

Navy by enlisting when he finished high school. After basic training in Orlando, Florida, Commander DeWitt completed tours in Diego Garcia and Pensacola, Florida before being accepted at Auburn University as part of the Navy's Enlisted Commissioning Program.

Commander DeWitt received a Bachelor of Science degree in Management and was commissioned as an Ensign in August of 1994. He has served aboard many of the Navy's finest ships, including the aircraft carrier USS *John C. Stennis*, the USS *Stout*, and the USS *Thomas Gates*. In August of 2004, Commander DeWitt was ordered to U.S. Naval Personnel Command in Millington, Tennessee, where he served as the Head of Sea Special Assignments and the Head of Enlisted Separations.

Along with completing both his Master's degree in Management from Troy State University and his doctoral work in Management from Northcentral University, Commander DeWitt has received numerous citations to include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal and the Navy Good Conduct Medal.

Madam Speaker, please join me in again congratulating Lieutenant Commander DeWitt on his record of service and wishing him, his wife Gillis, and their three sons Tyler, Justin and Andrew a fulfilling and enjoyable retirement. May God bless him and his family.

NEW MISSION AT CANNON AIR
FORCE BASE

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 1, 2007

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, earlier today, the 27th Special Operations Wing (SOW) assumed control of Cannon Air Force Base, becoming the Western base for the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC). This is a great day in the history of the Air Force, and I am proud to represent the brave men and women in uniform who will be serving as the "tip of the spear" at Cannon in defense of our nation.

First, I must note the closing of an honorable chapter in the history of Cannon, the departure of the 27th Fighter Wing. In October 1951, the 140th Fighter-Bomber Wing was established as the first Air Force mission at Cannon. Over the next eight years, various missions and units were housed at the Eastern New Mexico base until 1959 when the 27th Tactical Fighter Wing was activated. Since that time we have seen thousands of soldiers serve at Cannon, providing the air support and fighter capability with great distinction. I would like to personally acknowledge Colonel Scott West for his steadfast command of the 27th over the past year and a half.

The changing of command that occurred this morning swept in a new era for the base. Colonel Timothy Leahy, who is not new to New Mexico having served three separate missions at Kirtland Air Force base, has assumed command of the 27th SOW. There is no doubt that this elite group of soldiers will bring substantial pride to our state and I hope that in the coming months they feel as comfortable calling New Mexico home as the previous occupants at Cannon.

Finally, for two long years the communities of Clovis and Portales worked strenuously with unwavering determination to ensure that its Air Force base would not be closed. I want to recognize the tireless, selfless leadership of General Hanson Scott, Randy Harris, Mayors David Lansford and Orlando Ortega, and the entire Committee of 50 in working to bring AFSOC to Cannon. I am certain that the men and women of the 27th SOW will find assistance, comfort and camaraderie in the neighbors of Clovis and Portales.

I look forward to seeing the years ahead as the 27th SOW grows and matures. In times of war and in times of peace, these dedicated soldiers will serve with staunch perseverance and patriotism. I am honored to represent them and I pledge to work with them as they continue the rich, storied history of Cannon Air Force Base.

IN HONOR OF CORPORAL JASON L.
DUNHAM

HON. JOHN R. "RANDY" KUHL, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 1, 2007

Mr. KUHL. Madam Speaker, the poem below was written by Albert Carey Caswell in honor of Corporal Jason L. Dunham of the United States Marine Corps. Corporal Dunham gave his life for his country while serving in Iraq, absorbing the brunt of a grenade explosion in a selfless act of bravery on April 14, 2004, thereby saving the lives of two of his fellow Marines. Corporal Dunham's undaunted courage, intrepid fighting spirit, and unwavering devotion to duty in the face of certain death earned him the Medal of Honor, our Nation's highest award for valor, on January 11, 2007. Corporal Dunham is survived by his family in Scio, New York.

One,

One Fine Thing . . .

As to this our world, your heart so surely brings!

All in your choices,

All through your most sacred inner voices . . .

As to our Nation, the blessings you've bestowed upon her . . . which so ring!

All in The Face of Death,

When, your oh so magnificent courage so seems to crest!

For in these, are the things which so makes an angel's heart sing . . . no less!

All in that moment!

There between life and death, A Freedom Fighter . . . at his best!

All in these moments, of which we are now so left . . . to carry with us, until our deaths!

Children of God!

Who cry, when their brothers and sisters in arms . . . so fall and die!

Yet, marching on . . . ever onward until the evil is gone, as where courage is born!

To Give All!

To Hear That Most Noble Of All Calls!

To go forth, in that of death's course . . . for One Fine Thing, While Standing Tall!

To give up your young promising life!

To go so boldly forth, all in your course . . . and so gallantly to sacrifice!

But All, to stand In The Shadow of Death . . . and not look away, nor think twice!

Rise . . . to Heaven, my Fine Son!

Jason, for you in your angelic glow . . . have Heaven so won!

As you died, so others may live . . . your life, the most precious of all gifts one could give!

While, in That Moment,

When, who lives and who dies . . . where the most splendid of all courage so lies!

As it was you, Jason the one so who my fine son . . . The Congressional One, who so gave his life!

As now I cry!

Knowing full well, how so beautifully you died . . .

Maybe a child, who'll save the world . . . a boy or girl, from that One Fine Thing unfurled which lies!

To bring, in your being . . . and in your life . . .

Could you, would we, would you . . . the courage find, in this your life's meaning so divine!

To somehow find, to give to this our world all in our time . . . but, One Fine Thing!

PSORIASIS AND PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS RESEARCH, CURE, AND CARE ACT

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 1, 2007

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis Research, Cure, and Care Act, H.R. 1188 and to encourage my colleagues to lend their support.

According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as many as 7.5 million Americans are affected by psoriasis—a chronic, inflammatory, painful, disfiguring and disabling disease for which there is limited treatment and no cure. Ten to thirty percent of people with psoriasis also develop psoriatic arthritis, which causes pain, stiffness and swelling in and around the joints. On average, there are 17,000 people living with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis in each congressional district.

Cristy Boisvert is one constituent in my district living with psoriasis. Cristy was diagnosed with psoriasis when she was six months old. Growing up with psoriasis was difficult. Her mother spent countless nights applying medication to her scalp, followed by countless mornings washing the greasy mess out of her hair before school.

In junior high, Cristy played on the basketball team. One day she wore shorts to practice, which revealed the flaky psoriasis plaques on her legs. Her friends stood around making fun of her. They called her "Fungi" because they said it looked like mushrooms were growing on her legs. You can only imagine how much those words hurt her.

When Cristy was 20, she began to think about whether she wanted to have children. She reflected back on all of the grief that living with psoriasis caused her and questioned whether she wanted to take the risk of passing that down to another human being.

Cristy is now in her 30s, and she is ecstatic about the fact that she can do something positive about psoriasis. As an active member of the National Psoriasis Foundation, she is working to ensure that young people in the future will not have to endure the same ridicule that she did.