

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

STATEMENT ON THE RETIREMENT OF FATHER ROBERT F. LEAVITT

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Father Robert F. Leavitt, S.S., commend him for his 27 years of service as President-Rector of St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore, Maryland, and wish him well in his retirement.

In 1962, Father Leavitt began his philosophical and theological studies at St. Mary's and has since remained fully dedicated to the spirit of the seminary. In 1968, he was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Connecticut and appointed to the faculty of St. Mary's.

His ability to articulate a compelling vision for the seminary led to his being elected the fourteenth President and first President-Rector of St. Mary's, a position he has held longer than anyone in the seminary's proud 215-year history.

Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of San Francisco, was once asked what a person had to do to lead a good life, to which he replied, "Preach the Gospel. Sometimes use words." Father Leavitt has done just that, preaching by example to generations of students.

As President-Rector, Father Leavitt has presided over construction and rebeautification efforts of the seminary as well as successfully enlarged the endowment to ensure the long-term viability of the institution. He has worked to expand the spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral resources necessary to prepare students for the priesthood.

As a philosopher, theologian, teacher, and preacher, he has re-energized the St. Mary's community and instilled a sense of principle and potential to our nation's first Catholic seminary.

It is an honor for me to congratulate Father Leavitt for his tireless commitment to education, faith, and leadership and recognize the truly exemplary impact he has made within our greater faith community. I wish him well in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM J. SHARROW

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, today I wish to honor Brigadier General William J. Sharrow—a truly great American. Bill has tirelessly served this country for many years, managing some of our country's important military programs. Most recently, Bill served as my State Director, where he dedi-

cated himself to tirelessly working for the people of Alaska.

Born in Witherbee, New York on August 19, 1932, Bill entered the Army in 1952. He served with the 867th AAA Battalion at Fort Richardson, Alaska until his discharge in November 1954. He returned home to New York and joined an Army Reserve Unit. However, he realized his heart was back in Alaska and returned a short time later to make Alaska his permanent home. Bill joined the Alaskan Army National Guard where he served as First Sergeant of Company D, 207th Infantry Battalion until he was commissioned in November 1956.

Some of Bill's many roles in the National Guard include: radio repairman, supply officer, administrative assistant, personnel officer and Command Administrative Assistant to the Adjutant General. His military assignments range from platoon leader to battalion commander. He served as Chief of Staff for the Alaska Army National Guard from 1972 to 1974 and was appointed as Assistant Adjutant General on February 7, 1974. Bill's dedication to our Nation was federally recognized on June 25, 1974 when he was promoted to Brigadier General.

During his 20 plus years of service to Alaska and to his country, Bill remained a strong leader who set an example of achievement that was unmatched. He represented the United States with honor and dignity and continuously strove for excellence. The loss to the United States the day Bill left his post, was a great gain to me and to all Alaskans.

Bill worked for me for 24 years as my State Director. When I was unable to attend an important function or meeting, it was Bill that I always be trusted to represent me. We share a common love of Alaska and its people and it was comforting for me to know that when work forced me to remain in Washington, Bill would always be there to listen to the Alaskan people and keep them informed of our work.

Bill has been happily married to Margaret for 52 years and is the father of 3 sons: David who lives in Anchorage, AK; Phillip who lives in Auckland, New Zealand; and Steven who lives in Fairbanks, AK. He is also the grandfather to 6 grandchildren. I know that Bill is looking forward to spending more time with his family and traveling around the world with the love of his life, Marg.

Bill has always provided sage advice to colleagues and staff and done so with quick wit and much humor. Bill was an invaluable employee and he will be sorely missed but he continues to be a dear friend and confidant. I will miss his daily leadership and guidance but know that our friendship will endure. My wife Lu and I wish him and Marg all the best as they embark on this new chapter of their lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THURMAN R. PAYNE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Thurman R. Payne, a man who worked tirelessly at Brookpark Ford for 50 years and served diligently as the President of Local 1250 for two terms, as the Building Chairman of the Cleveland Casting Plant, and as President of the Foundry Council.

Thurman R. Payne is an advocate of worker's rights, supporting equality for all of his fellow brothers and sisters. Thurman's advocacy garnered enough national attention that the great civil rights leader Rosa Parks visited the Union Hall.

During Thurman's first term as President of Local 1250, challenging economic conditions caused layoffs and a decrease in morale. During these tough times, Thurman rallied his co-workers to take a stance against layoffs and to advocate for quality products in order to assure job security in the future.

Thurman R. Payne was an innovator in many ways. As President of Local 1250, Thurman began a program to help further the education of all of his brothers and sisters. He made educational opportunities accessible to these men and women of Local 1250 by placing a trailer on the Union's lot, where any member could go for various educational opportunities.

Thurman R. Payne retired on September 1, 2006 after 50 years of advocating for labor rights. Thurman is currently battling cancer. Though this is a different sort of challenge, we know that he will battle this disease with the same amount of energy and optimism as he had during his years at Ford.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Thurman R. Payne, a man that dedicated 50 years of his life to ensure that his fellow brothers and sisters were treated with equality, had opportunities to further their education, and had job security.

IN HONOR OF THE BRAVE AND COMMENDABLE PUBLIC SERVICE OF MARY CODY

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise to share the story of a phenomenal public servant, Mary Cody of Blairstown, New Jersey. Mary has spent much of the last decade dedicated to saving the lives of unwanted canines and helping loving families find their perfect pets.

Mary starts from the principle that no animal is an unwanted animal and that every homeless dog is merely awaiting an introduction to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.