

Dickson, Navy; Dean Ewell, Army; Carl Giles, Army; Roy Gilmore, Navy; Stanley Grout, Navy; Troy Stone, Army; Dean Hastings, Navy; Howard Hoffer, Navy; Floyd McHargue, Marine Corps; Norman Morgan, Navy; Jacob Notenboom, Army; Rex Orcutt, Navy; Jack Peed, Navy; Jesse Ponce, Navy; Francis Rossi, Navy; William Russell, Air Force; William Shrader, Coast Guard; Muriel Sollendar, Marine Corps; Marlyn Sperry, Army; Galen Tarter, Navy; Cliff Peery, Army; and David Ullom, Army.

These heroes join over 200,000 veterans who have been honored through the Honor Flight Network of volunteers nationwide since 2005.

I would also like to recognize the guardians traveling on this trip who have also served our country: Mark Libante, Army; Richard McReynolds, Army; Paul Grout, Air Force; Kenneth Dale, Navy; Ronald Kohl, Air Force and Army; Daniel Johnson, Navy; Kenneth Young, Navy; Rachael Watters, Army; Terry Haines, Navy; and Peter Pringle, Navy.

Madam Speaker, at the height of the Civil War in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln wrote, "Honor to the Soldier, and Sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause." Each of us in this chamber and in this nation should be humbled by the courage of these brave veterans who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD SWANN

**HON. STEPHANIE N. MURPHY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 20, 2019*

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the extraordinary life and enduring legacy of Richard Swann, a great man and a good man, who recently passed away.

Richard's life wasn't just full, it was overflowing. Overflowing with action and accomplishment, trial and triumph, and—above all—family and friendship.

Richard lost his childhood sweetheart and beloved wife Doris too young, but he poured his energy into his work, into his four children and 12 grandchildren, and into his large and loyal network of friends.

Richard packed so much into his 79 years on earth. He was a wise lawyer, a far-sighted businessman and real estate developer, and an influential player at the highest level of American and Florida politics.

Richard was a proud Orlando native, and foresaw the city's potential before nearly anybody else. Without fanfare, Richard did as much as any man to transform Orlando into the unique and wonderful place it is today.

Richard was best known as a champion of the political causes and candidates he cared about. He was committed to the concept of responsible and engaged citizenship.

At the service celebrating Richard's life, his granddaughter Caroline read an excerpt from

Teddy Roosevelt's speech "The Man in the Arena."

Richard never sat on the sidelines. He was always in the arena, striving valiantly. Like any man who dares greatly, he also suffered setbacks along the way.

In the end, despite a lifetime marked by achievement, perhaps Richard's most admirable quality was his fortitude and resilience in the face of adversity.

Richard was a pillar of our central Florida community. He will be deeply missed by all of us who had the honor to call him a friend.

HONORING DR. LINDA BIRNBAUM,  
CHAMPION OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH RESEARCH

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 20, 2019*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Linda Birnbaum, Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the National Toxicology Program (NTP), who is retiring in October. Dr. Birnbaum has served as director of NIEHS, located in North Carolina's Research Triangle Park, for the past 10 years. She is the first woman and first board-certified toxicologist to serve in this position.

Dr. Birnbaum always had a clear vision for the NIEHS/NTP, evidenced by her implementation of two strategic plans over the course of her tenure. Under her leadership, NIEHS has become a world leader in environmental health and toxicology research. For example, scientific studies, such as the annual Report on Carcinogens, which analyzes substances in our environment that may cause cancer, have ignited changes in health policy and safety standards in the U.S. and across the world. The creation of the Children's Health Exposure Analysis Resource, a grant program that established a network of exposure assessment laboratories across the country, paved the way for policy changes that protected the health of children. Dr. Birnbaum's team also established the NIEHS Clinical Research Unit, allowing the NIH to partner with top biomedical teams at our RTP Universities: Duke, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and North Carolina State.

In the wake of environmental disasters, Dr. Birnbaum and her team led critical research projects following the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the 2014 West Virginia chemical spill. Dr. Birnbaum and her team worked in coordination with scientists across the NIH and with the residents of affected areas, recruiting over 33,000 participants for the Deepwater Horizon study.

Dr. Birnbaum has received numerous accolades for her outstanding achievements in the field of science. In 2010, she was elected to the Institute of Medicine, now known as the National Academy of Medicine. She also was awarded the North Carolina Award in Science in 2016, the state's highest civilian honor given by North Carolina's Governor. For her work in toxicology she was named the Distinguished Toxicology Scholar by the Society of Toxicology in 2018 and earned the Mildred S. Christian Career Achievement Award from the Academy of Toxicological Sciences.

Dr. Birnbaum's work as a federal research scientist spans nearly 40 years, including 19 years directing research at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. She also currently serves as an adjunct professor in the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health and held a similar position in Toxicology and Environmental Health at Duke University. She has maintained her research program even while serving as NIEHS/NTP director, and at last count had over 700 published articles and reports to her credit. Fortunately, she plans to continue her laboratory research part-time.

Madam Speaker, it has been my privilege to know and work with Dr. Birnbaum during much of her tenure at EPA and NIEHS. I was delighted to see her—an accomplished, practicing scientist—appointed to the directorship of NIEHS, and she has been a trusted source of advice on the Institute's needs and the state of the research enterprise. She has a passion for the NIEHS/NTP mission and has inspired a generation of scientists with her vision of what well-designed research can contribute to public health and environmental quality.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Linda Birnbaum as she reaches this milestone. We thank her for her years of dedicated service and the contributions she has made toward the health and well-being of millions of people.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE THAI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 20, 2019*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Thai Community Development Center upon its 25th Anniversary.

The Thai Community Development Center (Thai CDC) was founded in 1994 with the goal of supporting and improving the lives of Thai immigrants and other ethnic communities in the greater Los Angeles area. Thai CDC achieves its mission through a comprehensive community development strategy and initiatives that focus on a variety of issues including access to healthcare and social services, affordable housing, human rights advocacy, neighborhood empowerment, and small business incubation.

Thai CDC played an essential role in an eight-year community organizing campaign that raised awareness and led to the creation of Los Angeles' Thai Town in 1999, the first Thai Town in the United States. Through this designation, Thai CDC has been able to engage in transit-oriented development and beautification efforts such as the installation of the Kinarra Lamposts. This strategy to revitalize an otherwise depressed portion of East Hollywood through cultural-based tourism has allowed the Thai American community to prosper and flourish. In 2008, Thai Town was designated a Preserve America neighborhood, a federal designation celebrating cultural heritage and encouraging historic preservation.

Throughout the years, Thai CDC has been instrumental in creating events and spaces to foster economic opportunity and bring Angelenos and tourists alike to Thai Town.