

Vaughan Webb, assistant director at the Blue Ridge Institute at Ferrum College, told the Roanoke Times, Jack's death "is a great loss to the lore of moonshining." And, "He was a wealth of information. Jack was a character and he really knew how to tell a story."

Jack was a member and President of the Piedmont Fraternal Order of Police, a Free Mason, and a lifelong member of Belmont Baptist Church. He also was a member of the U.S. Navy Mineman Association. Jack earned an AAS, BS, and LLB from Virginia Western Community College and LaSalle Extension Law Institute, and was a 1981 graduate of the National FBI Police Academy.

Jack is survived by his wife Mary of Roanoke; daughters Trenda Powell Jacocks and her husband, Army Colonel John Mc. Jacocks, M.D., of Fairfax Station, Virginia and Andrea Powell McKown and her husband, Navy Captain Martin H. McKown Jr., of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Also surviving are six grandchildren, one of which was Martin Hayes McKown III of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, who was an original member of my congressional office staff. Other grandchildren are Brittany Virginia Jacocks of New York, New York; Mary Carter Jacocks of Fairfax Station, Virginia; Air Force 2LT Connor Braxton McKown of Del Rio, Texas; Army Cadet 1st Class Carson Lee McKown, of West Point, New York; and Air Force Cadet 4th Class Bailey Wright McKown of Pittsburgh, Pa.; and his nephew, Allen Powell, of Roanoke.

Jack Powell's legacy and influence will be long remembered throughout our region. I am honored to pay tribute to this great man. My continued prayers are with his family and friends. May God give them comfort during this difficult time.

HONORING JOSEPH DEBRO

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and career of Bay Area community leader and tireless advocate for the underserved, Mr. Joseph Debro. Known throughout the Greater Oakland/Bay Area region as an innovative and dedicated mentor for minority businesses, Joseph Debro was also a stalwart community member. With his passing, we look to Mr. Debro's tremendous legacy and the outstanding quality of his life's work.

Born in Jackson, Mississippi, Mr. Debro attended and graduated from McClymonds High School in Oakland, California. He later enrolled at the University of California at Berkeley, where he was awarded an undergraduate and Master's Degree in bio-chemistry. Upon graduation, Mr. Debro put his extensive knowledge to work as research assistance at the University of California at San Francisco, and later when he was recruited by NASA as a bio-chemical engineer.

In his own words, Mr. Debro was the son of former slaves, who had to ride in the back of the bus with his parents, drinking water from fountains designated for coloreds only, and picking cotton in fields owned by White people. And even though he saw some diminution of racism throughout his lifetime, he was al-

ways quick to point out glaring inequalities in our justice system that persists to this day.

Mr. Debro tirelessly sought to raise awareness of the experiences African American contractors faced in their attempts to be recognized as viable businessmen in their industry. In the mid-1960's, Mr. Debro observed that Black contractors were excluded from urban redevelopment projects occurring in their own backyard. In his efforts to fight this disparity, Mr. Debro organized minority contractors and co-founded the National Association of Minority Contractors. Along these same lines, in 2009, he founded the Bay Area Black Builders, an organization composed of black construction workers and contractors fighting for economic justice.

As a community activist, Mr. Debro fought for fair housing policies, lending practices, and employment in building trades, among other issues. Alongside Congressman Bennie Thompson, he helped build thousands of units of rural housing throughout the nation. As a contractor, Mr. Debro built and rehabilitated numerous structures, such as the Malonga Casquelord Arts Center in Oakland. And in keeping with his role as a guardian of the community, in 2012, he again challenged the Raiders football team in court to repay a \$53.9 million loan to the City of Oakland and County of Alameda.

Furthermore, Mr. Debro boasted an impressive history with local and state government. Throughout the years, he served as the Director for the State of California's office of Small Business, Director of the Oakland Small Business Center, Director of the Oakland Model Cities Program, and the Vice President of the Mayor's office of Economic Development in San Francisco.

I had the honor to have known Joe since the early 1970s. He was a visionary, bold, and never wavered with his commitment to the African American community. He helped fund California Resources, which Elihu Harris and I organized, and provided a Washington presence for minority owned firms. I learned a lot from Joe and will always remember his friendship and his wise counsel.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors a great friend of the Bay Area and a true champion for equity, Mr. Joseph Debro. His steadfast commitment to ensuring that minorities have access to a better quality of life will forever live on with the legacy of his vision. I offer my sincerest condolences to his many loved ones and to all of those whose lives he touched over the years. He will be deeply missed.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN SAM HOWE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Captain Sam Howe, who has worked in my office for the past year as a Defense Fellow. Capt Howe started in my office last January and he has truly been a pleasure to have on the staff. His extensive military experience has benefited the office tremendously as he offers a unique perspective, is always prepared, takes on any task and does it with a smile.

Captain Howe was born in 1986 and grew up with his two younger sisters, Georgia, 25, and Willa, 21, in the friendly suburb of Belmont, Massachusetts, just outside of Boston, where his parents, John and Teresa, still live today. In 2004, Capt Howe graduated from Belmont Hill School.

Capt Howe would go on to attend Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. While there, he earned a B.A. in Public Policy Studies with a minor in Political Science and met the love of his life, his wife, Casey Freeman. Following his junior year of college, in 2007, Capt Howe completed Marine Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia, which involved a ten week screening and training program for prospective Marine Officers. Upon his graduation from Duke in 2008, Sam was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Following commissioning, Capt Howe returned to Quantico to attend the six month Basic Officer Course and, after being designated as a Marine Communications Officer, he completed the five month Basic Communications Officer Course. He was subsequently assigned to First Marine Logistics Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force, of Camp Pendleton, California.

While stationed in California, Capt Howe served as a platoon commander, company operations officer, company executive officer, and acting company commander. In those roles, he was responsible for the welfare and readiness of his Marines, planning and conducting training, administration, and preparing Marines for deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom or other contingencies. In 2010, Capt Howe completed a seven month deployment to Afghanistan, supervising a platoon of 55 Marines.

As a civilian, Capt Howe enjoys good food, craft beer, and traveling abroad, as well as running, skiing, working out, and reading. He completed the Marine Corps Marathon in 2012 after moving to Washington, D.C. from California. He and his wife live in Washington, D.C.

During his time in the office he has focused his efforts on defense acquisition, defense appropriations, the intelligence community, Navy SEALs training, and many other policy areas. He has been an invaluable resource to all my staff and I would also like to take this opportunity to thank his family for supporting him through the years; he truly is one impressive guy. On behalf of everyone in the office, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Captain Sam Howe for all his hard work and let him know that my office door is always open to him.

HONORING FORT BENNING'S SARGENT PATRICK HAWKINS, PRIVATE FIRST CLASS CODY PATTERSON, 1ST LIEUTENANT JENNIFER MORENO, SPECIAL AGENT JOSEPH PETERS, AND CORPORAL JOSHUA HARGIS

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I come before you today to honor 5 of Fort Benning's own soldiers who courageously put