

HONORING CHIEF WARRANT  
OFFICER CHRISTOPHER NASON

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a fallen soldier, U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer Christopher Nason, a dedicated patriot who gave 19 years of his life to military service. Mr. Nason was killed in a motor vehicle accident while serving in Iraq on November 23, 2003. Mr. Nason is survived by his sister Gina Nason.

A young man seeking focus in life, Christopher Nason enlisted in the Air Force in 1985 at the age of 20. Nason attended the Defense Language Institute (DLI) in Monterey, CA in June of 1995 through May of 1996, where he excelled in his studies of Arabic. He became a warrant officer in 1999 and was assigned to the 306th MI (Military Intelligence) Battalion out of Fort Huachuca, AZ before he was deployed to Iraq. Those who knew him best reflect on his transition into a strong and irreplaceable member of the armed forces and mourn the loss of their friend, brother and leader.

As an expert in the Arabic language, Chief Warrant Officer Nason's services were extremely valuable to the Army, both in combat and in the classroom. After graduating from the DLI in 1996, he taught intelligence officers Arabic at both the DLI and Fort Gordon, GA. As a respected member of the DLI faculty, he successfully fulfilled the mission of the institute by helping to develop proficient linguists who would then be utilized for a variety of missions that would support national security interests. The DLI, located in my congressional district, is the world's largest foreign language school. It is the Department of Defense's only foreign language school that not only educates soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen in mission-specific foreign languages, but also on the history, culture and current events in the region in which their language is spoken. The courses are intensive and demanding as well as incredibly adaptive, in order to reflect U.S. military priorities around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, I would like to offer condolences to Officer Nason's family and friends, as well as to those service members who will no longer benefit from his exceptional leadership. This nation was privileged to have a person of his caliber serving in our armed forces.

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF  
JAMES CULLEN WILLIAMS

**HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pioneer in the legal profession. J.C. Williams of Cleveland Heights, Ohio passed away recently at the age of 82. His efforts to provide legal services for low-income people through President Lyndon Johnson's War On Poverty have set the standards for these practices to this day.

A native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, he served in the Army during World War II. He

went on to graduate from Wilberforce University and received his law degree from Western Reserve University in 1949. He worked as an assistant police prosecutor in Cleveland before joining the poverty program.

A lawyer with the Legal Aid Society for 22 years, J.C. Williams served as director of offices throughout the 11th Congressional District of Ohio, in the Hough, Glenville and Central communities of Cleveland. After joining the society in 1966, he developed a collective bargaining program for landlords and tenants in Hough in which they could settle disputes by turning them over to third-party arbitrators. He served as a lawyer for needy clients until his retirement from the society in 1988. He maintained a private practice until his death.

J.C. was a member of Saint James A.M.E. Church. He was also an active member of the Ohio and Norman S. Minor bar associations, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., and the Ambassador Social Club.

It is because of his commitment to the community and desire to help those less fortunate that I wish to acknowledge the contributions of J.C. Williams on behalf of the Congress of the United States and the citizens of the 11th Congressional District. J.C. Williams was an outstanding man who will always be remembered for his outstanding good deeds to his community and beyond.

CONGRATULATING SYLVESTER  
CROOM AND MSU

**HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sylvester Croom, who was named head football coach of the MSU Bulldogs on December 1, and to salute Mississippi State University for its wise choice in athletic leadership.

Mississippi State University chose Coach Croom based on his skill, his talent, his experience and his resume. While race was not a factor in the decision, I am mindful that Coach Croom becomes the first black head football coach in the NCAA Southeastern Conference. I am proud that it is a Mississippi institution that has broken that color barrier.

Coach Croom was born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Growing up in Mississippi's eastern neighbor, he played as starting center at the University of Alabama under legendary Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant. After securing a bachelor's in history, Croom played professionally with the New Orleans Saints. He returned to the Crimson Tide as a graduate assistant (obtaining a master's of educational administration) and as a linebackers coach.

He has served on the coaching staff of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Indianapolis Colts, the San Diego Chargers (making it to the Super Bowl) and the Detroit Lions. Mississippi's gain is Wisconsin's loss. MSU gains Croom as head coach as he concludes a strong season as running backs coach for the Green Bay Packers where he has been on staff with Coach Mike Sherman since 2001.

MSU is the flagship university in Mississippi's Third Congressional district. Located in Starkville, Scott Field is home to Bulldogs and cowbells. We are proud to welcome Syl-

vester Croom as MSU's 31st Head Football Coach. He will replace the most winning coach in Mississippi State's history, Jackie Sherrill, who retires this year with a distinguished and honorable legacy.

