

WORLD AIDS DAY 2007

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, on December 1, 2007, we commemorated World AIDS Day, and reflected both on the lives lost so far and on our continued moral obligation to ensure we provide necessary treatment and research to assist those living with HIV/AIDS.

As a senior member of the Health Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, I have fought hard for increased federal dollars for New York to treat more than 111,000 New Yorkers living with HIV/AIDS today. New York remains the epicenter of the AIDS epidemic in our nation with nearly 18 percent of all HIV/AIDS cases in the United States.

Last year, during the reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act, which addresses the unmet primary care and health support needs of low income people living with HIV/AIDS, I led the charge to stave off the Administration's proposal to dramatically shift needed funding away from New York. This year, we were able to achieve record increases in funding nationwide for the Ryan White CARE Act in the Labor-Health and Human Service appropriations bill. Sadly, President Bush vetoed this critical legislation on November 13, 2007.

I have also introduced the bi-partisan Early Treatment for HIV Act with Speaker Pelosi and Representative Ros-Lehtinen, which reforms rules in the Medicaid program which mandates that people be disabled by AIDS before receiving treatment. This rule is inconsistent with national health guidelines for those with HIV, which recommends early and aggressive treatment for those with HIV to keep their illnesses from progressing to AIDS. My bill will allow states to treat low-income individuals with HIV under the Medicaid program. HIV no longer has to be a death sentence with the new medical treatments available today.

Globally, we must also continue to be mindful of the 33 million individuals currently living with HIV/AIDS. Over 5,700 people die each day from AIDS related illnesses and the United States must provide adequate resources to help stop the global scourge of AIDS. As you may know, Tuberculosis is the leading infectious killer among adults with HIV/AIDS, as it preys upon these individuals with weakened immune systems. I am pleased to report that my bill, H.R. 1567, the Stop Tuberculosis Now Act recently passed the House of Representatives overwhelmingly and is currently awaiting action by the U.S. Senate. Worldwide, tuberculosis kills 1.6 million adults and 1.4 million children each year. My bill will go a long way towards providing resources to those with both HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis.

I am proud that the AIDS Institute has decided to honor me with their "HIV/AIDS Care & Treatment Award for 2007". I am grateful for the award but am equally aware that World AIDS Day must prompt us to examine what progress we have made and reevaluate what additional steps should be taken to combat this deadly epidemic.

Madam Speaker, working together we can address both prevention and early treatment options, and hopefully one day find a cure for AIDS.

IN MEMORY OF SECOND
LIEUTENANT STUART LILES**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Second Lieutenant Stuart Liles of Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas, who died on November 13, 2007, at the age of 26, while serving our country in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Second Lieutenant Stuart Liles graduated from Fountain Lake High School before attending the University of Central Arkansas. While in high school and college, his deep sense of unity and teamwork flourished when he joined the ROTC program which was the inspiration for his service in the Army National Guard upon graduation.

Second Lieutenant Liles served our country in the U.S. Military in the National Guard, the Army Reserves, and as an active duty soldier in the U.S. Army. His proud and honorable service will forever be remembered by our nation. He served in the 122d Aviation Support Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. His bravery, courage and dedication to the U.S. Army are exemplified by his service and leadership roles within his platoon, where he served as Platoon Leader on active duty.

Second Lieutenant Liles was a dedicated family man who adored his family dearly, and he was also a man of devout faith. As a deeply spiritual man, Liles was often proud to have the opportunity to combine two of his passions—his faith and his love of acting. In the community of Hot Springs, he will always be remembered for his portrayal of Jesus in the outdoor musical passion play, "The Witness."

Second Lieutenant Stuart Liles will be remembered as a hero, a son, a father and a husband. My deepest condolences go out to his wife Aubre Paschal Liles of Little Rock; his daughter Aurora Elisabeth Liles of Little Rock; his mother Kristen Liles Quintanella of Hot Springs; his sister Erin Long of Saint Mary's, Georgia; his brother Sean Liles of Fayetteville; and to his numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. He will be missed by his family, his community, his country and all those who knew him and called him a friend. I honor Second Lieutenant Stuart Liles for his bravery, his patriotism and his service and I will continue to keep his family in my deepest thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO HENRY HYDE

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a great man, and a dedicated member of this body. Henry Hyde was an esteemed colleague, a remarkable orator, and a true statesman. He was uniquely able to graciously disagree with other Members at a fundamental level without disrespect or contempt. In this sense, he was an example to all of us, Republican or Democrat, conservative

or liberal. When he spoke on this Floor, he spoke deliberately and intelligently, crafting numerous policy speeches that will endure well into the future.

Henry was a devoted advocate for the unborn, and he never wavered on this point. For that, I am personally grateful. Much has been said on this point, but no one can say it better than Henry himself.

As he stated during a critical debate on this Floor, "One of the great errors of modern politics is our foolish attempt to separate our private consciences from our public acts, and it cannot be done. At the end of the 20th century, is the crowning achievement of our democracy to treat the weak, the powerless, the unwanted, as things? To be disposed of? If so, we have not elevated justice; we have disgraced it".

Henry Hyde was not a perfect man, and like the rest of us, I imagine he was sometimes inclined to become angry and unpleasant when confronted with the frustrating issues that make our days here in Congress so interesting. But I always respected Henry for maintaining an honorable demeanor, even in the midst of emotionally charged disagreements. In the spirit of our country's great orators, he knew that we don't promote a real debate with nastiness and sound bites, but with thoughtful consideration and a deep understanding of the issues at hand.

My heart goes out to his family during this difficult time. Surely they can appreciate the impact that Henry Hyde made on this chamber. I'm honored to have an opportunity to express my gratitude to a man whose public service changed this country for the better.

TRIBUTE ON THE BIRTH OF
GRANT EVAN WILSON**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Dave and Rochelle Wilson of Lexington, South Carolina, on the birth of their new baby boy. Grant Evan Wilson was born on October 25, 2007 weighing 7 pounds and 8 ounces. Grant joins seven siblings—Bryce, Carly, Makenna, Caleb, Alyssa, Bennett and Owen. He has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future.

Dave and Rochelle are longtime friends, and I am so excited for this new addition to their family. On behalf of my wife Roxanne, and our entire family, we want to wish the Wilson family all the best.

TRIBUTE TO NORWALK, IOWA
HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY CHEER-
LEADERS**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Norwalk, Iowa, High School varsity cheerleaders on