

TRIBUTE TO TERRY FRIDAY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Terry Friday and to express my deepest sympathy to his family on his passing on September 1, 2007.

Terry Friday was born on December 26, 1950, in Columbia, South Carolina to Joseph C. and Leola Lee Friday. A child prodigy, his musical genius became evident during his early years, and his family began to expose him to the world of music.

At the age of 6, he began his formal music training under his first piano teacher, Mrs. Margaret Thornton, who nurtured his love for music and encouraged what would become Terry's lifelong passion, sharing his musical gift with others. As he progressed through the Columbia public schools, other nurturing music teachers included Mrs. Haggler at Roosevelt Village Elementary School, Mrs. Barbara Bailey, and Mrs. Edna Pough, all of whom had a profound influence on his early training.

Terry excelled in almost all instruments, not only piano and organ. His special gift allowed him to play the flute, clarinet, French horn, drums, bells, and saxophone. His musical repertoire spanned the full range of music—classical, jazz, religious, hymns, spirituals and anthems, and contemporary gospel music.

Mr. Friday graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1969, where he was a member of the Marching 100 school band under the direction of the late Mr. "Pop" June. He continued his education at the University of South Carolina where he received his Bachelor of Arts (1973) and Master's (1979) degrees in Music.

During his high school years, Terry began his Church music ministry at Friendship African Methodist Episcopal Church, a church founded by his grandparents. He later served the Union Baptist Church of Columbia. In 1970, at only 20 years old, he became the organist at Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church, where he served until 1989. It was during his tenure that the Ridgewood choir earned a national reputation for musical excellence.

In 1989, Mr. Friday was called to Washington, DC as the minister of music at the historic Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church, the national cathedral of the AME church. During his tenure at Metropolitan, he served as musician/director at many prestigious events and ceremonies, most notably the Inaugural Prayer Services for President William Jefferson Clinton in 1993 and 1997 respectively.

In September of 1998, Terry was named Minister of Music at the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church of Washington, the oldest African American Baptist congregation in the nation's capital. Highly sought after by churches and choral groups, one of Terry's crowning achievements was playing the organ at the Washington National Cathedral.

Mr. Friday leaves behind legions of choirs, orchestras, and ensembles, all of whom benefited from his musical genius. One of his greatest joys was to feel the response of great choirs, as he accompanied them on the organ.

On Saturday, September 7, friends and colleagues from across the country will gather at the Union Baptist Church in Columbia, South Carolina for funeral services and to celebrate the life of this great musician.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life and legacy of Mr. Terry Friday, and I offer my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOANN DIGENNARO, PRESIDENT, CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION, FOR BEING HONORED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BULGARIA AND THE ST. CYRIL AND ST. METHODIUS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize and celebrate the honor that was bestowed by the Government of Bulgaria and the St. Cyril and St. Methodius International Foundation to Joann DiGennaro, President of the Center for Excellence in Education.

Founded in 1983 and located in McLean, Virginia, the mission of the Center for Excellence in Education is to nurture young scholars to careers in excellence and leadership in science and technology and to encourage international collaborations in the global community. The Center has a 23-year record of achievement in identifying and motivating future leaders in science and technology. All programs provided by the Center are free of cost to participating students.

As co-chair of the Bulgaria Caucus, I would like to congratulate Joann on her philanthropic and educational work benefiting the United States and Bulgaria. Joann's leadership as President of the Center for Excellence in Education has allowed her to secure donations of educational and medical equipment in Bulgaria. She has been pivotal in creating a stronger relationship between the U.S. and Bulgaria. Her hard work should be commended as Bulgaria continues to strengthen its democracy. America is a grateful partner with Bulgaria in NATO, and this year we celebrate Bulgaria's admission to the European Union.

I want to wish Mrs. DiGennaro best wishes and good fortune in her future projects.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STAFF SERGEANT JASON M. BUTKUS

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I wish to honor the life of Staff Sergeant Jason M. Butkus 34, of New Jersey, who died in Bagdad, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on August 30, 2007. Staff Sergeant Butkus died of injuries sustained when his mounted patrol was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade.

Staff Sergeant Butkus was assigned to A company, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas. He enlisted in the army in 1995 and completed basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia. Prior to enlisting in our Nation's armed forces, Staff Sergeant Butkus graduated from West Milford High School in West Milford, New Jersey, where he was a scholar-athlete and member of the wrestling and track teams.

