

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN M.
BAILEY

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Former Chief State's Attorney John M. Bailey, one of the most dedicated and well-respected public officials to have served the state of Connecticut, who passed away Monday, September 22, 2003.

To know Jack Bailey was to respect him. As Connecticut's longest-serving Chief State's Attorney, Jack defined law enforcement for nearly three decades with his boldness, commitment, and integrity. Jack's initial dabble in politics began with his White House internship for President Lyndon B. Johnson, the work at the 1964 and 1968 Democratic national conventions, and ended after a primary race for the 2nd Congressional District in 1974. Although politics was the family business, with Jack's father, the legendary Democratic state and National Committee Chairman John M. Bailey, and sister, the former Connecticut Secretary of State and U.S. Representative Barbara B. Kennelly, Jack's true passion was for law. A graduate from Catholic University School of Law, Jack became a career prosecutor and at the age of 35, was appointed Hartford State's Attorney.

Jack was my longtime friend and colleague and I remember his Chief State's Attorney appointment in 1993, when I was still serving in the state Senate. I knew then that he would change Connecticut's justice system, and he did. Prior to this appointment, Jack served as the State Attorney for the Hartford Judicial District where he challenged the system and launched grand jury investigations in Enfield and investigated corruption within the Hartford Police Department. His office targeted drug and gang violence, prison riots, and developed a successful unit to investigate unsolved homicides.

In 2002, Jack's failing health forced him to resign as Chief State's Attorney. There is no known cause or cure for ALS, a motor neuron disorder that makes swallowing, talking and breathing increasingly difficult. He faced this disease the way he faced life, with courage. I will forever have the sincerest respect for Jack, who battled this illness with Irish will, dignity, and faith.

Love of family, community, state, and nation were hallmarks in his life. Our hearts go out to the entire Bailey family, especially his beloved wife Dee and his sons John and Brian.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in remembering and honoring the life of Jack Bailey, a remarkable man who will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and the state of Connecticut he served so well. God Bless him and his family.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND FATHER
DEMETRIOS KAVADAS

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Reverend Father Demetrios Kavadas of Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, who will receive the 2003 "Alexander Macomb Citizens of the Year" award at the 20th annual March of Dimes dinner on Wednesday, September 24, 2003.

Father Kavadas will be the recipient of the 2003 Man of the Year Award. Father Kavadas takes great pride in accepting this award as the first clergyman and the first citizen of Hellenic background to be honored as Man of the Year.

He married Rodothea Palaiologou and they had four children: Iphigenia, Stephen, John, and Basil. Four years after being ordained he was appointed the "Protopresbyter" of the Assumption congregation which is now located in St. Clair Shores. He served in this capacity for 42 years before his retirement.

Through Father Kavadas's infectious passion, sense of humor, and charismatic sermons, Assumption has grown to become one of the largest churches in the Metro-Detroit area. His commitment to building a vibrant church not only served parishioners, but the surrounding community as well. Our family has had the privilege and pleasure of his friendship for many years.

While at Assumption, he created a cultural center that residents of all ages and religious backgrounds have come to depend on for exercise classes, cooking lessons, driver's training courses, basketball games, seminars, senior expos, etc. He also oversaw an award winning PreSchool which was open to all in the community.

In his years serving the metro Detroit community, Father Kavadas has received many awards and served in various ways. His achievements include being an active member of groups that have touched the community, especially groups that have fought illnesses, from thalassemia (a disease particular to the Greek community) to MIRA (Mental Illness Research Association, founding member). He coordinated COPS FOR KIDS for more than 25 years, helping needy children of St. Clair Shores.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reverend Father Demetrios Kavadas for his service to his community as he receives the Alexander Macomb Citizens of the Year-Man of the Year Award.

RECOGNIZING EDITH BURCH FOR
BEING NAMED CALIFORNIA'S 2003
OUTSTANDING OLDER WORKER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize California's 2003 Outstanding Older Worker, Edith Burch. A youthful and vigorous 81, Ms. Burch is the owner and operator of Capital Business Services in the City of Napa and often works well in excess of 60 hours a week.

Ms. Burch learned her work habits early. She grew up on a farm in Pendleton, IN, and her first job, at age 6, was to pull a wagon of water to the workers in the field.

When her family moved into town when she was 18, she found a job at the local bank. She worked at the bank until she married her husband, George, a World War II veteran of the South Pacific campaigns.

Together they purchased a jewelry store, which they ran successfully until family tragedy forced them to sell the business and move in with her husband's parents in Napa. Her father-in-law taught Ms. Burch and her husband accounting and they opened Capital Business Services in 1957 in her in-law's spare bedroom. Ms. Burch has managed the business continuously since then.

Ms. Burch and her husband had to adapt to the rapid advances in the accounting field with the advent of personal computers. Since many small businesses began using personal computers to do their own bookkeeping, Ms. Burch moved her company into tax preparation, and estate, nonprofit and corporate returns and IRS audits.

She passed the Enrolled Agent Exam at age 57, which allowed her to practice before the IRS. To keep her license current, she has to have 80 hours of continuing education every 3 years, but to stay current with the changing tax laws, she earns many more continuing education credits than the minimum requirement.

In addition to her long hours of work, Ms. Burch also finds time to volunteer with her church and its preschool, Soroptomist International, Meals on Wheels, battered women's programs, special needs scholarships and single moms. She and her husband, who passed away 5 years ago, helped start the first Boys and Girls Club in Napa.

Mr. Speaker, Edith Burch is a woman of exceptional talent, energy and dedication to our community. It is therefore appropriate for us to honor her today as California's Outstanding Older Worker.

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