

in that community on Friday of this week. Private burial will take place at a later time.

Mr. Elliott was born on December 2, 1924, in Statesville, North Carolina, son of Frank W. and Lois Young Elliott. He married Evaughn "Bonnie" Close on January 7, 1950, at Rapid City, South Dakota. His wife survives him. He is also survived by two sons, Frank Elliott of Santiago, Chile; Jeff Elliott of Albany, Georgia; and a brother, Jim Elliott of North Carolina, along with five grandchildren in whom he took great pride and affection.

General Elliott graduated from high school in 1941, and he attended college in California and in North Carolina, before he enlisted in December of 1942 in the U.S. Air Force. He later did complete his college work at Charleston, Illinois, at Eastern Illinois University in 1973.

He completed pilot's training and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in March of 1944. He completed a tour of combat duty as an air crew commander of B-24s with the 15th Air Force in Italy during April of 1945, and he was promoted to Captain in that same year.

General Elliott remained in the service after World War II. He served in a number of different capacities, in operational supply and aircraft maintenance positions, until 1963 when he was promoted to the grade of Colonel while serving as the Deputy Commander for an operations wing of B-52s based in California.

He has attended the War College right here in Washington, D.C. General Elliott commanded the 92nd Bomb Wing at Fairchild Air Force Base in Washington from January 1969 to January 1970, when he was promoted to Brigadier General. He was the commander of the 14th Strategic Air Division at Beale Air Force Base, California, and from 1970 to July of 1971, he was assigned to the Air Force base in Thailand as Commander of the 307th Strategic Wing.

General Elliott was promoted to Major General and then as Commander of the Chanute Technical Training Center at Chanute, Illinois, which brought him into Illinois again, and into the 15th Congressional District. He served there with distinction. He retired from the Air Force in September of 1975 after completing 33 years of active service.

Later, after a few years of retirement, we were so pleased when General Elliott returned to Rantoul to serve as an economic development consultant to the Village of Rantoul. This was at a time when the community of Rantoul was quite fearful. There was a great deal of concern in the community because the Chanute Air Force Base was being closed under the base closure passed by this Congress. A large number of jobs were being lost to the community.

General Elliott was a man for all seasons, a man who came to the rescue of

his adopted community. He served them well. He will be greatly missed. I am glad to come here tonight to put this in the RECORD for his memory.

□ 1745

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. FROST] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. FROST addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

IN HONOR OF THOMAS HENDRICKS, ONE OF THE LAST LIVING BUFFALO SOLDIERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to an outstanding member of my community and one of the last surviving Buffalo Soldiers of the United States Army, Mr. Thomas Hendricks. The story of Thomas Hendricks and his fellow Buffalo Soldiers who served before him will forever be a significant part of the history of America.

The legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers dates back to post Civil War days. Although African Americans have fought with distinction in all of this country's military engagements, their future in the Army was even in doubt after the Civil War. In July 1866, however, Congress passed legislation establishing two cavalry regiments and four regiments of infantrymen, later merging two, whose composition was made up entirely of black soldiers.

The troopers of the 9th and 10th Cavalries developed into two of the most distinguished fighting units in the Army. The fierce fighting techniques of these soldiers and their bravery on the battlefield inspired Native Americans to call them Buffalo Soldiers. Although history has often overlooked the contributions of the Buffalo Soldiers, I am proud to salute one of its finest cavalrymen, Thomas Hendricks. He is a man of courage and wears the name Buffalo Soldier with honor and great pride.

Thomas Hendricks was born on February 14, 1920, in Evanston, Illinois. As a young boy, he was strongly influenced by his grandfather, James Hendricks, who was also a Buffalo Soldier and served our country with distinction. It was actually his grandfather who inspired him to become a Buffalo Soldier and carry on the legacy of the hundreds of thousands of African Americans who have given their lives for the sake of freedom in our country.

Thomas Hendricks joined the 10th Cavalry of the U.S. Army in 1938 as a volunteer after receiving extensive military training under the tutelage of his grandfather. A few years later, he was sent to Ft. Hood for training and went on to pursue a distinguished military career which extended more than a decade.

Throughout his career as a Buffalo Soldier, Tom Hendricks has received numerous honors, including Battle Stars, for his valiant efforts in World War II. He was engaged in military conflicts including the Normandy Invasion and the Battle of the Bulge. Although much has changed since the days of the Buffalo Soldiers, including the integration of all military servicemen and women, the story of Tom Hendricks and his fellow Buffalo Soldiers who served before him will remain one of great patriotism and unsurpassed courage.

I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting Thomas Hendricks for his accomplishments as a Buffalo Soldier. We owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude for his service to our country, and we should all be proud of his contribution to our Nation's military history.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mrs. MALONEY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to participate in the special order organized by my colleague, the gentleman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO] and the gentleman from California [Ms. ESHOO] and others to salute October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

We all know too well the devastating facts. With nearly 200,000 cases of breast cancer diagnosed last year, breast cancer is the most common cancer among women. I was pleased earlier this year that Congress enacted, as part of its balanced budget, my bipartisan bill, the Breast Cancer Early Detection Act, to allow for annual mammograms for Medicare women. This bill was first introduced in 1992 along with Barbara Vucanovich, who is herself a survivor of breast cancer.

We were very pleased that it was included in the balanced budget this year. It certainly makes a very wise investment that will save women's lives. But there is much more that needs to be done.

Once breast cancer is diagnosed, sometimes it is too late. But sometimes when treatment is available, a woman can undergo a mastectomy which may save her life. Unfortunately, very often we have seen women who have been forced to leave the hospital with drainage tubes still attached and just like the drive through delivery bill, a national outcry forced us to look at the safety of women who were sent home hours after a radical mastectomy.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 135, the Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act. This bill will eliminate the so-called drive-through mastectomies by requiring insurance companies to provide at least 48 hours of inpatient hospital care following a mastectomy, and a minimum of 24