

Lane, Jr., a volunteer, attorney and political leader who dedicated his career to improving government and promoting civil rights. Born in Memphis, TN on July 6, 1929, Hunter attended Central High School in Memphis, where he earned outstanding recognition in academics and also as the quarterback of the football team. After high school, he attended Washington and Lee University in Lexington, VA on an academic scholarship, graduating in 1951 magna cum laude. He earned his law degree from Washington and Lee in 1953. Mr. Lane entered the U.S. Marine Corps as an Officer Candidate in 1953 and served as a legal officer in the Republic of Korea and Japan. Though released from active duty in 1955, he continued to serve with various units of the Marine Corps Reserve until he retired as Lt. Col. in 1978.

Mr. Lane's involvement with the community began when he was elected Commissioner of Public Service in 1964, a position he held for the next three years. He was a leading advocate for a progressive agenda that ultimately led to the city's conversion from the commission system to a strong mayor and city council local government model. He served on the Board of Education from 1972 to 1975, where he promoted the desegregation of public facilities. Hunter was very active with the Civil Rights Movement in Memphis and worked diligently in many behind the scenes activities with renowned civil rights attorney Lucius Burch, who represented Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in a successful attempt to lift an injunction against a planned march in support of the striking workers in the Memphis Sanitation Strike. He then served as Director of the Memphis Better Schools Committee from 1976 to 1979.

Hunter dedicated a great deal of time to performing volunteer work. He worked as a volunteer mentor at the Memphis City Schools for many years and mentored children at the Dream Academy for several years. He also volunteered at the Community Legal Center after his retirement, helping people who could not afford an attorney. For most of his adult life, he was a member of the Downtown Kiwanis Club, a service organization dedicated to helping the children of our community.

An avid outdoorsman, Hunter was a lifelong member of the Wolf River Society and a supporter of the Wolf River Conservancy, a non-profit group dedicated to the protection and enhancement of the Wolf River corridor and watershed as a sustainable natural resource. He was an active member of a canoe club and enjoyed canoe trips on the rivers of Arkansas and Missouri. As a member of the Grey Eagles Hiking Club, he climbed many mountains in the U.S. and Canada during his retirement. His passion for travel took him on trips with his wife, Susan, to 49 of the 50 states and to countries on five continents.

Hunter was a lifelong member of Idlewild Presbyterian Church, where he served on the Board of Elders from 1978 to 2012. He supported the University of Memphis football and basketball programs as a member of the High Hundred and the Rebounders Club.

Hunter Lane, Jr. passed away on April 22, 2012 at 82 years of age. He is survived by his loving wife, Susan; three children, Dorothy Lane McClure, James Hunter Lane III, and William Martin Lane; two stepsons, Charles Michael Bowen and Robert Kenneth Bowen; four grandchildren, and two stepgrandchildren. His was a life well lived.

A TRIBUTE TO THE SERVICE OF
SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT
BILL DIETZEL

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Mr. DENHAM, to pay tribute to Senior Master Sergeant Bill Dietzel and his service to the United States and our veterans. His selfless and honorable work for our nation and its men and women in uniform make him a source of pride for our community and our country.

Bill entered the service on September 23, 1952. During his time in the United States Air Force, he was a flight engineer for B-29s and other four engine aircrafts. In 1957, he worked as a crew chief/flight engineer at the 420th Air Refueling Squadron. In September 1957, he deployed to the Sculthorpe RAF station in England, and the SAC Headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska in 1961. He served our nation proudly in the Air Force until his retirement on September 30, 1972. His loyalty and devotion to our country is remarkable and highly commendable.

A tireless advocate for all veterans, Bill has accomplished much throughout his distinguished military and civilian career. He is the publisher and managing editor of the U.S. Veterans Magazine, through which he seeks to honor all who have served. Additionally, he has been the director of the annual Fresno Veterans Day Parade for the past 11 years. The Fresno Veterans Day Parade is one of the largest in the country and is broadcast to about 2.6 million members of the U.S. Armed Forces—Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve—through the Pentagon Channel. The channel also reaches more than 18 million households through satellite and cable systems nationwide. Further demonstrating his commitment to our nation's veterans, Bill founded the "Wall of Honor" at the Veterans Affairs Central California Health Care System in Fresno, California.

A veteran, friend, mentor, and great American, Bill's longstanding dedication to service is truly a reflection of his superior moral character. He has consistently worked side by side with elected officials and Valley leaders to ensure that the needs of our veterans and their families are met. There has never been a challenge too daunting for Bill; he has always maintained a positive and confident attitude. His contributions to Central California and our nation are truly extraordinary.

In addition to his significant work, Bill is a loving husband and father. He and his wife Marilyn have been married for 59 years. Together they have 5 children: Linda Leigh, Jeanette, Susan, Barbara Ann, Cynthia Marie, and William Keith.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join Mr. DENHAM and me in recognizing Senior Master Sergeant Bill Dietzel for his unwavering allegiance to our veterans and his reverence for our country. He truly exemplifies the best of what America has to offer.

TRIBUTE TO COACH LEROY
WALKER

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of an inspirational and beloved North Carolinian, Dr. LeRoy Walker. Coach Walker, as most of us knew him, passed away on Monday at the age of 93 in Durham, the North Carolina community he made his home for six decades. He achieved many firsts during a lifetime dedicated to excellence in athletics, character-building, and service to the community.

Coach Walker was born in Atlanta in 1918. He was the youngest of 13 children and went on to become the first from his family to graduate from college, earning eleven letters in athletics and All-American honors in football at Benedict College. After earning a master's degree at Columbia University, he came to North Carolina Central University in Durham, where he would serve as track coach for 38 years.

At NCCU, Coach Walker trained All-Americans, National Champions and Olympians. In 1976, he was the first African-American to coach the United States Olympic track team, helping American athletes bring home over 20 medals. This is a remarkable record of achievement, but for Coach Walker it was not merely about athletics; what made him happiest, he said, was seeing his former athletes succeed as strong citizens in their communities.

While serving as track coach, Coach Walker worked his way through a doctoral program at New York University, becoming the first African-American to earn a Ph.D. in biomechanics. He went on to serve as NCCU's Chancellor and as the President of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. According to the Associated Press, even though he'd earned other titles—Doctor and Chancellor—Coach Walker still asked people to call him "Coach." "When you call me that, it means you're my friend," he said.

Having touched so many lives in our state, Coach Walker went on to touch lives across the world. After retiring from NCCU, he served a distinguished term as the head of the U.S. Olympic Committee, extending through the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. He was the first African-American to fill this post. As he brought the games to the city where he was born, Coach Walker reflected that his life—from a childhood spent in the segregated South to a professional life of great distinction—seemed like a Hollywood movie. But his was also a story that embodied the ideals of the Olympic Games—competition paired with sportsmanship, perseverance, universal respect, understanding and peace between peoples. The Committee could not have chosen a better leader.

We mourn the loss of Coach Walker, but we give thanks for the generous and exemplary life he lived. I extend the condolences of this House to Coach Walker's family, to the NC Central community and to all across the world who called him "Coach." And I request, Mr. Speaker, that the fuller accounts of his life and work contained this week in the Raleigh News and Observer and the New York Times be included.