

in the early 1980s as an Office Automation Consultant to analyze mail flow in Member offices. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, she served as an Applications Analyst where she assisted in the design, testing, implementation, and support of the House's correspondence management service and several online databases. In the late 1990s, Lea worked to ensure a smooth technology Y2K transition and assisted with the conversion of online services from the mainframe to the Web.

Lea's coworkers and clients came to rely on her for her editorial, public speaking, and collaboration skills. She wrote, edited, and produced user documentation for classroom instruction, served as a member of the CAO Communications Team, had an article published in *Government Information Quarterly* in 1991 as part of a special symposium on legislative information, and served as Editor of the e-CyberCongress Connection Newsletter distributed to House staff. Lea also participated in several Congressional Research Service, CRS, District/State Institutes, delivered the "History of HIR and Technology" portion of the HIR CIO Vision briefing: Distinguished Service for a Digital World, and was a primary speaker at two Federal funding workshops in Congressional district offices.

Lea was appointed as one of the first classroom trainers for the House of Representatives in the 1970s and returned to the classroom environment three times while at the House. She spent the last 15 years with The House Learning Center instructing Congressional staff in a wide range of desktop software, BlackBerry, Web design, online research, and professional development skills. She consistently received high marks from her students. She was instrumental in the development of job-related training matrices and in forming a partnership with the Congressional Research Service, CRS, to advise staff on how to assist their constituents in finding Federal funds for district projects.

Lea was recognized by CAO and HIR leadership for her work in individual and team ef-

orts on the CAO Roll of Honor, as a CAO All Star, with a CAO/HIR "Pat on the Back", 107-111th Congressional Transitions Teams, and as a CAO ACE Excellence Award nominee. The Congressional Research Service (CRS) recognized her for her work on the Legislative Information System (LIS) project where she served as the House's representative. She was spotlighted in the January-June 2007 CAO Semi-Annual Report and in the 'Trophy Case' on the CAOnline internal web site. Lea received numerous notes and letters of appreciation from Members of Congress, Congressional staff, coworkers, and the public.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend our congratulations to Lea for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the United States House of Representatives. We wish Lea many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

TRIBUTE TO NORMAN FLOYD
MCGOWIN, JR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 9, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Norman Floyd McGowin, Jr., of Chapman, Alabama; a philanthropist, devoted steward of the land and expert aviator who recently passed away at the age of 79.

A graduate of Lawrenceville School in 1949, Floyd McGowin earned his undergraduate degree in International Relations from Yale University in 1953. After college, he served his country in the United States Marine Corps and Reserves, rising to the rank of First Lieutenant.

After returning to civilian life, Floyd became a principal in his south Butler County, Alabama family business, the W.T. Smith Lumber Company, one of the oldest and largest lumber operations in Alabama. When the com-

pany was sold to Union Camp in 1966, he remained at the helm, serving as President of the Rocky Creek Logging Company until his retirement in 1991.

Floyd was a distinguished business leader, serving on numerous boards of directors of forestry-related organizations and financial institutions. He was also instrumental in pioneering aviation mapping techniques for forest management.

In addition to his many business accomplishments, Floyd was also known as a skilled aviator. In 2009, he was honored with the FAA Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award. He completed over 50 years of flying with more than 13,000 hours in 58 types of aircraft, including flying for 10 years as a professional airshow pilot. He was inducted into the Alabama Aviation Hall of Fame in 1997. At the time of his death, he was the owner and operator of McGowin Field in Chapman, established in 1930, which is the second oldest active civil airport in Alabama.

He also served on nonprofit educational foundations promoting flight. He was Chairman of the Wright Brothers/Maxwell Field Foundation of Montgomery, Alabama and Vice President and Director of The Discovery of Flight Foundation of Warrenton, Virginia. He served proudly as a Director of the Alabama Archives and History Foundation. He completed a manuscript titled *The Forest and the Trees*, which is under contract with New South Books awaiting commercial publication.

Madam Speaker, South Alabama has lost a patriot and a pioneer with the passing of Floyd McGowin. We owe a debt of gratitude for his contributions to forestry management and the preservation of America's rich aviation history.

I wish to offer my condolences to his wife of 57 years, Rosa Tucker, his son, Dr. Norman F. McGowin, III, and his daughters, Tucker Slaughter and Lucy Moore, as well as his numerous grandchildren and other relatives. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.