I salute MSU President Charles Lee and Athletic Director Larry Templeton for their wisdom in this decision and once again congratulate Sylvester Croom and the Bulldogs.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt in my mind that Coach Croom will make us proud in Mississippi. We are already thrilled and excited about the prospect of our future together.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE LARRY  
KINNAIRD

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge Larry Kinnaird, who died on November 24, 2003 at the age of 63. Judge Kinnaird, born in Ashley County, was a close personal friend, and I am deeply saddened by his tragic death. I wish to recognize his life and achievements.

Judge Kinnaird spent his entire life in Ashley County. Graduating from Hamburg High School in 1958, Judge Kinnaird worked for Georgia Pacific Corporation for 26 years. In the 1960s, he served as Justice of the Peace for six years. In his free time, Judge Kinnaird enjoyed both hunting and fishing.

Most recently, Judge Kinnaird was elected to the post of Ashley County Judge, and served as County Judge for nearly five years. During this time, he was a member of the Arkansas Judges Association and served on the Southeast Arkansas Judges Association Executive Committee. Judge Kinnaird was also actively involved in the SEARK Economic Development District.

My heart goes out to his wife of 44 years, Emmie Crenshaw Kinnaird, their daughters, Donna Shields and Tammy Streeter, and three grandchildren, Drew Shields, and Shelby and Sky Streeter.

RECOGNIZING KYLE EVAN  
VULGAMOTT FOR ACHIEVING  
THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Evan Vulgamott, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 60, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the eight years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has earned 64 merit badges and has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Den Chief, Troop Historian, Bugler, Quartermaster, Patrol Leader, Musician, Librarian, and Assistant Patrol Leader. Kyle has also participated in High

Adventure, is a Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and has received the God and Me, God and Family, and God and Church awards.

For his Eagle Scout project, Kyle constructed three benches on a trail at the Conservation Center. These benches will be used by the many visitors to the Center.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Evan Vulgamott for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

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TRIBUTE TO MR. RONALD RUBY

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Ronald H. Ruby, whose lifelong commitment to educating others influenced lives of people from the Central Coast of California to Norway. His mother, Ruth Bittman, his wife Dorothy Ruby, two daughters, two sons, and two grandchildren survive Mr. Ruby, who passed away on November 5, 2003.

Mr. Ruby was born in San Francisco, California on December 1, 1932. He attended UC Berkeley, and after receiving a bachelor's degree in physics he served in the U.S. Navy. Following his tenure in the Navy, Mr. Ruby returned to Berkeley to obtain his PhD. He was subsequently recruited to join the faculty of UC Santa Cruz as a physicist and remained there from 1965 to 1991, while also conducting research at UCSC and University of Oslo in Norway. I have been told that Mr. Ruby was an amazing educator; his innovative teaching techniques enthralled both students and colleagues.

Not only was Mr. Ruby an astonishing educator but he was also a loving husband, father, and sports enthusiast. Mr. Ruby met his wife Dorothy Bell as he began graduate school at UC Berkeley. The two began a family and raised four children in Santa Cruz. Mr. Ruby enjoyed bike riding, competitive rowing, and Nordic skiing. He also found time to coach the UCSC rugby team.

Mr. Ruby had an admirable career at UC Santa Cruz and dedicated himself to teaching and research. I join the Santa Cruz community in honoring the life of Mr. Ronald Ruby, whose dedication and contributions were truly commendable.

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TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL F. SIMON BUILDERS FAMILY BUSINESS

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a thriving small business in Waunakee, Wisconsin. This year, the Michael F. Simon Builders family business celebrates 110 years of service to the community.

Small businesses are vital to the American economy. Founder, Michael Simon began constructing farm buildings in Dane County in 1893, and through the years Michael F. Simon

Builders has remained in the family and continued to grow. The business has evolved with the times and now constructs residential and commercial buildings using state-of-art Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD).

Now in the hands of Peter and Philip, the founder's grandsons, Michael F. Simon Builders continues to maintain the family tradition and strives to create structures in Madison and the surrounding communities that have style beauty, quality and value. For nearly fifty years, the Simon family has shown a firm commitment to improving our community through their extensive volunteerism with the Wisconsin Builders Association and the National Association of Home Builders.

The Simon's ability to create and maintain a successful family business for 110 years is commendable and deserves recognition. I am proud to call Michael F. Simon Builders Wisconsin's own. I wish them continued success for another 110 years and beyond.

