

Chair, Treasurer, and now is the District Finance Chair for the Mission Amigos District of the San Gabriel Valley Council Boy Scouts of America, which serves the cities of Monterey Park, Alhambra, San Gabriel, Rosemead, El Monte and South El Monte.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Carol Naomi Tanita, for her outstanding service to the community.

TO HONOR AND CELEBRATE THE
LIFE OF BRIGADIER GENERAL
ALVIN D. UNGERLEIDER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of a true American hero, Brigadier General (RETD) Alvin D. Ungerleider who recently passed away at the age of 89.

General Ungerleider honorably served our country in uniform for 36 years, beginning when he was drafted in November, 1942. He received his commission and was assigned to the 115th Regiment, 29th Infantry Division of the National Guard. On D-Day, June 6, 1944, at the age of 22, then Lieutenant Ungerleider led 50 men into battle on the beaches of Omaha.

The Invasion of Normandy changed the course of World War II and of history. During the intense fighting in the opening days of the Normandy invasion, Lt. Ungerleider was wounded twice. He reluctantly left the battlefield for only two weeks to recover from his wounds, and then returned to continue fighting throughout France and into Germany. He led his men through minefields and joined the battles to free the town of St. Laurent-sur-Mer and the city of Brest from Nazi occupation.

Nearly one year later, during the spring of 1945, Lt. Ungerleider received orders to capture part of an industrial complex and liberate Dora-Mittelbau, a slave labor concentration camp that was a subcamp of Nordhausen prison. In April, 1945, after taking heavy fire from the Nazi soldiers guarding the prison, Lt. Ungerleider and his men liberated the camp. Years later, General Ungerleider said that although he had become battle hardened, nothing had prepared him for what he encountered at Nordhausen. To quote General Ungerleider, "We thought we had entered the gates of hell."

At Nordhausen, he and his men freed approximately 300 prisoners, most of whom he described as "living skeletons." He and his men shared the small amount of food that they had with the prisoners. Lt. Ungerleider then led them in reciting Kaddish, the Jewish prayer for the dead. Only then did the prisoners accept that the horror of the Nazi death camp had ended.

General Ungerleider continued serving our country in the United States Army for several more decades, in times of both war and peace. He commanded an armored tank unit during the Korean War and a Tactical Unit during the war in Vietnam, where he spent his free time working with a Vietnamese orphanage. Later in his military career, he com-

manded the Aberdeen Proving Grounds and eventually retired in 1978.

In recognition of his distinguished military service, General Ungerleider received three Legion of Merit awards, the Four Chaplains Award, 2 Bronze Stars for bravery and meritorious service, and a Purple Heart. While commanding at Aberdeen, he established Equal Opportunity programs, and he was recognized by the Secretary of the Army and the NAACP for these innovations. The Brigadier General also received decorations from the Korean and Vietnamese governments, and he is one of only 99 Americans to be awarded the French Legion of Honor for his role in D-Day and the eventual liberation of France.

On June 6, 1994, in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of D-Day, General Ungerleider was selected to escort President Clinton at the American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer in Normandy France. There he walked alongside the President and together they laid a wreath to honor all who fought and died to liberate Europe.

As committed as General Ungerleider was to serving our country, he was equally committed to his family, Jewish faith, and community. He was a loving and devoted husband to Ruth Golden Ungerleider for more than 66 years, a dedicated father to Neil, Ilene and Daniel, and a doting grandfather to his grandchildren. In 1955 while still on active duty stationed in Monterey, CA, he started that city's very first Jewish Sunday School. He worked with the Jewish Welfare Board to find new homes in America and Palestine for displaced Jews. The National Holocaust Museum recognizes the 29th Infantry as Liberators due to the efforts of General Ungerleider and the men he led in Europe.

He was also active in his temple, Olam Tikvah, and served for 8 years as an administrator, helping to build the membership of the temple and increase its involvement in the community.

I would like to personally thank Mr. Bruce Waxman, an officer of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 227 and a member of Congregation Olam Tikvah, for bringing the extraordinary contributions of General Ungerleider to my attention.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of Brigadier General Alvin D. Ungerleider and in expressing our deepest condolences to his family and friends. Often we hear a person described as a hero, but rarely does that moniker fit as well as it does in this case. General Ungerleider dedicated his life to serving his country, his family, his faith, and his community. He rightfully earned the appreciation and respect of all Americans for his lifetime of honorable service to our nation, as well as the gratitude of many others around the globe who owe their lives and their quality of life to this true American hero.

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT
BLOOD THINNERS AND POTENTIAL
RISKS TO PATIENTS

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of a constituent of mine, Shannon

Elizabeth Mudd from Mt. Sterling Kentucky, who died due to complications from treatment she received by medical personnel who were not aware of an underlying medical condition and the use of blood thinners. Shannon was 17 years old and today would have been her 19th birthday. Mr. Speaker, this tragedy should prompt us to look more closely at protecting people who use anti-coagulant drugs to treat blood clots and deep vein thrombosis (DVT). It is my hope that more awareness and better labeling might help prevent what happened to Shannon from happening to other patients on anti-coagulant drugs.

Shannon was diagnosed on September 4, 2009 with neuroendocrine carcinoma, a rare form of cancer, and was beginning to respond well to new treatments when a visit to her doctor revealed she had deep vein thrombosis (DVT), or a blood clot, in her chest. Rather than put Shannon through an invasive procedure, her doctor instead prescribed an anti-coagulant drug used to treat DVT. Like any anti-coagulant drug, the medication included a warning that there was a risk of severe bleeding associated with it. However, the medication warning did not alert her to the risk associated with internal bleeding that could become life threatening if a minor injury were left untreated.

When Shannon received some encouraging news about her cancer prognosis, she went to lunch with her father to celebrate. While at the restaurant, Shannon fell and hit her head. Because her father was not informed of the danger of internal bleeding associated with the drug Shannon had been taking, paramedics were not made aware of her history with the anti-clotting medication. Since it appeared it was a minor injury, Shannon was not taken to the hospital. Later that day, Shannon complained of dizziness and exhibited signs of a stroke. Her father called 911 and Shannon was flown to the University of Kentucky Medical Center where emergency physicians began treating her for massive brain hemorrhaging. By this time, little could be done for Shannon and she slipped into a coma. Shannon passed away almost a month later and just 5 weeks shy of her 18th birthday.

In memory of her daughter, Shannon's mother, Angela Visone Mudd, took up the cause of educating the public about the risk of traumatic brain injury associated with anti-coagulant drugs and minor head injury. Ms. Mudd developed bands for patients taking these medications to wear, communicating the risk of internal or external bleeding to medical personnel in the event of an accident.

Shannon was taken from her family much too soon. I applaud Shannon's mother and her many supporters for their courage and efforts to help other families avoid the same tragic set of circumstances that ultimately led to Shannon's death a year ago. Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that through sharing Shannon's story, more tragedies like this can be prevented and more lives saved.

SPOKANE VALLEY REMEMBERS
BOB McCASLIN

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of my friend Bob