

will forever be remembered as an outstanding sailor, husband, and father. We thank him and his family for their service and sacrifice for our country.

His sacrifice reflects the words of Jesus in John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man that this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

God bless our military men and women, and God bless America.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an American hero, Chief Petty Officer Chris Kyle.

Eleven days ago, Chief Kyle was taken away from all of us while doing what he did best—helping others, especially fellow veterans.

During his four tours in Iraq, Chief Kyle served in every major battle of Operation Iraqi Freedom. His skill as a sniper became legendary among Americans and insurgents alike. He was given the nickname "the devil of Ramadi" by the insurgents and a \$20,000 bounty was placed on his head.

By the time Chief Kyle left the Navy in 2009, he had made 160 confirmed kills, more than any other U.S. military sniper in history.

Chief Kyle returned home to Midlothian, Texas in 2009 to be with his wife, Taya Kyle, and their two young children.

Chief Kyle continued protecting his fellow warriors through the creation of the Fitco Cares Foundation, which raised awareness and money to help veterans overcome post-traumatic stress disorder.

In 2012, Chief Kyle's, *American Sniper*, was published. Though his book became a best seller, he never received money from it. Instead, he used the proceeds for the families of two friends and fellow SEALs.

Most notable of all, Chief Kyle was a man who loved his family deeply, watched over his friends, and did all he could to protect and help those close to him.

I offer my condolences to the family and friends of Chris Kyle and offer the thanks of a grateful nation.

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart after the loss of an American hero. I was saddened last week to learn about the tragic death of Chris Kyle, a former Navy SEAL, decorated Iraq war veteran and valuable member of the North Texas community. Mr. Kyle was a native Texan and received numerous awards and decorations throughout his four tours of duty in Iraq, including two Silver Stars, five Bronze Stars with Valor, and two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals.

Upon his honorable discharge in 2009, Mr. Kyle returned home to North Texas and began focusing his attention on helping other veterans cope with the physical and emotional struggles of life after deployment. Whether he was in combat or in the community, Mr. Kyle was always dedicated to providing support for his fellow service members. His death is truly a significant loss, not only for North Texas, but for the country as a whole. I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning the passing of this selfless American hero and to continue to send thoughts and prayers to his family and loved ones.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of native Texan, Chief Petty Officer Christopher Scott Kyle, a Navy SEAL and a true American hero.

Chris Kyle grew up in Odessa, Texas and as a young child, was taught to shoot by his

father. He went on to use those skills in defense of our nation as a SEAL in the U.S. Navy. Chief Kyle served in every major battle of Operation Iraqi Freedom during his four tours in Iraq. During his time in Iraq, he was shot twice and involved in several IED explosions, and was awarded for his distinguished service both the Bronze and Silver Star medals several times.

After being honorably discharged from the Navy in 2009, this devoted family man to wife, Taya, and their two children, settled in Midlothian, Texas to run Craft International, a firm that provides law enforcement training and security protection. Determined to help his fellow soldiers, Chris helped create the Fitco Cares Foundation, which provides support and encouragement to veterans in need.

The untimely death of this American patriot and military hero is a devastating loss—not just for his precious family, but for his fellow veterans, his community and the entire nation. We grieve for his wife, and children, who must go on without his presence. We lament that his good works are left unfinished. And we mourn for the lives who have been robbed of ever knowing him and benefitting from his faith, encouragement, and tenacity.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, my prayers today are with the family and loved ones of Chief Petty Officer Chris Kyle. I was deeply saddened to learn of the tragic shooting of two men, including Chief Petty Officer Kyle, that took place in Erath County, Texas on February 2nd. A Navy SEAL, Chief Petty Officer Kyle earned distinction for his actions in battle during several tours of duty in Iraq, and is renowned as the most lethal sniper in American military history. Chief Petty Officer Kyle—by all accounts, a devoted father and husband—committed his life after serving to assisting his fellow veterans.

I join the citizens of a grateful nation in honoring Chief Petty Officer Kyle and all of our current and former military personnel for their valiant service. As the son, grandson, and brother of veterans, I deeply appreciate the brave men and women who have sacrificed to make our country and the world a better, safer place to live. President Calvin Coolidge once said, "The nation which forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten." I agree, and will do my utmost to make sure that our defenders, such as Chief Petty Officer Kyle, are remembered.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today in honor and in memory of former U.S. Navy SEAL Chris Kyle. Chris was senselessly killed on Saturday, February 2, 2013, along with a fellow veteran at a gun range 50 miles southwest of Fort Worth, Texas.

Chris was a true patriot who served our country with distinction and honor. Born in Odessa, Texas, Chris joined the United States Navy in 1999, after being initially rejected due to an arm injury sustained during his time as a professional bronco rodeo rider. Following his initial training, Kyle was assigned to the illustrious SEAL Team 3, where he participated in every major battle of Operation Iraqi Freedom. For his bravery, he was awarded two Silver Stars, five Bronze Stars with Valor, two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and one Navy and Marine Corps Commendation. Additionally, Kyle is credited with sniping more than 160 insurgents throughout his four deployments, making him one of the most lethal snipers in the history of the United States military.

After completing his combat duty in 2009, Chris continued to serve not only his country but also the unit he loved so much—the Navy SEALs—as well as fellow veterans of all branches struggling to cope with the effects of serving their country in wartime. Chris authored the Naval Special Warfare Sniper Doctrine—the first Navy SEAL sniper manual—and became chief instructor training Naval Special Warfare Sniper and Counter-Sniper teams. In 2011, Chris paired with FITCO Fitness to establish the FITCO Cares Foundation Heroes Project to help disabled or struggling veterans improve their lives. Chris knew that his experiences as a SEAL and the challenges he faced upon returning home could best be channeled into helping fellow veterans and their families who have given so much to ensure our safety and our freedom.

Sadly, Chris, along with his friend and fellow veteran, Chad Littlefield, died senselessly Saturday while trying to help another fellow veteran. While we may never be able to make sense of this terrible tragedy, today, we remember the sacrifice of these two brave men, who were not only heroic in their defense of this nation, but were also heroic here at home as they attempted to better the lives of their returning comrades.

Chris Kyle was deeply committed to serving both his country and his fellow veterans and will always be remembered as one who placed honor and duty above his own personal interest and safety. I am humbled by his service and dedication to not just the SEALs, but to his country, his fellow veterans, his community, his friends and his family. His sacrifice exemplifies that set forth in John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."

May the peace of God be with those they loved and those who loved them and sustain them through this time of sorrow.

□ 1610

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces, without objection, that the Speaker's appointment of members of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence on February 8, 2013, is made notwithstanding the requirement of clause 11(a)(4)(A) of rule X; and the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to clause 11 of rule X, clause 11 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, and notwithstanding the requirement of clause 11(a)(1)(C) of rule X, of the following Members of the House to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:

Mr. THOMPSON, California
 Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Illinois
 Mr. LANGEVIN, Rhode Island
 Mr. SCHIFF, California
 Mr. GUTERREZ, Illinois
 Mr. PASTOR, Arizona
 Mr. HIMES, Connecticut

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.