

human being and great American, Basil T. Knight. Mr. Knight was an educator that changed the lives of literally thousands of young men and women over his more than seven decades as an educator in western Colorado. As family, friends, former students and colleagues mourn this profound loss, I would like to honor this truly great American.

Mr. Knight was an individual that reached out to help every human being that he came in contact with. As an educator, countless students in District 51 have been affected by this remarkable man and each are better off because of his service. Basil began his legendary educational career as a substitute teacher at Mount Lincoln School near Palisade, Colorado, in 1923. He went on to become Principal only a year later. In 1925, Basil became a math teacher at Grand Junction High School where he remained for over three decades. As remarkable as his teaching career was, his immense impact upon the community continued long after he left the classroom.

Mr. Knight was elected County Supervisor of Schools in 1965, which placed him in charge of over 40 schools within the county. As supervisor, he continued to work to ensure that the children in his community would receive the best education possible. His commitment to education earned him not only the Educator of the Year award in 1974 from the Colorado Education Association, but also the District 51 staff development center now bears his name. Employees and visitors alike are reminded of his unmatched commitment to education every time they set foot in the Basil T. Knight Center.

Mr. Knight's passion for serving children extended well into his golden years. In fact, he played an instrumental role in the passage of a recent school bond initiative that helped improve a number of existing schools in the Grand Junction area and build two new ones. The passing of this bond was the answer to a wish he made on his 100th birthday. Beyond his brick and mortar contributions to School District 51, Mr. Knight's legacy will also endure in his five A's philosophy (attendance, attitude, attention, achievement and ABC's), a philosophy still used by the district today.

Former State Senator Tilman Bishop, in a recent article in the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, helps to sum up the impact Basil had on his community: "Many generations have and will benefit from Basil T. Knight, to say he was a unique person is an understatement. Thank you Basil for all you stood for and believed in."

Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues, as you can see, this extraordinary human being truly deserves our gratitude and our thanks. It is individuals like Basil who are committed to bettering the lives of America's youth through both education and public service that make our great country what it is today. Basil T. Knight may be gone, but his proud and distinguished legacy will long endure.

America is most assuredly a better place for having known Basil T. Knight.

PROPOSED TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL DOUGLAS E. WADE, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Douglas E. Wade as he prepares to culminate his active duty career in the United States Air Force. Doug is the epitome of an outstanding officer and leader.

Lieutenant Colonel Wade began his career more than 20 years ago as an enlisted soldier in the Army. He then received his direct commission as a second lieutenant in the Air Force. A law graduate of Ohio State University, as well as the Air Command and Staff College, Doug Wade has met the many challenges of military service as an Air Force Officer, and has faithfully served his country in a variety of command and staff assignments.

Doug concludes his career as the Director for House Affairs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs; he was instrumental in advising the Defense Department leadership on a broad range of national security issues of immediate interest to Congress. Doug's personal rapport with the House leadership and Members of Congress was vital in ensuring Department of Defense programs were clearly presented and soundly defended on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Speaker, service and dedication to duty have been the hallmarks of Lieutenant Colonel Wade's career. He has served our nation and the Air Force well during his years of service, and we are indebted for his many contributions and sacrifices in the defense of the United States. I am sure that everyone who has worked with Doug joins me in wishing him and his family health, happiness, and success in the years to come.

HONORING DONELDA WARHURST AND LIZ STUMPF OF YORBA LINDA, CALIFORNIA

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I honor Donelda Warhurst and Liz Stumpf, teachers at Bryant Ranch School, in Yorba Linda, California. Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf are more than just educators; they are passionate, inspiring leaders who encourage their students to reach beyond the walls of the classroom in their pursuit of knowledge.

Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf spearheaded the award-winning "Once Upon a River" curriculum. "Once Upon a River" is an integrated, cross curriculum approach that allows students to learn more about the Santa Ana River while simultaneously mastering grade-level skills in language arts, math, science, social studies, and the arts.

In addition to studying the chemistry and biology of the water, the historical importance of

the Santa Ana River, and data collection skills, the students also have a public property access permit to carry-out mitigation of Arundo Donax, Castor Bean, and Tamarisk. Students have applied their knowledge to effectively clear the area of Arundo Donax, an introduced species of bamboo that was threatening native plants, build and install bluebird boxes, and educate others about the Santa Ana River.

Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf have showcased and furthered the work of their students through various community partnerships. The Orange County Park Service and the Orange County Flood Control District have served as advisors. Students have also worked with officials at the City of Yorba Linda and a local bat biologist.

"Once Upon a River" has been a success. After five years and 10,080 volunteer hours provided by 280 students, an acre of the highly invasive "Arundo Donax" has been completely removed along the Santa Ana River.

Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf have been recognized by the Orange County Board of Supervisors, the Placentia Yorba Linda Unified School Board, and the Points of Light Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this House please join me in recognizing, honoring and commending Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf for their creativity, leadership, and commitment to their students.

A TRIBUTE TO NICK ROMANO

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to my good friend and a life-long supporter of working men and women, Nick Romano, who retired July 1, 2000 after 42 years of dedicated service to and membership in the United Auto Workers (UAW).

Nicholas Romano was hired in 1958 at the Milwaukee manufacturing plant of American Motors. Throughout his years at the American Motors Body Plant, Chrysler and the UAW, Nick has been a progressive advocate for his union brothers and sisters, his neighbors and community. A selfless leader, Nick seized every opportunity available to express the opinions of organized labor to his elected officials locally, on the state level and nationally. Nick organized and participated in many grass-roots lobbying efforts to bring labor-related issues and concerns into the limelight.

The union membership granted Nick many official duties, including group steward, head steward, benefits representative, chair of the bargaining committee, member of the Local 75 Executive Board (culminating in the last 15 years as Local President), member of the national UAW negotiating team for the DaimlerChrysler national contract negotiations and a seat on the Wisconsin State UAW CAP Executive Board until his retirement last month.

It will be literally impossible to replace Nick Romano and forget all that he has done and meant to the UAW in southeastern Wisconsin, the Midwest and our nation. But let each and every one of us learn from Nick's four decades' worth of leadership to step up and do the best we can to live by his example. May God bless you Nick, Judy and your family.