

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF SERGEANT MAJOR JAMES PETTAWAY JR.

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and contributions of my neighbor and constituent Sergeant Major James Pettaway, Jr. who gave his life in service to his country. SGM Pettaway died this week as a result of wounds he suffered in August during his second tour of duty in the war in Iraq. Only a few weeks after his deployment to Iraq, the convoy jeep he was riding in struck a roadside bomb outside of Fallujah. The explosion killed one man and seriously injured SGM Pettaway, covering 80 percent of his body with burns. After a long fight, he died Sunday at the Brook Medical Burn Center in San Antonio, Texas.

I honor SGM Pettaway for the valiant sacrifice he made for his country. I also honor him for the kind of man he was. SGM Pettaway grew up in the army, enlisting after his high school graduation in 1988. The army changed him, made him stronger, gave him a sense of purpose and fulfillment. Because he was the kind of man he was, he wanted to give back some of what he had been given. He wanted to pass along the life lessons he had learned to others. His supervisor said the army "changed him from a scatterbrained kid to a caring man."

After 10 years of active duty, James Pettaway, this caring man and father of an 11-year-old son Brandon, joined a guard unit at the Herman Toulson Correctional Camp in Maryland. He was part of an 88-member guard contingent at the boot camp that houses adult felons. Because he was a caring man, SGM Pettaway took a genuine interest in the inmates' lives and tried to help them benefit from the things he learned in the army. He volunteered for extra duty, took a special interest in their accomplishments and tried to help them lead better lives.

In 2002, SGM Pettaway's reserve unit, the 223rd Transportation Company of Morristown, PA, was called to active duty. He served a year in Kuwait before returning to the United States. Then in May his reserve unit was called again to active duty. This time, his family and friends say, the 37-year-old sergeant did not have a positive feeling about returning to war. But he dutifully answered his country's call one more time. He would not live to see his hometown of Southampton, New York again.

Several of SGM Pettaway's cousins attended Southampton public schools and played on sports teams with my children. His Uncle works with my brother in the landscaping business. His son Brandon played on a Little League team last season with my friend's son. We all mourn his death. He is the first U.S. service member from our town to be killed in the Iraq war.

We cannot ask more of a man than we did of SGM Pettaway. He gave his all. Iraq forced him to learn some of life's most difficult lessons. I honor him for his bravery, his goodness, his service to others, and for the sacrifice he made for his country. I honor his son Brandon, and I pray that the lessons his father

learned will not have been learned in vain but will be carried on in the lives of his family and friends.

HONORING DR. EDGAR WAYBURN

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Edgar Wayburn of San Francisco and Marin County, California, on the occasion of the recognition of Tomales Bay as a Ramsar site. Designated by the U. S. government, the Ramsar Bureau in Switzerland maintains a list of Wetlands of International Importance under the Convention on Wetlands. Ed Wayburn's support for this nomination was crucial in securing the Ramsar listing.

With a long history of environmental activism, Ed Wayburn has promoted understanding of the importance of the land/marine interface and, in 1998, successfully nominated Bolinas Lagoon as a Ramsar site, the only other such designation in California. Now 97, he has a record as one of the most successful environmental leaders in the country. Locally, Ed and his late wife Peggy are known for their roles in the expansion of Mount Tamalpais State Park and the creation of Pt. Reyes National Seashore and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Nationally, they spent 13 years fighting to protect 104 million acres of Alaskan wilderness, an achievement that doubled the size of the national park system when President Carter signed the Alaska National Interest Conservation Act, which added substantially to six parks, in 1980.

A family doctor born in Georgia, Ed Wayburn came to California in 1927. The natural landscape awed him at the time, and the post-World War II boom that saw much of the Bay area paved over turned him into an activist. Five times president of the Sierra Club, he worked in a different style from his legendary colleague David Brower, the Club's executive director during the 1950s and 1960s. Skilled at working persistently behind the scenes, Wayburn could negotiate the halls of Congress and the offices of Interior Secretaries as comfortably as the wilderness trails he loved. In 1995, he won the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism, and, in 1999, he won the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian award, for his exceptional service on behalf of environmental preservation.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Edgar Wayburn is principally responsible for saving more open space than any other living American. Although not the hiker he used to be, he is still awed and inspired by the natural world. "Wilderness is enjoyed not only by the young and hardy," he says. "Sometimes it is simply enough to know it exists—to remember and to dream." We share the dream of Ed Wayburn for a world in which mankind honors and preserves our natural heritage.

CONGRATULATING THE BRUDERHOF COMMUNITY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Bruderhof Community in their recent efforts to spread peace. The "community of brothers" is pursuing its goal of acceptance through construction of the "Peace Barn," a sanctuary for those who need silence and a gathering place for those who seek progress.

In the wake of September 11, 2001, a shadow of grief was cast over America. Nearly every citizen felt the reins of instability tugging at the society we once thought to be impregnable. With the strength and ambition that typifies the character of Americans, however, the Bruderhof Community turned devastation into promise by contributing to the Flight 93 Memorial and building a "Peace Barn."

Just two days after the terrorist attacks, the Bruderhof Community mobilized to realize its goals. In an effort to contribute to the Flight 93 memorial in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, the community children have produced handmade benches with the names of those who lost their lives engraved into the backs upon the request of the families. To date, the group has produced 27 benches and has no plan to stop. Additionally, by merging its resources and gathering its members, the Bruderhof children have created a refuge for reflection and a hall for meetings out of an old, neglected, and weathered barn. Now, the Peace Barn functions as a place of encouragement, healing and sharing.

Since its inception, the barn has welcomed scores of visitors seeking peace. Grieving families are comforted by the photograph-adorned walls that inspire memories of the lives that were lost on Flight 93. Holocaust survivors are heartened by the optimism and goodness that pervade the atmosphere in the barn. Curious travelers are impelled to spread the message of peace throughout their relative communities.

In a world wrought with terror, the achievement of world peace is a formidable task. The Bruderhof Community has espoused the idea that the pursuit of peace needs to start small and diffuse gradually. With every welcoming hand that is extended to visitors and every memory that is triggered through the photos on the wall, hopefully the Bruderhof vision for the future will materialize.

On September 11, 2001, our Nation lost the ability to take peace for granted. With the construction of the Peace Barn, the Bruderhof has initiated a trend that all of America should follow.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JEANNETTE DAVIS AND HER WORK ON BEHALF OF CHILDHOOD AUTISM

HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jeannette M. Davis, who passed