

morning for the dedication ceremony for the Pyramid of Remembrance Living Memorial. It was a privilege to be in the company of a group of amazing young people from Painesville Township, OH, who have shown compassion and integrity beyond their years.

The idea for the Pyramid of Remembrance Living Memorial originated in a classroom at Riverside High School in Painesville Township, OH, and was sparked by the sight of a U.S. soldier being dragged through the streets of Mogadishu, Somalia. That horrible image was seared into our Nation's consciousness, and in the classroom of Dr. Mary Porter it spurred discussion of other worthy sacrifice that is regrettably overlooked.

The students decided then—more than a decade ago—that a memorial should be erected in our Nation's Capital to honor the forgotten ones—those killed in circumstances other than declared wars, including training accidents, humanitarian efforts, peacekeeping missions and terrorist attacks. The students envisioned a large memorial, possibly near the Mall, but ran into many stumbling blocks because such memorials must honor those who have died in declared conflicts.

They could have gutted the intention and heart of their memorial to make it fit the stringent confines of law, but the entire purpose of this endeavor was to honor those whose sacrifice doesn't fit in one tidy category. They persevered.

Twice, legislation I introduced to create the memorial was passed by the House of Representatives, but never with enough time left in a congressional session for the Senate to take it up. The students have been to Washington several times in the last decade, and have testified before both the House and Senate, and the National Capital Memorial Commission. They brought with them letters of support from former President Bush, former Secretary Cohen, and others. They were patient as one Congress faded away and another began, and held out hope each time Senator VOINOVICH and I introduced legislation—this might be the time we'd get it done.

At every turn and by everyone they encountered, the students were praised. "This is a wonderful idea, but . . ."

If you hear someone say, "This is a wonderful idea, but . . ." enough times, some might be inclined to give up and chalk it up as a great idea that was never actualized. Not this group.

Last summer, a last-ditch meeting was held in my office, and this time we had the ear of the Superintendent of Arlington National Cemetery, John C. Metzler, Jr. Superintendent Metzler was candid and told the Senator and me that we couldn't build a memorial of the scale the students wanted in Arlington due to limited burial space. In fact, he told us that if the memorial before us was one-inch larger we'd need an act of Congress to approve it. He offered an alternative to accomplish the students' noble goal.

Five years ago, Arlington discontinued its program of living memorials because there were already 174 such memorials throughout the cemetery. But Superintendent Metzler graciously made an exception for the students of Riverside High School so their dream could become a reality. I want to give special thanks to Superintendent Metzler and Arlington National Cemetery Historian Tom Sherlock for their unwavering efforts on behalf of the school.

Though some might argue that the living memorial we dedicated on this glorious May morning is not as grand in scale as the students initially envisioned, it is every bit as grand in purpose. Every person who visits Arlington National Cemetery from this day forward—more than four million people a year—can take comfort knowing that this living memorial will honor not only those killed in the terrorist attacks on the Pentagon and the USS *Cole*, but also those who lost their lives in Somalia, Bosnia, Kosovo and Panama; during the bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut; during the failed rescue attempt of American hostages in Iran; and in the far too many deadly training accidents that occur on land, in air, and at sea, so that our forces can be ready for combat.

Throughout our land, our military bases are named for those who died so that our troops are ready for war. Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio is named for Lt. George Kelly, the first Army pilot to lose his life piloting a military aircraft on May 10, 1911. Hill Air Force Base in Texas is named for Maj. Ployer "Pete" Hill, who was killed October 30, 1935, while test flying the first B-17 at Wright Field in Dayton. Even Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in my state of Ohio is similarly named. The Wright portion comes from the Wright Brothers, of course. The Patterson is 1st. Lt. Frank S. Patterson, who died in a training accident in Dayton on June 19, 1919, while testing newly installed machine guns in his plane.

Those who are honored by this living memorial have perished in non-declared war situations. The list is long and incomplete, and the sacrifice is often not given the recognition it deserves.

Earlier this year, I attended the funeral of Sean Landrus of Thompson, OH, a father of three who died in Iraq after major combat ended. In the month of April alone, more than 136 U.S. troops died in Iraq, nearly a year after the end of declared combat. At least 13 were teenagers.

Just two weeks ago, three soldiers from Ft. Bragg died when their Black Hawk helicopter crashed during a training exercise. One planned to retire in a few months, another had just married on Valentine's Day. One commander remarked: "To lose someone on a training flight as opposed to in combat makes no difference." He is right.

We should not judge or quantify the sacrifice of those who serve for and die for their country.

This morning, I was humbled that so many attended our dedication ceremony, including Senator VOINOVICH and his wife, Janet; Superintendent Metzler; Lt. Gen. Richard A. Cody; Col. Ricky L. Rife; former Congressman Michael P. Flanagan; Col. Glenn Lackey; Lt. Col. Steve Geise; Dr. Mary Porter; and of course the nearly 60 guests from Riverside High School and Painesville Township.

I was also privileged to present the students with greetings from Secretary Anthony J. Principi of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Chairman DUNCAN HUNTER of the House Committee on Armed Services, and Vice President DICK CHENEY, who told the students: "The ranks of the United States military have been filled with men and women of honor who place duty and country above self-interest. Whenever a service member is killed, our country mourns its loss. We also rededicate ourselves to continuing the tasks to which they dedi-

cated their lives—to the defense of our country and to the lasting security, and peace of the world. Thank you again for establishing this fine memorial. It will always stand as a fitting tribute to those who lost their lives while in the service of our great Nation."

I am incredibly proud of the students of Riverside High School for their idea and their tenacity, and their desire to share this memorial with the Nation. Visitors to Section 55 of Arlington National Cemetery will find a beautiful Southern Magnolia tree and a red granite base with a bronze marker. They will notice that many words are engraved on the marker, but not the name of Riverside High School.

The students' gesture to make the Pyramid of Remembrance Living Memorial a gift from America's youth is incredibly selfless, thoughtful and mature. On behalf of all Americans, I thank you and honor you.

HONORING MARINE LANCE
CORPORAL PHILLIP E. FRANK

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the ultimate sacrifice of Marine Lance Corporal Phillip E. Frank, of Elk Grove Village, Illinois. He died April 8, 2004 of gunshot wounds sustained during combat operations in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Corporal Frank dedicated his young life at the age of 20 to the service of our country and restoring peace. Our deepest sympathies go to his wife, Keri Johnson Frank; his parents, Roy and Georgette Frank; his sister Cyndi; and other family, friends and community members who mourn his loss.

Lance Cpl. Frank was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 1, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, based in Camp Pendleton, California. He was a recipient of the National Defense Medal.

Lance Cpl. Frank was born on July 5, 1983, and grew up in Cliffwood Beach, New Jersey.

ELECTIONS IN PUNJAB MAY 10—
THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO
CLAIM FREEDOM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, India is undergoing a cycle of elections. Unlike this country, India does not hold the elections on a single day but over a period of time. I guess it's difficult to hold elections on one day when you have a billion people.

Elections in Punjab have been scheduled for May 10. Recently, the Council of Khalistan put out an open letter to the people of Punjab urging them to use these elections to bring about independence for the Sikh homeland, Punjab, Khalistan.

It looks like the elections will result in a hung Parliament. The militantly Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which has