

Mr. Williams was born in Memphis, Tennessee where he was reared mostly by his mother, after the death of his jazz and blues musician father. Growing up, Mr. Williams was a stellar student and writer at Manassas High School in Memphis. From there, he went on to earn a degree in journalism from the University of Illinois at Urbana in 1956. He later pursued graduate studies at Howard and Atlanta Universities. Pursuing a career in segregated America, Mr. Williams encountered barriers because of his race that prevented him from pursuing a journalism career in Illinois.

Illinois' loss was our gain because Mr. Williams returned to Memphis, where he began his career as managing director of the Memphis Star-Times, a local African-American newspaper. After working as a congressional fellow for U.S. Senator Hubert Humphrey and as a Foreign Service Reserve officer in the Kennedy administration, Mr. Williams returned to Illinois as vice president of public affairs and executive director of the University Center for Policy Study at the University of Chicago.

Unwilling to rest on his laurels, Mr. Williams resigned from his prestigious positions to take on the helm of a new, little-known think tank. The Joint Center's original purpose was to support and train African-American elected officials nationwide and measure their growth subsequent to the Voting Rights Act. Under Mr. Williams' direction, the Center expanded its focus to examine and document public policy issues affecting African Americans. Mr. Williams' determination to maintain a non-partisan approach to the Center's problem-solving activities serves as an example to us all.

Mr. Williams leaves a legacy of innovation and courage in his efforts to address issues such as education, voting rights reform and the spread of HIV/AIDS in the United States. Mr. Williams has received numerous accolades and awards for his civic contributions, including the prestigious MacArthur Foundation "Genius" Award. Most recently, the Joint Center, under Mr. Williams leadership has studied and explained the rise of a new generation of the African-American elected officials into the mainstream of public life. He continuously reminds us not to be shy in our goal of reaching new heights on behalf of all Americans while staying connected to, in his words, "the useful values of the past." His life and career demonstrate to all Americans that we stand on the shoulders of a generation that fought and stood and often sat down to create a more perfect union.

For his unselfish contributions and commitment to our Nation, Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in commending Mr. Eddie Williams for his many years of dedicated service to the American people.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE
HON. JOSEPH N. LANGAN

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, the city of Mobile, Alabama, and indeed the entire First Congressional District recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Mayor Joseph N. Langan was a devoted family man and dedicated public servant throughout his entire life. In 1939, at the age of 27, he entered the field of politics, serving for 6 years in the Alabama House of Representatives. He later served from 1947 to 1951 in the Alabama State Senate. From 1953 to 1969, he served as a Mobile city commissioner, including several terms as mayor at a time when the city was governed by a three-member commission. Mayor Langan enjoyed a very successful career as mayor and was known particularly for his efforts to expand the size of the city. As a result of his efforts, the city expanded its westward boundaries and grew in size from an area of approximately 33 square miles to an area of over 160 square miles.

During his time in both local and State government, Mayor Langan developed a strong reputation as a leader who felt duty-bound to do his part in the strengthening of relations between the black and white communities in Mobile and throughout the State of Alabama. In spite of progressive policies that led to strong public outrage and the end of his careers in both the State legislature and city hall, Mayor Langan dedicated himself to assisting the members of the African-American community in their efforts to advance their causes. During his tenure in the State legislature, he argued for equal pay for both black and white public school teachers. Additionally, during his service as mayor, Mayor Langan was an important part of keeping the community calm at a time when racial riots and crimes were tearing apart Alabama and much of the South. His strong and enduring relationship with Alabama civil rights activist John LeFlore was crucial to maintaining this calm.

Mayor Langan, a graduate of both Murphy High School and Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, was also a proud veteran of the United States Army, serving during both World War II and the Korean conflict. Later in his military career, he held the rank of general and served as commander of the Army National Guard's 31st Infantry Division.

In addition to both his public and military careers, Mayor Langan found time to become actively involved in many community and charitable organizations. He served as a member of the Spring Hill College Board of Trustees and of the University of South Alabama Foundation. He was recognized for his community service and charitable work with the 1957 Mobilian of the Year award.

This sad time for so many in the Mobile community has also given many of Mayor Langan's colleagues and friends the opportunity to remember him and recognize the many accomplishments of his career. Alabama State Senator Vivian Figures said, "He was always for government being sensitive and inclusive to all citizens. . . . He was a real gentleman of distinction." Former Mobile city clerk Richard Smith said, "He wanted to serve, and he served well. He had vision, he had brains, he had leadership." And without fail, many in the Mobile community will remember Mayor Langan as one of the finest mayors and public servants to have ever worked on behalf of their city.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated public servant and friend to many in Mobile, Alabama. Mayor Langan will be deeply missed by his family—his wife, Maude Adelle Langan, and his broth-

er, John C. Langan, and his many nephews and other family members—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

IN MEMORY OF PETER CUTINO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Peter J. Cutino, a coaching legend in the sport of water polo, who passed away Sunday, September 19th in his Monterey home. During his lifetime Mr. Cutino was a strong pillar of the water polo community. He will be dearly missed by his wife of 51 years, Louise; two sons, Paul and Peter; daughter, Anna; brother Bert; two sisters, Rose Marie and Josephine; five grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Cutino was born April 3, 1933 in Monterey. He graduated from high school a star athlete in 1951 and earned Junior College All American honors at Monterey Peninsula College. He then transferred to Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo, earning water polo all-conference honors, and graduated with a master's degree in education.

He began his coaching career at Oxnard High School and then moved on to coach the Cal Golden Bears for 26 victorious years. He was the most successful water polo coach in collegiate history and was awarded NCAA Coach of the Year four times. His successes in collegiate sports earned him the coveted role as coach to the U.S. national team in the 1976 Olympics. While at Cal, he coached 68 all-Americans, 6 Pac-10 conference and NCAA players of the year and 5 Olympians.

In 1989 he stepped down as UC Berkeley's head water polo coach in order to open and run the Monterey Sports Club in my district. At the same time, Peter continued his service to the international sports world by serving as chairman of the Men's International Olympic Committee. Additionally, in recognition of his life of leadership and mentorship, he received UC Berkeley's Alumni Centennial Award and Chancellors commendation, and an athletic scholarship at Berkeley was established in his name in 1989. Mr. Cutino was also an active leader in the Italian-American Community in Monterey and was a member of the Campari, Paisano and Amici clubs. In addition to numerous professional water polo publications, he authored a book on the Italian-American community in Monterey.

Mr. Speaker, today I wish to join the local community and Mr. Peter Cutino's family and friends in honoring the life of such an inspirational coach, husband and father.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BERNARD E.
KERST

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sad heart that I rise to recognize the passing of