Ernie Dear is to be touched and rejuvenated by his determination and his optimism. Each of us has benefited from the gifts of his ebullience and positive attitude.

Ernie Dear has a long list of professional awards and accomplishments, but he has made another mark on our community that is even more important and even more lasting. The story of his work in education is written on the lives of the innumerable people whom he has touched over the years.

As a consequence of Dr. Dear's work, thousands of people in Michigan are better educated and have a lifelong love of learning. Because of his commitment, countless men and women have new careers and new outlooks on life. And thanks to his accomplishments, many are better able to handle the challenges that face them. Even more than the awards and the respect of his peers, this is Ernie Dear's true legacy, and one which will continue to flourish for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I take great pride in honoring Dr. Ernie Dear. He has been an inspiration to me, and a good friend. As Ernie marks this important milestone, I hope that my colleagues will join me in expressing our gratitude for his hard work and his contributions to our community. I know that all of us wish him and his wife, Barbara, continued happiness and joy in the years ahead.

IN MEMORY OF MAJ. AUDIE L. MURPHY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 25th anniversary of the death of the most decorated soldier of World War II and a genuine national hero—the late Audie Leon Murphy—who was a native of the Fourth District of Texas as well as a personal friend of mine. It is a special privilege for me today to pay tribute to this legendary American, and I would like to do so on behalf of the entire Texas Delegation as well as on behalf of his hometown friends and relatives in Farmersville, TX, and on behalf of the late Congressman Olin Teague of Texas who first paid tribute to Audie Murphy in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on October 13, 1971—on the occasion of the dedication of the Audie Leon Murphy Hospital for veterans in San Antonio.

Audie Murphy was indeed a legend in his own time—and a hero for all times. For his valor in combat and action above and beyond the call of duty, he received every medal the Army awards. He earned the Silver Star twice in 3 days, three Purple Hearts, the Distinguished Service Cross, and the Medal of Honor.

The Citation to the Medal of Honor recognized 2d. Lt. Audie Murphy, 15th Infantry, for his valor on January 26, 1945, near Holtzwihr, France. His Company B was attacked by six tanks and waves of infantry. Second Lieutenant Murphy ordered his men to withdraw to prepare positions in a woods, while he remained forward at his command post to direct the artillery. One of his company's tank destroyers received a direct hit and began to burn. Lieutenant Murphy climbed on the burning tank destroyer and trained its machinegun on the enemy, killing dozens and causing their infantry attack to waver. He held his position for more than an hour, received a leg wound, but continued the fight until his ammunition was exhausted. He then made his way to his company, refused medical attention, and organized the company in a counterattack which forced the enemy to withdraw. The Citation states, ''Lieutenant Murphy's indomitable courage and his refusal to give an inch of ground saved his company from possible encirclement and destruction, and enabled it to hold the woods which had been the enemy's objective.''

Audie received the Distinguished Service Cross for his extraordinary heroism on August 15, 1994, near Ramatuelle, France. On this date, according to the award citation, ''His extraordinary heroism resulted in the capture of a fiercely contested enemy-held hill and the annihilation or capture of the entire enemy garrison.''

And yet Audie believed that his medals belonged to every man in his company, and he always maintained that he was just ''another man.'' His humility stemmed perhaps from a humble beginning near Kingston, TX and years of living in poverty. Audie had to quit school in the eighth grade to help support his mother and eight siblings. He hunted small games to supply food for the family, and became an expert marksman. He took odd jobs wherever he could find them—on a farm, a filling station, and grocery store, a radio repair shop. But Audie made up for his lack of education with a brilliant mind, great dignity, and a sense of composure that impressed all those who met him.

Following the war, James Cagney extended him an invitation to visit Hollywood, where he signed an acting contract. His best-selling autobiography, ''To Hell and Back,'' was made into a successful movie in which Audie played the starring role. His specialty was small-budget westerns, but Audie never really liked acting, and he pursued several business ventures over the years. It was on one of these ventures that he was killed in a plane crash near Roanoke, VA, on May 30, 1971. He left behind his wife of 20 years, Pamela Archer, two sons, Terry and James Shannon, other family members and hundreds of friends and admirers.

Since that time the Audie L. Murphy National Memorial Tribute Committee, headed by Louis J. Parillo, has honored his memory by awarding the ALM Patriotism Portrait Awards. The awards are presented in groups of three to represent our Nation's Triad Defense System, and this 25th anniversary of Audie's death will mark the final presentation. Recipients in the order presented, include: The American Security Council, Maj. Gen. John K. Singlaub, USA Ret., Gen. William C. Westmoreland, USA Ret.; Gen. Louis H. Wilson, USMC Ret., The Marine Attack Squadron 131, 4th Marine Air Wing, Fourth Marine Division; Gen. Omar Bradley, USA Ret., 28th Division PNG, First Army; Headquarters 3rd Infantry Division U.S. Army, 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), U.S. Army Parachute Team (Golden Knights; North American Air Defense Command, 112th Fighter Group, Pennsylvania ANG, 910th Special Operations Group, USAFR; City of New Castle, PA, County of Lawrence, Pennsylvania, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Department of the Army, Department of the Navy, Department of Defense; Robert Bleier (Trustee for Vietnam Veterans), Congressman Olin ''Tiger'' Teague (posthumously), President Ronald W. Reagan; The Honorable William J. Perry, Secretary of Defense, The American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, we are joined today by Audie Murphy's family, his friends, and his many fans in paying this final tribute to WWII's most decorated war hero. Perhaps the finest tribute would be to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD two odes composed by Audie Leon Murphy. These reflect his thoughts and feelings for his fallen comrades and reveal to us, more than any words of our own could possibly reveal, the full measure of this great American.

ALONE AND FAR REMOVED

Alone and far removed from earthly care
The noble ruins of men lie buried here.
You were strong men, good men
Endowed with youth and much the will to live.
I hear no protest from the mute lips of the dead.
They rest; there is no more to give.

FREEDOM FLIES IN YOUR HEART LIKE AN EAGLE

Dusty old helmet, rusty old gun,
They sit in the corner and wait—
Two souvenirs of the Second World War
That have withstood the time, and the hate.

Mute witness to a time of much trouble,
Where kill or be killed was the law—
Were these implements used with high honor?
What was the glory they saw?

Many times I've wanted to ask them—
And now that we're here all alone,
Relics all three of a long ago war—
Where has freedom gone?

Freedom flies in your heart like an eagle.
Let it soar with the winds high above
Among the spirits of soldiers now sleeping,
Guard it with care and with love.

I salute my old friends in the corner.
I agree with all they have said—
And if the moment of truth comes tomorrow,
I'll be free, or By God, I'll be dead!

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER DANIEL THOMAS BUCK ON RETIREMENT FROM U.S. CAPITOL POLICE

HON. BLANCHE LAMBERT LINCOLN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. Speaker, Officer Daniel Thomas Buck retires from the U.S. Capitol Police after 20 years of dedicated service. I would like to take this opportunity to express to ''Buck'' my gratitude for his distinguished career and for being a good friend to many on Capitol Hill.

I came to know Buck over 10 years ago when he was first stationed at the New Jersey and C Streets entrance to the Longworth Building. Buck dutifully guarded this area and cheerfully greeted thousands of Hill employees and visitors while assigned to that patrol. Most of us take the security on Capitol Hill for granted. However, we entrust our police officers, such as Buck, with the duties of maintaining law and order in which they must be highly trained and capable of reacting to an emergency situation at a moment's notice. Buck