

Height, and a nurse, Fannie Burroughs Height, she rose to national prominence and leadership from humble beginnings. She was prepared to lead the charge, even when it meant being a lone figure; she was the only woman on the speaker's platform when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his "I Have A Dream" speech. She combated the challenges facing African Americans from every angle; in 1936 in New York, she participated in a protest against lynchings. She advocated an end to segregation in the military, fought for a fairer legal system, and worked to end racial restrictions on access to public transportation. During the 1950s, she worked on voter registration drives in the South.

But she also understood the economic underpinnings of the same challenges. Following her work to achieve major civil rights victories in the 1960s, Height shifted her focus to supporting initiatives aimed at eliminating poverty among southern blacks, such as home ownership programs and child care centers. Among her more creative efforts, Ms. Height instituted a so-called pig bank, through which poor black families were provided with a pig of their own, a prize commodity in the early 1960s. Despite the violence and dangers of the time, during Height's years as a civil rights activist, she never acquired a reputation as a radical or militant. She simply steadfastly moved forward, seamlessly removing barriers for all who followed.

In a 2001 interview, Height expressed bitter-sweet feelings for the earlier years of her work, noting that sit-ins and protest marches had been replaced by lobbying for legislation. The power and momentum behind the struggle for desegregation and voting rights had been replaced by the comparative quietude of pursuits for economic opportunity, educational equality, and an end to racial profiling. She asked where the country would be if the "vigor placed in fighting slavery and in the women's movement had kept pace."

Even without that, her accomplishments and awards fill pages. Height is perhaps best known for her four decades of work with the National Council of Negro Women, the Washington, DC, headquarters of which stands just steps from where slaves were once traded in the shadow of the U.S. Capitol. She has served as advisor on civil rights matters to U.S. Presidents going back to Eisenhower, as well as advising and traveling with programs sponsored by the Council to the White House Conference, UNESCO, the Institute on Human Relations of the American Jewish Committee, USAID, and the United States Information Agency, among other organizations. Her unparalleled contributions to the advancement of women's rights, civil rights, and human rights have earned her dozens of awards including the 1993 NAACP Springarn Medal, a Presidential Medal of Freedom Award, presented by Bill Clinton in 1994, and a Congressional Gold Medal by President George W. Bush in 2004.

In addition, during her lifetime of service, Dr. Height has been presented with more than three dozen honorary degrees, including doctorates from institutions including Tuskegee, Harvard and Princeton Universities. But the one that undoubtedly mattered the most was her receipt of the equivalent of a bachelor's degree in 2004 from Barnard College, 75 years after the College had turned her away because it had already enrolled its quota of two African American females that year.

Dorothy Height was a pillar of the civil rights movement, and will be dearly missed by us all. I am deeply saddened at her passing but everlastingly uplifted by her life's work.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
ROBERT WESTON FOLLETT

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Robert "Bob" Weston Follett. On March 31, 2010, Robert Weston Follett, an accomplished pilot and active leader in the San Joaquin Valley community, passed away suddenly at the young age of 57. He leaves behind the loves of his life, is wife Naomi, daughter Lindsay and son Zack.

Bob Follett was a proud native of Lemoore, California. He was a 1970 graduate of Lemoore High School where he was twice elected class president and played football for the Lemoore Tigers. As fullback on the freshman team, he had the distinction of scoring the first touchdown in Tiger Stadium when it opened. Mr. Follett went on to receive his Bachelor's Degree from California State University, Fresno and soon thereafter began his aviation career with Wofford Aviation in Fresno by fueling aircraft, becoming a charter pilot, managing the company and later proudly becoming the owner of Wofford Aviation.

As a charter pilot Bob had the privilege of flying former President Ronald Reagan, U.S. Senator John McCain, and many other elected officials and celebrities. Furthermore, he was renowned as an expert pilot with 37 years experience, who helped explain how air tragedies occurred. Recently, Bob commented for the national news about the potential dangers of flying in California's Sierra Nevada Mountain Range.

Throughout the community, Bob was well-known as "Mr. Fixit" as a result of his keen ability to build anything with his own two hands. Larger than life, he was a take-charge guy who loved to organize events. He could be found planting a community garden, at a Cal Tailgate party, a Rotary lobster feed or with the Clovis High football team at their team dinners. Bob Follett and his family were loyal members of the Cal football family during the time his son Zack played for the Cal Bears.

As a loving father and supportive husband, Bob and his cherished wife Naomi were always seen at sporting events supporting and cheering on their children Lindsay and Zack. He was a true pillar of support for their children and a faithful mentor to their friends as well.

Bob's loss leaves a void which can never be filled. Bob Follett will forever be remembered for his generosity and gregarious spirit that impacted the lives of all those whom he met. His enormous heart and lifelong commitment to his family and friends will forever be his legacy. I count myself fortunate to be one of Bob's many friends.

CHELSEY JANTZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chelsey Jantz who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Chelsey Jantz is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Chelsey Jantz is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Chelsey Jantz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

HONORING ISRAELI
INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, for all but 11 minutes of the State of Israel's existence, it has found its foremost advocate and ally here: the United States of America. And what were those 11 minutes? That was the time it took the news of Israel's independence to travel around the world and reach the desk of President Truman, the first to recognize a new member of the world community and a new friend.

Israel, President Truman said, "has a glorious future before it—not just another sovereign nation, but as an embodiment of the great ideals of our civilization." Sixty two years later, as Israel marks its independence, those words have been confirmed time and again. Our alliance with Israel, and the common interests we share, run deep. But even if those common interests amounted to nothing, we would still see in Israel a reflection of deepest values and great ideals.

Sixty two years ago, Israel's founders set their names to a declaration that embodied those ideals—the declaration that ended two millennia of exile for the Jewish people. It read, in part: "THE STATE OF ISRAEL . . . will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture; it will safeguard the Holy Places of all religions."

In those words, in the spirit that animates them, and in the political life that strives each day to live by them, we see our own spirit, our own struggle, our own founding promise.

And those common values are at the heart of Congress's unshakeable, bipartisan unity on