

was a published poet; his book *Hymn to Wreckage* was rated by *The New York Times* as one of the 10 best poetry books published in 1947.

McKinney's hobby was landscape architecture. Farms he owned in Nambé and Middleburg, Va., were testament to his design skill.

McKinney was divorced from Louise Trigg in 1970 and later married Marielle de Montmollin, who died in 1998.

He is survived by his daughter, Robin Martin and her husband, Meade Martin; grandchildren Laura and Elliott of Nambé; stepson Laurent de Montmollin of Florida; and stepdaughter Edmee Firth of New York and her children, Marie Louise Slocum and Olivia Slocum, both of New York, and John Slocum of Newport, R.I.

Funeral services are pending.

HONORING ELMER JOHNSON FOR
HIS WORK WITH COLORADO
LEADERSHIP

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to honor and remember Elmer A. Johnson, who gave of himself throughout his life to serve his country and the citizens of Colorado. Elmer was a patriot, a giving man, and a man blessed with outstanding leadership and business skills.

Elmer, a devoted husband and father, was married to Philomena Mancini for fifty years until her death. He gave his wife, his son, Robert, and his two granddaughters much to be proud of. His patriotism drove him to enlist in the Army Air Forces in 1941, where he eventually served as master sergeant in the China-Burmuda-India theater during World War II. He then began running his father-in-law's printing business and edited a weekly newspaper.

Then, in 1958, he was elected for the first of three times to the Colorado House. He earned a distinguished reputation with those who knew and worked with him there, including former state Rep. Wayne Knox whom the *The Denver Post* quotes as saying, "He was a very well-respected, reasonable, moderate legislator" and "a nice guy, a very good guy." Elmer had the honor of chairing the House Finance Committee and served on the Joint Budget Committee as well as on the Legislative Council.

His drive to serve didn't stop there, however. In 1963, he began working as a city official as manager of revenue and director of budget and management. He also served on the executive board of the Colorado Municipal League, and became its president in 1970. Incredibly, he also found time to serve on the executive board and as president of the Colorado Municipal League, become a board member of the Regional Transportation District, and become a member of the Sons of Norway. In addition, his leadership stretched to serving for a term as the international president of the Municipal Finance Officers of the United States and Canada.

Mr. Speaker, Elmer Johnson was a distinguished veteran, a devoted father and husband, and a selfless leader. Today, I would like pay him tribute on behalf of Congress for his lifelong dedication to honest leadership and to the people of the United States.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS M.D. ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center on its 60th Anniversary on June 30, 2001. Although I will not be present at this Ceremony, I would like to honor this distinguished institution which is one of the world's top tier of institutions devoted to the conquest of cancer.

Throughout its history, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center has set the standard for excellence in cancer patient care, research, education and prevention. Named for its benefactor, Monroe Dunaway Anderson, the hospital was designated one of the first three comprehensive cancer centers in the United States by the National Cancer Act of 1971, and has continued to be the model of other centers seeking such recognition. In 2000, M.D. Anderson was ranked by U.S. News & World Report magazine as the nation's best cancer hospital.

Since the first patient was registered in temporary quarters in 1944, nearly 500,000 people have been served at M.D. Anderson facilities in Houston, and patients everywhere have benefited from research-based discoveries made or inspired by the M.D. Anderson faculty and staff.

More than 40,000 physicians, scientists, nurses and health care professionals have trained at M.D. Anderson, where education is fully integrated with superb research, compassionate patient care and far-reaching cancer prevention programs.

Today, M.D. Anderson's public education and community service initiatives help thousands of people reduce their risk of cancer and learn more about the disease.

The outstanding basic, translational and clinical research conducted at M.D. Anderson has been supported in recent years with the highest number of grants awarded to any institution by the National Cancer Institute and the American Cancer Society.

Translational research that applies new laboratory findings to improve patient treatments as quickly as possible has flourished under the leadership of Dr. John Mendelsohn, a distinguished clinical scientist who became M. D. Anderson's President in 1996. Dr. Mendelsohn has recruited a visionary management team and established bold new priorities for M. D. Anderson in the 21st century.

Dr. John Mendelsohn is the third president of the institution. Dr. R. Lee Clark was named the first full-time director and surgeon-in-chief in 1946, two years after the first patient was admitted. Dr. Clark was succeeded by Dr. Charles A. LeMaistre, who was instrumental in recruiting many leading physicians and surgeons. Dr. Mendelsohn took over in 1996 after Dr. LeMaistre's retirement.

