

We truly can never repay the debt we owe these soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who put themselves in harm's way to protect us and our liberty and freedom. The sacrifices made by these outstanding citizens—and the families they left behind—are truly incredible. Without their honor, courage, commitment, and sacrifice, we would not enjoy the freedoms we cherish today.

Please join me in thanking these Oregon veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their dedication, commitment, and service to our great nation. May God bless them and may God Bless America.

A TRIBUTE TO MARY ELIZABETH
WHITEHEAD CLARK

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mary Elizabeth Whitehead Clark for her dedication to service and work as a community activist.

Mary Elizabeth Catten, the oldest of six children, was born on October 8, 1938 in Franklin, Virginia where her family owned and worked their land and grew fruits, and vegetables. After having her first child, Arlinda, saving her money and getting married to Jesse Whitehead, she moved her family to the East New York section of Brooklyn, New York. She and her husband have five other children: Jesse Jr., Jacqueline, Johnette, John and Juanita, and raised five of her husband's nieces and nephews.

Mary became Director of a daycare in East New York that employed 10 adults as well as 15 neighborhood youth during the summer. Through her strong leadership in the community of East New York, Mary played a key role in working with Community Board 5, and former Mayor of New York City, the Honorable Abraham "Abe" Beame, in mapping out the new housing developments that were built in East New York, currently known as the Nehemiah homes. Mary started a block association on Sutter Avenue to improve the conditions in the neighborhood of Community Board 5.

Mary's family outgrew their Sutter avenue apartment and later moved into a house in the Bedford Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn. She gave birth to a second set of twins (Mary and Marty) that gave her and Jesse 13 children to raise.

Mary started another block association in her new neighborhood on Halsey Street. She was always involved in the schools that her children attended. Sadly, her beloved husband passed away in 1974. Shortly thereafter, Mary began attending the Macedonia Disciples of Church of God in Christ. She served as the pastor's aide and became a member of the usher's board. She also became involved with the church food pantry, which distributes food to individuals and families in the Bedford Stuyvesant community. The church was an integral part of Mary's life and helped to make sure that her entire family knew God. Mary is still an active member of the church to this day and continues to tirelessly run the food pantry. Mary continues to maintain a presence in the schools that her children attended and

served as President of the P.T.A. of P.S. 93, J.H.S. 258, and Boys and Girls High School. Mary inspires everyone she meets to make a better life for their families and communities.

As her children grew old enough to care for themselves, Mary went back to school and trained to become a home health aide. After successfully completing school and working for a while as a home health aide, she began teaching home health aide courses at the request of the directors of her school. Mary retired after many years of teaching, but her teaching days were far from over. Mary raised two of her many grandchildren, ran the food pantry and served as President of the Nurses Unite organization at her church. Mary was remarried to Mr. James Clark and moved to the Bushwick section of Brooklyn where she continues to be an active member of her block association. The Mary Elizabeth Whitehead Clark legacy of community activism is continued by her children who are all in some aspects involved in politics, and community activism.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Mary Elizabeth Whitehead Clark.

TRIBUTE TO LES RICHTER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Leslie Alan Richter, an accomplished athlete, successful businessman, outstanding community member and close personal friend of mine. On June 12, 2010, Les passed away at the age of 79. Though Les has passed on from this life, he leaves a lasting legacy of generosity and accomplishment that will never be forgotten.

Born in Fresno, California, on October 6, 1930, Les attended the University of California, Berkeley, where he played football and graduated as valedictorian of his class in 1952. Before starting a career in professional football, Les served 2 years in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. In 1954, he started with the Los Angeles Rams, who traded a record 11 players in order to get Les. He played linebacker and place kicker for the Rams for nine seasons—eight of those being All-Pro. In 1982 he entered the College Football Hall of Fame, and he is still considered one of the greatest linebackers in professional football.

After retiring from football, Les' interests turned to auto racing, and from 1963 to 1984 he ran the Riverside Raceway in Riverside, California. He then moved to Daytona Beach, Florida, where he worked for NASCAR for 10 years, and was named executive vice president of competition in 1986, and the senior vice president of operations in 1992. He is largely recognized as one of three key race track executives that helped guide and advise NASCAR founder "Big Bill" France, who made NASCAR the success it is today. Les built various tracks around the NASCAR circuit and was influential in helping expand the sport's national appeal. After leaving NASCAR, Les returned to Riverside, where he oversaw the development of the Auto Club Speedway.

Aside from his professional endeavors, Les was known for contributing to the community

of Riverside. In fact, Les was an original member of the Monday Morning Group, a group of civic and business leaders who come to Washington every year to meet with legislators from southern California to further the goals of the Inland Empire region. Additionally, Les chaired the board of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce and also served on the Riverside Community College District board of trustees.

Les is survived by his wife, Marilyn; daughter, Anne Guerrucci; and three grandchildren.

Although Les was known for his great success in his profession, he will be remembered for his gentle manner, humility and great sense of humor. I have personally been influenced by Les, and consider him one of my most valued mentors.

On behalf of all those who knew him, it is an honor to offer these remarks as a tribute to the life and legacy of my friend Les Richter. His life and presence will be sorely missed and I extend my condolences to his dear family and friends.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. JEFFREY A.
MCKOY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Jeffrey A. Mckoy for his dedication to educational pursuits and his work in the field of psychotherapy.

Dr. Jeffrey A. Mckoy was born in Kingston, Jamaica. He migrated to the United States and later moved to Brooklyn, New York to join his family. He attended several universities and obtained a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree and a Doctor of Science in Clinical Psychology.

At the age of 15, Dr. Mckoy began to realize the importance of education and by the time he was 17, he migrated to the United States. He enrolled in an alternative program night school and worked part-time. He found out quickly that a minimum wage job was not going to get him through college. This created a need to fund his educational pursuits. In 1980, he joined the Board of Education as a Family Paraprofessional, where he was able to gain valuable experience and support for his education. In the years in the Department of Education, he was able to attend college and graduated in 1989. He did not stop there; he later enrolled in Brooklyn College.

In 1989, he joined the family District Council 37, Local 372 and served as Released Time Representative for approximately 8 years. It was there that he met and fell in love with his wife Gloria. He later reentered the Board of Education in 1996 as a teacher. He taught Social Studies and various subjects in middle school and High School. His wife has been supportive of his efforts through the years.

Dr. Mckoy is a psychotherapist; he currently owns and operates the mental health clinic Visionary Mental Health Counseling Service, P.C. in Brooklyn. The clinic offers counseling and psychotherapy treatments, evaluations, treatments for ADHD, ADD, ODD, anxiety, grief and loss, work and career issues, stress, and autism and Aspergers disorders.