

by depraved individuals who pledge allegiance to organizations that misuse the peaceful religion of Islam for their own misguided purposes.

Such horrible and heinous acts are the responsibility of the perpetrators, and theirs alone, and for which they can be assured that they alone will be held accountable.

This was one of the central messages conveyed during the Prayer Vigil and Unity Press Conference I led last Sunday afternoon in Houston, the 4th largest and most diverse city in the United States.

In addition to the steps laid out by the President, I also believe there are additional steps the Congress should take, including bringing to the floor for debate and vote to pass H.R. 48, the "No Fly for Foreign Fighters Act," that I introduced earlier this year.

This legislation would require TSA to check the Terrorist Screening Database and the terrorist watch list used in determining whether to permit a passenger to board a U.S.-bound or domestic flight and to take appropriate steps to ensure that those who pose a threat to aviation safety or national security are included in the Terrorism Database.

I ask a moment of silence for the victims killed and injured in the attacks by franchise terrorists last Wednesday in San Bernardino, California.

IN HONOR OF THE 80TH BIRTHDAY  
OF RAYMOND COCHRAN

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2015*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Pastor Raymond Cochran on his 80th birthday on December 13th.

Raymond was born in Lee County, Alabama in 1935 to John and Lucille Cochran.

Mr. Cochran found a passion for religion at an early age, having joined the Ebenezer Baptist Church at age seven. He holds Bachelors and Masters of Bible Theology degrees from the International Institute and Seminary in Plymouth, Florida, in addition to a Bachelor of Arts degree from Selma University in Selma, Alabama.

He also holds two honorary doctorates, in divinity and law, from the Union Theological Seminary in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. Cochran has received numerous awards in recognition of his long service, and is involved in numerous community groups.

He served as the Pastor of seven different churches throughout Alabama and Georgia, before joining the Franchise Missionary Baptist in Phenix City, Alabama, where he has been the pastor for the past 47 years. Mr. Cochran and his wife Mary have six daughters, two sons, nineteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the life and achievements of Mr. Raymond Cochran and wishing him a happy 80th birthday!

TRIBUTE TO MARK LARSEN

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mark Larsen, of Mount Ayr, Iowa for being selected as a member of the Mount Ayr Community Hall of Fame.

Mark was hired as a math teacher and girls' basketball and track coach at Mount Ayr Schools in 1970. He coached six-on-six, and later five-on-five basketball, winning 286 games in total. His girls basketball teams won six conference titles and qualified for the state tournament in 1998. His girls track teams claimed 15 conference titles and four district championships. He also started the girls softball program in 1972, and on the softball diamond his teams amassed over 700 wins. Mark was inducted in to the Iowa Coaches Hall of Fame in 1998 and was elected to the Iowa High School Athletic Directors Association Hall of Fame in 2002.

Mr. Speaker, Mark's efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent him and Iowans like him in the United States Congress. As a coach, teacher, and athletic director, he has had a profound impact on the lives of thousands of Iowa's young people. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Mark for his achievements and wish him nothing but continued success.