

living that somehow makes what happened even harder to believe and accept.

Meg knew the impermanence of life. She lost her mother to cancer and a sister to cystic fibrosis. So she made the most of every single day.

The poet, William Blake, wrote that:

He who binds himself to a joy  
Does the winged life destroy  
But he who kisses the joy as it flies  
Lives in eternity's sunrise.

No force, not even life itself, could bind Meg Donovan or ground her flight. She was only 47. But, in that time, her gifts to those of us who are gathered here and to those from around the world who have benefited directly or indirectly from her commitment, were full and rich.

This morning, as she looks down upon us, I know that she would expect us to cry and that, if she could, she would herself hand us the tissues. But she would also want us to be thankful for our time together, and to dedicate ourselves to improving our own lives by helping others.

We are sad today, but our sorrow is accompanied by the abundance of joy in the memories we share, the life we celebrate and the love that surrounds us.

May that joy melt, over time, the clouds of our grief.

May Meg's family, especially, draw comfort from our affection and from the deep respect we held for her.

And may Meg Donovan rest in peace, for we will never, never forget her.

#### COMPENSATION OF RETIRED MILITARY

### HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 5, 1998*

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to submit the following for inclusion in the RECORD on behalf of the veterans of Rhode Island.

[From the State of Rhode Island in General Assembly, January Session, A.D. 1998]

JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO AMEND TITLE TEN, UNITED STATES CODE, RELATING TO THE COMPENSATION OF RETIRED MILITARY

Introduced by: Representative Pires.

Date introduced: March 25, 1998.

Referred to: Committee on Finance.

Whereas, American servicemen and women have dedicated their careers to protect the rights we all enjoy; and

Whereas, Career military personnel endured hardships, privation, the threat of death, disability and long separations from their families in service to our country; and

Whereas, Integral to the success of our military forces are those soldiers and sailors who have made a career of defending our great nation in peace and war from the revolutionary war to present day; and

Whereas, There exists a gross inequity in the federal statutes that denies disabled career military equal rights to receive Veterans Administration disability compensation concurrent with receipt of earned military retired pay; and

Whereas, Legislation has been introduced in the United States Congress to remedy this inequity applicable to career military dating back to the nineteenth century; and

Whereas, The injustice concerns those veterans who are both retired with a minimum of 20 years, are denied concurrent receipt of

hard earned military longevity retirement pay and Veterans Administration awards for service connected with disability; and

Whereas, Career military earn retirement benefits based on longevity of twenty years for honorable and faithful service and rank at time of retirement; and

Whereas, Veterans administered compensations serve a different purpose from longevity retired pay and are intended to compensate for pain, suffering, disfigurement, chemicals, wound injuries and a loss of earning ability and have a minimum requirement of 90 days of active duty; and

Whereas, The prevailing idea that military retirement pay is "free" is false. There is a contribution to retirement pay, which is calculated to reduce military base pay and retirement pay by approximately seven percent when pay and allowances are computed and approved by Congress; and

Whereas, Traditionally, a career military person receives a lower pay and retirement than his or her civilian counterpart and has invested a life of hardships and long hours without the benefit of overtime pay and lack of freedom of expression through the unions; and

Whereas, The Veterans Administration awards dependents allowances to disabled veterans with a thirty percent (30%) disability or more for each dependent, which allowances are increased with the amount of disability; and

Whereas, The Department of Defense deducts the entire amounts of dependents allowance, essentially leaving the disabled military retiree with no dependents allowance and that extends the discrimination to the families of military longevity retirees; and

Whereas, It is unfair to require disabled military retirees to fund their own Veterans Administration compensation by deductions on a dollar for dollar basis in the Department of Defense; and

Whereas, No such deduction applies to similarly situated federal civil service or Congressional retirement benefits to receive Veterans Administration compensation; and

Whereas, A statutory change is necessary to correct this injustice and discrimination in order to insure that America's commitment to national and international goals be matched by the same allegiance to those who sacrificed on behalf of those goals; now therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations hereby urges the United States Congress to amend title ten, United States Code relating to the compensation of retired military, permitting concurrent receipt of military retired pay and Veterans Administration compensation, including dependents allowances; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, Secretary of Defense, Senate Majority and Minority Leaders of the U.S. Congress, Speaker of the House, Committee Chairman of the Senate Armed Forces Committee and Veterans Affairs Committee, House Committee Chairman, National Security and Veterans Affairs Committee, and each member of the Rhode Island Delegation to Congress.

LANE MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN  
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
1866-1998

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 5, 1998*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Lane Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the District's most distinguished congregations, on the occasion of its 132th Anniversary and Homecoming Celebration. Lane has a long history of community service and has touched the lives of thousands through its outreach ministries that include the "Break of Life" Ministry and the Clothes Closet.

Lane was established in 1866 under the pastorate of the late Reverend Henson Primrose. The original and present site at 14th and C Street, NE was purchased with the assistance of General O.O. Howard, head of the Freedmen's Bureau and founder of Howard University. Participating in the purchase were Lane officers: Jacob Crumpton, James Green and Benjamin Whitaker.

In 1898, under the leadership of the Reverend J.R. White, the original white frame building was torn down, and a brick edifice was erected. In 1924, under the direction of Reverend P.L. Moore, an addition was constructed in the rear of the church. Following the death, in 1937, of the Right Reverend Isaac Lane, Fifth Bishop of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, the East Washington Mission was renamed Lane Chapel in his honor. In 1945, under the pastorate of Reverend C.E. Kelly, the mortgage was paid off and the church was renovated. The parsonage, at 1615 East Capitol Street, NE, was purchased, in 1951, while Reverend W.C. Doty was the pastor.

The church was deeded to the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, and in 1954, the denomination's name was changed to the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. Reverend Giles R. Wright served as pastor from 1954-1959. Under his leadership, the church purchased two adjacent lots. In 1977, during the pastorate of Reverend Allen W. Singh, an Educational Building was erected on the two lots. Further renovations were made while Reverend Marshall Jenifer was pastor, including a unique set of stained glass windows and a mural. The windows tell the story of the denomination's illustrious history and proclaims its Christian message. The church offices and parsonage were renovated in 1993, and air conditioning was installed in the sanctuary.

Outstanding among the many former pastors of Lane are, Reverend A.W. Womack, who was elected Bishop in 1950, and Reverend M.L. Breeding who, in 1954, was elected General Secretary of the Department of Kingdom Extension.

Over the years, many sons of Lane have answered the call to the ministry. The church has witnessed the acceptance of the call by five of its sons and two of its daughters: Joseph Carter, Walter Gaskin, Joseph Collins, Oliver Chase, Charles H. Roman, Azarine Mayes McClellan and Paulette M.E. Stevens. The Reverends Helen S. Clanton, Drexel N. Mitchell and Kenneth K. Dubose have served as associate ministers and received their first charges from this congregation. The present