Since celebrating its 50th anniversary a decade ago, the major research accomplishments made by M.D. Anderson scientists and physicians include: The first successful correction of a defective p53 tumor suppressor gene in human lung cancer has led to pioneering gene therapy for lung, head and neck, prostate,

bladder and several other forms of cancer; Identification of the defective PTEN gene is providing new ways to target therapy for a usually fatal form of brain cancer and other malignant tumors; Expanded landmark chemoprevention studies showing that drugs can prevent first or second primary cancers in individuals at high risk—and also reverse some pre-malignant lesions; Designed a rapid laboratory method to pinpoint gene abnormalities in chromosomes, thereby improving diagnosis and treatment monitoring of many diseases, including cancer; Developed a gene expression technique to predict which cancers will escape primary sites and spread to other organs of the body; Identified genetic variants of components for a common brain chemical, dopamine, that are associated with nicotine addiction; Reported the first separation of human malignant cells from normal blood cells with a technique that allows studying the intrinsic electrical properties of cells; Documented a molecular link between cigarettes and lung cancer from studies showing a carcinogen in tobacco smoke binds to key mutagenic sites in the p53 gene.

Over the years, M.D. Anderson has conducted extensive clinical trials that have led to more effective anti-cancer drugs and biologic compounds, less-invasive surgical procedures and more precise radiation techniques. Many standard cancer therapies now available around the world were originally evaluated, wholly or in part, through such clinical research studies at M.D. Anderson.

Research discoveries and inventions by M.D. Anderson faculty and staff have been responsible for important technology development partnerships with industry. Fifteen companies have been created as spinoffs from M.D. Anderson research projects.

While research advances at M.D. Anderson over the past 60 years have helped turn the tide against cancer, the current outlook for better methods to diagnose, treat and, ultimately, prevent cancer is even more optimistic because of emerging knowledge about the molecular defects responsible for the disease. Last month, we learned that a clinical trial at M.D. Anderson was part of the landmark study which discovered a new treatment for a rare form of leukemia. This new drug therapy actually works to reduce the replication of cancer cells so that patients can recover. I am proud that much of this initial work was done by M.D. Anderson clinicians and their staffs.

Mr. Speaker, today I recognize with profound gratitude all of the accomplishments made at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. And, I warmly congratulate the dedicated faculty, staff, volunteers and supporters on the occasion of this remarkable institution's 60th anniversary.

IN TRIBUTE TO ALFRED RASCON

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the second time in two years to pay tribute to Alfred Rascon, who was recently confirmed as the 10th director of the Selective Service System.

Alfred is a remarkable man. Born in Mexico, he moved to Oxnard, California, in my district,

with his family when he was a small child. His family raised him there and instilled in him the values of honor, integrity, a love of his adopted land and a reverence for life and his fellow human beings.

At age 17, he left Oxnard and joined the Army. He trained to be a medic and a paratrooper. On March 16, 1966, in the jungles of Vietnam, Alfred was severely and repeatedly wounded as he crawled from comrade to comrade to render aid, to protect his comrades and to retrieve weapons and ammunition needed in the firefight they were in.

By the time Alfred was loaded into a helicopter, he was near death. A chaplain gave him last rites. He survived. Because of his efforts, so did his sergeant and at least one other in his platoon.

But the Medal of Honor Alfred was due was lost in red tape, until two years ago, when the record was corrected.

He returned to civilian life, became a naturalized citizen and rejoined the Army. After another tour of duty in Vietnam and achieving the rank of lieutenant, Alfred again became a civilian. But he continued to serve his country, with posts in the Department of Justice, where he served with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration and INTERPOL. Prior to his appointment as director of the Selective Service System, he served for five years as its Inspector General.

He is married to the former Carol Lee Richardson. They have two children.

Mr. Speaker, Alfred Rascon is a humble man who achieved greatness by quietly and unselfishly doing what he believed was right. He is the right man to head up the Selective Service System. I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Alfred on his selection and give him our full support in achieving the goals of his new position.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO ALVIN JACKSON, MD, A ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON COMMUNITY HEALTH LEADER

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize Dr. Alvin Jackson of Fremont, Ohio. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has chosen Dr. Jackson as a 2001 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's mission is to enrich the health and healthcare of all Americans. Their efforts promote healthier lifestyles, improved health care, and better access to health care. The Foundation seeks to ensure that all Americans have access to basic health care at reasonable cost and to improve care and support for people with chronic health conditions. The Foundation promotes health and prevent disease by reducing the harm caused by substance abuse—tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs.

