

into the future, he should also be recognized for his service to the Michigan Townships Association where he served as a board member since 1968 and as the organization's president in 1978. Even though he will be leaving public service, Ron intends to remain active in the White Lake Historical Society and his church.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere appreciation to Mr. Ronald Voorheis upon his retirement, and thank him for his fine service to our community and our country, and wish him the best.

HONORING CLARENCE EDWARD STANFORD, SR., ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish a happy birthday to one of Northwest Florida's true patriarchs, Clarence Edward Stanford, Sr., who celebrated his 80th birthday on November 13, 2004.

Ed Stanford has led a distinguished life beginning with his service to the U.S. Armed Forces in World War II. After his tour of duty Ed moved to Pensacola in 1953 and has continued to share his patriotism with the citizens of Northwest Florida. In 1961, Ed successfully developed a million dollar general insurance agency, where he worked full-time until his retirement in 1979.

Those who really know Ed have elected him President of the Pensacola Kiwanis Club, Christian Business Men's Committee, his local PTA, the Easter Seal Society of Northwest Florida, the Independent Insurance Agent of Pensacola, and the Industrial Toastmasters. He also served as a Commissioner to the NW Florida Housing Authority, as a Trustee to Florida Baptist Children's Home, served on the Board of Directors for the Waterfront Rescue Mission, and on the Board of Missions for Southern Baptist of Florida. As an active member of the community, Ed earned the respect of citizens and had a new found love for Northwest Florida.

In addition to giving of himself and his time in the interest of the greater good, Ed served 12 years on the Escambia County School Board, for 2 years as Vice-Chairman and 2 years as Chairman. As a school board member, Ed gave over a thousand motivational talks to Escambia County students. During his last 10 years in office, he visited every sixth grade class in the county. The students listened and responded to his lessons of achievement. Ed's sense of humor and ability to motivate young people made these visits a true success.

During his distinguished career, Ed has received a number of recognitions for service to his community. He was honored with the 1988 "God in Government" award, and in the same year also received a special award from the Escambia Search and Rescue for 10 years of fund raising. Additionally, the Parent Teacher Association of six local schools honored him in 1988 with a PTA lifetime Membership award.

He continues to serve his community by sitting on the Board of Directors of the West Florida Blood Bank and on the Board for the Foundation for Excellence in Education. Ed is deserving of these awards because of his dedication, hard work, and positive attitude he brings to everyone he meets.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, I extend to this special man warm birthday greetings and wishes of many more to come. I offer my sincere thanks for all he has done for Northwest Florida.

IN MEMORY AND TRIBUTE TO THE LATE WILLIAM M. BURKE

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory and tribute to the late William M. Burke, who passed away recently after a brief illness. Mr. Burke was Founder and President of the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars, established in 1975 as a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nonsectarian educational organization that allows college students from all around the country and the world to have access to academic internships in Washington, D.C.

To those who knew him on and off the Hill, Mr. Burke was an indefatigable leader, brimming with vision and ideals—a mentor, a teacher, a friend, and, most importantly, the source of inspiration to countless young leaders. The institution that he built and nurtured has earned a lasting and enduring place in experiential education. Under Bill Burke's leadership, the Washington Center educated thousands of young people from the United States and abroad, and achieved great respect in the academic, business, nonprofit, and legislative communities in its 30 years of existence.

Bill Burke shaped the Washington Center into an institution to mentor, nurture, and develop leaders in politics, the nonprofit sector, media, business, and other fields. It was Bill's desire that our young people learn those values that are important in our future leaders: self-respect, selflessness, dedication, ethics, courage, teamwork, and the highest standards of work.

He believed that it is important for young people to discover that they are already leaders, and that they inherently possess qualities that they can take back to their communities and college campuses, whether they are from a village in Mexico, a small town in our heartland, or a big city. He saw that the world was full of possibility and promise, opportunity and optimism, and that we can change it, one person, and one neighborhood, at a time.

Mr. Burke passionately believed that an interchange between our young people is essential in furthering understanding, here and abroad, and in giving people the tools to develop their communities, block by block. He said that it was important for a kid from Kansas to meet a student from Kenya, and a student from Mexico to meet peers from Canada and California, and see that our differences

are not that vast, and it is our great commonality of purpose that unites us. He grasped the importance of experiential education in international development, and at the time of his death, the Center was well on its way to establishing programs where students go back to their communities with the skills and contacts to better people's lives.

Mr. Burke was a master presenter and motivator. He used to look at a sea of young people, and proclaim that they should get to know the person sitting on their right and the person on their left, because, Washington is a small town, brimming with former interns, and you can never tell for whom you will be working, and who will make a difference in the world! He had an encyclopedic knowledge of all of the personalities of Washington, and he could inspire students with his vast knowledge of who, at one time, had served an internship. He was known to name some important leader, and finish the comment with: "And they were an intern!"

Mr. Burke tirelessly championed the involvement of members of Congress and the executive branch, corporate CEOs, foreign dignitaries, media luminaries, leaders in philanthropy, nonprofit leaders, state legislators, and college and university presidents, and the Center's 33,000 alumni in various aspects of the Washington Center.

Bill Burke's innovation and singular belief in the importance of providing college students equal access to the Washington Center led to the development of such programs as Women as Leaders, Minority Leaders Fellowship Program, Diversity in Congress Program, NAFTA Internship Program, Internship Initiative for Students with Disabilities, Native American Program, Americas Program and the Washington Center's growing international programs. In addition, in order to assure accessibility of programs regardless of the students' economic background, Bill Burke perseveringly sought philanthropic partnerships for scholarship support for the students who participate in these programs.

A native of Norwood, Massachusetts, Mr. Burke earned a Master's in Education from the University of Massachusetts, his Bachelor of Science in Management from American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts, and an Associate's degree in Accounting from Norwalk Community College, Norwalk, Connecticut. He also received an honorary Doctorate of Law from Richard Stockton State College. He once remarked that he loved every job he had ever held.

Mr. Burke is survived by his wife, Sheila McRevey Burke, and two children, Barry and Reavey. We offer our condolences to Sheila, Barry, and Reavey, and to his colleagues, friends, and the thousands of former students who were touched by this good man's life and example. And so, Mr. Speaker, we say: in the loving memory of Bill Burke, we salute him. May the Lord bless and keep him close, and may his family and numerous friends find comfort in the knowledge that his legacy and life's work go on.