

the tower by volunteers from the Egmont Key Alliance to bring a little holiday cheer to the island.

100 YEARS WELL SPENT—MARTIN
WISENBAKER TURNS 100 YEARS
OLD

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 15, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, this Saturday in Humble, TX, the eight children, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Martin Lewis Wisenbaker are celebrating his 100th birthday. This Texan has played many roles in his accomplished life including athlete, farmer, deacon, husband, and father and he doesn't seem to be slowing down anytime soon.

Martin Wisenbaker was born in Graham, TX on January 17, 1909, and by the age of 16 he

had settled in Humble, TX. He started out working in the rice fields of southeast Texas until he was hired by Hughes Tool in 1929.

Just 4 years later Martin met the woman he would marry and spend his life with, Miss Wesley Belle Lee. Over the years they had eight children, including two sets of twins. In addition to his job at Hughes Tool, Martin had his own dairy farm and sold milk to local families.

In 1944 the family joined the First Baptist Church in Humble. Martin would go on to be baptized in the church and even serve as a deacon starting in 1960. Even with all of his commitments, Martin still found time to pursue another passion: sports. You could find him playing tennis or baseball and he even won a local tennis tournament and played 3rd base for the company baseball team.

After 38 years with Hughes Tool, Martin retired at the age of 62. His retirement years were spent with the church bowling league. Over the years Martin added numerous bowling trophies to his tennis and baseball awards.

After winning many times over at the Senior Olympics and a bowl of 200 on his 92nd birthday, Martin was forced to give up the sport when he was 99 years old due to knee problems.

In July of 2008 Martin lost his wife, Wesley, just after their 74th anniversary. They spent their last days together in the Park Manor facilities in Humble, where he still resides.

Madam Speaker, on Saturday that room will be filled with Martin Wisenbaker's loved ones who are no doubt celebrating the life of a great man who was born before the Titanic sailed, experienced the Great Depression, saw the first Olympic Games, lived through two world wars, entered the new millennium and watched as the U.S. was attacked by terrorists on September 11, 2001.

I want to commend Mr. Wisenbaker on a long life of hard work and service to his community. Congratulations to him and his family on this extraordinary achievement.