

For all he did for the community, his most favorite activity was spending time with his wife, Denise, and their beautiful children Isaac and Erin. I would like to thank his family for sharing Tom with us. For all the great things he did, he will be truly missed.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF HELEN  
AGNES POWELL

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mrs. Helen Agnes Powell on the occasion of her passing.

Mrs. Powell was born on September 24, 1926 and was one of four siblings. She graduated from Garfield Heights High School in 1944 and upon graduation assisted in the war effort by working at a factory located at Harvard and Broadway Avenues that produced military equipment.

Her two brothers, John and Lawrence, both served in the military. John was mortally wounded fighting in Burma and passed away on June 11, 1944, which deeply affected Helen. Her brother Lawrence served in the 8th Army Air Corp and fought in the Battle of the Bulge.

Mrs. Powell met her husband Bob Powell in 1941, but he soon left to join the Navy. They married on September 24, 1947 and had four children: Robert Jr., Deborah, Grace and Marie.

Helen was a full-time mother and after her husband was severely injured in a construction accident, she took care of him. Aside from her family, Helen and her mother were extremely active in the VFW Post 3445 in Garfield Heights. Both Helen and Bob also helped to establish a VFW post in Aurora.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembrance of Mrs. Helen Agnes Powell, a woman whose biggest joy was bringing her family together and was completely dedicated to her husband, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR KEVIN D.  
BRADLEY

**HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and pay tribute to Major Kevin D. Bradley, United States Army, on the occasion of his departure from the Army House Liaison Office to join 4th Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division in Fort Lewis, Washington. I, and many other members of this chamber, have had the pleasure of working with Major Bradley over the past year that he has served as a Liaison Officer and Congressional Delegation Escort Officer in the Army Liaison Office in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Major Bradley has had a remarkably varied and successful career. After growing up in Stratford, New Jersey and graduating from Sterling High School in 1995, Major Bradley attended the United States Military Academy.

He graduated in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Armor Branch. Major Bradley attended the Basic Officer Course at Fort Knox, Kentucky before leaving for Germany.

Major Bradley's initial assignment was in Vilseck, Germany where he served as a Tank Platoon Leader, Tank Company Executive Officer, and later the Support Platoon Leader in the 1st Battalion, 63d Armor Regiment, 3d Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. As a Platoon Leader in Germany, he deployed to Kosovo to conduct peace enforcement operations. Major Bradley's platoon secured the Serbian towns of Partes and Donje Budriga as part of KFOR 1B shortly after the start of the NATO mission. Major Bradley also deployed his M1A1 Abrams tank as part of Operation Lariat Response to Hungary to conduct a live fire exercise with a Hungarian Airborne battalion.

After 3 years stationed in Europe, Major Bradley attended the Infantry Captains Career Course and Ranger School in Fort Benning, Georgia. Upon completion of these courses, Major Bradley joined 3d Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, Texas as they prepared to deploy to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

In March 2004, Major Bradley deployed to Baghdad, Iraq where he led a team of forty U.S. soldiers in recruiting, training, mentoring, and conducting combat operations with the 302nd Iraqi Army Battalion. After returning to Fort Hood, Major Bradley assumed command of Charlie Company, 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division in April 2006. In October 2006, he deployed with his heavy scout company to the city of Muqdadiyah in the Diyala Province of Iraq for 14 months. Major Bradley led his troops during numerous combat operations while executing a clear, hold, build strategy against al-Qaeda in Iraq.

Following his command, Major Bradley was selected for the Joint Staff/Army Staff Intern Program in Washington D.C. As part of this program, he completed a Masters Degree from Georgetown University in Public Policy Management before joining the staff of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for a year. In June 2009, Major Bradley joined the Army House Legislative Division in the Rayburn Building. I have come to know Major Bradley well during his assignment in the House of Representatives through his work with Congressional Delegations and outreach to Members of Congress. Major Bradley has never failed to impress me with his energy and dedication to soldiers, their families, and the U.S. Army. Major Bradley is a superb representative of Army values and the American Soldier.

I am honored to express heartfelt thanks to Major Kevin Bradley for his dedicated service to the U.S. Army and our Nation. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of this Soldier, citizen, and friend.

