

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF FRANK
MARMADUKE NORFLEET

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2012

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Frank Marmaduke Norfleet. Mr. Norfleet was born in Memphis, TN on November 27, 1918 and became a philanthropist as well as an outstanding civil and business leader.

In 1941, Mr. Norfleet joined the Army, serving as a cavalryman and tank officer in World War II. A decorated veteran, Mr. Norfleet was awarded the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the French Croix de Guerre for fighting in The Battle of the Bulge and the Silver Star for Valor. After leaving the military, he returned to Memphis in 1946 and began working at Parts, Inc., an automotive "aftermarket" company and eventually led it to significant growth as its Chairman and CEO. In 1959 he cofounded and became the president and director of the Automotive Warehouse Distributors Association. In 1969 he assumed the same role with the Automotive Information Council of New York, another company that he cofounded. In addition to this, he served as a director of First Tennessee Bank for 18 years and at CSX Corp.

In 1978, Mr. Norfleet founded Forum for a Better Memphis, a short-lived organization that encouraged and supported political candidates who sought to effect positive changes for the city. That year, I ran for County Commissioner and became the forum's first beneficiary of their support. It was at that time that I had the good fortune of meeting and developing a friendship with Mr. Norfleet.

Mr. Norfleet worked closely with Memphis health organizations and in 1980, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center named its annual healthcare forum in his honor. When he was inducted into the Memphis Society of Entrepreneurs in 1997, Mr. Norfleet commented, "Being an entrepreneur not only offers opportunities for personal financial success but of equal importance is the entrepreneur's ability to give others employment and, in many cases, opportunities to make charitable gifts to those in need and less fortunate." Furthermore, in 1999, Mr. Norfleet was honored by the State of Tennessee for his long history of giving back and working to improve Memphis and Shelby County.

Mr. Norfleet's list of civic involvements is just as extensive. In addition to serving as an elder at Second Presbyterian Church, he was a founding member of both the Community Foundation of Greater Memphis and the Economics Club of Memphis. He also served two six-year terms as Justice of the Peace for the Shelby County Quarterly Court. Mr. Norfleet's other involvements included raising money for Rhodes College, the University of Tennessee, Memphis University School, and Presbyterian

Day School. He also enjoyed his work with the Memphis Zoological Society, Elmwood Cemetery and the Memphis Opera Theater where he served as the director.

Friends and family remember Mr. Norfleet as a man of great intelligence and enthusiasm. According to his son-in-law and former colleague, Alex Thompson, his success stemmed "not from ambition, but the way he was wired and the gifts God gave him." Others describe him as a mentor who was willing to share his knowledge and experience. Pearson Crutcher, the executive director of the Memphis Entrepreneurial Society said that Mr. Norfleet "was one of those people who made your life better because you knew him."

Mr. Norfleet passed away surrounded by his family at his home on February 17, 2012 at 93 years of age. He is survived by his loving wife of 69 years, Jean Flanigan Norfleet, three daughters, Janet Sheahan, Jean Laughlin, and Frances Thompson, 7 grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
TO OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES
MADE BY JOHN OLIVER

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2012

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to John Oliver, an outstanding American citizen who has shown commitment and service to the Plymouth, Indiana community.

A native of Newcastle in the United Kingdom, John immigrated to the United States on March 16, 1962 when he was 19 years old, and in 1975, he was officially recognized as a United States citizen.

John began his journey in the manufacturing industry as a laborer for a small research and development firm. He moved to Plymouth to work for that company's manufacturing subsidiary, ultimately becoming its president in 1977. Nine years later, John purchased the company and renamed it U.S. Granules Corporation, which today produces fifty percent of the world's granulated aluminum. With his leadership, U.S. Granules remains a leader in technology and quality, producing particle products from aluminum recovered from industrial waste. Today, U.S. Granules has established customers on five continents.

But what truly reflects John's commendable spirit is his service to his local community. He has been a pillar of support for the children of Plymouth. Quietly and without recognition, John endowed a fund to benefit the Plymouth High School Speech Team, a state leader in debate competition. To further advance the strength of local schools, John has made many financial donations to help with the purchase of books for school libraries, leadership seminars for students, and the expansion of scholarship and other award programs. In ad-

dition, John maintains an intern program at U.S. Granules that provides work experience and scholarship assistance.

John has also been a supporter of youth baseball programs. He has been a longtime patron of the American Legion Post 27 baseball club, the Diamond Spyderys, and helped organize its first sports program in the Plymouth area. John's support extends to the Indiana Baseball Hall of Fame, and with his assistance, it dedicated the Bill Nixon Plymouth Baseball Wing in October 2007. When inducted in to the Indiana Baseball Hall of Fame himself in 2009, John humbly reminded us that his contributions were dedicated to his community's youth and their future, not for personal gain.

Moreover, John has been an active board member of the St. Joseph Regional Medical Center since 2004, where he has worked extensively on the hospital's committees related to finance, executive leadership, governance, and strategic planning. He is a former director of the Indiana Manufacturing Association, the Marshall County Industrial Association, the Plymouth Industrial Development Company, and the Marshall County Solid Waste Management District Citizens Board. In addition, he was chairman of the audit committee for the Marshall County Community Foundations. He served as fundraising drive chairman for the Marshall County United Way and the Plymouth Emergency Vehicle Fund.

Through his extensive participation in his community including his service in the U.S. Army Reserves, he serves as the model of a civic-minded American. On behalf of the citizens of Indiana's Second District, I would like to salute his character, his personal achievements, and his contributions to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. CURTIS
RAMSEY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an acclaimed educator, Dr. Curtis Ramsey. Dr. Ramsey has over 60 years of experience in education and has served as a member of the Denton Independent School District (ISD) Board of Trustees for 18 years. He has taught internationally as a public classroom teacher, college professor, dean, and educational consultant.

Dr. Ramsey has not only dedicated his life to the teaching of others but was equally as passionate about learning himself. Dr. Ramsey received his bachelor's and master's degrees from North Texas State University, now the University of North Texas. He received his doctorate from Vanderbilt University, where he was a professor of teacher education, and completed his post-doctoral work at Teachers College at Columbia University.

Dr. Ramsey has served professionally at local, state, national and international levels.

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