

IN RECOGNITION OF LLOYD R.
LACUESTA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lloyd R. LaCuesta, one of the best-known faces in the Bay Area. For 36 years, Lloyd's face and voice have been beamed into millions of living rooms every night during the award-winning Ten O'clock News on KTVU. His reporting is a chief reason why the newscast is rated as one of the best in the country.

With 43 years in journalism, Lloyd is often considered the dean of reporters in the Bay Area. He is the longest tenured reporter at KTVU and has run its South Bay Bureau for decades. I have had the pleasure to be interviewed by Lloyd many times and have witnessed his professionalism and attention to detail first hand; he is meticulous, fair and won't give any public official a pass.

Lloyd has covered some of the biggest stories of our region and time: The Loma Prieta earthquake, the Oakland Hills fire, the eruption of Mt. Saint Helens, the L.A. riots in 1992, the Columbine school shooting, Hurricane Mitch in Honduras, the Kobe earthquake, the Marcos vs. Aquino presidential campaign in the Philippines, and the list goes on. So many of us in the Bay Area experienced these events through his eyes.

Early in his career Lloyd covered a story that would affect the way he reported for decades. He was doing a live stand up from Stanford Hospital where the family of a Castro Valley man was holding a vigil because he needed a heart. Lloyd reached into his wallet, pulled out his driver's license with the pink donor dot and said, being an organ donor is a way to make a life-changing gift, even though you will never meet the recipient. A few days later, he received a call from a woman who told him that her daughter had died in an accident and she donated the daughter's heart because she had seen his story and remembered his words. This experience powerfully reminded Lloyd that his reporting affected lives and that he carried a responsibility to always be mindful of people.

Before coming to KTVU in August of 1976, Lloyd worked for the Los Angeles Herald Examiner, KMPC Radio, KNX-CBS Newsradio, American Forces Korea Network, KABC Radio, KABC TV and KGO TV.

He has won several of the most prestigious journalism awards, including six Emmys from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, NATAS. His reporting was essential in the Ten O'clock News winning a national Edward R. Murrow Award for Newscast Excellence in 2004 from the Radio-Television News Directors Association, RTNDA.

One of his award-winning series took Lloyd to Vietnam in 1986. He followed three Vietnam veterans who went back to find their Amerasian children they had fathered during the war. It was fathers like them that in 1982 led to the Amerasian Act which allowed children born in Cambodia, Korea, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam after December 31, 1950 and before October 22, 1982 to immigrate to the United States.

Lloyd was the first elected national president of the Asian American Journalists Association

and the first president of Unity Journalists of Color. He is on AAJA's list of pioneer Asian American journalists and received the group's Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2004, he was inducted into the NATAS Silver Circle for his many years of outstanding Bay Area reporting.

Lloyd was born in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1947. He received his BA in journalism from Los Angeles and San Jose State Colleges and his Masters in Journalism from UCLA.

In his retirement, Lloyd is looking forward to spending more time with his family and friends and a slower pace of life with more time to read, play tennis and travel. He is married to Mona Lisa Yuchengco and has two daughters, Angelisa Marie LaCuesta-Russo and Elena Maria LaCuesta-Roberson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor a broadcast icon who has been part of the fabric of the Bay Area for decades. Not long ago, a person saw the retired reporter in San Mateo, stopped him and said, "You used to be Lloyd LaCuesta!"—I'm sure that won't be the last time. Lloyd will be deeply missed by viewers, public officials and his co-workers alike.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION
FOR UNITED STATES ARMY
STAFF SERGEANT ORION NELSON
SPARKS

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Army Staff Sergeant Orion Nelson Sparks, who was killed in action with a fellow soldier on September 26, 2012 when an insurgent wearing a suicide vest detonated the device near their patrol in Pule-Alam, Afghanistan. He leaves behind his mother, father, two brothers and numerous friends.

Born in Tacoma, Washington, Staff Sergeant Sparks spent most of his childhood in Gig Harbor, Washington. He attended Peninsula High School before joining the Army in 2003. Staff Sergeant Sparks was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team based in Germany.

Staff Sergeant Sparks was on his first deployment to Afghanistan, but he had already completed two previous deployments to Iraq, the first a 14-month deployment from May 2003 to July 2004 and the other a year-long deployment from November 2005 to 2006.

Since entering the Army, Staff Sergeant Sparks was considered a great soldier. Over his career he earned more than a dozen honors including two Army Commendation Medals, five Army Achievement Medals, three Army Good Conduct Medals, an Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star and four Iraq Campaign Medals with Bronze Service Stars. For his bravery in action, Staff Sergeant Sparks was awarded a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star posthumously.

We remember Staff Sergeant Sparks and offer our deepest condolences and sincerest prayers to his family. I am heartsick for their loss and my words cannot offer adequate consolation.

Everyone in our great country owes Staff Sergeant Sparks and his family a debt of grati-

tude for his selfless sacrifice and courage. It is vital that we keep our men and women in uniform who are in harm's way in our thoughts and prayers. I call on my fellow colleagues and all Americans to remember Staff Sergeant Sparks and his fellow fallen comrades—those who have paid the ultimate price.

RECOGNIZING THE GILMORE FAMILY AS THE 2012 ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Gilmore family for being selected as the 2012 Escambia County, Florida Outstanding Farm Family.

Jacob and Carla Gilmore, along with their twin daughters Sydney and Ella, own and operate the Gizmo Angus Farm in Molino, Florida. Thanks to programs like 4-H and FFA, Jacob gained invaluable experience in agriculture at a young age, and this experience has helped the Gilmore family establish a successful cattle farm. From the ages of 8 to 19, Jacob consistently won accolades from 4-H, FFA and the Escambia County Interstate Fair. He also twice produced the Grand Champion Steer, while also raising Grand Champion Laying Hens, and becoming a state finalist in beef production entrepreneurship.

Seven years ago, the Gilmores were married, and Carla immediately embraced the hard work and dedication necessary to successfully operate a family farm. She supports her husband in every way possible, and together they are helping to instill a love of farming in their daughters. Today, Gizmo Angus Farm prides itself on integrating the latest technologies available to the industry, such as Artificial Insemination and embryo transfer, with traditional cattle farming activities.

In addition to their work on the family farm, the Gilmores are active in working with the youth of their community to spark interest in agriculture and family farming. By actively engaging young agriculture enthusiasts through the Young Farmers and Ranchers program, the Gilmores are a key influence in promoting agriculture throughout the state. The Gilmores have a true commitment to promoting agriculture in the Northwest Florida community, and their success is indicative of their dedication to farming and commitment to family.

Mr. Speaker, our great nation was built by farmers and their families. The Escambia County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year Award is a reflection of the Gilmores' tireless work and their dedication to family and farming. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Gilmore family for this great accomplishment. My wife Vicki and I extend our best wishes for their continued success.