IN HONOR OF AGNES KASPER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Agnes Kasper,

whose strong dedication and commitment to improving her community led her to create one of Cleveland's most well-known hunger centers.

A native Clevelander, Ms. Kasper attended high school and graduated from St. Joseph Academy. She went on to become a secretary at Berea's Ohio Nut and Bolt, where she met and married John. The Kaspers are survived today by their ten children, twenty six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Aside from running her church's daily meal program, Ms. Kasper also taught religious education for decades. Her work with her church's meal program eventually led her to found the renowned hunger center at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Cleveland, Ohio. In her spare time, she also actively helped run emergency shelters while simultaneously hosting homeless people in her own home.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in remembrance of Ms. Agnes Kasper. Her hard work for her community has improved the lives of countless individuals. I offer my sympathies to her family.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING  
THE LIFE OF ARTHUR HENRI  
JERBERT

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and mourn the loss of Arthur Henri Jerbert of North Stonington, Connecticut. As we approach the one year anniversary of his passing, and in such close proximity to Independence Day, it is important for this House to remember Art's remarkable service to our nation and his contributions to his community.

Art was a member of the "Greatest Generation" and entered the U.S. Navy during World War II serving in the submarine force for 20 distinguished years. His career in the Navy included time aboard one of the submarines that adapted the highly-coordinated, "wolf pack" attack strategy in the Sea of Japan. That strategy was instrumental in reasserting allied naval supremacy in the Pacific—an essential ingredient to final victory. During that conflict, he earned the Bronze Star for valor in combat and after the war rose to the rank of Commander, retiring in 1962.

After leaving the Navy, Art applied his talent and energy to solving problems in his community and improving the quality of life in southeastern Connecticut. He coached Little League baseball, served on the North Stonington Board of Education, and became Ledyard's first mayor in 1971. He educated and empowered young people as a popular math teacher at schools across eastern Connecticut including Norwich Free Academy and Griswold High School.

Arthur is deeply missed by his loving wife Marilyn, his children, grandchildren, and great grandchild. His example of human excellence and service is an inspiration for us all today and for generations to come.

HONORING COLONEL RONALD LIGHT AND THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS MIDDLE EAST DISTRICT IN WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Ronald Light and the men and women of the Army Corps of Engineers Middle East District, MED, located in Winchester, Virginia, for the support they have provided for troops deployed overseas.

Colonel Light, commander of the MED, has had a distinguished military career since his graduation from The Pennsylvania State University in 1981. As an officer, he has completed the Engineer Officer's Basic and Advanced courses, the Combined Arms Services Staff School, the Command and General Staff Officer Course, and the U.S. Army Airborne School, while earning a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies at the U.S. Naval War College.

For his service, Colonel Light has been awarded the Legion of Merit, a Bronze Star, five awards for Meritorious Service, two Army Commendation medals, the Army Medal of Achievement, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, among others.

As the senior engineer commander responsible for reconstructions in Al Anbar and Baghdad provinces in Iraq, he managed the award of 194 projects valued at \$1.32 billion and completed contracts worth an additional \$782.4 million.

Since Colonel Light assumed command at the MED in 2009, employment has approximately doubled from 250 to 500 personnel. The MED employs 427 civilians comprising 23 nationalities, 53 advanced degrees and 24 different languages all dedicated toward the goal of preparing combat theaters for members of the military. The MED employs local accountants, architects, attorneys, paralegals, engineers, property managers, security specialists, and many others.

The MED has proved extremely beneficial not only to the U.S. Military, but also to Winchester and the Shenandoah Valley. The MED partners with local civic organizations, churches and school groups to help carry out many critical engineering projects abroad. The integration of the military and the surrounding communities will create a precedent for more companies to locate in Winchester and the Shenandoah Valley, recognizing the presence of a trained workforce and relative proximity to our nation's capital.

Colonel Light and the MED's dedication to the armed forces has advanced the mission of all military units in forward theaters of combat. We express our appreciation to the dedicated individuals staffing the MED for their service and honor them as the best our military officers and civilians have to offer.

