

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF TESS MANALO-VENTRESCA

TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in sadness to honor the extraordinary life and service of Tess Manalo-Ventresca. Ms. Manalo-Ventresca died on Tuesday, July 12th, 2005 of complications from heart surgery. I wish to offer my sincere condolences to her husband Joel Ventresca, her family and friends.

Tess Manalo-Ventresca's passing is a loss for the people of the 12th Congressional district. Tess was an extraordinary human being, one we all can look up to in hopes of serving our community as selflessly as she did. For the past 30 years Tess played a vital role in the Bay Area community, volunteering in the Haight Ashbury, the Tenderloin and the Sunset districts of San Francisco. She donated her time to numerous causes, from helping local youths to assisting underserved communities, to promoting small, local businesses and neighborhood safety. Most recently she was a volunteer with Experience Corps at the Sunset Beacon Center. For the past five years she participated in this program, which places older adult volunteers in public schools to provide tutoring for children in need.

Ms. Manalo-Ventresca never looked for accolades, no matter how richly deserved; nevertheless they were showered upon her. Earlier this year, she was named California Woman of the Year by the California State Assembly and was chosen to be an Asian Pacific American 2005 Local Hero by KQED. In April she was selected for a MetLife Foundation Older Volunteers Enrich America Award.

Just last April my wife Annette and I met with Tess. I could not then, and can not now, express adequately the appreciation I have for the incredible work she did throughout her lifetime. The Sunset, the Bay Area and the country need more people like Tess. To the very end Tess was working on projects to help children live up to their potential and to improve the neighborhoods in which we live.

Tess helped give children a brighter future, a gift that will live on with us forever. The joy she brought to life will never be forgotten.

TO HONOR THE RECEIPT OF THE ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL OF PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JON BRUMBAUGH

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary service and achievement of Private First Class Jon Brumbaugh, a

former resident of the Chautauqua County City of Jamestown, upon receiving the Army Achievement Medal.

Brumbaugh, a graduate of Jamestown High School was awarded this honor for meritorious achievement while serving as a Heavy Armor Specialist during JRTC Rotation 05-05. His leadership and ability to accomplish missions made PFC Brumbaugh a vital part of his infantry division.

PFC Brumbaugh began his time in the Army in October of 2003. Due to several outstanding characteristics, he became known as a team leader and gained multiple comments from officers, thus allowing him to move up the chain of command. In February of 2004 Jon went to Airborne School, where he received his Wings upon graduation.

Currently, Jon is assigned to the 4th Infantry Division, known as the 4th ID, B Company 2-8 INS. Part of Jon's duties involve being assigned to a Bradley Fighting Vehicle where he is second in command of his section. Jon is stationed at Fort Hood where he resides with his wife and their two sons.

HONORING THE FLIGHT FOR LIFE TEAM OF COLORADO

HON. BOB BEAUPREZ

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2005

Mr. BEAUPREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the tremendously dedicated and talented group of professionals who make up the St. Anthony Hospitals Flight for Life team of Colorado.

Specifically, I want to thank and honor the flight crew that allowed me to join them on Saturday, June 18th: Flight Nurse Hollie Seeley, Medic Vance Silvia, and Pilot Jeff Warner. Having the opportunity to spend a mere four hours with these remarkable individuals was certainly enough to realize that, on any given day, there are angels in the skies over Colorado.

Responding to everything from car accidents to farm accidents, Flight for Life has not only saved countless lives of the people of Colorado and the surrounding states, they've enabled those citizens who live far from a metro area to enjoy the small town quality of Colorado and the West while not totally losing access to world class medical care.

Established in October 1972, Flight for Life was the first hospital-based civilian emergency air ambulance program in the Nation. During its 30-year history, Flight for Life has logged more than 75,000 missions and has become the model for the nearly 200 air ambulance programs worldwide, and is still considered a leader in its field.

Serving every community in the great state of Colorado and the surrounding seven states, Flight for Life is the biggest and busiest critical care air transport program in Colorado, transporting patients to any appropriate medical facility.

Flight for Life's reputation is second only to its dedicated crew. Located across the state in Denver, Frisco, Colorado Springs and Pueblo, the crew consists of 31 flight registered nurses, 27 flight paramedics, 14 helicopter pilots, 6 fixed-wing pilots, 6 helicopter mechanics, 10 emergency medical technicians (EMT), and 10 communications specialists.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Flight for Life in Colorado are not only talented professionals, but they are indeed public servants who deserve our admiration. I join the large number of Coloradans and others across the country who have been positively affected by these people in saying a well-deserved "thank you" for all that they do to serve and protect our citizens.

TRIBUTE TO REV. J.J. ROBERSON

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2005

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, July 10, 2005, in the great city of Houston, TX, my friend and distinguished religious leader Dr. J.J. Roberson will commemorate more than four decades in the ministry with the observance of Mt. Hebron Missionary Baptist Church's Annual Father, Son's and Grandson's Day.

Born in New Gulf, TX, in 1918, Dr. Roberson graduated from Wharton County Training School and attended Tyler Barber College where he was certified as a Master Barber. He also attended Southern Business College, Southwestern Seminary, Texas Southern University and Mount Hope Bible College where he earned his Doctor of Divinity degree. Dr. Roberson has been married to his darling wife Elouise Jackson Roberson for 63 years and is privileged to count among those who will be honoring him on this special occasion his sons in the ministry and his extended family.

Founded on January 8, 1958, Mt. Hebron, under Dr. Roberson's leadership, has been the mecca of community activism. His church is known throughout the city of Houston as a spiritual soldier who leads by example. Over the years, he has presided over the establishment of a number of sanctuaries, an apartment complex and a state-of-the-art Pipe Organ installed in 1998 with the expansion of the pulpit and the purchase of 75 acres of land in Brazoria County. To date, the membership has grown to more than 1,900 members and 1,058 families.

A decorated World War II Veteran of the U.S. Army, Dr. Roberson is presently Commander of VFW Eugene Warren Post No. 471. He is also the President of the Baptist Ministers Association of Houston and Vicinity, 1st Vice Moderator of the Independent Missionary Baptist General Association of Texas, Secretary-Treasurer of the Missionary Baptist General Convention of Texas BTU Board, and

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