

blues, and rock and roll. As the oldest surviving acoustic instrument producer in the world, C.F. Martin & Co. led the charge ever since the guitar began to take hold in the early 1800s and eventually surpassed the piano as the most popular instrument.

Impressively, six generations of the Martin family have continuously owned and operated C.F. Martin & Co. The company persevered through the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, and even the disco decade. C.F. Martin's adherence to high standards of musical excellence and the company's adaptability have helped account for its remarkable longevity. Business conditions and musical trends have changed over the years, but Martin's attitude toward guitar-building clearly has not.

C.F. Martin & Co. is also a commendable corporate citizen, with a long-standing dedication to responsible timber sourcing and a willingness to support its local community of Nazareth and the Lehigh Valley. Nationally and internationally, royalties from more than fifty signature edition Martin guitar projects have been donated to support of an array of charitable causes of various recording artists' choosing.

C.F. Martin & Co.'s achievements are a reflection of its guitars' high quality and the inspiration those instruments imbue in artists' hands. The company's accomplishments are a source of pride for its generations of employees and for Martin guitar players around the globe. I extend my wishes for continued high contributions to the world of music for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING SHARON
STANLEY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Sharon Stanley, my constituent from Circleville, OH, on being inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame for 2013. Each year, Governor John Kasich honors a handful of distinguished veterans with this recognition. Throughout her life and career, Ms. Stanley has been unwavering in her dedication and service to our great nation, and I commend her for this distinction.

Sharon Stanley was an Army nurse on both active duty and the reserves, and she continued to serve her community after retirement. From 2009 to August 2013, she served at the national level as Chief Nurse of the American Red Cross, where she led and trained Red Cross nurses in all areas of service, including disaster response and the National Student Nurse Program.

During her time with the Red Cross, Ms. Stanley was responsible for the volunteer management of over 15,000 Red Cross nurses and volunteer nurses. She also increased the presence of Red Cross volunteer nurses in both military hospitals and the health care system at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

But her service does not stop there. Ms. Stanley has been a part of the Community

Health Resilience Initiative for the Office of Health Affairs and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. She serves on the editorial board of the American Journal of Nursing, and she is directly involved with Wright State University in developing a national standardized program that will provide nurses with a certificate in Disaster Nursing.

In addition to her recent induction into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, Ms. Stanley was honored in 2013 as one of only five nurses from the United States to be awarded the prestigious Florence Nightingale Medal by the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva.

Ms. Sharon Stanley has improved the lives of countless service members and civilians. She is a hero by nature and a true public servant, and for that I respect and appreciate her. Ms. Stanley has rightfully earned her place in the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, and I offer my deepest congratulations to her.

TRIBUTE TO TIMOTHY MICHAEL
REESE, JR.

HON. MARK SANFORD

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Timothy Michael Reese, Jr. He was a sophomore at Clemson University, I am told a great brother, an even greater son, and a best friend to our son Landon. He lived a short, but remarkable life and in attempting to portray it let me just tell you one story.

I flew home Tuesday afternoon to attend his funeral and in the late afternoon after doing so, but before my flight, I joined maybe a hundred or more close friends to the family in warm remembrances of Michael's life over a meal. It was a perfect South Carolina late afternoon, the sun was light and the sky was blue. There was a light breeze in from the ocean there on Sullivan's Island, and despite the tragedy of a life cut short, there was a mood of peace and warmth and even happiness as we in our different ways reflected on Michael's impact in each of our own lives.

In that setting Tim, his dad, stood up and gave a really special talk about Michael, about God, faith, friendship and love. He talked about after days of tears and grieving, he had come to the point of peace because of his faith and as the crowd in the backyard listened to each word, three thoughts hit me.

One, there are few things in life more extraordinary than the love between a father or mother to a son or daughter. It's ultimately a reflection of God's model of love toward each one of us as a heavenly Father, and that's probably something I've not taken enough time to be appreciative of whether in heavenly or earthly form.

Two, it hit me how significant the gift of life really is . . . and how there can be an even greater gift and inspiration that comes in truly living it. In that regard, Michael, during his nineteen years set the bar. He was infectious in his enthusiasm for life. In the wake of the funeral I had spoken with Landon about Mi-

chael and he made the point that Michael was always positive. That he always added humor or laughter. That as a friend he didn't fight or argue, but instead looked for ways to build up Landon or others around him as they were beginning this journey called life.

He was not only positive, but also had this spectacular sense of adventure that I think would serve as an example for those double, three times or four times his age. Many frankly never find a sense of adventure like his regardless of their chapter in life. This manifested itself in back flips off the dock at our farm, Coosaw. It showed itself in ski jumps out West that frightened me on occasion. It even served as the origin for new words as the boys created "terragoning" as they pulled skateboards behind golf carts at the grandparents' home in Florida. I could give another hundred examples, but I would summarize the thoughts with what I remember reading many years ago on the front cover of Forbes magazine upon the death of Malcolm Forbes. It said simply, "While alive—he lived." Indeed Michael Reese did and in so doing, I believe serves as a vital reminder to every one of us who have been blessed by our Creator with this thing called life, to make the very most of it—and each day in it.

Finally, I was struck by the genuine sense of community. We all yearn for connection. I believe both to those around us and to God above. Sometimes I don't know that we would describe it in those terms, but I believe that the yearning is there in each one of us. This sense of community is as well something with spiritual overtones that I think tie back to being one's brother's keeper. I saw it there in South Carolina that night. Part of it I suspect comes from a local community that's maybe not as transient as some parts of the world, and as a result there are many multi-generational ties that have been there for all the many ups and downs that come with life. There is something special about that kind of community and I am proud to call it home. Maybe it was a reflection of the Reese family. Their roots not only run deep in the community, on a daily basis they've showered it with blessings based on their own warmth and grace. Maybe still another explanation was the spiritual component to what Tim talked about as his prayer and conversation really set the tone for the whole group assembled. So I suspect I could ascribe many different reasons for the sense of community I felt on Tuesday night, October 29th, but I just know that sense of community is vital. It is a reminder to me that if we could get it right in that backyard, we could get it right in my State and in this country and here, even in the halls of Congress.

So Michael Reese has left me with many things to ponder, but more than anything a life that was well and joyously celebrated in each day over his nineteen years of life, and that gives me something to strive for over the next nineteen of mine. My prayer, Mr. Speaker, is that it will do the same for you and for those who hear my voice. Godspeed, Michael. I know Tim and Frannie, Annie, McLean and Baker will miss you. Landon and I along with the rest of the Sanford gang will too, but we will see you soon.