CONGRATULATING JAMES HUNTER AND JOE LAROSE OF THE ROCK BRIDGE BRUINS MEN'S TENNIS TEAM

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating James Hunter and Joe LaRose of the Rock Bridge Bruins Men's Tennis Team for winning the Class 2 A Missouri State Doubles Championship on May 28.

These young men should be commended for all their hard work throughout the regular season and bringing home the 2 A Doubles Tennis Championship to their school and community.

I ask that you join me in recognizing James Hunter and Joe LaRose for a job well done!

HONORING JEFFREY GRALNICK

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Jeffrey Gralnick, who passed away this past May at the age of 72. A legendary news executive and producer, Jeff's 52-year career began with the black-and-white news segments of the 1950s and grew into leadership positions at nearly all the major broadcast networks including ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, and MSNBC.

One of the first producers of "60 Minutes," Jeff worked with Walter Cronkite, Don Hewitt, Dan Rather, Peter Jennings, Barbara Walters, Brian Williams, Katie Couric, and Tom Brokaw. As an executive producer and network executive, Jeff oversaw the broadcasts of space launches, presidential elections, and was in charge of the CBS news desk on the day President Kennedy was assassinated.

Jeff's enduring legacy is memorialized in the people he mentored over the years who are employed throughout the news industry. A tough and demanding teacher, Jeff was always eager to share his knowledge and experiences with younger coworkers. His intense character, professionalism, and integrity have left a lasting impression throughout the news industry.

A fierce competitor with a tireless work ethic, Jeff was always welcome to new challenges. After beating his first bout with cancer in his early sixties, Jeff found inspiration in the saying "as soon as you feel too old to do something do it," and decided to climb to the peak of Mt. Kilimanjaro, nearly making it to the top.

I offer my condolences to Jeff's wife of 41 years, Beth, their son Robert, their daughter Kate and her husband Tim, their grandson Adam, and Jeff's brother Bill. Even though Jeff passed away this past May, his work will live on through the broadcasts he has produced, the networks he helped shape, and the anchors and producers he mentored throughout his career.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. VLADIMIR SWIRYNSKY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Vladimir Swirynsky, one of Cleveland's most prominent poets.

Born in Germany on May 20, 1948, Vladimir Swirynsky immigrated to the United States in 1952. After completing his education, Vladimir served with the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He was stationed in Long Bien and worked as a morning report clerk. Following his service, Vladimir returned to Cleveland, married, and began a career at Republic Steel.

In 1994, after a divorce, Vladimir left Cleveland in search of healing and found solace in the arts. He travelled to New Orleans, celebrated Mardi Gras, joined a band and began reading poetry. He was enthralled by poetry and realized his own talents. He spent years travelling around the country and perfecting his newfound creative outlet.

Today, Mr. Swirynsky has published thirteen books of poetry and is celebrated as one of Cleveland's finest poets.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of Mr. Vladimir Swirynsky. His story and poetry will continue to inspire all of those who hear his prose.

HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MINNESOTA AIR NATIONAL GUARD—AMERICA'S FIRST IN THE NATION AIR GUARD UNIT

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNEAPOLIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the capable and courageous men and women of the Minnesota Air National Guard on the 90th anniversary of its founding. The Minnesota Air National Guard holds the distinction of being the first in our nation Air Unit of the National Guard recognized by the United States government.

The Minnesota Air National Guard took flight with humble, but honorable beginnings. On September 26, 1920 Captain Ray S. Miller and two other Minnesotans rented a Curtiss Oriole biplane to launch an 8-day flight to Washington, DC. Their mission was to be the first federally recognized National Guard flying squadron. Subsequently the 109th Observation Squadron, the predecessor to today's Minnesota Air National Guard, passed muster inspection on January 17th, 1921.

The creation of the 109th Minnesota Observation Squadron created the flight path for Minnesotans to continue making history while serving our state and our nation. The 133rd Airlift Wing (133rd AW) of the Minnesota Air National Guard Wing is headquartered at the Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport, and provides the U.S. Air Force with tactical airlift of troops, cargo, and medical patients anywhere in the world utilizing the C-130 Hercules. The 148th Fighter Wing (148th FW),