

Besides his wife and unborn daughter, Fuller is survived by his mother, Linda; a sister, Katie, and two brothers, Christopher and Sean.

The family has set up a memorial fund for the benefit of his daughter.

TRIBUTE TO BLACK HISTORY
MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with a great sense of honor that I rise to celebrate Black History Month and its 2007 theme—From Slavery to Freedom: Africans in the Americas. As we recall the many struggles and reflect on the immense impact African-Americans have had on this country, we are reminded that, though we have made great strides, we must continue the fight for a society that is truly equal.

The theme for this year's Black History Month, From Slavery to Freedom: Africans in the Americas, is a reminder that in striving for equality, we must examine the past. We remember those brought to America against their will, forced into slavery, working under the most inhumane conditions. From this, however, we are reminded of those who recognized this atrocity and made the decision to fight for their freedom. We pay special tribute to those who were persecuted, and in many cases murdered, for their impassioned struggle for what was right. From the earliest men and women forced into slavery to the brave soldiers, both free and enslaved, who joined forces to eventually defeat the Confederacy, thus establishing their own freedom, all are to be commended with the highest admiration and praise. Without these struggles, President Abraham Lincoln's reminder of our founding fathers' goal, the establishment of a new Nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal, would not be possible.

It is the efforts of these brave individuals that would inspire the great leaders of the civil rights movement, like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Rosa Parks, to persevere and make great strides toward this goal. Some of these leaders, like many before them, would face similar persecution. Some, like Dr. King, would pay the ultimate price in hopes that one day all Americans would be seen as equals. We are aware, however, that as a united society, we must continue to make strides like those generations who came before us. From the days of slavery to the days of segregation, we must continue to work toward a society that is truly equal, a society with equal rights, equal justice, and equal opportunities.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the brave men and women who have led us in the ongoing fight for justice and equality. Let us take this opportunity to honor the sacrifices and contributions of all Americans who have fought for their freedom and the freedom of others. This commitment to equality, opportunity, and an end to discrimination is to be admired.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LANCE
CORPORAL BUDD M. COTE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Lance Corporal Budd M. Cote, who died Monday December 11, 2006, of injuries sustained in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lance Corporal Cote was killed by an explosive device in al-Anbar province during combat operations. He was assigned to the Marine Wing Support Squadron 373 stationed out of the Marine Corps Air Station in Miramar, CA.

Lance Corporal Budd Cote was born in Corona, CA, on June 27, 1985. He spent his childhood in the Las Vegas valley before moving to Tucson, AZ, where he attended high school.

Lance Corporal Cote was a hero whose desire to serve his country will forever make an impact on his family, his community and his country. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps to serve his country in the Global War on Terror. He will not only be remembered for his sacrifice and willing service, but for the extraordinary person that he was. His warmth and optimism brightened the lives of his family and friends. He is survived by his loving wife, Zoraida, his parents, Marcella and Roland Cote and siblings, Alex, Christopher and Tiffany.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Lance Corporal Budd M. Cote. Lance Corporal Budd M. Cote made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while fighting the War on Terror and defending democracy and freedom.

TRIBUTE TO PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT ROGER WILLIAM POWELL OF ZEPHYRHILLS, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Ms. BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Roger William Powell, a native of Montrose, MI who volunteered for the U.S. Army on January 22, 1969. Assigned as a mechanic, Mr. Powell was sent to Vietnam on June 22, 1969, with an armor recon specialty where he became a part time scout driver and machine gun operator. Assigned to E Troop, 1st Calvary Regiment, 11th Infantry Brigade, his base camp was Chu Lie.

On August 8, 1969, his troop was in the field in Quang Ngai when they came under hostile fire from Viet Cong forces. Rocket propelled grenades landed amongst the troops, with Mr. Powell sustaining shrapnel wounds in his right eye, both hands and arms and a perforated eardrum. transferred by Medivac helicopter to an evacuation hospital in Japan, he remained under medical care for three months. A purple heart was noted on his record but not awarded, as Mr. Powell was not at that facility a sufficient time for the paperwork to be processed.

Following his recovery from his injuries, he was reassigned stateside to Ft. Knox, KY. Mr. Powell then volunteered for duty in Germany

where he remained until his discharge on January 14, 1971.

Currently residing in Zephyrhills, Florida, Mr. Powell and his wife, Tansy, have three grown children; 32-year-old Scott, 30-year-old Shalynnee and 26-year-old Shelby, all of whom reside in Michigan.

After almost 38 years, it is my distinct honor and privilege to present Mr. Powell with his long-awaited Purple Heart.

Madam Speaker, soldiers like Roger William Powell should be recognized for their service to our Nation and for their commitment and sacrifices in battle. I am honored to present Mr. Powell with his long overdue Purple Heart. He should know that we truly consider him one of America's heroes.

HONORING BORDEN BYRD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Borden Byrd for his heroic effort to save a possible collision between two jets on August 24, 2006.

Mr. Byrd is the air traffic controller at DFW TRACON (DIO), one of the control towers for the Dallas-Fort Worth International airport. As DFW is among the top three busiest airports in the Nation, the controllers must be focused and attentive at all times to ensure safe and smooth air traffic. If it were not for Mr. Byrd's immediate reaction and sharp eye, two jets, an American Airlines MD80 and a United Express regional jet, might have collided last August.

That day, the regional jet's pilots had entered an incorrect runway into the Flight Management System, which put the jet directly into the path of the MD80. Luckily, Mr. Byrd noticed the anticipated trajectory paths for the jets and directed the regional jet immediately to the west, out of the path of the MD80. His careful watch and proactive character saved numerous lives that day.

It is with great honor that I recognize Mr. Borden Byrd for his exceptional service not only to Dallas-Fort Worth International airport, but also to our community. His knowledge and dedication to air safety prevented a great tragedy from occurring, and I join his family and friends in congratulating him on this heroic affair.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BONNIE
SCHOFIELD

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I honor Mrs. Bonnie Schofield for her dedication to the community and families she served.

Bonnie has been serving 79 families in Hiko, NV, as a postmaster since 1973, 6 hours a day, 6 days a week. Bonnie's families picked their mail up at the Post Office in front of her house in an old-fashioned way. Instead of using the modern-day post office boxes, the mail was sorted into old-fashioned sacks