

to help these nations in their time of desperate need.

And so today, overwhelmed with emotion regarding the disaster, we extend our helping hand and express our deepest sympathies to the people of these nations, who have lost more than words can ever say. They are in our thoughts and prayers.

CONGRATULATING BARRY ADAMS
ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and offer my best wishes to a person who truly exemplified a true civil servant. After 38 years in government service, Barry Adams, a good friend and constituent of mine, retired on December 16, 2004.

Straight out of high school, Barry began his career at the Naval Aviation depot in Jacksonville as an equipment cleaner helper. Barely a year later, he answered his Nation's call and served in the Army in both Korea and Panama. After his military service, Barry returned to the depot and over the years became a stalwart advocate for the depot's mission and its employees.

Very few people worked as hard or represented their fellow civil servants as well as Barry Adams. I have had the honor of working with Barry over the years on issues affecting the employees of NAVAIR Depot in Jacksonville, Florida, with many of them living in my Congressional district. As President of the Jacksonville Naval Air Station Association, Barry ably represented his fellow employees before Congress and the Executive Branch, consistently fighting for better pay, additional workload for the depot, and better personnel policies. He fought hard to ensure that the Depot did not fall prey to the BRAC process. He understood the value of what the Depot and its employees had to offer our forces.

No matter what subject matter was discussed, Barry made sure that the ultimate reason behind his advocacy was the Depot's mission to serve the warfighter. He made sure that Members of Congress understood that the employees at NAVAIR Depot were dedicated to serving the needs of the Fleet and other services and that each and every person was proud to be a part of that mission.

NAVAIR Depot is losing a dedicated advocate, however, Barry's efforts have paid dividends and the employees and the Navy should be thankful for his service. I wish Barry the best in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
CAROLYN H. WILLIAMS

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Honorable Carolyn H. Williams, Judge of Probate for the Kalamazoo County 9th Circuit Court, who is approaching the end of a long and distinguished career of

public service. A dedicated and committed individual, Judge Williams has served the communities and families of Southwest Michigan for the last 18 years. Through her leadership and enthusiasm for her profession, Judge Williams has helped to make our corner of Michigan an even better and safer place to live and grow.

Judge Williams has long been known for her ability to motivate and inspire young people who for some reason or another end in her court. Her evenhandedness and dedication to fairness have followed her throughout her career. No matter how difficult a case may be, Judge Williams always presents a voice of calm and this ability shines through to the individuals before her.

Judge Williams has been involved in many facets of our local and state community. Over the years she has served as Co-Chair of Kalamazoo Healthy Futures Initiative, President of Michigan Probate Judges Association, Chair of Kalamazoo Children and Family Consortium, and Greater Kalamazoo United Way Board of Directors. She has also received many accolades including, YWCA Woman of Achievement, Kalamazoo Rotary Red Rose Citation, and Glass Ceiling Award of Greater Kalamazoo Network.

Our community is forever in her debt. There is no question that Judge Williams's passion for the law and betterment of society will be greatly missed. Her contributions to the improvement to our way of life have been immense. I wish Judge Williams and her family all the best in retirement. Although she is leaving the Court, there is no doubt that her life's work of helping and assisting children and families will continue.

On a personal note, I have known Judge Williams and her family for many years. There's never been a time that I haven't been impressed with her style and grace as she has looked to follow the law in making our community a better place. Her legal peers know, they have to be prepared as they enter her courtroom. She is deeply respected by all.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES AND
SUPPORT FOR ASSISTANCE TO
VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE AND
TSUNAMIS THAT OCCURRED ON
DECEMBER 26, 2004, IN SOUTH
AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues and all Americans to express my deepest sympathy for the victims and the displaced families affected by the earthquake and resulting tsunami in southern Asia on December 26, 2004.

While the tidal wave wreaked a path of destruction that was felt from Indonesia all the way to eastern Africa, the devastation rippled all the way around the world, including my district in San Francisco's East Bay area. As one of the most ethnically diverse districts in the nation, hundreds of my constituents have family and friends in affected regions of India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Indonesia. My thoughts and prayers go out to them, also.

Mr. Speaker, to date, it is estimated that over 140,000 children, women, and men perished in this terrible natural disaster. I am heartened by the outpouring of international aid in the wake of the disaster—including the \$350 million pledged by President Bush on behalf of the American people. We must do everything in our power to ensure that emergency aid and supplies to the estimated 3 to 5 million displaced survivors reach all those in need. But in the coming months, when reports of the tragic disaster begin to recede from the headlines of the world's newspapers, we must make sure that development aid to the region continues to support the reconstruction effort.

Our efforts today will ensure that the generation of children who lost a parent or guardian or were left orphaned will grow up in a world where it is important to help your neighbor. It is important to care.

IN HONOR OF RODNEY GILSEN
KENNEDY-MINOTT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rodney Gilsen Kennedy-Minott, who passed away December 15th at the age of 76. Rodney's lifelong dedication to academia, activism and public service will forever remind us of the importance of courage and dedication, even in trying times.

Born in Portland, Oregon, Rodney moved to Massachusetts in his teenage years. Though college bound, the lure of military service led him to enlist after high school, serving in the US Army occupation force in Japan. After his time in the service, he set out to finish his education at Stanford University, eventually earning his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. In 1965, he moved back to his native Portland, where he taught as an Associate Professor and worked as a staffer for former Congresswoman Edith Green. Two years later, he moved to California State University at Hayward where he became the Associate Dean of Instruction, a Professor of History and Head of the Humanities Department.

Rodney's keen interest in politics led him to early support for President Jimmy Carter's campaign in 1974. He was later lauded as an impressive character for standing up to the Army Corps of Engineers and Federal bureaucracy on behalf of the campaign and became quite close to the President.

Rodney went on to serve as the Ambassador to Sweden from 1977 to 1980, judged "the most effective and successful US Ambassador to Sweden in more than twenty years" by Nobel Prize winners Gunnar and Alva Myrdal. In 1993, he was selected by the US Navy to implement an interdisciplinary curriculum to educate naval officers at the Naval Postgraduate School about environmental issues. Rodney also developed a program to train naval officers to be diplomatic staff at US embassies.

Throughout his life, Rodney remained an active member of the community. He was a past board member of the West Coast Region of the Institute of International Education and the University of San Francisco's Pacific Basin Studies Program, an Associate Fellow of the