

actively involved with the Evangelical Free Church in Fullerton and the Trinity Baptist Church in Downey.

According to people who know Ken, and that is quite a large group, his life is built on love for faith, family, friends, a good wit, laughter, service to others, hard work, and a deep and abiding passion for his country.

Ken became 100 years old on February 9, 2017, and is celebrating this significant milestone on Saturday, February 18, 2017, at the Trinity Baptist Church.

I am honored to join with local leaders, and with Mr. Thompson's family and friends, in wishing him a very happy 100th birthday.

WORKING TO INTEGRATE NETWORKS GUARANTEEING MEMBER ACCESS NOW ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 13, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 512, the Working to Integrate Networks Guaranteeing Member Access Now Act, ("Wingman Ace"), which amends title 38, United States Code, to provide certain employees of Members of Congress and certain employees of State or local governmental agencies with access to case-tracking information of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

H.R. 512 directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide an accredited, permanent congressional employee with read-only remote access to the electronic Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) claims records system of a represented veteran, regardless of whether the employee is acting under a power of attorney executed by the veteran.

The DVA shall ensure that success does not allow the employee to modify system data.

Each Member of Congress who elects to have an employee participate in the system shall bear the certification cost which shall be paid from the Member's representation allowance.

The amended version would also require the DVA to implement the bill using appropriated funds, and allow as much as \$10 million to be used from fiscal 2017 through 2020 for that purpose. No funds could be used to train congressional staffers.

An accredited, "permanent congressional employee" is an employee of a Member of Congress who assists constituents with issues regarding federal departments or agencies.

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 512 and urge all members to join me in voting for its passage. For that reason I support this bill.

RECOGNIZING ED AND MARY GEORGE POSS

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ed and Mary George Poss, who will be celebrating 71 happy years of marriage on March 20th of this year.

The couple met one another in third grade, but didn't have the chance to go on their first date until Ed asked Mary George out seven years later. Ed was a typical class clown, and Mary George was a Grade A student who was admired for being dedicated to her studies. The two didn't want much to do with each other during elementary and junior high school, but Ed continuously admired Mary George's beautiful character.

After the two graduated high school, they decided to get married and begin a life together. As the two entered their freshman year of college as an engaged couple, it became clear that Mary George's father wasn't quite ready to let his little girl go. He tried to offer her gifts to postpone the wedding, but she insisted that Ed was the one for her and married him only 10 days after her eighteenth birthday.

Since then, Mr. and Mrs. Poss have maintained their commitment over many years and long distances. Mary George stayed close to home to attend the University of Georgia while Ed played football at Auburn University. Ed later enlisted in the United States Navy, and moved from Virginia to San Diego, California to carry out his duties. Throughout the seasons spent in various homes from coast to coast, they have raised two children, both of whom live in Rabun County.

Together, Ed and Mary George have presented their children and our community of northeast Georgia with an enduring example of commitment and trust. May we all look to Mr. and Mrs. Poss for an example of the joy that comes from a life of love and service to another.

IN TRIBUTE TO AL JARREAU

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alwin Lopez Jarreau, also known as Al Jarreau. He was a vocalist, musician, songwriter, and father. Al was born on March 12, 1940 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and passed away at the age of 76, on February 12, 2017.

He was born into a musical family; his father was a pastor with a fine voice and his mother, the church's pianist. Al began singing at the age of 4, harmonizing with his 5 siblings. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1958 where his love of music and singing deepened. He earned a bachelor's degree from Ripon College in Wisconsin in 1962, and a master's degree from the University of Iowa. He worked as a rehabilitation counselor for people with disabilities. Al Jarreau's full-time musical career began when he was nearly 30 and he could no longer resist the pull of jazz.

Al Jarreau was a versatile vocalist who recorded 21 albums, won seven Grammys and remains the only vocalist in Grammy history to win in the jazz, pop, and R&B categories. He was proud that his mix of styles prevented him from being easily categorized. Al Jarreau had a vocal style that was appealing and highly unusual. He could produce an array of vocalizations and was nicknamed the acrobat of scat because of this talent. Al reached a national audience with his second album *We Got By*, released in 1975. In 1965, he recorded his first album entitled "1965" belatedly released

in 1982 which is esteemed by jazz connoisseurs today. In 1981 he had his biggest hit with the song "We're in This Love Together." He won his first Grammy in 1978, for his album "Look to the Rainbow" and his last in 2007, for best traditional R&B vocal performance. He shared the award with George Benson and Jill Scott for their collaborative performance, "God Bless the Child." Among Mr. Jarreau's best-known recordings was the theme song for the television series, "Moonlighting."

Al Jarreau was proud of his hometown and at the beginning of most performances announced that he was from Milwaukee. The Wisconsin Foundation for School Music honored Jarreau with a Lifetime Achievement Award in October 2016, and established an endowment in his name for Milwaukee Public School music programs. He was concerned that children in Milwaukee and across the country would not have exposure to music and the arts. In fact, Al Jarreau's parting request to mourners was that contributions be made to children from his hometown in lieu of flowers and gifts.

He leaves behind many friends, admirers and family members to mourn his passing including his wife, Susan, his son Ryan and two brothers, Marshall and Appie; and a sister, Rose Marie Freeman. Al Jarreau made a positive impact on Milwaukee, Wisconsin and the world and I am proud that he hails from Milwaukee. Mr. Speaker, for these reasons I rise to pay tribute to a man whose legacy will continue to benefit the Fourth Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY SERGEANT (SGT) JOSEPH A. RAHAIM

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen Mississippi soldier Army Sergeant (SGT) Joseph Andrew "Drew" Rahaim who gave his life while in service to our great nation February 16, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom III. SGT Rahaim lost his life when a roadway collapsed and his vehicle rolled into a canal at Forward Operation Base Iskandariyah, Iraq. SGT Timothy R. Osbey was also killed in the accident.

SGT Rahaim was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 155th Infantry Regiment (Mechanized), Mississippi Army National Guard, McComb, MS.

Major General (MG) Harold Cross, Adjutant General of Mississippi, posthumously presented SGT Rahaim the Bronze Star Medal and the Mississippi Medal of Valor. During the funeral for the 22-year-old Magnolia, MS native, MG Cross described the medals as two of the nation's highest awards.

SGT Rahaim was remembered by many as a great storyteller. Soldiers from his unit said their guardian angel will probably be listening to his tall tales in heaven. Rev. Phil McMinn of the Brookwood Baptist Church in Lawrenceville delivered his eulogy. He said SGT Rahaim was destined to be a soldier from childhood, and that when Drew was a young boy, he kept his GI Joe toy close by.