

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ILLINOIS STATE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS COMMANDER WILLIAM M. WOLFF

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in recognition of the long and noble service of Illinois State Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander William M. Wolff. Commander Wolff began his loyal service to our country as a tank driver in the U.S. Army in Vietnam with the First Squadron, Fourth Armored Cavalry/First Infantry Division.

Commander Wolff was awarded several medals including the Purple Heart. He became a Charter Member of the Bloomingdale, Illinois VFW Post 7539 in 1991, and would earn the status of All-American Post Commander and All-State Post Commander.

To this day, Commander Wolff is extremely active in the community. He currently serves as the Chairperson for the Bloomingdale Septemberfest Commission, and he is a member of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, the West Suburban Fire Fighters Association, Vietnam Veterans of America, and the Lions Club.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in honoring his extraordinary commitment to our nation, and recognizing his celebration that will take place on August 14th.

HONORING THE LATE SENATOR
PAUL DOUGLAS COVERDELL

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the Late Senator from Georgia, Paul D. Coverdell, who died 10 years ago last Sunday.

I considered Paul a dear friend and continue to hold his wife Nancy, who is a constituent of mine, in high regard.

One thing about Paul is that one may have agreed or disagreed with him but one always respected his energy level, his knowledge of the issue, and the way he was so focused on attacking problems.

I first learned about Paul Coverdell in 1974 when my mother sent me a clipping from the Atlanta Journal & Constitution titled "The Gospel According to Paul." In it, I read of a young guy running an unconventional campaign for the State Senate in Atlanta. Rather than just working the good old boys barbecue circuit and going to the back-room power brokers, Paul went directly to the voters. He stood on the side of the road waving signs and knocking on doors. He went directly to the unnamed and untitled citizens to say, "I am Paul Cover-

dell. I would like to be Georgia's next senator. Here is where I stand. Do you have any questions?"

Over the next several decades, Paul's hard work brought him through the ranks. He eventually became one of the most well-connected and influential members of the United States Senate but he never forgot the common man for whom he came to Washington to fight.

Throughout his career, Paul's energy left all who met him in awe.

When Paul was first elected to the Georgia State Senate, he was one of just three Republicans in the body. When I joined the General Assembly just over a decade later, there were only nine. Paul quickly rose through the ranks and became the Senate Republican Leader. Despite the numerical odds against him, Paul refused to be shut out of the arena of ideas.

At that time, Governor Joe Frank Harris introduced a number of bills dealing with DUI laws. The conventional wisdom was that each time you increased the penalty, the number of offenders would go down but Paul bucked the conventional wisdom.

Knowing that a lot of the offenders were addicted to alcohol, Paul introduced and got passed legislation that created a component of mandatory assessment to see if they were addicted. If so, Paul's bill provided a requirement that they seek treatment.

As the eleventh Director of the Peace Corps, Paul promoted farming in Third World countries, economic growth and development, and medical help. Indeed, he saw the formula for world prosperity meant world peace and it was great and important for the United States of America to be leading the way. As Director, Paul sent the first Peace Corps volunteers to Eastern Europe after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Paul went into the most difficult and remote places and countries and said, "How can we help with health care? Are there better farming techniques out there? Is there a way to get cleaner water? What can we do for the children?"

Paul also knew the value of bringing the world to America. That's why he created the "World Wise Schools" program which connected classrooms in the United States with Peace Corps volunteers around the world. During his tenure as Director, 5,000 classrooms nationwide benefitted from the program.

I remember hosting a coffee in my living room for Paul during his campaign for United States Senate. In the middle of a detailed discussion, my daughter Ann who was four years old at the time came running into the living room and crashed through the circle of adults listening to a very dignified U.S. senatorial candidate. She had been playing out in the backyard with all the other children, and she said, "Mom and Dad, I feel of the slide, and I hurt my heinie and all the other kids are laughing at me."

The room full of grown-ups fell silent; and all eyes went to the little girl who was at the foot of this soon-to-be U.S. Senator, a very dignified and somewhat sophisticated man and a tad old-fashioned in his mannerisms, and he

looked down at her and smiled. It said it all. Everything was fine, and the little girl got herself back together and ran back out to the yard with the rest of the kids.

Madam Speaker, that was the grace and charm of Paul Coverdell. Here is a man with a world view but who could look at a 4-year-old girl and say, "everything is okay." That is what made Paul Coverdell special. It was the "Coverdell Dignity" and Paul carried that dignity and that gentlemanly manner with him everywhere he went.

