

HONORING THE SERVICE AND
DEDICATION OF TED CANTER

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and dedication of Ted Canter, a member of my staff who is leaving my office to pursue a law degree at Emory University.

Ted grew up in Maryland and graduated cum laude from Vanderbilt University with a degree in English. After getting his start on the Hill with the office of Senator Tim Johnson, Ted joined my office as a Legislative Correspondent last fall and was soon promoted to Legislative Assistant. Ted was a welcome addition to the office from the start. He handled his legislative work skillfully and was good-natured to professional contacts, constituents and coworkers alike. His unflappably good manners on the phone were renowned among our staff.

As a Legislative Assistant for education, housing, agriculture and other vital domestic issues, Ted has been a valuable resource to me and to constituents with concerns in these areas. He transitioned easily to the position, quickly grasped the intricacies of the issues, and speaks to the legislative process with the confidence of a veteran staffer. Ted's dedication and enthusiasm for the job helped me to advance my legislative priorities and better serve my constituents.

Madam Speaker, I am certain the qualities that made Ted a fine staffer will make him an equally fine fellow lawyer, and I wish him all the best in the future.

STAFF SERGEANT TONY WINTERS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and a heavy heart that I honor a fallen Son of Texas today. Staff Sergeant Leston Michael Winters—known to his friends and family as Tony—gave his life in Afghanistan in defense of freedom.

Tony was killed July 15th when an IED exploded near his dismounted patrol. Tony was in the Zhari District of the Kandahar Province. The IED is the weapon of cowards who hide in the shadows. These cowards are too afraid to stand and fight.

Staff Sergeant Tony Winters was all American. He graduated from Hardin-Jefferson High School in 1998. He joined the Army and served as a combat medic.

Medic! Medic! Those are the words that ring out when warriors are injured in battle. And it is the rare breed of medical man who runs to their aid in the heat of the battle. Through the dust and sand and heat of the desert sun, the medic in Afghanistan saves lives.

A combat medic is the bravest kind of warrior—running into the battle to aid the fallen soldier.

Tony was safe and snug serving at a state-side hospital in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. But last Christmas he decided to transfer to a base that would go into combat.

He wanted to serve on the front lines.

Tony knew full well what that decision meant. You see, he had already served three tours overseas, one in Kosovo and two in Iraq.

Tony knew where his skills would be best used fighting the terrorists who attacked America on September 11th. Tony knew the importance of his job to the war effort. He was a saver of lives in the combat arena. An Army combat medic.

General Douglas MacArthur was speaking of real men like Tony when he spoke those immortal words: Duty, honor, country. Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be.

Tony understood duty and personal sacrifice. He went to Afghanistan to save help save the lives of his warrior brothers and sisters.

Tony is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, sons, Remington and Jonathon, daughter Emma, his parents Kenneth and Cheryl Spivey of Sour Lake, Texas, his sister Alisha Martin of Port Arthur, and brother Cory Hunt also of Sour Lake.

Staff Sergeant Tony Winters will be laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery in August.

As the early American poet Joseph Drake said, "And they who for their country die shall fill an honored grave, for glory lights the soldier's tomb, and beauty weeps the brave."

It is my honor to offer a grateful nation's thanks and prayers. We are grateful that a man like Staff Sergeant Tony Winters lived and loved America.

It was once said that what we do for ourselves dies with us—but what we do for the others and the world remains and is immortal. Tony's life was dedicated to saving the lives of others.

All give some in Afghanistan, but Staff Sergeant Tony Winters gave all. He is an American hero.

I offer my heartfelt condolences to Tony's wife and children and to his friends and family.

Today we honor this great American warrior's life and are humbled by his greatest of sacrifices.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING GREENE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPUTY JON WILLIS

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to the tragic slaying of a 30-year-old Sheriff's Deputy in my home state of North Carolina.

Greene County Deputy Jon Willis died in the direct line of duty on July 28, 2010 while responding to a domestic disturbance call. During the call, Deputy Willis was shot and killed before the shooter ended his own life.

I have expressed my condolences to Greene County Sheriff Lemmie Smith, and I know that the department and the entire community are shocked and deeply saddened by this tragic event. Flags at the Greene County Courthouse were flown half-staff yesterday as the community paid tribute to Deputy Willis.

The father of two children, Deputy Willis joined the Greene County Sheriffs Office in

December 2001, but left for a job at the Winterville Police Department. He returned to the Greene County Sheriff's Office in April 2009.

Deputy Willis' death marks the second time the Greene County Sheriff's Office has lost a deputy in the line of duty. Deputy Ernest Martin Hull died in a vehicle crash on Jan. 2, 2000.

Deputy Willis is also the second area officer to lose his life in the line of duty in the past 15 months. Lenoir County Deputy Allen Pearson was shot and killed in April 2009 near Grifton, N.C.

On average, a law enforcement officer is killed in America every other day. Since 1792, when recordkeeping started, more than 20,000 officers have lost their lives in service to their communities. And sadly, 101 officers have already been killed in the line of duty across the country this year.

This event reminds us of the mortal dangers that our officers face each day in the line of duty.

Madam Speaker, it is with both sadness and pride that I share with you the death of Deputy Jon Willis. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing his loved ones the strength they require to overcome their loss. God bless Deputy Jon Willis. His bravery, courage, and goodness will never be forgotten by his community or his state.

IDA PROTECTION ACT OF 2010

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the "IDA Protection Act of 2010." This bill will help the Individual Development Account program weather a tough economic climate, so it can continue to help lower income Americans to go to college, buy a home, or start a small business.

IDA accounts are designed to help low income individuals pull themselves out of poverty and learn how to manage their family's finances. Through a partnership between local government, non-profits, and businesses, each dollar someone saves in an IDA account is matched at a one or even two to one ratio.

To participate in this program, an individual must agree to take classes on financial literacy and agree to use the proceeds to buy a home, start a small business, or pay college tuition. Since the program's inception in 1999, more than 86,000 people have opened IDAs, many of them opening bank accounts for the first time. These individuals have sacrificed to save and thus, increased the standard of living for their family.

Unfortunately, the recent recession has threatened the future of this important program. Congress annually appropriates \$24 million for IDA Accounts, and local non-profits must find private sector matches in order to receive a portion of these federal funds. Since Wall Street's meltdown shook our economy, the usual corporate partners have not maintained their traditional level of IDA donations, and as a result much of this \$24 million for this year remains unspent.

This bill would create a bridge for the IDA program to better times. It more than doubles