

held major command and headquarters-level positions. Among her many accomplishments, Maj. Gen. Peyer was directly responsible for ensuring the highest quality support to maintenance programs supporting the C-130, F-15, C-17, and C-5 aircraft, among others. Her commitment to excellence directly led the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center to garner 61 national, Air Force, and command organizational awards, and resulted in the Air Force's ability to achieve goals set for the troop surge in Afghanistan, while simultaneously supporting ongoing operations in Iraq.

Dedicated to the well-being of Team Robins, Maj. Gen. Peyer oversaw the development of the "You Matter" program to raise awareness of suicide and develop understanding, recognition, and skills to proactively prevent it. Maj. Gen. Peyer was also a staunch advocate of workplace safety and implemented the Commander's Safe Site Challenge to implement tenets of OSHA Voluntary Protection Programs. Furthermore, Maj. Gen. Peyer and her husband, Colonel (Retired) Brian Grady, were untiring advocates for various organizations, causes, and issues including one of our Nation's most outstanding gems, the Museum of Aviation.

Madam Speaker, Major General Peyer leaves the United States Air Force, the Department of Defense, the Nation, and the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center stronger through her vision and leadership. Her dedication to excellence and devotion to duty, honor, and country have marked her distinguished service. Her record of achievement and manner of service throughout her long career in positions of enormous responsibility are commensurate with honoring her in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I thank her for her service.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCIS B. GIBBS

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my most trusted advisors and closest friends, Francis B. Gibbs, who is moving on to new opportunities in the private sector.

Many staffers come and go on Capitol Hill, as many Members can attest, but I've been fortunate to have Francis at my side for over five years. He has been a dedicated public servant and a terrific sounding board for me, and he has been an incredible advocate and mentor for my staff.

Before serving as my Legislative Director and then my Chief of Staff, Francis worked for Congressman ANDER CRENSHAW as his Legislative Counsel. A native Floridian, Francis understands the values and attributes of our great State.

More importantly, Francis shares a strong passion for the ideals of freedom and free markets. He is deeply committed to the Constitution and the principles of federalism, and his work reflects his commitment to limiting the size and scope of an ever-intrusive federal government. A famous man once said, "No man is entitled to the blessings of freedom unless he be vigilant in its preservation." Francis has been, and always will be, a true patriot and defender of freedom.

While I am happy for Francis to begin this next phase of his professional career, make no mistake about it, he will be greatly missed. He has been a valuable member and an irreplaceable part of my team, but I know I can continue to count on his advice and friendship in the years ahead.

Madam Speaker, I would not be where I am today were it not for Francis' dedication, service and hard work. On behalf of the people of Florida's Fourteenth Congressional District, I want to thank Francis for his nearly ten years of service to the people of Florida and the Nation. He is my friend, he is a true public servant in every sense of the word, and I wish him all the best as he begins this new and exciting chapter of his life with his family.

IN HONOR OF ANGELO ROMEO, RESPECTED DIRECTOR OF THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Angelo Romeo as Director of the Gloucester County Department of Veterans Affairs. A resident of Newfield, New Jersey, Mr. Romeo has demonstrated a tireless work ethic and dedication to Gloucester County veterans that deserves recognition.

Mr. Romeo's life shows the strong influence of his mother and political mentor, Virginia Romeo, the first woman elected to the Newfield City Council. Following in her footsteps, Mr. Romeo first ran for a freeholder position in 1972 and was later appointed to fill Lee Ranstrom's seat in 1974 before winning his own election in 1975. He also served as a Captain in the U.S. Army from 1966-1969.

After a 20-year break from politics, Mr. Romeo joined the Department of Veterans Affairs in Gloucester County in 1998, where his part-time position quickly flourished into a full-time leadership role. Mr. Romeo excelled at finding and meeting the needs of veterans in Gloucester County.

Mr. Romeo worked tirelessly to establish the Veterans Affairs clinic and the Williamstown cemetery. Since the beginning of 2010, the VA clinic in Gloucester County has seen over 4,000 individuals with a combined 18,000 appointments. Furthermore, the State of New Jersey Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Small Business Administration awarded the Veteran Small Business Advocate of the Year to Mr. Romeo.

Mr. Romeo and his wife, Susan, have four children and eight grandchildren whom they plan to take to Disney World after he retires next month.

Madam Speaker, Angelo Romeo's commitment to Gloucester County and its veterans must be recognized. I wish him the best in his future endeavors and thank him for his continued service to the veterans of Gloucester County.

HONORING DAVID S. AMERYUN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize David S. Ameryun. David is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

David has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years David has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, David has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending David S. Ameryun for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN MEMORY OF U.S. ARMY SPECIALIST SHANNON "CHANEN" CHIHUAHUA

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a brave soldier, a dedicated citizen of Thomasville, Georgia, and a great American, U.S. Army Specialist Shannon "Chanen" Chihuahua, who selflessly gave his life while serving his country in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Specialist Chihuahua was born in 1985, and was raised in Thomasville, Georgia. After graduating from Thomas County Central High School in 2004, he attended Valdosta State University. He met his loving wife, Kristen, in July of 2006 and the two were married November 4, 2006.

Answering the call to service, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. Specialist Chihuahua was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

His awards and decorations include: Purple Heart; Army Commendation Medal; Army Achievement Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Afghanistan Campaign Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Army Service Ribbon; NATO Medal; and Combat Medic Badge.

While deployed to Afghanistan, he was one of several service members tragically killed on November 12, 2010 when insurgents attacked his unit using small arms fire and rocket propelled grenades. He gave the ultimate sacrifice; he died while trying to save a fellow soldier, who was injured.

Specialist Chihuahua's death is a great loss to this country, as he was a man of great promise and honor. He was described as an energetic and positive person with a constant smile. He was well regarded by his peers and known for his congeniality.