

A TRIBUTE TO THE GARZA
FAMILY

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 1999

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Garza family as they gather to hold their twenty-sixth family reunion. On June 12, 1999, the Garza family will convene in Katy, TX, to recognize outstanding family members, including those who have proudly served in the United States Armed Forces. The Garza family has entitled their reunion, "A Century of Pride and Honor."

As the Garza family gathers to recognize the service of its family members, it also will celebrate several qualities responsible for the family's success. Members of the Garza family strive to remain loyal to their heritage. Each individual hopes to make lasting contributions which will strengthen the family foundation. For the Garza family, instilling qualities such as bravery, loyalty, and service is essential to help ensure that future generations are prepared for their roles as our Nation's leaders.

Members of the Garza family who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States include: World War II veterans Sabas Garza, U.S. Navy (deceased); Serapio Garza, U.S. Navy; Pablo Garza Medina, U.S. Army; Luis Castillo, U.S. Marines; Defino Amaro, U.S. Army (deceased); Juan De La Rosa, U.S. Army/U.S. Air Force (deceased); and Adolfo Anzaldua, U.S. Army (deceased). Vietnam Veterans include: Alfonso Garza, U.S. Army (deceased); Fortunato Garza Solis, U.S. Army and Marines; Adolfo Garza Villarreal, U.S. Air Force; Pablo Garza Villarreal, U.S. Army; George Estevan Solis, U.S. Army; Placido Solis, U.S. Army; Frank Nieves, U.S. Air Force. Army National Guard Reservists include: Pablo Anzaldua Garza, Sabas Garza Villarreal, Juan Carlos De La Rosa (active service), Jose Refugio Garza Villarreal, and Roman Palomares. Most recent members of the Armed Forces of the United States include: Michael Solis, U.S. Marines; Michael Anzaldua, U.S. Army; Gary Anzaldua, U.S. Army, and Greg De La Rosa, U.S. Navy.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to honor the Garza family. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Garza family's dedication of military service to our country. The Garza family is an excellent example of a family that has made a difference to my community.

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—
THE MILFORD NATIONAL BANK
AND TRUST COMPANY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 1999

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an impressive milestone in the history of The Milford National Bank and Trust Company. On April 30, 1999, The Milford National Bank and Trust Company began the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of its founding. The theme

for this year long celebration, "Building the Future on a History of Excellence," reflects the long-standing dedication and clear vision of Milford National's officers.

The Milford National Bank and Trust Company is the oldest continually operating bank in Milford and holds one of the oldest national bank charters, still in force, in the country. The bank was founded on April 30, 1849, despite the lingering fear associated with recent financial panic. In 1865, as a response to the National Banking Act of 1864, the bank turned in its state charter and received National Charter 866. As the local economy began to flourish in the early to mid-1900s, The Milford National Bank helped create and sustain the growth of the area for generations of residents and businesses, both small and large.

In the early 1900s, The Milford National Bank enjoyed unprecedented growth and prosperity. After the closing of two local banks, President, Chairman, and CEO Shelley D. Vincent III made the decision to grow the bank into a full-service commercial bank. Mr. Vincent acquired new branch offices, reorganized his senior management team, and began a total upgrade of the bank's technology systems. Mr. Vincent passed away in February 1997 and was succeeded by Mr. Robert J. Lewis, whom he had selected to carry on his vision for the bank.

The bank was named "one of the top three small business lending banks in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts" in 1997 and has continued to add more services, products, and technological access to its repertoire. For 1999, there are plans to open a fifth banking office in Bellingham and add on-line internet banking for customers. The bank has created The Milford National Bank Charitable Foundation as a means to continue its long-standing support of local charities and civic activities, and awards four college scholarships to area students in memory of Shelley D. Vincent III.

Mr. Speaker, The Milford National Bank and Trust Company has been building the future on a history of excellence for 150 years. Its service to the residents and businesses of the Greater Milford area and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been unyielding and greatly beneficial. Please join me in recognition of the 150th Anniversary of The Milford National Bank and Trust Company, an institution that stands as a shining example of charitable, cultural, and community service.

COMMEMORATING THE INCLUSION
OF SHERIFF JOSEPH GIBSON
AND SHERIFF EVERETT GIBSON
OF WAYNE COUNTY, KENTUCKY,
ON THE NATIONAL LAW EN-
FORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMO-
RIAL

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 1999

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, this week in the Nation's Capital we all stand humbled by the sacrifice of 312 brave Americans. The names of these Americans will be added to thousands of others engraved on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. The panels of the memorial wall contain the names of officers killed in the line of duty, some dating

back to the 1800's. The new names will be added this week at ceremonies here in Washington—a commemoration which traditionally attracts more than 10,000 police officers and survivors of fallen officers from across the country.

