

Washington State and our nation lost a true hero, Helmut "Brownie" Braunsteiner, due to complications surrounding his battle with cancer.

It is difficult to describe Brownie's life without resorting to superlatives, but the evidence speaks for itself. From his birth in 1926 to his escape from Nazi-controlled Austria to America in 1939, Brownie never failed to display his particular brand of zest for life that so characterized his 75 years with us.

In 1944 Brownie began his decorated 27-year career in the United States Army, serving in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. Because of his fluency in German, he later served as an interpreter at the Nuremberg war crime trials.

For thirty years, Brownie was a full-time volunteer for veterans organizations, coordinating Veterans of Foreign War volunteers for the VA Hospital and chairing the Pierce County Veterans Advisory Council. In 1987, he helped found Fife's Veterans Independent Enterprises of Washington to rehabilitate homeless drug- or alcohol-dependent vets and help them become self-sufficient.

After he developed diabetes, Brownie dedicated countless hours to the Diabetes Association of Pierce County, conducting diabetes screenings without charge to residents of Pierce County. Brownie was known for both helping people detect their diabetes and begin to manage the condition. He would frequently go so far as to check in with people after their initial diagnosis to make sure they'd seen a doctor about their condition even three weeks after the test.

But these jobs and titles don't begin to describe either who Brownie was or the depth of his commitment to life. A man with a big heart, Brownie fought for issues he believed in. After serving our nation with a decorated career in the Army, Brownie worked tirelessly for the rights of veterans. Brownie was a passionate, dedicated citizen. He was patient and kind in teaching me not just about veterans and military issues, but also a wide range of other concerns close to his heart.

I was fortunate enough to work with Brownie on veterans issues ranging from concurrent receipt to VA health care to continuing education and reform of the Montgomery GI bill. It was always an honor to stand in the same room as him and I will always cherish the opportunity I had to call him both a colleague and a friend.

Brownie's outstanding contributions, selfless volunteerism, patriotism, and endless devotion cannot be sufficiently acknowledged. Everyone in the veterans' community, every elected official, everyone in Pierce County knew him and admired him. His tireless work earned him not only the respect, but also the love of everyone he touched.

Brownie Braunsteiner's passing is a loss to all who knew him and we extend our deepest sympathy to his family in their great loss. I will miss his friendship and his counsel.

IN MEMORY OF COLD WAR HERO
WILLIAM G. GEIMER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, on December 1, 2002 another chapter of the Cold War with the

Former Soviet Union ended with the passing of William G. Geimer. Bill was the visionary founder and longtime president of the Jamestown Foundation, a non profit organization devoted to promoting liberty and fighting totalitarianism most notably in the Soviet Union during the Cold War.

I had the privilege of working with and learning from Bill as he waged the good fight against the oppressive regimes of the Soviet Union that sought to crush the human spirit. Through his instrumental role at the Jamestown Foundation, Bill's leadership and vision helped bring down the Iron Curtain. Mr. Speaker, I will insert following these remarks a press release from the Jamestown Foundation that describes how Bill made a tremendous difference with his life.

Bill's efforts and advocacy with the Jamestown Foundation influenced Members of Congress, government officials and the general public exposing the corrupt and immoral nature of Soviet communism. Bill will be truly missed as this nation confronts other totalitarian regimes, but his life and vision can serve as a legacy for others continuing the fight against evil.

IN MEMORIAM, WILLIAM W. GEIMER: AUGUST 18, 1937—DECEMBER 1, 2002

JAMESTOWN FOUNDATION FOUNDER AND COLD WAR HERO DIES

WASHINGTON, DC.—With deep sorrow, the Jamestown Foundation announces the death of William W. Geimer, its visionary founder and longtime president.