Staff Sergeant Butkus's 12-year military career took him to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he served with the 82nd Airborne Division, and to Alaska and South Korea. Among his many assignments over the years, Butkus served as an instructor at the U.S. Army Training Center at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Additionally, Staff Sergeant Butkus was commended on two separate occasions for his leadership as a noncommissioned officer.

Staff Sergeant Jason M. Butkus dedicated his life to protecting and ensuring our Nation's freedom. He served his country, his community, and his fellow soldiers with the determination, integrity, and courage that is exemplary of a true soldier. He demonstrated his courage on the battlefield while fighting for democracy abroad. His service is a shining example for future soldiers.

Staff Sergeant Jason M. Butkus is survived by a loving mother, father, and a 9-year-old son, Connor. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Staff Sergeant Jason M. Butkus.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF DANIEL BAUGH BREWSTER

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the memory of Daniel Baugh Brewster, a former U.S. Representative and U.S. Senator from Maryland.

Daniel Brewster was born in Baltimore County, Maryland on November 23, 1923. He attended Gilman School in Baltimore, Maryland and St. Paul School in Concord, New Hampshire.

Mr. Brewster attended Princeton University before enlisting in the Marine Corps in 1942. At the age of 19, he commanded troops in the South Pacific as a lieutenant with the 4th Marine Regiment of the 6th Marine Division. Mr. Brewster led assault waves on Guam in 1944 and on Sugar Loaf Mountain in Okinawa in 1945. He was wounded seven times during the assaults, and was awarded a Purple Heart, two Gold Stars and two Bronze Stars.

He attended school both day and night at the Johns Hopkins University to earn enough credits to enroll in the University of Maryland School of Law. He graduated in 1949 by supplementing his course work with night classes at George Washington University's Law School. Shortly thereafter, he then formed a law practice with John Grason Turnbull, then majority leader of the Maryland Senate. He was elected to a countywide Maryland House of Delegates seat representing Baltimore County, Maryland in 1950, at age 26, and served two terms.

In 1958, Mr. Brewster was elected to Congress from Maryland's 2nd District, which then

encompassed Harford, Carroll and Baltimore Counties. He served two terms in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Brewster was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1962 at age 39. He was the sole sponsor of legislation that created the Assateague Island National Seashore in Maryland and Virginia in 1963. In 1964, he was the stand-in candidate for President Lyndon B. Johnson when Alabama Governor George C. Wallace, a segregationist, ran in Maryland's Democratic presidential primary, a test battle amid the debate over the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor the memory of Daniel Baugh Brewster. He was a true American patriot who throughout his life went above and beyond the call of duty in his service to Maryland and the United States of America.

CELEBRATING FRUIT GROWERS
SUPPLY COMPANY CENTENNIAL

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker. I rise today to honor and congratulate Fruit Growers Supply Company as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

Fruit Growers Supply Company was born out of adversity. Organized in 1907 by the members of the Southern California Fruit Growers Exchange (now known as Sunkist Growers) it owes its beginnings to the infamous 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire. Following that disaster, the demand for lumber for rebuilding increased dramatically—and lumber used (or citrus crates became very scarce and very expensive. The Exchange members formed a separate cooperative, Fruit Growers Supply, to assure the availability of the materials needed to grow, harvest, package and ship its member's citrus.

FGS worked with small lumber companies to obtain boxes at a reasonable cost. As citrus production increased, Fruit Growers continued to expand, purchasing additional timberlands in Northern California. While FGS no longer owns any sawmills, it still is one of the largest private landowners in California, with additional recently acquired holdings in Oregon and Washington.

In 1916, to meet the growing needs of its members, FGS opened its first Operations Center in Porterville to warehouse supplies needed for the citrus industry. Today, FGS has six Operations Centers throughout the growing regions of California and Arizona available to serve its grower and packer members.

In the early 1950s the citrus industry began replacing the standard wooden box with fiberboard cartons. In 1961, FGS built its first carton plant to assure its members of a lower cost, higher quality container in which to ship their Sunkist citrus. Today, FGS' highly efficient corrugated manufacturing plant in Ontario, California produces millions of cartons, not only for Sunkist citrus, but for other agricultural producers as well.

FGS' member support continues to expand as needs change. When citrus growers needed efficient water delivery systems, they turned to FGS to design the systems and pro-

vide technical support. FGS now is one of the irrigation leaders in agriculture.