On the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial there are stories of gallantry, bravery, sacrifice, honor and duty. There is also the tragic story of Wayne County, Kentucky, whose citizens I represent here in the United States Congress. The families of Wayne County have the sad distinction of losing their county sheriff to violence in late 1946, only to see his successor also shot down in cold blood over two years later. It's a tragedy made even more difficult with the knowledge that these two fine public servants, these two brave law officers, were also brothers.

Joseph Gibson was elected Wayne County Sheriff in 1945 by one of the largest majorities ever bestowed on a county official at that time. Elected while in his early 60's, Sheriff Joseph Gibson was noted for his fairness and determination. It was this determination which led Sheriff Joseph Gibson to his death: a dogged search for a fugitive ultimately led him into the path of a waiting sniper. His death on December 22, 1946, marked the first time a sheriff had been killed in the line of duty in the 146 year history of Wayne County.

Joseph Gibson's younger brother, Everett, took up the responsibility of chief law officer for Wayne County. Right after being sworn into office, Sheriff Everett Gibson continued his brother's work of seeking out bootleggers and destroying their stills. On July 25, 1949, Sheriff Everett Gibson and Deputy Bill Sexton were investigating reports of an illegal still when they were ambushed. Sheriff Everett Gibson was shot dead on the spot, but Deputy Sexton, although wounded, escaped. He recovered from his injuries and testified at the trial that convicted the killer and his accomplices.

Reporter Mitchell Gregory told the story of Sheriff Joseph Gibson and Sheriff Everett Gibson this past Wednesday, May 12th, in the Wayne County Outlook newspaper of Monticello, Kentucky. I have been encouraged by Outlook editor Melodie Phelps to include the full text of that article in the RECORD and ask for it to be printed at the conclusion of these remarks.

I want to extend my congratulations to retired police officer Mark Byers, whose determination resulted in the names of Sheriff Joseph Gibson and Sheriff Everett Gibson being included among the names of the other brave men and women listed on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

[Wayne County (KY) Outlook, May 12, 1999]
FORMER GIBSON BROTHER SHERIFFS TO BE
HONORED

(By Mitchell Gregory)

EDITOR'S NOTE.—Names of the men accused in these deaths have been omitted and are only identified by initials. These events happened nearly half a century ago, and we did not write this article with the intention of dredging up hurtful memories for family members who may still reside in Wayne County. This article was written in honor of the two sheriffs who will receive recognition this week.

The late 1940's were trying times for law-abiding citizens in Wayne County. It was sorrowful times for the Gibson family, who lost two brothers who were slain while honoring

their oath to uphold the law and provide security for the county they served.

This week in Washington, D.C. those brothers, Joseph and Everett Gibson, will be commemorated for their service to their profession and the stance they made which ultimately cost them their lives. The two will be included on the Police Memorial Wall in the nation's capitol during a ceremony on Saturday, May 15.

The Outlook was contacted several weeks ago by Mark Byers, a retired police officer who is a relative of the Gibson family. Byers was the one who noticed the omission of the Gibson brothers on the Memorial Wall and set the wheels in motion for their inclusion.

Joseph and Everett were sons of John and Belle Frogge Gibson. They both attended local schools and lived in Wayne County most all of their lives. Joseph was the oldest of the two, a poultry and fur business man. Everett was a farmer most of his life before finishing the term of his elder brother.

According to a 1946 Wayne County Outlook article, "he (Joseph) was elected Sheriff of the county at the November election in 1945 by one of the largest majorities ever given a county official (at that point)."

It seemed Gibson, who was in his early 60's, was a very well-liked politician in the county, even by the man who took his life on December 22, 1946. In fact, according to testimony from the murder trial, the accused had gone on a fugitive search with the sheriff prior to the shooting incident.

The accused was D.M., who was 28 years old at the time. He would eventually spend the rest of his life behind bars, though it took quite some time for this decision to be rendered. Court proceedings were held at the Monticello National Guard Armory where a jury sentenced him to death by the electric chair at Eddyville.

Attorneys for the accused, however, requested a change of venue. The trial was moved to Fayette County but the jury there issued the same sentence.

