

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING VERN MOSS

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Vern Moss upon his being named as a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. Mr. Moss was honored on Saturday, January 31, 2009.

Vern Moss was born on September 2, 1939 in Yuba City, California. He spent much of his childhood on his uncle's dairy farm in Madera, California. After school, on the weekends and during the summers, Mr. Moss worked in the fields picking cotton, cutting grapes and bucking bales. He attended Pershing School, was a member of the first graduating class at Jefferson Junior High School and attended Madera High School. At age seventeen he left home to live with his aunt and uncle in San Jose; he graduated from San Jose High School in 1958. Upon graduation he moved to Visalia, attended College of the Sequoias, and worked at the Visalia Times-Delta.

In 1963 Mr. Moss received word that he would be drafted, so he immediately joined the U.S. Air Force. He went to Lackland Air Force Base for basic training, followed by technical school at Greenville Air Force Base, Mississippi. His next assignment was Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. While in Idaho, he attended college courses in the evening. After meeting the necessary requirements, Mr. Moss attended Park College and earned his Bachelor's of Arts degree. Upon returning to Mountain Home, he applied for Officer Training School and was accepted. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant on February 6, 1967 and directed to report to the 666 Radar Squadron, Mid Valley, California. He served as Administrative Officer, with numerous duties including Chief and Battle Staff Security Control. He was soon sent to Lowry Air Force Base, Colorado for further training.

In October 1968, Mr. Moss was sworn into the U.S. Army at Fort Ord, California; he and his family were quickly transferred to Germany. Upon arriving at HQ TASCOM in Germany, he was made Deputy Commander, 5th Replacement Detachment and Deputy Chief, Personnel Management Branch. Soon after arriving, he was promoted to Unit Commander and Chief PMB. In January 1970, he moved his family back to the states before leaving for Vietnam. He first arrived in Cam Ranh Bay then was told to report to Saigon where he was assigned as the MACV J-6, Executive Officer. During this tour, he was awarded the Bronze Star, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with three stars, Vietnam Service Medal and the Vietnam Signal Corp devise (a foreign award).

Upon returning to the United States Mr. Moss attended six months of school at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. He served as the Division Postal Officer and then was promoted

to Chief, Personnel Management Division in the Division's Adjunct Generals Office at the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado. An opportunity arose for him to take command of a unit, and he took it; the 4th Infantry Division's Headquarters Company Administrative Command, a unit with over nine hundred service members assigned to it. It was a short lived assignment; he was then reassigned to Germany.

Shortly after arriving, he took command of one of the worst units in Germany. With the Inspector General due to arrive within one week, he assisted the unit as much as he could, but they failed all but two areas during the inspection. After the inspection he was determined to clean up his unit. He sent soldiers to Leavenworth Military Disciplinary Barrack and gave sixty-three expeditious discharges. Six months after taking control of the unit, a Commanding General and the Command Sergeant Major visited the unit; they passed the inspection with all areas satisfactory and with four commendable areas. From there, Mr. Moss became a Major and was selected to Command and General Staff College. He was given the opportunity to start a new unit at Wiesbaden to support the deploying Brigade 75.

In 1976, Mr. Moss attended the ten month program at Command and General Staff College; he graduated in June 1977. His next position was to advise the New York National Guard and United States Army Reserve throughout New York State. After three years, he was nominated and selected to serve in the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Pentagon. His final position in the Army was at Fort Irwin where he was assigned to the Army's National Training Center and served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel and Community Activities and finally as the Installation Adjunct General.

Mr. Moss retired from the military on October 1, 1983. Afterward, he and his family moved to Idaho; he obtained a position as a Bank Manager in Los Gatos, California. He moved up through different banks and finally ended in Chowchilla, California in 1985. He has been part of the Chowchilla community since; including serving on the City Council, County Supervisor, President of the Chowchilla Chamber of Commerce, President of Chowchilla Rotary and President of the San Joaquin Valley Rail Commission. Mr. Moss is also a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896, member of the American Legion and Trinity Pregnancy Resource Center Board (President).

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Vern Moss upon being named as a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Moss many years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT TED WADE, AN AMERICAN HERO

**HON. JOHN P. MURTHA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the valor and determination of Army Sergeant Ted Wade and his wife Sarah.

An American hero, Ted served his country in Afghanistan with the 82nd Airborne in 2002, and later deployed to Iraq with his unit in July of 2003. On February 14, 2004, the Humvee Ted was riding in hit an improvised explosive device (IED), throwing Ted from the vehicle, severing his right arm, and causing significant traumatic brain injury.

Ted, unconscious and in a coma, was evacuated to the Landstuhl Regional Army Medical Center in Germany and later transferred to a civilian hospital in Germany that specialized in the care he needed. On March 2, 2004, Ted and Sarah came back to the states for recovery at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

I first met Ted and Sarah while visiting with our wounded soldiers recovering at Walter Reed. Years later I sat with them at the 2007 Capitol Memorial Day Concert, where I learned of Ted's ongoing recovery and Sarah's fight to ensure that he receives the best possible treatment and care.

You see, military and VA doctors said that because of Ted's injuries, he would have little chance of ever walking and talking again. He was shuffled back and forth between doctors at VA facilities in North Carolina and doctors at Walter Reed. Sarah fought through the bureaucratic red tape and forced the VA to allow Ted to see one of the nation's premier traumatic brain injury specialists.

Sarah never gave up on Ted's recovery, and Ted was determined to prove his doctors wrong. Ted has achieved incredible results through his ongoing rehabilitation. He's beaten the odds for recovery, and he's proven that through persistence and perseverance individuals can overcome insurmountable odds in confronting their injuries.

Today, Ted and Sarah continue to press lawmakers and military leaders for better health care for our wounded warriors and for additional funds for the research and treatment of traumatic brain injury (TBI). Through their work, Congress has appropriated over \$1.2 billion in just the past two years for TBI programs. Sarah also works closely with the Defense Center of Excellence for Psychological Health-Traumatic Brain Injury to ensure that other wounded service members with Ted's injuries have access to the utmost care.

Madam Speaker, Ted and Sarah Wade are an inspiration to us all. Their courage, commitment, and extraordinary story have shown us the spirit that exemplifies our military families.

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