FGS also owns a manufacturing facility through a subsidiary, United Wholesale Lumber Company, in Visalia, California. United is one of the largest suppliers of pallets to the West Coast shipping industry. In 2002, FGS acquired a group which provides wax and related equipment and services to the agricultural industry. Renamed FGS Packing Services, the groups business grew 50 percent in its first 3 years with FGS.

Fruit Growers' proud heritage and ongoing efforts to best serve the needs of its members, and the agricultural community, stand it in good stead for its next 100 years.

I ask all members to join me in honoring Fruit Growers Supply Company upon the celebration of its centennial and in commending Fruit Growers for its past and present commitment to providing services and support to the agricultural community.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY AND
PLEDGING SUPPORT FOR VIC-
TIMS OF SEVERE FLOODING IN
EASTERN KANSAS

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY E. BOYDA

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Speaker, on June 26th, rains began to fall in eastern Kansas, and they barely paused for the next 3 days. Storms dumped as much as 21 inches of rain in some places, triggering floods that washed over dozens of counties.

When the rains finally stopped, I joined Mr. MOORE, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. MORAN, and our governor, Kathleen Sebelius, to tour the flood-damaged regions. We saw heartbreaking sights: homes covered in water, streets rendered inaccessible by floods, and the populations of whole towns camping in middle schools. We also saw countless acts of kindness, from the very large to the very small. Friends and neighbors gave generously of their time, their shelter, their food, and their hearts. As devastating as the floods were, they brought out the very best in Kansans.

I'm pleased that the House is pausing today to reflect upon what we've lost and to honor the hard work of rebuilding Kansas. Votes such as this are sometimes called "symbolic," but that is not the same thing as "meaningless." To the Americans who have heard little news from Kansas since the flood waters receded, this vote serves as notice that we're rebuilding, stronger than ever before. And to the thousands of Kansans who lost everything, it is a show of support from their community and their country.

Today, 2 months after the rain stopped, eastern Kansas is well on its way to recovery. For that, we owe our deepest thanks to our friends and neighbors, to the emergency personnel who worked so tirelessly for so long, and to FEMA for its helping hand. You've shown us how to meet a disaster with courage and compassion, and you've shown America the very best of Kansas.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CPL. JUAN
ALCÁNTARA

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to ask my colleagues to take a moment to remember all of our military men and women who died in the line of service during this recess period. Men like Cpl. Juan Alcántara, who died on August 6, 2007, in Baqubah, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

According to Department of Defense reports, Corporal Alcántara died of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol. This news was especially heart wrenching for me because Cpl. Alcántara was assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division out of Fort Lewis, Washington, the same infantry division that I served in during the Korean War.

This fallen hero moved to the United States from the Dominican Republic at the age of 5 and graduated from Edward Reynolds West Side High School in my district. Like many soldiers who are fighting in Iraq, he enlisted in the Army with the hopes of one day being able to earn enough money to attend college and to secure the military's lucrative post-service benefits. He dreamed of obtaining 60 college credits to become a police academy cadet and following the footsteps of his sisters, Cathy and Ferdelinda Pena, by joining the NYPD.

My District, like many communities in this country, have seen too many of their best and brightest come home in body bags. Young Americans searching for opportunity to get a college education, decent health care, and/or own a home are increasingly having to make the choice to stare into the barrel of a gun or dodge a roadside bomb in order to have their fair shot at the American Dream.

Because this young warrior's service was extended as part of the president's new "surge" strategy, he asked the Army if he could come home to New York to see his daughter, who was born on June 29, 2007. His request was denied and his life tragically came to an end, never being able to feel the warmth of his newborn baby girl, Jayleni Alcántara. She will hear the heroic tales of her father but she will never experience his smile, affection, and the sanctuary of a fatherly hug.

In the eyes of some, Cpl. Alcántara's selflessness and willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice for this Nation is made even more remarkable when one considers that he was not even an American citizen. However, it should be no surprise that immigrant soldiers defend their newly established homeland with the same vigor as American born citizens. I've lived in this country long enough to know that no birth certificate can ever determine how deeply one loves this country. It only saddens me that he died never having realized so many dreams, including the one of taking the oath to our Constitution. Yet I am proud to call him a constituent and now that he has been awarded citizenship posthumously, a fellow American citizen.

Gen. MacArthur once said, "The soldier above all others pray for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war." Let us all hope that