

2013. Kenzo Kamei spent his early years in Japan where he attended elementary and secondary school. He returned to California at the age of 18, and worked with his parents harvesting crops and working on farms. As a young man he met and married Ruth Kisa "Kisako" Nishimoto in Sunnyvale, California, and shortly thereafter the couple was interned at Heart Mountain, Wyoming.

Kenzo Kamei kept many mementos which documented his time at Heart Mountain . . . his daily work release pay stubs recording his earnings of \$18 per month, the highest in the camp, and the receipt that he was given on his final release from the Camp, giving him \$28, or \$5 per day for five days of travel, and \$3 for subsistence enroute. These artifacts are now part of an interpretive center built by the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, a non-profit group that has made it its mission to tell the many stories of internment, about triumph and tragedy, prejudice and friendship. After being released from internment, Kenzo and Ruth returned to Sunnyvale. Kenzo worked as a gardener and warehouseman, and he and Ruth saved enough money to launch Kamei Nursery, Inc., a grower of award-winning flowers, in Mountain View, California. They opened nurseries in Mountain View and Morgan Hill, and they were key in founding the Buddhist Temple in Mountain View.

Kenzo Kamei was a devoted husband who spent several years caring for his beloved wife of 70 years, who passed away on June 8, 2012. Kenzo leaves his son Kenneth; his daughters, Eileen (Robert) Eng, and Judy (Steve) Inamori. He also leaves his adored grandchildren, Ami, Ellen and Jonathan Kamei; Emily Eng Holbrook, Laura Eng Derdenger and Julia Eng; and Bradley, Gregory and Kathryn Inamori. He also leaves his great-grandson Davis Patrick Derdenger, and many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, Kenzo Kamei was an extraordinary American who will be greatly missed by his family and his community. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our condolences to his family and friends who mourn his passing and honor his life which was lived in dignity and accomplishment.

CELEBRATING BILL GRAY

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the chorus of those honoring the late William Herbert Gray III. Congressman Gray's 21 years in the House saw him rise to the Chairmanship of the Budget Committee as well as being elected Democratic Whip. While many have honored Bill for his contributions to public affairs, I would like to recognize his distinguished service in the corporate world.

Following his career in the House, Gray served on the Board of Dell Inc. for 13 years and was an integral part of Dell's global success. In the corporate setting, Bill took his duties as a Board member very seriously. Not only did he actively participate in Board meetings, but he also brought his vast knowledge and experience to the daily workings of the company.

During his tenure at Dell, he regularly met with Government Affairs and Human Relations teams, among other employee groups, to provide insight, guidance, and counsel. As Dell grew globally, Bill underscored the importance of the company engaging in a dialogue with government leaders in markets from the US to Europe to China. He understood that corporate success globally meant more jobs in the United States.

Bill's passing was sudden and unforeseen, and a great loss to U.S. business and government. Michael Dell, the founder and CEO of Dell, shared that, "Bill was a great friend and trusted advisor to me and our Board members. He brought a unique and distinctive perspective on our business and our industry. I valued his wisdom and insight on public policy matters, and benefitted greatly from his sage counsel for so many years."

I appreciate the opportunity to pause for a moment to remember the many ways Bill Gray served his country. Erika and I extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and colleagues.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, on July 9, 2013, I was unavoidably detained and was not present for rollcall vote No. 316. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

HONORING THE LIFE OF WESTON "BITZIE" CONLEY OF MORATTICO, VA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of a proud citizen of Morattico, Virginia, a man whose friendship I have valued for many years. The late Weston "Bitzie" Conley was truly a pillar of his community, and his legacy will undoubtedly live on in Lancaster County and across Virginia's Northern Neck.

During our time working together in both the seafood and the banking industries, Bitzie was a first-class Virginia gentleman, exhibiting the highest qualities of integrity, selflessness, and compassion for his neighbors. My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Dorothy Lee, his daughter, Connie, and to his many loved ones in this time of mourning. I would like to submit an article from the Rappahannock Record about Bitzie's life and his many passions.

[From Rappahannock Record, June 13, 2013]

WESTON 'BITZIE' CONLEY, SEAFOOD INDUSTRY AND COMMUNITY LEADER, DIES

(By Audrey Thomasson)

MORATTICO.—He was known as "Bitzie" to his friends and family. But Weston Franklin Conley Jr. was a giant when it came to serving the community he loved. On Friday, the 78-year-old businessman and local philanthropist quietly passed away at his

Morattico home with his wife of 56 years, Dorothy Lee Clark, and daughter, Constance Elaine, by his side.

Conley was a force of inspiration in this community and a motivator for others, according to community leaders.

"He was a tremendous asset in how to conduct business and was a great help to me on the YMCA board," said District 4 supervisor William Lee, who succeeded Conley as board chairman. "I gained so much from just listening to him."

Lee, who served on several community boards with Conley, noted he was a man of integrity and generosity in both his business and personal endeavors.

"He was not slanted or biased. He always gave his honest opinion. Once he said to me, 'Bill, I wouldn't have what I have now if it wasn't for the black community.' I think he was referring to all the men and women who worked for his seafood company picking crabs. Anybody that needed something could go to him. He gave of his time and talents beyond his resources," said Lee.

LEGACY

Part of Conley's legacy is evident in the growth and success of the Northern Neck YMCA.

Mark Favazza, branch executive of the YMCA, said Conley's fiscal wisdom, integrity, strategic thinking and coalition building made him an important leader in the development of the Kilmarnock facility, including heading the capital campaign that led to the Wiley Child Development Center.

"He wanted a place where children could be safe, families could find support, and everyone was welcome . . . He was the kind of man who worked privately and led behind the scenes . . . His humble service left an enduring impact on our YMCA, the Wiley Center . . . and me," said Favazza.

MORATTICO'S "MAYOR"

Conley's devotion to his heritage and home town exemplified his all-in style when he purchased Morattico's General Store in 2003 and donated it to the community as the Morattico Waterfront Museum, which he helped establish. No doubt Conley wanted to preserve fond memories of growing up and working in the general store his parents owned and operated for 18 years beginning in 1935, a year after his birth in Baltimore.

Today, the museum also serves as a community center for the families of Morattico. The first floor remains much like the general store of his youth while the second floor pays homage to the town's watermen.

"Everyone here called him Morattico's unofficial mayor," said Liz Failmezger, a village resident and former member of the museum board. "This is the saddest loss. He was one of the first people to welcome those of us who moved here. He was so genuine—and a true gentleman. He was our go-to guy for everything."

MENTOR AND FRIEND

"The county has lost one of its most prominent and charitable citizens," said District 1 supervisor and board chairman Butch Jenkins, a longtime friend.

Jenkins was only five years old when he met the "hard-charging" Conley, a man he always knew as Bitzie.

"He treated me as a little adult," said Jenkins. "I do not know when I became his friend, but he was my friend by the time I was six years old."

Later, when Jenkins decided to run for supervisor, he sought his older friend's counsel. "And good advice his proved to be," he said. "Over my time on the board, I often sought his feelings on pending issues . . . although we sometimes disagreed. "When I persisted, he told me, 'Butch, you usually do all right,