

spirit and the human saga. The vast human tragedy in Syria continues unabated with the international community failing to stop it, while Iran's menacing shadow looms large. May the Middle East and the entire world where the Jewish people first proclaimed an enlightened agenda for all, yet be transformed, with the United States' critical role, in the spirit of eternal Shalom.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED REPRESENTATIVE, CLAY FORD, JR.

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Northwest Florida's beloved Representative Clay Ford, Jr., who passed away on March 18, 2013 after a courageous battle with cancer. Throughout his long and distinguished career in the United States Army and public service, Representative Ford served as a mentor and an inspiration to countless individuals. All those who have been blessed by his presence mourn the loss of a great man and unparalleled public servant.

Representative Ford, an Arkansas native, studied at the University of Arkansas, where he received his Bachelor's in Finance as well as his Juris Doctorate. He continued his education at Shippensburg University, where obtained his Master's in Public Administration. He married Carol Ann DeBusk Ford, of Little Rock Arkansas, and together they raised three sons, David, Doug, and Clay.

Representative Ford served proudly for more than 30 years in the United States Army as an infantry officer rising from the rank of Private to retire as Colonel in 1988. During his faithful years of service to our nation's Armed Forces, he filled important roles in both active, reserve, and the National Guard components of the Army. He served our country with honor and distinction, and he helped to protect the freedoms we all enjoy today. His many accomplishments during service include a NRA national record for the high power rifle competition.

In addition to his dedicated service to the Armed Forces, Representative Ford will be remembered for his leadership and contributions as a dedicated public servant. Before settling in Northwest Florida, he served his native state of Arkansas as a Representative of the Arkansas State Legislature from 1975–1976. In 1990 he was elected to the Gulf Breeze City Council in Florida, where he served until his election to the Florida House of Representatives in 2007. Representative Ford was widely respected by those who knew him. He was a man of conviction and compassion.

Aside from his leadership in the Florida House of Representatives, he was involved in a myriad of civic and veterans service organizations, including the Gulf Breeze Methodist Church, Gulf Breeze Rotary Club, Pensacola Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, Gulf Breeze City Council, Florida League of Cities—where he served as president from 2004–2005, National Rifle Association, American Legion, and Military Officers Association of America.

Throughout his life, Representative Ford served his nation and community with the utmost integrity and humility. To some, he will be remembered as a dedicated public official with an unwavering commitment to serving his community. To others, he will be remembered as a patriot who served our nation with honor and distinction. To his family and friends, he will most fondly be remembered as a man of faith and a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. His contributions to Northwest Florida, Arkansas, and our nation were truly exceptional and his legacy will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor the life of Clay Ford, Jr. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our sincerest condolences and our prayers go out to his wife, Carol; sons, David, Doug, and Clay; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and the entire Ford family. He will truly be missed by all.

HONORING OFFICER PIERCE'S RETIREMENT

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2013

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor Detective Bob Pierce for his long and distinguished career in law enforcement.

On March 28th, Detective Pierce will celebrate his retirement from Cobb County Police Department after over 40—years of dutiful service to Georgians.

While he currently works for the Cobb County Police Department's Internal Affairs Division selecting new officers, he's served Georgia communities in many capacities. Since March of 1972, Pierce has worked in uniformed patrol, narcotics, intelligence, burglary, homicide, and corrections.

In 2012, the Cobb Chamber of Commerce awarded him the Distinguished Achievement Award in recognition of service and performance that have exceeded the call of duty. Detective Pierce has played an invaluable leadership role in the community and among his peers for decades. His service will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Cobb County, my deepest thanks to Detective Pierce for devoting his life to upholding the law and to the protection of Georgia citizens. I wish him a happy—and well-deserved—retirement from public service.

S. WILLIAM CLARK, III, MD—OUTSTANDING ADVOCATE AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2013

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and pride that I ask all members of the House to recognize a fellow physician and Georgian, S. William Clark, III,

M.D., who has received the American Academy of Ophthalmology's 2012 Outstanding Advocate Award. This honor is bestowed upon Academy members who participate in advocacy-related efforts at the state or federal level. Recipients perform advocacy functions in their capacity as ophthalmologists and demonstrate a pattern of supporting and improving the profession of medicine over a period of years.

Dr. Bill Clark, whom I have had the privilege of knowing for nearly 30 years, is a fitting recipient of this honor. As a general ophthalmologist in Waycross, Georgia, Dr. Clark has long been a committed advocate for ophthalmology, and medicine in general, since before completing his fellowship in 1984. A second-generation ophthalmologist, he learned the importance of being an effective proponent for quality health care from his revered father. With great concern for patients and respect for the principles of the healing arts, he has shared his passion with generations of new physicians.

Dr. Clark is a Past President and Board member of the Medical Association of Georgia (MAG) and has served as Vice President and Academy Councilor representing the Georgia Society of Ophthalmology (GSO). Since 1988, he has served in the American Medical Association (AMA) House of Delegates, representing the AMA Young Physicians Section, the American Academy of Ophthalmology, and Medical Association of Georgia. He currently serves as the Vice-Chair of the Georgia AMA Delegation.

For his commitment and devotion to physicians and patients on the state and federal level, I am so very pleased to take this opportunity to recognize my friend, Dr. Bill Clark, and congratulate him on the occasion of his receiving the American Academy of Ophthalmology's 2012 Outstanding Advocate Award.

JAIR SALAZAR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jair Salazar for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jair Salazar is an 11th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jair Salazar is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jair Salazar for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.