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HONORING JERRY KRAUSE, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CHICAGO BULLS

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable Chicagoan, Jerry Krause, Executive Vice President of Basketball Operations for my hometown team, the Chicago Bulls. I would like to congratulate Jerry Krause on eighteen successful seasons as General Manager and as the architect of the Bulls' six World Championship Titles. Since 1985, Jerry Krause has played a major role in building domineering teams for Chicago and has twice been named NBA Executive of the Year by his peers in the 1987-88 and 1995-96 seasons.

Jerry Krause brought with him a vision of how to build a championship team and he proceeded to create one of the most dominant champions of all time. No basketball fan in America can begin to imagine the Chicago Bulls without his imprint. When Jerry Krause arrived on the scene, Michael Jordan was the only present piece of what would become the foundation of the Bulls' dynasty. Two years later, he began surrounding Jordan with the key players who would help turn the Bulls into champions. Jerry Krause drafted such renowned players as Scottie Pippen, Charles Oakley, Horace Grant, B.J. Armstrong, Will Perdue, Toni Kukoc, Elton Brand, Steve Kerr, Marcus Fizer, Jamal Crawford, Jerry Sloan, Clifford Ray, Brad Davis, Trenton Hassell, Jay Williams; signed key players Ron Harper, John Paxson, Scott Williams, Ron Mercer, Eddie Robinson, Corie Blount, Donyell Marshall; traded for Bill Cartwright, Dennis Rodman and a host of others who wore the Bulls uniform during those championship seasons.

Jerry Krause has a skillful eye for spotting basketball talent and an insightful mentality of how to build a winning team. He helped to build the dominant NBA team of the 1990s. With Jerry Krause as GM, the Bulls won six titles behind the play of Michael Jordan. One of Jerry Krause's most brilliant moves was bringing the man who could possibly be the greatest coach in NBA history into the league. Dur-

ing the summer of 1987, he hired Phil Jackson as an assistant coach and later on as head coach. Jackson has since tied Red Auerbach with nine NBA titles, the most in NBA history. He then hired replacement Tim Floyd, and current head coach Bill Cartwright. Jerry Krause also influenced drafting Hall of Fame players, Earl Monroe and Wes Unseld, and four NBA Rookies of the year with Monroe, Unseld, Alvin Adams and Brand. Jerry Krause effectively laid the foundation for the Chicago Bulls' decade of dominance.

Jerry Krause became the Bulls' GM in 1985 after working for Bulls owner Jerry Reinsdorf as a scout with baseball's Chicago White Sox. He made a reputation in the NBA as a super-scout for the Baltimore Bullets in the late 1960s. With over 34 years of experience in professional sports, Jerry Krause has served as a scout for Baltimore, Chicago, Phoenix and the Los Angeles Lakers. For 16-years before the Bulls, his career soared as scout and special assignment scout with the Cleveland Indians, Oakland A's, Seattle Mariners, and Chicago White Sox.

After 19 years and six championships, Jerry Krause is stepping away as the General Manager of the team that he loves. All of the moves paid off as Chicago won six titles from 1991-98, setting an NBA record with 72 victories in the 1995-96 season. The Bulls honored Jerry Krause during a halftime ceremony on Oct. 31, 2003, raising a banner to the United Center rafters in homage to their former general manager.

The NBA, team, and fans alike will greatly miss Jerry Krause upon his resignation. It is my pleasure to recognize Jerry Krause for his love for the game and passion for winning. I extend my heartiest wishes and warmest regards in all his future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, as Jerry Krause leaves behind a long and rich history with the Chicago Bulls, I would ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this great man.

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TRIBUTE TO JEROME "BUDDY" COOPER

**HON. ARTUR DAVIS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 8, 2003*

Mr. DAVIS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Jerome "Buddy" Cooper, a man who articulated, pioneered, and embodied a progressive vision for the working people of Alabama. On Tuesday, October 14, Buddy passed away after 90 years of a remarkable life. Those countless Alabamians who live better lives due to his efforts will mourn him dearly.

An Eagle Scout and graduate of Harvard University, Buddy has continually served his family, his nation, and his community. In 1937, Buddy became the first law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black of Alabama. He remained at the right hand of this legendary Justice for three years until he decided to answer another call. Joining the U.S. Navy in 1940, Buddy served his country for 44 months and during some of the bloodiest naval battles of the Second World War.

Following his courageous war service, Buddy returned to Birmingham to begin a long legal career fighting the good fight for the unfortunate, the poor, the disposed, all those