He also asked me to write an article about the nonviolent revolution in Grenada. Through our friendship, work, and his mentorship, he taught me what a Black perspective on foreign policy and international relations meant as an African American. For this, I am deeply grateful.

Dr. Hare was preceded in death by his loving wife, Dr. Julia (Reed) Hare, an activist and scholar who joined him on the frontlines of his academic efforts. In 1979, they founded a research institution, called the Black Think Tank, where they wrote several books about Black life in America.

Dr. Nathan Hare was an incredible scholar, whose contributions to Black academia and media have made a lasting impact on our world. He will be greatly missed by those who had the honor of knowing him and remembered by all who stand upon his shoulders. May he rest in eternal peace and power.

RECOGNIZING PASTOR CALVIN CREWS, JR.

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of one of my constituents, Reverend Dr. Vassar Calvin Crews, Jr., a dedicated servant of God, a distinguished Veteran, and a pillar in his community.

Following his high school education in Lynchburg, VA, Reverend Crews pursued an Electronics Engineering program at Central Virginia Community College before enlisting in the U.S. Navy in 1970. He served honorably as a Fire Control Technician aboard the nuclear-powered submarine, *USS James Madison*, SSBN 627 Blue Crew. After four years of service at sea, he was stationed in Virginia Beach, where he simultaneously pursued a degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from Old Dominion University.

It was during his time in Virginia Beach that Reverend Crews recommitted his life to God, a decision that would shape his future and calling. Following his discharge from the Navy in 1979, he moved to New Jersey and later to Pinellas Park, Florida, where his faith continued to guide him. At Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, he served in numerous leadership roles, including as Choir Director, Trustee Board Member, and Sunday School Superintendent. Reverend Crews's dedication to education and ministry was evident throughout his life. He earned multiple degrees, including a B.S. in Engineering Technology from the University of South Florida, a B.A. and M.A. from Florida Beacon Bible College, and a Ph.D. from Andersonville Theological College and Seminary. Licensed as a minister in 1986, he was ordained in 1988 and installed as Pastor of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in January 1989, where he faithfully led his congregation until September of 2024. Reverend

Crews's legacy is marked by his deep faith, his commitment to education, and his unwavering service to his community and to his country. He is a man of conviction and compassion who has touched the lives of many through his ministry and mentorship. As we honor his lifetime of service, let us celebrate a life well-lived and a calling answered. Dr. Calvin Crews, Jr.'s impact will continue to resonate through those who served. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

HONORING MAJOR THOMAS "TK" KENNEDY

HON. MICHAEL LAWLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Major Thomas "TK" Kennedy, a true son of Rockland County, whose unwavering dedication to serving his country with valor and distinction is a shining example of patriotism.

Born in Suffern, New York, and raised in New York City, Tom was the youngest of three boys. He loved to play hockey, playing for the Ramapo Saints, followed by Don Bosco Preparatory School, and eventually as part of the Black Knights of the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he graduated in June 2000.

On August 8, 2012, Major Kennedy tragically lost his life in Kunar Province, Afghanistan, when a Taliban suicide bomber struck while he was escorting a group to a provincial governor's meeting. His sudden departure left a void that can never be filled. He left behind his wife, Kami, and their twins, who were just weeks shy of their second birthday.

Throughout his distinguished military career, Major Kennedy earned an impressive array of awards and service medals, including two Bronze Star Medals, a Purple Heart and Bronze Star posthumous, two Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals, and three Army Achievement Medals, among many others. His dedication to his country and his fellow soldiers will always be remembered.

We honor Major Thomas "TK" Kennedy for his ultimate sacrifice and service and remember him as a loving husband, father, and hero who gave everything for his country. His sacrifice is a solemn reminder of the weight of service bore by our brave soldiers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes taken yesterday, September 23, due to travel issues. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 440; YEA on Roll Call No. 441; and YEA on Roll Call No. 442.

RECOGNIZING KEIR SCOUBES

HON. JOHN R. CURTIS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Spanish Fork's Keir A. Scoubes, who was recently promoted to Land Component Commander with the Utah Army National Guard. Scoubes served in Iraq and Afghanistan and has been serving as a Lieutenant Colonel with the National Guard. In addition to his military career, Scoubes has also been a City Councilman and a teacher at Spanish Fork's Larsen Elementary. He is a perfect example of someone bringing their talents to the community and finding a way to contribute.

I congratulate Colonel Scoubes on his tremendous accomplishment.

HONORING KEVIN PAYNE

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, it is my honor to recognize Arizona State Representative Kevin Payne from Legislative District 27, covering the northwest valley in the Phoenix-metro area.

Kevin served our nation's military in the U.S. Navy, where he was honorably discharged after eight years. He has an impressive resume in the private sector, working as an Electrical Engineer, Aerospace Technical Consultant, and in Information Technology. Kevin has also been a small business' owner and operator, which gives him unique insight into how government should work for all Arizonans attempting to achieve the American Dream for themselves.

Representative Payne is the Chairman of the Military Affairs and Public Safety Committee, and he is a member of the Government and Regulatory Affairs Committees. He has worked to defend Arizona's standing as one of the top conservative states in the nation.

Arizona's 8th Congressional District is thankful for Representative Payne's endeavors on behalf of his district and our state.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on Roll Call Nos. 440, 441, and 442. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 440, YEA on Roll Call No. 441, and YEA on Roll Call No. 442.