

Drafted in the Vietnam War, he spent 18 months in Friedberg, Germany where he earned the rank of sergeant in 15 months and he attended both Catholic and Protestant churches. He read the bible more and more and his favorite scriptures are Psalm 23, 27, and 121. In May 1997, Pastor Giles earned his doctorate in Holistic Ministry at the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH.

Upon returning to San Francisco, he joined the Solid Rock M.B. Church and was baptized. In August 1970, he was accepted at the American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkley, CA. He also attended Morehouse School of Religion and served briefly at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta as a youth minister under the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Sr. Additionally, he has served at First Baptist in La-Grange; First African Baptist, Bainbridge and the Beulah in Quitman. He served as Chaplain at the VA Medical Center in Bay Pines, FL and as pastor of New Hope M.B. Church until 1994. Presently, he is the Pastor of True Faith Inspirational Baptist Church in Tampa, FL.

He is married to JoVanore Sims Giles, who serves as chairperson of the Deaconess Ministry and participates in the choir and other activities. They have two daughters, JoVanore Giles-Galbreath and Jenee Codallo-Nelson, and one son, Johnathan who is attending college at the School of the Holy Cross.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Dr. John L. Giles has honorably served our Nation in the armed services and has provided spiritual guidance and leadership to several parishes across the country. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

#### CONGRATULATING PAUL SIMON

### HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2003*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join in congratulating former Senator Paul Simon, who will be celebrating his 75th birthday on November 29. As one of Illinois' favorite sons, and a man who fought hard for the people of the United States in this building for twenty-two years, it is only appropriate that this body honor one of the most outstanding and respected leaders our country has ever known.

Born in Eugene, Oregon on November 29, 1928, Paul Simon moved to Troy, Illinois upon his graduation from college and worked as a newspaper editor and publisher, eventually building a chain of fourteen weekly papers. After serving in the United States Army from 1951–1953, Senator Simon first ran for elective office in 1955, winning a seat in the Illinois General Assembly. He served as a State Representative from 1955–1963 and as a State Senator from 1963–1968. From 1969–1973 he served our state as Lieutenant Governor. He was elected to the Ninety-fourth Congress, and served in the House from 1975 to 1985. In 1984 he won election to the Senate and served until 1997 when he chose not to run for reelection. Additionally, Senator Simon was a candidate for the Democratic nomination for President of the United States in 1988, winning the Illinois Primary.

As a Member of Congress, Senator Simon championed many progressive issues, many of them long before they became fashionable, including campaign finance reform and the creation of new programs to make college more affordable and accessible for our children.

Since retiring from elected office, Senator Simon has continued to advance a lifetime passion of his: education. The founder and Director of the Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University, Senator Simon still teaches classes in journalism, political science and history. The author of over a dozen books, his 1998 autobiography *P.S.* remains a must-read for those interested in Illinois politics in the post-war period. Additionally, Senator Simon was one of the founders of the magazine *Illinois Issues*, which remains the definitive journal of Illinois' political landscape.

But despite winning elections in five different decades, serving his state and country in many different capacities, and being a leading educator, Senator Simon's character, integrity and intelligence are what have made him the most enduringly popular political figure in our state. The advice and support of Senator Simon remains cherished by those of us who have attempted to advance his ideals.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to congratulate a true hero of mine and the entire State of Illinois, Senator Paul Simon, on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2003*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 19, I did not vote on the following measures, because of family commitments, and would like to include in the RECORD how I would have voted, had I been present: On H.R. 1006, I would have voted "yea"; on H. Con. Res. 320, I would have voted "yea"; on H.R. 3491, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall No. 637, to instruct conferees on H.R. 1, I would have voted "yea"; on H.R. 2420 I would have voted "yea"; on H. Res. 427, I would have voted "yea"; on H. Con. Res. 83, I would have voted "yea"; on H. Con. Res. 288, I would have voted "yea"; on H. Res. 393, I would have voted "yea"; on H. Res. 423, I would have voted "yea"; and on H.R. 3140, I would have voted "yea."

#### A TRIBUTE TO MRS. EVERLEE SMAW MILLS

### HON. FRANK W. BALLANCE, JR.

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2003*

Mr. BALLANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mrs. Everlee Smaw Mills, one of my most senior constituents on the occasion of her 90th birthday. Mrs. Mills has lived through and experienced every noteworthy event in our nation's history that has punctuated the 20th Century. At the tender age of 16, instead of engaging in some of the lighthearted, fun activities enjoyed by youth today, Mrs. Mills was

experiencing an America devastated by the stock market crash of 1929 and the onslaught of the Great Depression. At a time when she should have been enjoying life and planning for what little prosperity a segregated nation could offer an under-education Black woman, Mrs. Mills as a youth was facing bread lines and food rations.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Mills is a remarkable woman, not just because of her long tenure but also because of her resolve to do well in all circumstances. For instance, she lived through the death of both parents at an early age, World War I, death of her spouse, World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War, Gulf War, death of three of her children, and has seen our troops sent to Iraq to battle terrorists.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Mills gave birth to 11 children and fed and nurtured many others, including grandchildren and neighborhood youth who wandered home with her children. It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that she never turned anyone away who needed a helping hand. Mr. Speaker, this remarkable lady, worked in a domestic capacity until she retired at the age of 75, and over the years she and her husband, (decendent) William Mills never once accepted welfare. As a widow, since the late 1940s, Mrs. Mills taught and stressed the importance of self-sufficiency to her children. They were taught to "pay their own way" in society.

To Mrs. Mill's credit, Mr. Speaker, her children have grown under the shade of her guidance to enter a cadre of notable professions. For instance, her children are employed in the following capacities: US Air Force serviceman, an engineer who has been assigned to work on NASA projects, a representative with the Wall Street Currency Exchange Department, the first Black elected to the Board of Commissioners in Beaufort County, an accomplished welder for the most prestigious truck body builders in the country, Hackney & Sons, and one daughter and son who have become ministers.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Mills is a lifelong member of Beebe Memorial CME Church of Washington and was named the Woman of the Year in the 1980s and Woman of Distinction in 2001. She is revered in her church for the solid advice that she imparts to the youth and her peers, and has become a well-respected pioneer in building church programs.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Mills is a true marvel. She still lives independently and enjoys "Soap Operas". She reads the Bible religiously. Her family history is traced in Beaufort County as far back as slavery. Her love for the area runs deeper than we understand. It pleases Mrs. Mills greatly to be simply a loving mother, devoted church member and lifelong resident of Beaufort County, North Carolina. I ask my Colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mrs. Everlee Smaw Mills, an exemplary citizen.

#### HONORING BERT S. TURNER

### HON. DAVID VITTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2003*

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bert S. Turner, a distinguished alumnus of Louisiana State University. He has been selected by the LSU Alumni Association Hall of