Mr. Geimer, 65, established the Jamestown Foundation at a critical point in the Cold War as a source of first-hand accounts of the inner workings of the Soviet Union and other Eastern bloc countries. From its founding in 1984, the foundation has become the leading force for disclosing to the world the knowledge and insights of those in the top reaches of closed totalitarian societies, including high level defectors from the Soviet Union and its client states. For creating a safe haven for high-ranking officials from behind the Iron Curtain with the courage to tell the world the true nature of communism, Geimer was recognized by President Ronald Reagan as a key figure in the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Geimer was inspired to launch the foundation following his work with Arkady Shevchenko, the highest-ranking Soviet official ever to defect when he left his position as undersecretary general of the United Nations. Asked by the State Department to serve as Shevchenko's attorney, Geimer recognized that Shevchenko could provide a unique and invaluable insider's view of Soviet policymaking, arms control negotiation strategies and the workings of the top reaches of the then-secret Soviet government. Geimer was instrumental in the publication of Shevchenko's writings, most notably, the bestseller "Breaking with Moscow," in which Shevchenko acknowledged, as well as the close personal friendship between them, "the countless hours, days, years of himself" that Bill Geimer had given to "bring me into a new life."

Following the end of the Cold War, Geimer moved the foundation aggressively into monitoring the Soviet transition away from totalitarianism by publishing daily analytical reports on events in the region. The Jamestown Foundation's research and publications have become the leading source of information on the war in Chechnya, and on political, military and economic trends in the states of the former Soviet Union and in China.

"Bill was an American patriot who devoted his life to promote freedom and democracy

worldwide," said Barbara D. Abbott, the Jamestown Foundation's vice chairman and now president. "From the Evil Empire to the Axis of Evil, he never wavered in his belief that an attack on the secrecy of closed societies is one of the greatest weapons in a democracy's arsenal. Bill's vision, wisdom, kindness and humor will be missed, but his work will continue at the Jamestown Foundation."

"Geimer was a visionary," long-time Board member and former Central Intelligence Agency director R. James Woolsey observed. "He had an enormous impact on our national security efforts. As the Soviet Union began to collapse, Bill was one of the first to foresee that the instability brought about by that dissolution might result in rogue groups more difficult to deal with and potentially more of a threat to freedom than the USSR, which is precisely the situation we face with Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida."

Zbigniew Brzezinski, Jamestown Advisory Board member, recalls that "Bill Geimer was a patriot with a vision, an idealist with a program, and a leader who knew how to get things done."

Vice President Dick Cheney, a former Jamestown Foundation board member who attended Wednesday's funeral services, stated, "The Jamestown Foundation has played an important role in alleviating suffering and in furthering democracy."

A native of Chicago, William W. Geimer received his bachelor's degree from Marquette University and his law degree from Northwestern University. He served on President Ronald Reagan's Export-Import Bank transition team, and in top-level positions in the Nixon and Ford administrations, including as deputy assistant secretary of state for international trade. He maintained a private law practice in Washington, DC from 1976 to 1984.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAREER
OF BASEBALL LEGEND GARY
CARTER

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate a constituent of mine, Mr. Gary Carter of Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, for his election to baseball's most coveted fraternity, the Hall of Fame. Over a successful 19-year professional career, Gary Carter exemplified what it takes to be a big league ball player. Playing the difficult position of catcher, Gary compiled an impressive array of statistics and accolades. In 1975, his first full year with the Montreal Expos, Gary exploded onto the big league scene. Seventeen years later, Gary returned to Montreal, after stints in New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles, finishing his career where it all started. What a ride it had been. Following the 1992 season, Gary retired with numbers that foretold an eventual trip to Cooperstown. Games played: 2,296; Hits: 2,092; Home Runs: 324; Runs Batted In: 1,225 and a batting average of .262.

Each year, Gary's teammates and fan club always count on his durability and consistency. Season after season, Gary's presence in a big league lineup made opposing pitchers fear his bat and power. In 1986, Gary lead the New York Mets to a seven game World Series win over the Boston Red Sox. Although that series is remembered for a series saving