

IN HONOR OF MARTHA GRIFFITHS
ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMEND-
MENT

HON. LYNN N. RIVERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Ms. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, for the record, I would like to pay tribute to an exceptional person whose vision for equality raised the consciousness of our Nation. During her 20 years in the House, Martha Griffiths dedicated herself to fighting for equal rights for women and minorities.

Elected to Congress in 1954, Ms. Griffiths made the introduction of legislation prohibiting wage discrimination on the basis of sex one of her first priorities in the 84th Congress. Breaking gender barriers, Ms. Griffiths became the first woman representative to win appointment to the Committee on Ways and Means in 1962. One of her many great achievements in Congress was the inclusion of her amendment prohibiting sex discrimination in the landmark 1964 Civil Rights Act. Ms. Griffiths untiring efforts to create an equal playing field for women led to the passage of the Federal Equal Rights Amendment in the 91st Congress. Although, ultimately, the Equal Rights Amendment was not adopted into law, the legacy of Ms. Griffiths' efforts continue to serve as an inspiration to all of us.

On March 22, 1997, Ms. Griffiths will be in Washington, DC, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Equal Rights Amendment's passage in Congress. On that day, we will celebrate Ms. Griffiths lifetime dedication to furthering equality for all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCISCA DE
CASTRO GUEVARRA

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Francisca De Castro Guevarra, a dedicated community leader who is being honored as an inductee into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Francisca De Castro Guevarra was born in San Francisco and is the daughter of Filipino immigrants. She has been an exemplary community volunteer for the past 28 years. She left her banking career in 1969 to join the Volunteer Center where she has been instrumental in broadening the focus of service to groups and regions that had not previously been served. In 1990, she organized the bay area's first Volunteer Center Conference on Cultural Diversity and Voluntarism, which has served as a model for many subsequent conferences throughout the bay area. She has been tireless in her efforts to involve youth in voluntarism and service, and conducted a management training session for representatives of 18 European countries at the 1996 Volunteurope Conference in Rome.

Mr. Speaker, Francisca De Castro Guevarra is an outstanding citizen and I salute her for her remarkable contributions and commitment to our community. I ask my colleagues to join

me in honoring and congratulating her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

A GREAT TEACHER . . . AN
INSPIRATION

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, this past February 24 would have been the 52d birthday of Helen Leon Guerrero Carriveau should she have survived here bout with cancer. Helen Carriveau left a lasting impression on her family, her friends, her colleagues, and most importantly her many students. A resident of Latte Heights, Mangilao, Helen taught in the Guam Public School System for 28 years. She began her teaching career on Guam in 1968 at George Washington High School. The next year she transferred to Dededo Junior High School, now known as Dededo Middle School, and taught there until 1986 when she transferred to John F. Kennedy High School. For the next 10 years, Helen worked avidly advising and supporting almost every student organization on campus.

Helen worked endlessly during the seventies and eighties toward the preservation of the Chamorro language and culture. Through her role as a language teacher, Helen used her charisma to coach her many students who participated in the various islandwide oratorical contests. Part of her role included coordinating the various campus activities at Dededo Middle School where she was teaching at the time.

Helen's work at John F. Kennedy High School during her 10 years of service were especially rewarding to her many students. She was the main advisor for the John F. Kennedy High School student government program, WAY. During her term as faculty advisor, the WAY Program developed from a student government class to an active school and community-based operation. Students made major decisions affecting school fundraising, activities, calendars, and financial management. Through her work, the student government office became equipped with computers, printers, a facsimile machine, a copy machine, and a direct telephone line. With her encouragement, WAY defined its role as umbrella organization for the other student entities throughout the school. Together, they supplied the school with trashcans for litter, provided a public address system for school functions, and acquired display cases for the art classes. Helen helped form and organize several other student organizations including HITA—Helping Islanders to Achieve—and the community-based JFK chapter of the SHOUT Program. She was an advisor to the S Club, several class councils, as well as the National Honor Society.

Together with Connie Guerrero, another educator, Helen became a lead facilitator and organizer of the Guam Close-up Program which literally brought hundreds of our island students to our Nation's Capital for participation in workshops and lectures developed to spark and maintain student interest in government and democracy. Under Helen's leadership several other programs were introduced to

Guam students. These included the Pacific Basin Program, the Citizen Bee, and the Geography Bee.

Helen's friend and colleague, Robert Abaday gave the following eulogy at her memorial services:

Helen began writing her autobiography on December 5th, 1996 and penned the last entry on January 6th, 1997—the day before she entered the hospital. She never got to finish the story, but I, as a colleague at JFK High School and as her friend, will do my best to relate some things about her as I remember her.

Helen's enthusiasm for teaching excited her students; encouraged them to do their best; and, in some lit the passion for teaching. Her classroom was alive with colors, art, music, exotic foods, posters, piñatas, and student assignments for social studies and Spanish. She shared her knowledge of Guam, history, and Spain. Helen initiated the JFK Cinco de Mayo celebration, which has since become an annual event. She was involved in the school and loved the students. Helen was an "Islander" who led us in school spirit and fiercely believed her school and students were the best on island.

Teaching was not a job that ended at 2:30—it was a lifestyle that included evenings, weekends and vacations. Helen was always ready to stop by school for meetings or to chaperone. She was always ready to listen to student's problems; help them find solutions; encourage them to continue; and when she needed to, straighten them out. She allowed others to experiment and to make their own mistakes. Students in Spanish, history and student government loved her classes and knew Helen was there for them. Students returning from college on vacation would seek her out, once again, to share their triumphs and their worries.

Helen had a very active life. Look at the lists over the years for committees, workshops, and chaperons and Helen's name will be included. Close-up, National Honor Society, SHOUT, Peer Counseling, and Geography BEE were only a few of her many activities. She shared her knowledge of Guam and its history during the Golden Salute by leading tours for Veterans.

Helen was well-organized, responsible, and thorough. Whatever activity or event she ran would be sure to be smoothly planned and implemented.

Those who worked with her could expect to be recruited for some event or job, but we knew Helen would be there working right along with us. She believed in working together and asked for input from others. She always had a few minutes available to bounce ideas and phrases around. Helen could make you feel your ideas were good and you were an important part of any endeavor.

Helen made others feel welcome—new students at the orientations, new classes, new colleagues—faculty, staff, and administrators. People were drawn to Helen. They enjoyed her company. She loved a good story and was a great storyteller. She was a charter member of the Social Studies Party Animals. Helen made everyone feel better just being around her. She enjoyed laughing and made us laugh along with her. You could always tell when Helen was holding back a laugh though—her eyes danced.

Friendship was very important to Helen. Her father told her that if you had friends—you were rich. Helen had many friends. If you ever needed any help, Helen was there. I have pictures of Helen and Liz Huey sweeping water out of classrooms after a typhoon, sweating and laughing. Helen taught a group of us how to play pinochle a few weeks before Christmas. She was considerate, encouraged