As a United States Senator, Paul fought tirelessly for Georgia's veterans and for our military bases especially Fort Stewart in my district. He was also an amazing advocate for agriculture—the backbone of Georgia's economy. In my South Georgia district, many farmers referred to him lovingly as "Senator Cloverdale."

Madam Speaker, Paul Coverdell had the uncanny ability to not just have an opinion on every issue but to have a thought, an idea and a consequential action. He was a man of action.

I learned a lot from Senator Paul Coverdell. One thing I learned, although he was one of the fiercest Republicans I've ever known, Paul showed everyone by instruction to never put politics over policy.

I remember being a young member of the General Assembly when then-State Senator Julian Bond stepped down to run for the congressional seat now held by the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. LEWIS. Paul Coverdell was one of the men in the Georgia Senate who stood up and gave a great farewell speech for Mr. Bond.

I remember watching that and saying, "here is a liberal Democrat and the conservative Republican leader of the State. What is he doing?" I knew there was a lesson to be had. Bipartisanship and civility is important and you should never let politics rule over policy.

A week before he died, Paul called me at home on a Sunday. We had an issue in my district with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and we kind of got off path. He said, "Jack, I think we are a little out of synch here. I just want to make sure that you and I are okay on this."

That was typical Coverdell. I think so many of us, including me, would have said, "Alright, you are way off base. I am right and you are wrong." Not Paul, he made it so that it was just so easy to get along.

In closing, I want to say one last thing about Nancy Coverdell—the love of Paul's life. Paul spoke to me about Nancy often. He bragged on how much better she was than him with real estate. It is a rare man who really privately, one-on-one, takes the time to brag about his wife to another man. It is a sign of a great marriage, a great husband and true love. I have the honor of representing Nancy in Congress and I truly appreciate her sharing Paul's life with me, the State of Georgia and our great Nation.

Paul Coverdell was a good Republican, a great strategist, a great ideas man. He had a

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world view, unmatched civility and integrity and was a great organizer. He was energetic, a great communicator and a loyalist. In short, Paul Coverdell was a statesman and someone whose example I try to follow to this day.

COMMEMORATING UNITED STATES
MARINE CORPORAL LARRY D.
HARRIS, JR.

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a hero: United States Marine Corporal Larry D. Harris, Jr. of Thornton, Colorado.

Corporal Harris, a Marine Corps veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan, graduated in 2003 from Boulder High School where he played football and ran track. He loved being an infantry Marine on the front line.

Corporal Larry Harris displayed heroism and service to others—both overseas and at home. He was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for helping civilians severely injured in an automobile accident near Camp Pendleton.

On July 1, 2010, while on patrol in Helmand Province Afghanistan, another Marine was shot in the leg. Picking up his fellow wounded Marine to carry him to safety Corporal Harris tripped an explosive device, absorbing the blast. Though he died in the explosion, his efforts saved the life of the wounded Marine.

Corporal Harris is a shining example of United States Marine Corps service and sacrifice. As a Marine Corps veteran, my deepest sympathies go out to his family and to all who knew him.

THE 36TH YEAR OF ILLEGAL
TURKISH OCCUPATION OF CYPRUS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, this week, once again, we commemorate the tragic 36th anniversary of the 1974 illegal Turkish invasion of Cyprus. Thirty-six years later, Turkey continues forcibly to occupy more than one-third of Cyprus with more than 43,000 troops. This amounts to almost one Turkish soldier for every two Turkish Cypriots. It is time for Turkey to withdraw its troops from Cyprus so that the island can move forward as one nation.

I am honored to represent Astoria, Queens—one of the largest and most vibrant communities of Greek and Cypriot Americans in this country. I truly enjoy participating in the life of this community and treasure the wonderful and vital Cypriot friends that I have come to know. Cyprus has long been a key partner for the United States, and our friendship rests on the bedrock of shared democratic values.

As co-chair and co-founder of the Congressional Hellenic Caucus, I have worked diligently with my colleagues in the Caucus out of our mutual concern for the continued division and occupation of Cyprus. We have 158 mem-

bers today, one of the largest caucuses in Congress.

Cyprus is playing a vital role in European affairs while also strengthening relations with the United States. It has joined with us on issues important to our own security, including the fight against terrorism and other international crimes. Ending the island's tragic division will pave the way to prosperity and peace throughout the entire region.

