

Although both got as many autographs as they could at yesterday's news conference, they said they weren't fazed by the presence of so many stars or the national media interest in their campaign. It's the work that's most important, they said.

"This is really going to boost us up in our project and make people realize everything's not hunky-dory," Amanda said. "There are problems that need to be fixed right away."

Donations can be sent to A School for Iqbal Massih Fund, c/o The Hibernia Savings Bank, Quincy Hi-School Branch, 731 Hancock St., Quincy 02170.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAT WILLIAMS

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 21, 1995

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present last night due to a family emergency.

On vote #871, the previous question I would have voted "No."

On vote #872, the motion to table, I would have voted "No."

On vote #873 the motion to recommit I would have voted, "Yes."

On vote #874, House Joint Resolution 134, the targeted C.R., I would have voted "Yes."

A TRIBUTE TO MAJ. GEN. NOLAN SKLUTE, RETIRING JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL, U.S. AIR FORCE

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 21, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention today the exemplary work and splendid public service of one of our country's outstanding military leaders, Maj. Gen. Nolan Sklute, the Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Air Force. General Sklute will be retiring after an especially distinguished military career on February 1.

General Sklute completed the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Program in 1962 and entered active duty after completing law school in 1966. His assignments include Luke AFB, AZ; Athenai Airport, Greece; chief, general litigation branch, litigation division, headquarters, U.S. Air Force; staff judge advocate March AFB, CA; staff judge advocate, Bitburg AB, West Germany; deputy chief, claims and tort litigation division, headquarters, U.S. Air Force; executive to the Judge Advocate General; director of civil law, headquarters, U.S. Air Force; staff judge advocate, Air Force Logistics Command, and commander, Air Force Contract Law Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH; Deputy Judge Advocate General, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force; and finally, the Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Air Force.

He received a bachelor of arts degree from Union College, Schenectady, NY, in 1962, and a juris doctor in 1965 from Cornell University School of Law, New York. He is a graduate of the National War College, the Armed Forces Staff College, Squadron Officer School, and earned his master of laws degree in government contracts from the National Law Center,

George Washington University, Washington, DC. General Sklute is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States; the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces; U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York; and the New York State courts. General Sklute's military decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

Since 1993, General Sklute has served as the Judge Advocate General of the Air Force. In that capacity, he has provided dynamic leadership and professional supervision for over 2,900 military and civilian lawyers, paralegals, and support personnel. During this time of unprecedented legal challenges, General Sklute's dynamic leadership, sound judgment, personal and professional integrity and unwavering dedication to duty were instrumental in the successful resolution of numerous difficult issues facing the U.S. Air Force. As a key and trusted advisor to two Chiefs of Staff, his sound, timely and cogent advice was a critical component in a host of complex issues with a multitude of dimensions.

General Sklute's early recognition of the legal implications of information warfare has placed the Air Force in the forefront of this new arena. As a prime mover in the coordination of international education and training efforts, he established a joint service committee to foster democratic principles in fledgling democracies. Under his leadership, the Air Force continues to access extremely talented lawyers and paralegals. He has been instrumental in expanding the role of Air Force paralegals, empowering them by shifting responsibility and authority to the lowest possible level. General Sklute has also spearheaded the enhanced integration of active duty and Air Reserve component judge advocates.

Perhaps General Sklute's greatest legacy will be his unrelenting focus on the need for greater emphasis on leadership and accountability. These efforts are already paying significant dividends to the Air Force worldwide. This continuing effort underscored and reinforced the vital importance of Air Force's core values at all levels of command.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you joint me, our colleagues and General Sklute's many friends in saluting this distinguished officer's many years of selfless service to the United States of America. I know our Nation, his wife Linda, daughter Stephanie and son Larry, are extremely proud of his accomplishments. It is fitting that the House of Representatives honors him today.

50TH ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE TO JOHN AND MARY GAIL

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 21, 1995

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John and Mary Gail on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. John and Mary were married on December 29, 1945, at St. Rose of Lima in West Philadelphia. They have been residents of Montgomery County, PA for 40 years, first in

Merion Park and then in Bala Cynwyd, where they still live today.

Both John and Mary were born and raised in West Philadelphia, but they have made a mark in their Montgomery County community. They participate in local charities like the local Meals on Wheels Program. John and Mary are lifelong members of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and remain active in St. Margaret's Parish in Narbeth.

John and Mary are two people with diverse talents—she the studious valedictorian at West Catholic Girls High, he the accomplished community theater performer—who together make a perfect pair. And now after a half-century together, they can take pride and comfort in their greatest achievement; together they raised a wonderful family. The Gails have four children; Brian, Barry, Kevin, and Eileen. John and Mary are proud grandparents to nine granddaughters and eight grandsons.

On December 30, the entire Gail family will gather at Philadelphia County Club to celebrate John and Mary's "Golden Jubilee." Let me add my best wishes for a wonderful golden anniversary. As John and Mary look back on their wonderful years together, on the life they built and the family they raised, all of us should raise our glasses to them and say simply "well done." Congratulations to this terrific couple!

TRIBUTE TO SYLVIA AND JULIE WETTER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 21, 1995

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my aunt and uncle, Sylvia and Julie Wetter, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on November 11, 1995.

Mr. Speaker, Sylvia and Julie Wetter were married on November 11, 1945 and were long-time residents of Bronx, NY. For the past seven years, they have lived in Atlanta, GA.

Their marriage has been blessed by the birth of two children, Alice Wetter Paul of Marietta, GA and David Wetter of Bronx, NY. Alice is married to Danny Paul, and they have two lovely daughters, Michelle and Jillian.

Throughout their lives, Sylvia and Julie Wetter have committed themselves to serving the Nation and community.

Julie worked for years with the U.S. Postal Service before moving on to Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

Sylvia, my father's sister, has been an animal rights activist and has been very involved as a volunteer assisting those who have been afflicted with multiple sclerosis. During World War II, Sylvia worked for the coordinator for international affairs at the Department of Commerce.

Julie Wetter served with great distinction with the 83d Division of the 9th Army during World War II. In fact, Julie was drafted when former Secretary of War Simpson selected the ball with his birthdate as the first group of young men to serve our Nation during the war. Julie served 5 years in the infantry, rising to the rank of staff sergeant.

Julie was the first in his division to reach the Rhine River, served in the Battle of The Bulge, and was awarded the Bronze Star, Silver Star,