The Kentucky Court of Appeals, however, disagreed and said that the proceedings in Fayette County were too far away from Wayne County. Finally, the lasting decision came from a Pulaski County jury which ordered D.M. to life in prison.

It was Sunday night in December when the shooting occurred. Joseph Gibson and his family were getting ready for church, recalled Brook Gibson, son of the late sheriff. D.M.'s mother came to their home and said her son was drunk.

Brook Gibson, who was 28 years old at the time, offered to go with his father to inves-

tigate, but Joseph Gibson told his son to go on to church. By the time the service was over, news was spreading around town that the sheriff had been killed.

Following is part of The Outlook's account of that night.

Gibson and Chief of Police Charles Back responded to the call which led them to what was known as the Sheep Lot area of Monticello. Back arrested M.T. and took him to jail.

Sheriff Gibson captured J.T. and the two proceeded to look for D.M. when they heard a voice say, "Is that you, Joe?"

According to testimony, Gibson replied "Yes, is that you. (D.M.)?" A shot was then fired from the home.

Chief Back went back to Sheep Lot to aid Gibson, whom he could not find. "So he returned to town and picked up Policeman Wiley Gregory and returned and soon located Mr. Gibson's body lying in an alleyway," the news article stated.

The two police officers pursued D.M. who later fired at them from horseback. "The charge struck the ground between the men," The Outlook reported.

The accused was apprehended, taken to jail, and interrogated the rest of the day. When apprehended, he was in possession of a box of .22 caliber cartridges.

The Outlook article continued, "Investigating officers reported they found a discharged .22 caliber cartridge shell inside the home near the window from which J.T. said the fatal shot was fired. A .22 caliber bolt action rifle believed to have been the murder weapon was found at the home of (the accused's brother-in-law) who resided next door, the brother-in-law told the officers the gun belonged to him, but D.M. had borrowed it several times recently and that he had seen it in D.M.'s home earlier in the day."

On the stand, D.M. responded to his accusations. The Outlook paraphrased the testimony as so: "He said he carried a shotgun because he had helped the sheriff search for L.C., whom he identified as an escaped convict, and who, he said, had been hiding in nearby woods. He said he had been told that L.C. was mad at him. He said he didn't know the sheriff had been killed until he was removed from the City Jail to the County Jail. Several .22 rifle shells found in his pockets were explained by D.M. his business as a hog-killer. He said he started borrowing a rifle from his brother-in-law last November."

The defense had anticipated testimony that would provide D.M. with an alibi. J.C. was going to testify that he and D.M. "were

together at the time of the shooting, several hundred yards from where it took place," according to an old newspaper article report.

J.C. did not show up in court. A state witness later testified that D.M. had said he "took a crack at Joe Gibson." There were over 100 witnesses in the trial.

In the 146 year history of Wayne County, this marked the first time a sheriff had been killed in the line of duty. But it would not be the last. Joseph's younger brother, Everett, took on the responsibility of Wayne County Sheriff and served the people until he was killed on July 25, 1949.

"Everett came in and took dad's place," said Brook Gibson.

Everett continued the term as his brother had before, seeking out and apprehending bootleggers and crushing stills. In the February 24, 1949 Outlook, an article reported, Sheriff E.M. Gibson and Chief of Police Russell Hill made a raid on the Shady Nook Service Station and arrested two men. The officers confiscated 17 cases of beer, one case of whiskey, and an automobile. A previous raid there the month before had netted 37 cases of beer and ten pints of whiskey.

On July 25, Sheriff Everett Gibson and Deputy Bill Sexton traveled toward Murl to investigate reports of a still. "When they entered a clearing where the still was located, they were fired on," reported The Outlook.

Gibson was hit three times, dying instantly, according to the article. Sexton was also hit three times but, "made his escape and got to the road where he was picked up and brought to town and then taken to the Somerset Hospital," the newspaper stated. Sexton recovered from his injuries.

Three men were indicted by Wayne Circuit Court and charged with murder, according to an August 1949 article.

The men pled not guilty and asked for a change of venue, which they were granted. The trial was moved to Lincoln County. In Stanford, H. R. was convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison. The other two were convicted of manslaughter.

Brook Gibson said he was not aware that this father and uncle were omitted from the police memorial, until he was contacted by Byers several months ago. Byers sent Gibson paperwork that needed to be completed to include the brothers in the memorial.

"It's a nice gesture," said Gibson. "I think they deserve recognition the same as any veterans that were serving their countries."