

Public office is a public trust. All elected officials and their staffs must conduct the public's business in public view and in a manner that is above reproach. Congress must take real steps to improve congressional ethics standards and to make congressional procedures more open and accountable to all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. MARINE LANCE  
CORPORAL NICKOLAS D.  
SCHIAVONI

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2006*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true hero, Marine Lance Corporal Nickolas D. Schiavoni, who gave his life in service to our country.

Lance Corporal Schiavoni lived in my district in Haverhill, and was deployed with the brave men and women serving in our armed forces as part of Operation: Iraqi Freedom. Nickolas died tragically on November 15, 2005 when a suicide, vehicle-borne, improvised explosive device was detonated while he was conducting combat operations against enemy forces near Al Karmah, Iraq during Operation Steel Curtain. He was twenty-six years old.

Nickolas leaves behind his beloved wife Gina, and two young children, Marissa and Alex. He is also survived by his mother, Stephany Kern, his grandfather, David Swartz, and his sister, Vanessa Schiavoni. Nickolas treasured his time with his family and was very fond of their time together at his mother's home in Westerly, Rhode Island.

Nickolas served in Iraq with the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, based in Camp Lejeune, N.C. He was serving on his second tour of duty in Iraq when he was killed. He was very proud to be a Marine.

Nickolas' family is proud of him, not just for the supreme sacrifice he paid on behalf of his country, but for the honor he brought to them as a Marine. He strove to protect his family and his country. His courage will not be soon forgotten.

I have now requested that an American flag be flown over our United States Capitol in memory of Lance Corporal Nickolas Schiavoni to honor his brave service to our country. This flag will be delivered to his family. Nickolas died fighting for the country he loved, alongside comrades he respected and with the family he adored, forever in his heart. Our nation is humbled and grateful for his sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, we should all take a moment to recognize Lance Corporal Nickolas D. Schiavoni, United States Marine Corps, who gave his life in service to his country.

THANKING MRS. ESTELLE JONES  
FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2006*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement in June 2006, I rise to thank Mrs. Estelle Jones for 29 years of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Throughout the years Estelle has made significant contributions managing the employee benefit programs for the U.S. House of Representatives and providing oversight to the processing of staff employee benefits for the U.S. House of Representatives. She began her career at the House on June 15, 1977, as an Employee Benefits Clerk in the Office of Personnel and Benefits, Office of Finance, under the Office of the Clerk. In January 1980, she assumed the title of Personnel Control Clerk, supervising the paperwork flow of the Employee Benefits Clerk. Estelle later accepted the position of Benefits Counselor, remaining with the Office of Personnel and Benefits. On December 1, 1987, she was promoted to Assistant Supervisor for the Office of Personnel and Benefits until November 12, 1995, when she accepted the appointment as Director of the Office of Personnel and Benefits, Human Resources for the Chief Administrative Officer. As Director of Personnel and Benefits, Estelle also served as the House Benefits Officer for both Health Benefits and Retirement with the Office of Personnel Management. She had the overall responsibility for the quality, accuracy and timeliness of submissions of all benefits records to OPM. She has provided many years of employee benefit support and guidance to the countless House staff members who have worked in this great institution throughout the last 29 years.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend congratulations to Estelle for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Estelle many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams with her husband, Jack, and her children, Justin and Stephanie.

RECOGNIZING STEPHANIE HULL

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Stephanie Hull of Liberty, Missouri. She has spent many hours of study and preparation as a member of the Liberty High School Science Bowl Team. After numerous competitions and a victory in the regional competition, the Liberty High School Science Bowl Team earned a spot to compete in the 2006 National Science Bowl Competition in Washington, D.C.

As one of America's best and brightest, Stephanie has been an accomplished student. A very active student, she participates in Scholar Bowl, Orchestra, National Honor society, Model UN, Debate, the National Forensic League, her church youth group, and the Senior Girl Scouts. Stephanie would like to become a doctor and is interested in attending UMKC or the University of Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Stephanie Hull, an outstanding student from Liberty, Missouri. As a top student who is committed to science and mathematics, Stephanie will certainly have a bright and fulfilling future. I commend her for her achievements and I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF KEIL  
J. MILLER ON HIS APPOINTMENT  
TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES  
NAVY ACADEMY

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2006*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Keil J. Miller of Napoleon, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Keil's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming midshipmen class of 2010. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Keil brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class at the Naval Academy. While attending Napoleon High School in Napoleon, Ohio, Keil attained a grade point average which placed him near the top of his class. While a gifted athlete, Keil has maintained the highest standards of excellence in his academics, choosing to enroll and excel in Advanced Placement classes throughout high school. Keil has been a member of the Honor Roll, the Drama and German Club and has earned numerous awards and accolades as a scholar and an athlete.

Outside the classroom, Joshua has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete by earning varsity letters in track and football where he served as the captain of his varsity team. He has also remained involved in his community by serving as a camp counselor for a youth football program and as an active participant in Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Keil's dedication and service to the community and his peers has proven his ability to excel among the leaders at the Naval Academy. I have no doubt that Keil will take the lessons of his student leadership with him to Annapolis.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Keil J. Miller on his appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Keil will do very well during his career at the Naval Academy and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the nation.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD ZEAGER  
AS HE CELEBRATES HIS 90TH  
BIRTHDAY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Richard Zeager as he celebrates his 90th birthday. Richard