

December 16, 1944. This was the greatest battle in the European Theater of World War II. Victory came with ferocious fighting at a cost of thousands of American casualties, but it provided a opening for General Patton's Third Army to march into the heart of Germany, which ultimately led to the unconditional surrender of the Nazi regime on May 8, 1945.

Ed was in Bastogne for eight days to hold the town despite repeated German ground assaults, continuous artillery and rocket bombardment, sub-zero temperatures, and bad weather conditions that prevented Allied air power from supporting the surrounded Americans. Despite these conditions, the 101st Airborne Division courageously held their ground and General McAuliffe famously replied "Nuts!" to the German Commanding General's offer to accept surrender or face immediate annihilation.

Ed was wounded in combat action on January 3, 1945 at Longchamps, Belgium, for which he received the Purple Heart Medal. He was assigned to a 57 mm anti-tank gun that was credited with knocking out three German tanks, and supported the destruction of seven other enemy tanks before an exploding German shell destroyed Ed's gun. Despite his own wounds, Ed voluntarily exposed himself to enemy fire to report the situation and guide medical aid men to the casualties in his unit. For his heroism on that day, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device indicating his personal valor in the engagement. Ed was also awarded a second Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in ground combat against enemy forces in the European Theater of Operations.

After the war, Ed served a brief stint in the Mexican Army and was co-founder of their Parachute School. He returned to the U.S. in 1952, and re-enlisted in the U.S. Army. Ed became a U.S. citizen on February 25, 1953, and on October 6 married Lois Dean "Deanie" Baggett of Paducah, KY. They had three sons, John, Carlos and Frank, six grandchildren to complete Ed and Deanie's family circle.

Ed completed his undergraduate degree by taking night courses while he served on active duty. He was awarded an AA degree in Liberal Arts from George Washington University in 1966, and a BGS degree in Political Science and History from the University of Nebraska-Omaha in 1969. An extended tour of duty in Vietnam lasted from January, 1959 to July, 1962. He was awarded the Joint Services Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Good Conduct Medals prior to his retirement from active duty as a U.S. Army Sergeant First Class in 1970.

Retirement allowed Ed to pursue graduate work full time at Murray State University in Kentucky. He was awarded a MA degree in Spanish-American Literature in 1971. Additional graduate work was done at the University of Virginia and the University of Texas.

Ed was a college professor at Central Virginia Community College in Lynchburg, Virginia for 22 years, and was awarded the title of "Professor Emeritus" on May 14, 1996. He was also a professor at Kingwood College, Texas until he retired from active teaching at the age of 74. He keeps busy by speaking at veterans' events and attending memorial commemorations honoring his fallen comrades at the Battle of the Bulge in Longchamps, Belgium.

Edward A. Peniche is the embodiment of the "American Dream." He achieved his ambi-

tions through hard work and self-motivation, and the tireless support of his wife Deanie. Ed has said on more than one occasion "I am most proud that I lived the American dream. This is the greatest country on earth!"

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to honor Ed Peniche's many lifetime achievements, and wish him and his beloved Deanie much happiness and good health in the years to come.

HONORING THE PERFECT FOOTBALL SEASON OF THE TROUSDALE COUNTY YELLOW JACKETS

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2005*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the championship season of the Trousdale County Yellow Jackets. The Yellow Jackets brought their perfect season to an end by winning the 2005 Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association's Class 1A state championship.

Residents of Trousdale County, Tennessee, can be proud of their Yellow Jackets. Through determination and hard work, the team dominated their opponents with five shutouts and finished the season with a perfect 15-0 record.

In the state title game, the Yellow Jackets went on a rampage, scoring seven touchdowns and holding the Union City Golden Tornadoes to only two touchdowns.

Trousdale County High School has a long history of football supremacy. The Yellow Jackets have made the playoffs every year since 1988, and this year's championship win marks the sixth time since state playoffs began in 1969 that the team has won the title.

I commend the Yellow Jackets and their head coach, Clint Satterfield, for a fine season and an outstanding championship win. Kevin Creasy, Phillip Dean, Jackie Dillehay, Jason Dobbs, Jason East, Eric Eden, Adam Keeton, Steve McClain and Ronnie White serve as the team's assistant coaches. Toby Woodmore is Trousdale County High School's principal.

I congratulate all the talented members of the 2005 1A State Champion Yellow Jackets: Dustin Dillehay, Marco Wright, Jared White, Blake Satterfield, Nelson Harper, Samuel Dunn, Terrian Luster, Cal Welch, Creigh Hall, Michael Ring, Blake Merryman, Leroy Wooten, Josh Cunningham, John Scruggs, Justin Payne, Maurice Harris, Kendall Belcher, Kenneth Pedigo, Zach Porter, Derek Dunn, Tim Cunningham, Trondez Burnley, Shane Johns, Curt McGowan, Jeffrey Butcher, Terrance Calhoun, Krieg Story, Phillip White, Austin Dillion and Steven Angel.

A TRIBUTE TO BILL LEWIS

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2005*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. Bill Lewis, a great American. Mr. Lewis passed away Saturday, No-

vember 26, 2005 at the age of 84. As an outstanding resident of Wilson County and as its first Director of Agriculture, I know that I speak for the masses when I say that he will be greatly missed.

Mr. Lewis was born in Fairmont, North Carolina and attended North Carolina State University where he graduated in 1942 with a degree in Agricultural Education. He served the United States of America from 1942 until 1945 as a member of the Army Air Corps in the Pacific Theater. He was discharged as a Captain.

Mr. Speaker, after leaving the Army Air Corps, Mr. Lewis began work with the Agriculture Extension Service in 1948 as an Assistant County Agent working with Turkish tobacco at North Wilkesboro. Two years later he relocated to Wilson County.

Mr. Lewis served the people of North Carolina his entire life. He established Wilson County's Agriculture Extension program which continues to serve the County well. He served as President of the North Carolina Association of County Agricultural Agents (NCACAA) from 1968-1969 and was also Chairman of NCACAA in 1971. He was a member of the National Committee of Extension programs in 1971. Mr. Lewis also served as Agriculture Advisor to North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt where he was able to ensure North Carolina's agricultural success.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Lewis was awarded for his great contributions to North Carolina agriculture when he was presented with the Distinguished Service Award from Wilson's Kiwanis Club in 1962. Mr. Lewis was also recognized in 1972 by Southern Tobacco Journal and served as Chairman of the extension programs committee of NACAA from 1973 until 1974. Under his Directorship, the Wilson County extension staff was recognized on two occasions by the Epsilon Sigma Phi Fraternity for team work and total performance.

Mr. Speaker, I value this opportunity to pay tribute to such an outstanding citizen. I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the outstanding contributions of Mr. Bill Lewis to the state of North Carolina and to this Nation.

TRIBUTE TO FIRST LIEUTENANT CHRISTOPHER JOHN BUSCAGLIA

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 1LT Christopher John Buscaglia of the 110th Mountain Division of the United States Army. A native of Western New York, Lieutenant Buscaglia exemplifies the character and good will of our community.

Following his graduation from high school, Lieutenant Buscaglia stayed in Buffalo to attend Canisius College. There, he majored in history and excelled academically. Outside of the classroom, he played the French horn in the college band, was a talented photographer for the campus newspaper, and, for three consecutive summers, spent 2 weeks in Mexico City, running a day-camp for neighborhood kids.

Walking through the halls of Canisius, Lieutenant Buscaglia looked like any other student. But if you saw him running down Main Street