

the President of the Senior and Junior Usher Boards for many years and later as the Captain of the Usher Board and the Willing Workers Club Number Two. Mr. Myricks was an active member of the Metropolitan Baptist Church participating in duties as an usher. His favorite scripture was John 9:4, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day, the night cometh, when no man can work."

Mr. Myricks departed this life on Saturday, November 16, 2002 at 9:32 a.m., at the VA Westside Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. He is missed by his devoted wife, Thelma; one brother, Willie (Mattye) Myricks; sister-in-law, Geralene Myricks, McGrye Wright, Lucille Payne and Pearly Payne; brother-in-law, George Payne; two play sisters, Lonzie Johnson and Ernestine Lenard; nieces; nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my condolences to the family. May God Bless his family.

HONORING THE 3RD U.S. INFANTRY REGIMENT, "THE OLD GUARD"

**HON. JIM NUSSLE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2002*

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the perseverance, dedication, and hard work of the members of America's oldest and one of the most prestigious units of our Armed Services, the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, "The Old Guard."

As a nation, we have held many ceremonies honoring those individuals and groups who responded to the tragic events of September 11, 2001, and, without regard for their personal safety or emotional well-being, went about the sometimes gruesome task of looking for survivors in an area so devastated, few of us can even imagine the horror faced on that day. Men and women who eventually were searching for something, anything, that could help identify a victim and bring some measure of peace to anxious family members and friends. Unfortunately, as with any disaster of this magnitude, some people who assisted in the search for survivors and helped in the recovery efforts have not been identified and therefore have not been recognized for their invaluable service during the days, weeks, and months following the attacks.

Traditionally, The Old Guard has served to conduct ceremonies, memorial affairs, and special events to demonstrate the excellence of the United States Army to the world. Their missions normally include conducting military ceremonies at the White House, Pentagon, and other national memorials as well as to provide funeral escorts at Arlington National Cemetery and maintain the 24-hour vigil at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. However, their normal mission changed on September 11, 2001.

The Old Guard was immediately pressed into service for rescue and recovery for the disaster site at the Pentagon. Like all branches and units of our armed services, The Old Guard met the challenge in response to the terrorist attack. And like our nation, the resolve of The Old Guard was not shaken, no matter the mission.

I rise today to honor the sacrifices of all our men and women in uniform involved in the

war on terrorism, in particular the unique services provided by members of The U.S. Infantry's Old Guard at the Pentagon. Let us never forget the service that our military has provided over the past 225 years and the sacrifices they made to protect and preserve our freedom.

IN TRIBUTE OF STAFF SGT. RYAN FORAKER

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2002*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Staff Sgt. Ryan Dane Foraker. Staff Sgt. Foraker, a U.S. Army reservist with the 342nd military police Company based in Columbus, Ohio, has been reported missing at the U.S. Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba since Tuesday, September 24, 2002.

Sgt. Foraker's wallet, military ID and civilian shorts and T-shirt were found folded and stuck in a rock crevasse outside Camp America barracks.

An extensive search and rescue effort including watercraft and search and rescue helicopters for the missing soldier was called off as of 2 p.m. (EST) October 4, 2002. Staff Sgt. Foraker's official duty status is, "whereabouts unknown."

Described as a "model soldier," Foraker was in his seventh month of reserve duty as a supervisor of MP's guarding al-Qaeda and Taliban prisoners, first at Camp X-Ray and later at compound Delta as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. Detainee involvement was not suspected in his disappearance.

Staff Sgt. Foraker leaves behind a wife and two daughters, ages 3 years and 14 months.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to join me in expressing sincere sorrow, sympathy, and gratitude for Staff Sgt. Foraker and his family. Staff Sgt. Foraker's disappearance while defending America is a somber reminder of the dangers facing those safeguarding our Nation's freedoms. May God rest his soul.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH BERMUDEZ

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2002*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph Bermudez who has dedicated his life to his adopted country. Joseph came to the United States as a boy of just 6 years of age. Throughout his life he has given so much to his country, his community, and his family.

Joseph joined the Navy and served during the Vietnam era; He remained in the Naval Air Reserve for 23 years, retiring at the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Shortly after his discharge from the Navy, Joseph joined the Bronx Bureau of Child Welfare serving as a caseworker, child protective investigator and training specialist for the Manhattan office.

Joseph's professional career in the New York City Schools began as a bilingual social worker and social work coordinator for Community School District 1 and District 4 in Man-

hattan. Later he worked for School District 11 in the Bronx, as a bilingual social worker at Junior High School 112 and at Truman High School as a counselor. He also worked as an in-house social worker for the Committee on Special Education. The past 12 years he has served as an Education Administrator for The Committee on Pre-School Special Education. Finally, he has also served on the District Universal Advisory Board.

During this distinguished tenure, Joseph took time away from the New York Schools to serve a 3-year assignment with the U.S. Public Health Service as a Health Service Officer. During his tour of duty, the United States faced two major public health crises, the Cuban Boat Crisis and the Three Mile Island nuclear accident.

Joseph is a graduate of Long Island University and Fordham University, where he received a Master's degree in Social Work. He still lives in New York with his wife of 34 years and is the proud father of two daughters, Christina and Yvonne.

Mr. Speaker, New York and the United States have been blessed by the efforts of Joseph Bermudez. He is a shining example for all of us to look to.

TRIBUTE TO TOM LEVY

**HON. MARY BONO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2002*

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements of Tom Levy, who is retiring as the General Manager and Chief Engineer of the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD).

Mr. Levy has served the public for thirty years at CVWD, and has served as General Manager for sixteen years. Under his tenure as General Manager, the District's domestic water service more than doubled, from less than 42,000 meters in 1986 to more than 86,000 today. He was instrumental in numerous water conservation projects, including the Whitewater River Spreading Area facilities and the development of an Urban Water Management Plan. He also worked feverishly for the last six years to bring about an agreement on the apportionment of Colorado River water for Southern California that would be satisfactory to CVWD, Imperial Irrigation District, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the State Department of Water Resources and the Department of the Interior.

He was appointed to California's Advisory Drought Planning Panel by Governor Gray Davis, and has also served two terms as Chairman of the State Water Contractors, which oversees the State Water Project.

For his leadership in California water issues, he was honored as a recipient of an Excellence in Water Leadership Award in 2000.

Even in retirement, Mr. Levy hopes to stay active in the water field, and will continue to provide whatever support the Coachella Valley Water District may need. It is my honor to acknowledge a man who deserves the recognition of our Nation and this Congress.