

he was raised. Judge Lewis' indomitable spirit will always live here among those whom he has touched. We have been honored to have had the grace of his presence in our lives. As we stand today to celebrate the extraordinary life of this extraordinary man, I am proud to have represented such an outstanding citizen from the 26th District of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING JORGE J. LAMBRINOS FOR MORE THAN 38 YEARS OF SERVICE ON BEHALF OF OLDER AMERICANS AND ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ROYBAL INSTITUTE ON AGING

### HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 22, 2010*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jorge J. Lambrinos, founding director of the University of Southern California (USC) Roybal Institute on Aging, who is retiring this month after more than 38 years of working in and out of government on behalf of older Americans.

Jorge was born in Panama City, Panama and arrived to this country at the age of 11 speaking no English. He fondly recalls his first job, at age 12, shining shoes in the barber-shop where his father worked. From then on, Jorge's strong work ethic and love for our country motivated him on a non-stop mission in pursuit of the American Dream—not only for himself but for our nation's elderly as well.

Jorge first got involved in advocating for seniors as Director of Latin Americans for Social and Economic Development. There, he was instrumental in getting the City of Detroit to establish a senior center in the Latino community of southwest Detroit. Jorge's leadership in his adopted hometown led to a prestigious fellowship opportunity in our nation's capital. As one of 10 national Health, Education, and Welfare Fellows, Jorge worked under Arthur S. Flemming, the U.S. Commissioner on Aging at the Administration on Aging.

After his one-year fellowship ended, Jorge became director of the U.S. Administration on Aging's Executive Secretariat and Special Assistant to the Commissioner on Aging. During that time, as an advisor to Commissioner Flemming, Jorge played a key role in the establishment of four national minority aging organizations. He also worked to ensure that minority communities had a voice in the emerging field of gerontology.

Building on this area of expertise, in 1977, Jorge joined my father, Congressman Edward R. Roybal, as Director of the Subcommittee on Housing and Consumer Interests of the House Select Committee on Aging. During that time, Jorge guided the development of the Congregate Housing Services legislation signed into law by President Jimmy Carter, which authorizes all Sec. 202 senior housing to provide temporary supportive services to ailing residents. When my father became chair of the full Committee on Aging, Jorge served as the full committee's staff director—becoming one of the first Latino staffers to hold such a position.

Several years later, Jorge then moved on to become my father's Chief of Staff. Together, they worked to address many critical priorities for older Americans, including the availability of congregate meals and stepping up research initiatives into the aging process as well as Alzheimer's disease and diabetes. Jorge is particularly proud of his work with my father to strengthen the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Jorge was integral in the formation of the Roybal Institute on Applied Gerontology. In my father's last few years in office, seniors from East Los Angeles petitioned California State University Los Angeles to establish an endowed chair in Congressman Roybal's name. Jorge's strategic recommendations resulted in the establishment of the Edward R. Roybal Foundation and the creation of the Institute.

After my father's retirement in 1993, Jorge joined him at Cal State Los Angeles and became the first full time director of the Roybal Institute. He was responsible for the management of several health promotion and disease prevention projects, including a collaborative research project with the CDC to determine the levels of older adult vaccinations in the Latino community of East Los Angeles. He also collaborated with USC's Alzheimer's Disease Research Center to translate findings from its clinical trials research to community application. In addition, Jorge was the Principal Investigator of a project funded by the Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine to develop interventions to reduce the incidence of falls and injuries among older adults. Jorge moved with the center from Cal State LA to its new home at the University of Southern California in 2006.

Jorge Lambrinos has received numerous awards and appointments, including being named as one of the "Top 100 Most Influential Hispanics in the U.S." by Hispanic Business Magazine. He has served as a member of the National Advisory Council of the National Institute on Aging, the California Commission on Aging and the Executive Council of AARP California, where he continues to serve as health policy advisor.

In addition to his work in public service, Jorge's dedication to our country is also evident through his distinguished military service. A graduate of the U.S. Army War College and a decorated Bronze Star Gulf War veteran, Jorge retired as a Lt. Colonel after 27 years of military service.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing Jorge's long record of service to our country. His significant contributions have made life healthier and more just for older Americans from all walks of life and I wish him many more years of fulfillment and success in retirement.

SALUTING ELDER GOLDWIRE MCLENDON, PHILADELPHIA'S PREMIER GOSPEL SINGER

### HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 22, 2010*

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, an incredibly talented Gospel singer from Philadelphia has been sharing his gift with a national audience through "Sunday Best," the BET network's closely watched gospel singing competition.

The results were announced this Sunday, and our own Elder Goldwire McLendon was selected as runner-up to a young lady from Florida, LeAndria Johnson. Elder McLendon's many, many fans in Philadelphia and across the nation may be mildly disappointed, but they are immensely proud of the man, his powerful voice and his faith.

Annette John-Hall, a talented writer for the Philadelphia Inquirer, captured the drama and the impact of this remarkable man and his quest, in her column in today's newspaper. I share her column and extend my congratulations to this Philadelphia Gospel superstar.

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer, June 22, 2010]

AT 79, ELDER MCLENDON SHARES THE GIFT OF HIS VOICE

(By Annette John-Hall)

All you have to do is watch the audience react to Elder Goldwire McLendon every time he sings to understand the profound impact he has.

People get choked up. Some weep outright. Heck, just watching him perform on YouTube puts a lump in your throat.

See, McLendon sings gospel. And he has for, oh, 70 years, ever since he was 9 and singing in Sunday school in Jacksonville, Fla., his hometown.

He has sung in prisons, in concert halls, and at his own place of worship, Mount Olive Baptist Church in Philadelphia, where he has ministered for 40 years.

But it wasn't until McLendon decided to audition for Sunday Best, BET's gospel singing competition, that the whole nation understood just how remarkable his gift was.

At 79, McLendon was easily the oldest contestant by at least 30 years. And yes, he'd sometimes forget the lyrics.

But his life experience came through whenever he hit the stage. After a typically moving performance early in the competition, judge Tina Campbell of Mary Mary, the gospel sister duo, told McLendon: "You got a standing ovation from God. He's all over you."

Outsinging a field of 20, McLendon made it all the way to Sunday's finals before losing to 27-year-old powerhouse LeAndria Johnson.

But it didn't matter. What matters is that now, in the winter of his life, McLendon's season is finally here.

GIFT FROM GOD

Call it what you want. Wisdom. Talent. Showmanship.

McLendon chooses to credit his gift and the effect it has to a higher power.

"The Lord set me up and used me," he said before performing in concert with other Sunday Best contestants at New Covenant Church of Philadelphia Saturday.

He almost didn't allow himself to be used. "Do you know how old I am?" he'd ask his children when they'd urge him to audition.

Never comfortable in a crowd, McLendon could easily have taken one look at the hundreds of hopefuls at the Convention Center audition on that cold March morning and said, "I don't want to be bothered with all of those people," says his daughter-in-law, Karen McLendon, 56. But she says he stuck it out because of "the prodding from the Lord."

Possessing a silky smooth tenor reminiscent of Sam Cooke, with a smidgen of James Cleveland's thunder thrown in, McLendon sang as a soloist in the Savettes Choral Ensemble and the Brockington Choral Ensemble in the '60s and '70s. He was ordained as a minister in 1978 and pastored St. James Holy Church in Tennille, Ga., for 16 years before reuniting with his family—five children, 15 grands and 14 great-grands—in Philly.