

TRIBUTE TO MACK WILLIE
RHODES

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 3, 1998

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a pillar in our community, Mr. Mack Willie Rhodes of Sumter, South Carolina.

Mr. Rhodes has offered tireless assistance to his community for many years. He spends valuable time visiting the sick and continually offers assistance to his neighbors, friends, and family.

Mr. Rhodes became a member of Melina Presbyterian Church in 1915 and is now their oldest member. He currently serves as an Elder in his church and was a Sunday School Superintendent for many years. He also taught Sunday school at the Goodwill Presbyterian Church. Aside from his church membership, he has been a member of Masonic Lodge Golden Gate No. 73 since 1948.

Mr. Rhodes was born in Sardinia, South Carolina, on February 25, 1898, to Robert and Adranna Olivia Williams Rhodes. Mr. Rhodes is the second oldest of 15 children. Family, good values, and good living are Mr. Rhodes' most cherished possessions. At an early age he married Annie Elizabeth Rhodes (deceased). They had 14 children—Calvin Oliver Rhodes, John Tillman Rhodes, Adranna Oliver Cooper, Susanna H. Hannibal, Annie Elizabeth Muldrow, Hattie Jane Burgess, Mack Willie Rhodes, Sam J. Rhodes, Daisy B. Sims,

Willie Rhodes, Albert Rhodes, Viola Rhodes Montgomery, MacArthur Rhodes, and Paul Rhodes. Mr. Rhodes later married Ms. Carrie Smith Rhodes (deceased), who brought two children to his union—Maggie and Johnny Smith. He proudly carries the title of great great-grandfather and is affectionately addressed as "Papa" by his eight surviving children, 36 surviving grandchildren, 39 surviving great-grandchildren and 10 surviving great great-grandchildren. Mr. Rhodes' favorite past time is reading the Bible. His favorite Bible scripture is the 23rd Chapter of Psalms. Mr. Rhodes lives by a motto, "Treat others as you would have them to treat you."

On Saturday, February 14, 1998, family and friends will gather in celebration of Mr. Rhodes 100th birthday. Please join me in wishing Mr. Mack Willie Rhodes a prosperous and happy birthday. Mr. Rhodes is truly a living example of the American spirit that our country's flag represents.

TRIBUTE TO THE 1997 DEFIANCE
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM
ON WINNING THE OHIO DIVISION
II FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 3, 1998

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and pleasure to rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding group of student-athletes from Ohio's Fifth Congressional Dis-

trict. This past fall, the Defiance High School Football Team completed a truly memorable season by winning the Ohio High School Athletic Association Division II State Championship.

The 1997 Defiance High School Bulldog Football Team demonstrated that, with a great deal of hard work, dedication to the task at hand and to each other, and a strong sense of commitment, you can realize your dreams and make them come true.

The Defiance Football Team achieved more this past year than any other football team in the school's history by winning its first ever State Football Championship. The Bulldog Football Team capped off a perfect 14-0 season by defeating Uniontown Lake in the Division II state championship game held in Massillon, Ohio.

Under the guidance of Head Coach Jerry Buti, the Bulldogs realized a life-long dream through a great deal of hard-fought success. Their willingness to sacrifice for each other, to dig deep within themselves to find the extra energy needed to produce a champion is a true testament to the unwavering loyalty that each player has for the team. The unselfish attitude of the Defiance Bulldogs is certainly a good example of what can be accomplished when people work together for a common goal.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Coach Jerry Buti and the 1997 Division II State Champions, the Defiance High School Bulldogs. I would urge all of my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to an outstanding team.