

TRIBUTE TO MIDWEST  
CONSTRUCTION & SUPPLY INC.

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 9, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Midwest Construction & Supply Incorporated of Grimes, Iowa. Midwest Construction & Supply was recently recognized for their outstanding commitment to business ethics by the Better Business Bureau (BBB) and presented with a 2015 Integrity Award.

The Better Business Bureau has been developing and administering self-regulation programs for the business community for the past 75 years. The Integrity Awards were established in 1993 to recognize exemplary businesses while promoting the BBB's mission of leadership in advancing marketplace trust.

Midwest Construction & Supply has lived up to these goals and provided excellent service and customer satisfaction for 57 years and over three generations. This attitude spreads throughout the entire organization from their President, Kalliope Eaton.

I applaud and congratulate Midwest Construction & Supply Inc. for earning this prestigious award. I am proud to represent them in the U.S. Congress and I know that my colleagues join me in congratulating Midwest Construction & Supply Inc. and wishing them nothing but continued success in the future.

HONORING COLONEL PETER  
AHERN ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. MARTHA MCSALLY**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 9, 2015*

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Peter Ahern on his many years of service to our country, and to wish him well on his upcoming retirement.

Colonel Ahern received his Bachelor's Degree from St. Ambrose University and was commissioned through the Platoon Leaders Course program in May of 1986. In 2007, he received a Masters of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the National War College.

Colonel Ahern served 29 years in the Marine Corps. His assignments included, but were not limited to, serving as Company Commander, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, MCRD San Diego; Battery Commander, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division; Future Operations Division (J35) United States Africa Command, Stuttgart, Germany; Commanding Officer Chemical Biological Incident Response Force (CBIRF), II Marine Expeditionary Force; and culminating as Director, Strategic Initiatives Group (SIG), Headquarters Marine Corps.

Colonel Ahern participated in combat operations in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait (Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm), Iraq (Operation

Iraqi Freedom, OIF-II); and planning/advisory duties with the Ugandan Peoples Defense Force; and humanitarian assistance disaster relief operations in Japan (Operation TOMODACHI).

Colonel Ahern has received a number of awards over the course of his career, most notably the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with three gold stars, the Navy Commendation Medal with two gold stars, the Joint Meritorious Achievement Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, and the Navy-Marine Corps Expert Parachute Wings.

It's not an overstatement to say Colonel Ahern was one of the finest officers with whom I served. He and I were part of the initial cadre tasked to stand up Africa Command, and we worked closely on many security and humanitarian issues that arose anywhere on the continent. Colonel Ahern was an operationally-focused leader, a brilliant strategist, and utmost professional. He was instrumental to the success of Africa Command, not just while we served there, but long after he was reassigned as well.

I thank Colonel Ahern for his many years of service to our nation. It was a privilege to serve with him and call him a colleague, and I wish him all the best in his upcoming retirement.