Last year, I was joined by Hellenic Caucus co-chair Representative GUS BILIRAKIS in urging our colleagues to sign a letter to President Obama thanking him for his vocal support of a unified Cyprus and urging the United States' continued support for a solution to the Cyprus problem that is by Cypriots, for Cypriots.

To date, Turkey has repeatedly ignored all U.N. Resolutions pertaining to Cyprus and has continued to occupy the island in complete violation of international law. Turkey has continued to do so despite the fact that it has been a member of the U.N. Security Council since January 2009. Turkey has also refused to abide by the Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights in numerous cases, thereby continuing to violate the basic human rights of the Cypriot people. This is an outrage.

The current negotiations aim at reaching a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem based on a bizonal, bicommunal federation with political equality, as defined in the relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions, with a single sovereignty, single citizenship and single international personality. The solution must reunite the island, its people, its institutions and its economy and safeguard the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Cypriots and the withdrawal of Turkish occupation forces from Cyprus.

The United States and the international community must continue to provide support to this process. The people of Cyprus deserve a unified and democratic country, and I remain hopeful that a peaceful settlement will be found so that the division of Cyprus will come to an end.

HONORING CAROL E. SCHATZ FOR
TWO DECADES OF SERVICE TO
THE CENTRAL CITY ASSOCIA-
TION OF LOS ANGELES

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Carol E. Schatz, on the occasion of her 20th anniversary with the Central City Association (CCA) of Los Angeles in the 34th Congressional District.

During her tenure with the association, I have had the pleasure of working closely with Carol in our joint efforts to revitalize Downtown Los Angeles.

Carol started her career with the CCA in 1990 as the Director of Legislative Affairs. Five years later, she became the association's President & CEO—the first woman in the association's history to hold this leadership position.

Established in 1924 as an advocacy organization for businesses, the CCA represents more than 450 member businesses and orga-

nizations, many of which are located or have business interests in the Downtown area. In 1997, Carol's vision led to the creation of the Downtown Center Business Improvement District (DCBID). As the DCBID's President & CEO, Carol's leadership has been instrumental in the district's growth to include more than 2,200 parcels and 1,200 property owners located in the 65-block Central Business District of Downtown Los Angeles. Today, this influential business district is among the largest of its kind in Los Angeles County.

Revenue generated from property tax assessments within the district pay for more than 140 employees to provide security, cleaning and other services in the area. The district also promotes business retention and recruitment, acts as a housing resource to potential residents and developers, and carries out a Downtown marketing program that includes special events, promotional offers, advertising campaigns and other public relations efforts. With a budget of more than \$6 million, the DCBID has made Downtown safe and clean and provided a catalyst to bring incredible new residential and commercial investment to Downtown Los Angeles.

Under Carol's dual leadership, the Downtown Center Business Improvement District working in conjunction with the Central City Association of Los Angeles operate under a shared mission—to enhance the quality of life in Downtown.

Under Carol's direction, CCA created the "Downtown Development Strategy" as an updated supplement to the 1985 Downtown Strategic Plan. The plan includes all aspects of a revitalized Downtown, from the creation of mixed-use/mixed-income projects to new transportation amenities. Carol was also instrumental in initiating the Figueroa Corridor Plan and the reauthorization of the Civic Center Authority, which led to the Civic Center Master Plan.

In one of her most significant achievements, Carol utilized the full force of the association's lobbying muscle to win a legislative victory key to the Downtown Los Angeles Renaissance. Passed in 1999 by the Los Angeles City Council, the Adaptive Reuse Ordinance championed by the association is widely credited for allowing developers to convert empty office buildings to housing. As a result of this property use conversion, Downtown today boasts more than 16,000 new residential units, a 141 percent increase since 1991. In addition, Downtown has experienced a dramatic population increase of residents from 19,000 in 1991 to 43,000 today.

Tapping into this expanded pool of customers, the number of Downtown businesses has also increased, from 11,725 in 1991 to 17,028 today, including 180 new restaurants, bars, and nightclubs that have made Downtown Los Angeles an entertainment and dining destination.

Carol embraces a vision of Downtown as a place where professionals live and work and families come to have fun. Her tenacious advocacy was instrumental in bringing the Staples Center to Downtown—the proud home of the Los Angeles Lakers, Clippers, Sparks, and Kings. Carol was also a strong proponent of the creation of LA Live, which has become one of the most vibrant centers for urban nightlife in the nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking Carol E. Schatz on