Each year, the Community Health Leadership Program honors ten outstanding individ-

uals who have found innovative ways to bring health care to communities whose needs have been ignored or unmet. As one of the ten recipients of this recognition, Dr. Jackson and his program have been awarded a grant of \$100,000.

Dr. Jackson has been honored for his tireless efforts in providing health care to migrant workers in numerous Ohio counties. As Medical Director of the Community Health Services, Dr. Jackson travels by mobile clinic to reach the 8,500 migrant farm workers and their families. Dr. Jackson, the son of a migrant worker himself, takes the clinic from camp to camp providing medical care to those who would otherwise go without.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Alvin Jackson is an example for us all. He has recognized a problem in his community and has worked to solve it. I ask my colleagues in joining me in applauding Dr. Jackson for his efforts and selfless dedication to the care and well being of migrant workers and their families.

IN HONOR OF MS. SUSAN CULVER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize a fine individual and exceptional teacher, Ms. Susan Culver of Olmsted Falls Middle School, for her outstanding dedication to the education of young students.

Ms. Culver has spent the past few months organizing and planning a project for her seventh grade classes at Olmsted Falls Middle School. Because of her time and dedication to enriching her students, Ms. Culver has received a grant that will enable her to analyze and research pollution in the Olmsted Falls community. Over the past few years, air and water pollution have become important issues in Olmsted Falls, and Ms. Culver has taken it upon herself to analyze this problem. With the help of 140 seventh-graders, Ms. Culver will test pH levels in local ponds, analyze animal specimens, research the food web, and so much more. This program will give students an opportunity to experience their community in a hands-on environment.

This program materialized only through hours of hard-work, planning and researching. Because of her efforts, Ms. Culver's program has been chosen to receive a G.I.F.T., Growth Initiatives for Teachers grant. With this grant, Ms. Culver is offering students a wonderful learning experience that will broaden their educational horizons. Ms. Culver is also planning on taking courses at Cleveland State University about computers and will attend numerous conferences of the Environmental Education Council of Ohio.

Ms. Culver holds a bachelors degree in middle school math/science and is working toward a masters degree in instructional technology. In 1998, she began her teaching career as a tutor at Olmsted Falls Middle School and joined the full-time faculty in 1999. She teaches science in the classroom, but her influence extends much beyond simple biology and

chemistry. Ms. Culver is giving students information that is not only pertinent to where they live, but that will be relevant for their entire lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring a young teacher that is touching the lives of hundreds of students, Ms. Susan Culver. She has given her time and dedication to Olmsted Falls Middle School, and has earned the respect of students, faculty, and the entire Olmsted Falls community.

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, as our First Lady Laura Bush said in April of this year "Early reading isn't just good medicine, it's an important part of a child's daily activities. Children benefit greatly from reading activities starting at a very young age." Mr. Speaker, our First Lady is absolutely right!

Unfortunately, in the 2002 budget, President Bush cut all federal funding for a 35-year-old nationwide reading program. The program which is known as Reading is Fundamental (RIF) is supported through the U.S. Department of Education's Inexpensive Book Distribution Program (IBDP). RIF provides free, new books and family literacy services to 18,000 school and community sites with the vital help of more than 310,000 local volunteers.

RIF has a proven record and should not be destroyed or altered. For 35 years, it has given free paperback books to poor children in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. offshore territories. If the federal government gives states reading grants, as President Bush wants, there is no guarantee that this kind of program, which is badly needed, will continue.

My district of El Paso, Texas is an impoverished area of our country. Programs like Reading is Fundamental may not make much of a difference in more affluent areas, but they certainly do in El Paso. For some kids, a free book is the only access to reading that they have.

RIF programs operate in schools, libraries, community centers, child-care centers, Head Start and Even Start centers, hospitals, migrant worker camps, homeless shelters, and detention centers. Today, thanks to public-private partnerships, RIF is the nation's largest child and family literacy organization. RIF has placed more than 200 million books in the hands and homes of America's children.

Now, President Bush has proposed a five-year plan to improve young children's reading ability by cutting all funding for IBDP and consolidating the funding into state-level reading grants. This is simply not the answer. The answer is RIF.

I respectfully request that the Administration restore the RIF program in the 2002 budget. The RIF program is an example of a program that is working and making a real difference in the lives of countless children across the country. It would be a travesty to destroy it.