HONORING SPECIALIST MICHAEL JOHN FITZMAURICE

(Mrs. NOEM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a hero of our country and the State of South Dakota, Specialist Michael John Fitzmaurice, of the United States Army. Specialist Fitzmaurice, serving in the 3rd Platoon, Troop D, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery in action on March 23, 1971, in Vietnam.

When three enemy explosive charges landed in their bunker, Specialist Fitzmaurice quickly removed two and smothered the other charge with his body and flak vest. Despite his injuries, he charged the enemy, engaging at times in hand-to-hand combat. Fitzmaurice refused medical evacuation and continued fighting.

It is because of his extraordinary bravery and devotion to duty that I am proud to honor the actions of Specialist Michael John Fitzmaurice today.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL CHARLES CHRIS HAGEMEISTER

(Ms. JENKINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Charles Chris Hagemeister of the United States Army.

Lieutenant Colonel Hagemeister was with the 1st Cavalry Division and was awarded the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry in action on March 20, 1967, in Vietnam.

When Lieutenant Colonel Hagemeister's platoon came under attack, he disregarded his own safety and raced through deadly fire to provide aid to two of his wounded comrades. He then crawled forward to assist and encourage the platoon leader and other soldiers.

While under fire at close range, the lieutenant colonel took a rifle from a fallen soldier, killed a sniper, three advancing soldiers, and silenced an enemy machine gunner.

Unable to move the wounded, he again braved enemy fire and returned with help. Lieutenant Colonel Hagemeister then continued to administer aid and help remove his wounded brothers.

It is for his extraordinary bravery and selflessness that I am proud to honor and remember the actions of Lieutenant Colonel Charles Chris Hagemeister.

HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ARTHUR J. JACKSON

(Mr. VALADAO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the valiant efforts of Private First Class Arthur J. Jackson of the United States Marine Corps.

Private First Class Arthur J. Jackson was awarded the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy in Japan.

When Private First Class Arthur J. Jackson's platoon's left flank advance was held up by the fire of Japanese troops, Private First Class Jackson charged a large pillbox housing approximately 35 enemy soldiers. Pouring his automatic fire into the opening of the fixed installation to trap the occupying troops, he hurled white phosphorous grenades and explosive charges demolishing the pillbox and killing the enemies. He advanced two smaller positions and stormed one gun position after another until he succeeded in wiping out a total of 12 pillboxes and 50 Japanese soldiers. His gallant initiative and heroic conduct in the face of extreme peril reflect the highest credit upon Private Jackson and the U.S. Naval Service.

It is for his courage and unwavering devotion to duty that I am proud to honor and remember the actions of Private First Class Arthur J. Jackson.

HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS DON J. JENKINS

(Mr. GUTHRIE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Medal of Honor recipient Don J. Jenkins of the United States Army for his brave service in Vietnam.

Under heavy crossfire, Don Jenkins maneuvered forward to an exposed position and began placing suppressive fire on the enemy. He exposed himself to extremely heavy fire when he repeatedly ran and crawled across open terrain to obtain resupplies of ammunition until he had exhausted all that was available for his machine gun. Displaying tremendous presence of mind, he then armed himself with two antitank weapons and, by himself, maneuvered through the rapid, hostile fire to within 20 meters of an enemy bunker to destroy that position. After moving back to the friendly defensive perimeter long enough to secure yet another weapon, a grenade launcher, Don Jenkins moved forward to a position providing no protection and resumed placing accurate fire on the enemy until his ammunition was again exhausted.

It is for his courage and unwavering devotion to duty that I am proud to honor the actions of Private First Class Don J. Jenkins of Morgantown, Kentucky. I have the great privilege of knowing him personally, and I'm proud to call him my friend.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT RICHARD A. PITTMAN

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the heroic efforts of Master Sergeant Richard Allan Pittman of the United States Marine Corps.

Master Sergeant Pittman was with Company I, 1st Division and was awarded the Medal of Honor for consummate gallantry in action on July 24, 1966, in Vietnam.

When the company fell under intense enemy fire, Master Sergeant Pittman grabbed a machine gun and rushed toward the front to provide support. Through withering enemy fire, Master Sergeant Pittman rushed to the front of the patrol and eliminated multiple enemy positions. Master Sergeant Pittman then charged an additional 50 yards to retrieve three downed marines. In establishing a defensive position, he was able to engage and inflict heavy casualties upon an enemy force of 40 and successfully ward off their advance, saving the lives of many of the company's men.

It is for his bold fighting spirit and extreme devotion to duty that I am proud to honor and remember the actions of Master Sergeant Richard Allan Pittman.

HONORING SERGEANT ALLEN JAMES LYNCH

(Mr. HULTGREN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor a true American hero—Sergeant Allen James Lynch of Gurnee, Illinois.

Sergeant Lynch received the Medal of Honor for his brave actions in the Vietnam war where he risked his life to save three of his comrades.

On December 15, 1967, Lynch, serving as a radio-telephone operator for the United States Army, ran through open enemy fire to rescue three wounded soldiers. As the rest of the company withdrew, he stayed behind and single-handedly defended their position for 2 hours until reinforcements could be sent to evacuate them. Sergeant Lynch was just 22 years old at the time.

His meritorious actions extend far beyond his service in Vietnam. He continues to serve as a staunch advocate for disabled veterans and remains an inspiration to the community, often visiting with local schools and challenging students to be the next great leaders in America.

I commend his actions and his continued service to my community and to our country—a true inspiration.

I am proud to honor Sergeant Allen James Lynch and his outstanding courage.