

and friend. Joan was a devoted wife to Earl Mann of 49 years and mother to two daughters, Paula and Laura. For 29 years, she worked for the Woodlake Elementary School as a teacher's aide and was active in the Parent-Teachers Association. She served on the Tulare County Grand Jury, was active in her church and served as the local representative of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. She loved to write poetry, sometimes about events or people in her life. The following poem is one of her family's favorites.

I'VE SAILED UPON LIFE'S SEAS

I've walked upon the shores of life  
A-kicking up the sands  
I've met each eye that chanced my way  
And shook each friendly hand.  
I've sailed upon the seas  
To cross to other places  
I've met each smile with smiles to spare  
And cherished those dear faces.  
The song I've sung along the way  
'Tis joyous and carefree  
It tells of life, of wondrous times  
And speaks of days to be.  
And when my days on earth are through  
God grant me one last thought  
I'd love to do it all again  
Remembering what life's taught.

Joan Mann's life demonstrated her love of her family, her community and her country. Mrs. Joan Mann of Woodlake, California, passed away January 24th. She will be greatly missed.

IN HONOR OF DARRELL L. FANT,  
DIRECTOR, HIGHLAND PARK DE-  
PARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 6, 2008*

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Darrell L. Fant, Director of the Highland Park Department of Public Safety (HPDPS).

After thirty-two years of dedicated service, Darrell will be retiring from HPDPS on February 29, 2008. The Town of Highland Park has been privileged to have such a devoted public servant working on their behalf to ensure Highland Park stays a safe and family friendly area in the heart of Dallas. He has served in various roles such as Public Safety Officer, Lieutenant, Assistant Shift Commander, and Captain before taking on the leadership role of Director. His colleagues affectionately refer to him as "Chief" as he has earned their respect and demonstrated exemplary performance. In addition, he has received numerous commendations, thank you letters, and awards such as the 1984 Firehouse magazine Heroism and Community Service Award.

I know his vision and leadership will be greatly missed and difficult to replace. The legacy he leaves speaks loudly of the impact he has had on Highland Park.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in expressing our heartfelt gratitude for his hard work and dedicated service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. J. RUSSELL COFFEY, A PUBLIC SERVANT AND WORLD WAR I VETERAN

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 6, 2008*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, Mr. J. Russell Coffey passed away on December 20, 2007, at the age of 109, and Mr. Coffey was 1 of 3 surviving veterans of World War I. Mr. Coffey was a student at Ohio State University when the United States joined the war in 1917 and Mr. Coffey enlisted in the Army at the age of 20 and was honorably discharged on December 12, 1918, a month after the signing of the armistice.

Mr. Coffey played baseball and was a track sprinter while in college and received both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Ohio State University, as well as a doctorate degree in education from New York University. Mr. Coffey continued his interest in sports and teaching by officiating high school sports for many years while he taught junior high and high school students in Phelps, Kentucky, at the former Glenwood Junior High School in Findlay and at the former Findlay College. Mr. Coffey served as an instructor at Bowling Green State University from 1948 through 1969, primarily teaching physical education but also teaching archery, psychology, swimming, and driver's education. Mr. Coffey was the director of the university's graduate studies in health and physical education from 1952 to 1968. Mr. Coffey was an active member of the Bowling Green Rotary Club for more than 50 years, and he was named the "oldest living Rotarian in the world" by the club in 2004, and in later years, Mr. Coffey credited physical activity and a healthy diet for his longevity.

The House of Representatives honors the life of Mr. J. Russell Coffey for his dedication to public service as a veteran, teacher, and member of the community.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF CARL A. DIPIETRO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 6, 2008*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of an outstanding Western New Yorker. On November 19, 2007 a beloved husband and loving father entered into rest. Carl DiPietro lived a very full life filled with love of family and friends. Carl leaves behind a long lasting legacy that stretches from his days in the Navy to the dedication and loyalty he demonstrated each and everyday with his family, at his business or throughout the community.

Mr. DiPietro was a proud business owner of Sparkle Cleaners, a dry cleaning business located in Amherst, NY. It was said that Mr. DiPietro treated patrons and employees alike as family. A hardworking man, Carl was skilled in his craft and was characterized by his children as an "All American Dad" whose love knew no end. A man who cultivated his many interests, Carl loved music and enjoyed play-

ing the guitar; he was an avid photographer and restored antiques. Amidst his varied interests and passion to explore them, his family remained the most important part of his life.

Carl DiPietro was a good and decent man and will always be remembered for his friendly demeanor, his terrific sense of humor and his care free spirit. His strength, courage, strong religious faith accompanied by a will to survive kept him going through the difficult times. When someone you love passes on, pain remains for those left behind. May Carl's wife Elaine, his daughters Linda, Judy, and Donna, his sons Carl and David, grandchildren, extended family and friends continue to live out Carl's memory with love, purpose and fulfillment in their own lives.

Madam Speaker, I am thankful that you have allowed me the opportunity to honor the life of Carl DiPietro and remember the many contributions he made throughout the Western New York community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and memory of Carl DiPietro here today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR. WILLIAM C. BLACK

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 6, 2008*

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a great American, Mr. William C. Black, a loving husband, father and grandfather, successful entrepreneur, generous philanthropist, and courageous veteran. Mr. Black epitomized all that is good about our nation and indeed the world. On February 9th 2008, an exceptional group of family and friends with gather to remember and thank a man who dedicated his skills, energy, and love to others. In the course of a remarkable life that began in Bayonne, NJ on June 7th 1930 and continued for sixty-six years thereafter, Mr. Black's work ethic, intelligence, leadership, and basic decency made him a pillar of his community and a source of hope for multiple generations of patients and their families at Jersey Shore Medical Center.

Following graduation from Fordham University in 1952, Mr. Black immediately went to the defense of our nation in the United States Marine Corps. His seven years of service as an aviator in the USMC included duty in Korea and Japan, and a meteoric rise to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. From the Marine Corps, Mr. Black carried with him a fighting spirit and sense of purpose that helped him to become President of the New Jersey Zinc Company, our nation's pioneer zinc producer and originator of all zinc alloys that revolutionized the modern die-casting industry.

However, it was after retiring from New Jersey Zinc that Mr. Black's life reached its zenith. From his tireless work to improve the facilities of the Jersey Shore Medical Center, the "Mary V. Black Pavilion" was christened and thousands of trauma patients owe their health and lives to that state-of-the-art facility. This month at the 2008 Jersey Shore Sweetheart Cancer Ball, Mr. Black and his family will be recognized for their work to cure that devastating illness. I will never forget the moment my four year old daughter was diagnosed with