

Representatives to recognize and honor the accomplishments of an individual who exemplifies what it means to be an Iowan, to be an American.

Bill Knapp is being honored by the Van Meter High School Booster Club and American Legion Post 403 as an Iowa hero and legend, and it is for good reason. Bill has given much to the community. He spent his life giving back. Throughout his life, his career, and his philanthropic efforts, he has demonstrated, and continues to demonstrate, a commitment to our State and our country, to people.

Bill was born in 1926 and grew up on a farm in Allerton in southern Iowa. Growing up in Allerton was where Bill first learned the value of a hard day's work, of an earned day's pay. He learned the value of making do with less, anticipating the needs of others, and helping those less fortunate. He learned self-sacrifice, honesty, and integrity. He has carried with him these Iowa values throughout his life.

Bill turned 17 in 1944. Observing World War II from quite a distance in Iowa, this young man heard the call to serve our country. He did not ignore that call; he answered it. He convinced his parents to sign off on his enlistment into the United States Navy.

In the spring of 1945, Bill took part in the Battle of Okinawa as a coxswain on the USS *Catron*. Alongside many others from across the country, Bill bravely served. And unlike many of these gentlemen who were with him who didn't come back, Bill returned home.

After 2 years in the U.S. Navy and the end of the Second World War, Bill returned to Allerton. He took business courses, took to real estate, rolled up his sleeves, got to work, and soon formed Iowa Realty. Under Bill's leadership, Iowa Realty grew, prospered, and became the largest real estate company in Iowa.

Bill has had some tremendous successes, but he has never forgotten his Iowa values. Instead, he continues to embody what it means to be an Iowan. His selflessness and willingness to give back is evident in everything that he continues to do. He is known statewide. He is known nationally for his philanthropic efforts, as well as his special commitment to Iowa. He has placed a strong emphasis on helping to turn Iowa's capital city, beautiful Des Moines, into the thriving metropolis we see today.

I imagine I speak for many when I say how incredibly grateful I am for Bill's donation of land to our State, which was used for Iowa's first and only veterans cemetery in Van Meter. Thanks to Bill's generosity, our veterans in Iowa, who have so selflessly served our country, have a final resting place. It is truly hallowed ground. We, as Iowans, have a place to honor our country's heroes.

But his generosity to Iowa's veterans didn't stop. He was instrumental in the creation of the Veterans Reception Center in Van Meter, where families

and friends gather and pay their respects following the burial of a loved one or friend. It has helped bring the community of Van Meter, my hometown, together.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Iowans like Bill in the United States Congress. He is generous, he is thoughtful, he doesn't forget where he came from, and he has spent a lifetime embodying Iowan values. He has given so much, he continues to give selflessly, and he puts others before himself in ways that we will probably never know. But that is okay if we don't know. He gives because it is the right thing to do. He is a humble soul with a big heart.

I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring Bill, an Iowa hero and legend.

Thank you and congratulations, Bill. We are proud of you.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 21 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Almighty and merciful God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

You are the shepherd of souls. During the 114th Congress, many guest chaplains have led the House in prayer. Today, we wish to lift up these leaders and their faith communities across this country.

Their prayers for this Nation and its government lingers in this room. Bless them for their efforts to renew people in faith, hope, and love. Inspire them as they preach and guide Your people in so many districts of this Nation.

May they never lord it over those assigned to them, but instead, be examples of servant leadership to all in the flock. And when Your glory is revealed, chief shepherd of us all, may all leaders in faith and government receive the unfading crown of glory.

Bless us this day and every day, and may all we do be for Your greater honor and glory.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause one, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KILDEE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMEMORATING VIETNAM VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, May 6, marked Vietnam Veterans Appreciation Day, a day set aside by law in South Carolina to remember and thank our brave soldiers that fought heroically in the Vietnam war. To mark this day, the Combat Veterans Group held a Day of Remembrance ceremony to honor local Vietnam veterans across the State for their service.

I was grateful to join them and pay tribute to the courage and sacrifice of our veterans. I appreciate the service of Commander of the South Carolina Combat Veterans Group Tommy Olds, featured speaker retired Captain Walter Allen Mouzon, and Executive Director Renee Joy. The program was inspiring and uplifting for dedicated Vietnam veterans.

While serving as chairman of the Military Personnel Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee, I have visited Vietnam twice to monitor U.S.-Vietnamese efforts to recover MIAs. I was pleasantly surprised to find a deep affection by the Vietnamese for American servicemembers and a desire for stronger American-Vietnamese relationships of friendship.

I am especially grateful for the Vietnam service of the late Captain Michael Alan McCrory, Sr., a VMI graduate, of McLean, Virginia.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and may the President by his actions never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

HOUSE REPUBLICANS ARE FAILING TO DO THEIR JOB

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, here we are back again, another week in Congress where Republicans in Congress continue to fail to do their job to act to protect American families in crisis.

Whether it is the ongoing water crisis in my hometown of Flint or the threat of the Zika virus, the American people look to us for action. They deserve action to protect American families. In my own hometown of 100,000