

order to provide for his family and earn his education. His hard work and dedication paid off, when he graduated from Meharry as a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society in 1954. His residency in Obstetrics was completed in 1957. Dr. Matthew Walker trained him in the surgical department at Meharry. In 1957, he accepted a post-graduate program in OB-GYN at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where as one of only two African Americans, his classmates chose him to serve as class president for the year long program.

As a respected physician, Dr. Nicholas returned to Meharry in 1958, and his tenure on Meharry's faculty ranged from 1959 to 1984 during which time he served as vice chairman of the OB-GYN surgery department for more than 23 years and as Dean of Admissions at the School of Medicine from 1967 to 1982.

Meharry honored him many times, eventually establishing two scholarships in his name. In 1984, he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award for Medicine from the National Alumni Association and in 1999, the Alumnus of the Year Award. The Meharry singers recognized him in 1985 for "giving dedicated service to improving the academic, cultural and social life of students at the college." A birthing room was named for him at Hubbard Hospital in 1989, and ten years later the OB/GYN learning center was named in his honor as well. An icon has been erected in his honor at the corner of 21st and Hermosa Avenues on the Meharry campus.

Throughout his career he represented Meharry on a number of committees and medical associations, including the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the American Association of Medical Colleges, the R. F. Boyd Medical Society, and the committee for special education within the Metropolitan Board of Education.

As founding member of the Planned Parenthood Association of Nashville, he served as the first treasurer and later as a member of the Board of Directors. Additionally, he was the first vice-president of Children and Family Services in Nashville.

Outside of outstanding educational and healthcare activities, Dr. Nicholas contributed to the community as a founding member of St. Anselm's Episcopal Church, serving on the Fisk-Meharry Community Advisory Council and as a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

He counted among his most rewarding contributions to the education of many family members and friends. He would often say, "I did not invest in stocks and bonds, I invested in people. The dividends have been grand!"

Left to cherish his precious memories are his devoted wife of sixty-one years, Violet May Nicholas; his loving daughters, Gertrude Nicholas Brooks of Morganfield, KY and Dr. Allison Nicholas Metz of San Francisco, CA; granddaughter, Dr. Marilyn Nicole Metz of Loma Linda, CA; grandsons Ernest Adalbert Brooks III of San Francisco, Philip A. Nicholas Brooks of Nashville, Leon Benjamin Metz 111, Lionel Nicholas Metz and Laurence Christopher Metz, all of San Francisco; nieces, Noreen Blanche Nicholas, Audrey Nicholas Caldwell (Van), Paula DeLeon (Hixford), Maxine Ebanks (Samuel), Carinen Nicholas and Grace Lewis; nephews, Dr. Phillip Boume (Vicky), Cecil Nicholas and Dr. Earl Nicholas (Wonza); sister-in-law, Vertibelle Lewis; dear

cousins, Mavis and Ferdie Madden; many grandnieces and nephews; several cousins; "sisters" Ruby Smith and Izetta Cooper; devoted friends, Dr. Alford and Dorothy Vassall, Drs. Myrtle and George Mason and family; Pearlina Gilpin Fletcher, Joy Vassall and daughter Camille; and a host of dear friends, relatives and colleagues.

Today we honor Dr. Nicholas' significant investment to Tennessee as a truly compassionate leader and friend. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

IN HONOR OF THE BAYONNE
MEDICAL CENTER

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the renaming of Bayonne Hospital to Bayonne Medical Center. The renaming will take place at a reception on Wednesday, February 13, 2002, in the Main Lobby of the Bayonne Medical Center.

Bayonne Medical Center's new name is a reflection of the facility's outstanding healthcare services that are provided to the community of Bayonne. What makes the Bayonne Medical Center so outstanding is its staffs commitment to the well-being of its patients, the citizens of Bayonne, as well as its wide array of cutting edge health care technology. The topnotch medical staff, nursing professionals, administrative staff, and volunteers offer patient-focused care, professional diagnostic and treatment options, and a wide range of clinical services.

For more than one hundred years, Bayonne Hospital has played an essential role in providing clinically advanced healthcare services for an ever growing and changing community. Over the past century, the medical professionals at Bayonne Hospital have not only shown their skill in adapting to great life-saving advancements in medical technology and health care services, but they have also demonstrated their commitment to our community by adapting their services to meet the needs of all of our community, regardless of race, ethnicity, culture, or income. I have no doubt that Bayonne Medical Center will continue to meet the additional challenges and advancements of the coming century, just as Bayonne Hospital has done for the past 100 years.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Bayonne Medical Center for providing excellent care to the citizens of Bayonne, New Jersey. Thanks for a past, present, and future of quality health care for our community.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MEXI-
CAN AMERICAN ALUMNI ASSO-
CIATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Southern Cali-

fornia Mexican American Alumni Association (USC MAAA). Since its inception, USC MAAA has committed itself to the development of funds to provide tuition assistance grants to Latino students enrolled at the University of Southern California.

USC MAAA was founded by Raul Vargas and seven other alums, who approached the president of the university and set the parameters for the organization during the 1973-74 school year. The university offered to match the MAAA's undergraduate scholarship monies on a two to one basis, and the USC Graduate School offered to match the graduate student fellowships on a one to one basis.

USC MAAA has provided educational grants to over 5,200 USC Latino students amounting to over \$8.9 million dollars. As such, USC MAAA has played a critical role in helping students attain degrees in various fields such as medicine, law, media, business, humanities, science, and social sciences.

The success of USC MAAA can be largely accredited to the leadership provided by its Executive Director, Raul Vargas. A USC alum himself, Raul Vargas recognizes the great financial obstacles that Latinos face in attaining their academic goals. Therefore, Raul Vargas has worked tirelessly to garner support for USC MAAA from prominent members of the community, so that Latino students can make their educational and career dreams a reality.

This year, USC MAAA celebrates its 27th Annual Fundraising Dinner. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the work of USC MAAA.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM
B. MOGE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise before the House today. On January 18, 2002, Western Massachusetts lost one of its most cherished and influential citizens. Mr. William B. Moge of West Springfield passed away at the age of 93.

Bill Moge was one of a kind. A graduate of Springfield Technical High, he began a coaching career in the late 1930s which lasted until his retirement in 1984. His accomplishments in football, baseball and basketball earned him recognition by the Massachusetts High School Coaches Hall of Fame in all three sports. After his last football game, in 1983, the field at Szot Park in Chicopee, Massachusetts was named after him. His alma mater, Providence College, inducted him into its Hall of Fame in 1984.

However, Bill Moge was far more than a coach. He was a guidance counselor at Chicopee High School. He was a motivator and a disciplinarian. As a result of his teaching, his players have excelled in all walks of life, from professional sports to politics. If you talked with his players today, they wouldn't mention xs and os or game strategies. They would tell you that Coach Moge instilled confidence in each and every one of them. He taught his players how to succeed in life, not just sports. His legacy will live on forever in the players who became coaches and who have passed on his lessons to their own players.