

Because, your fine son. . . . Your Marine Michael, so died for what is right!
 And what is real!
 As you must remember, one day in Heaven. . . .
 Your son's arms around you, you shall feel!
 And if ever I have a son,
 I but hope and pray, he could be like your fine one!
 Michael, His Father's Son!
 And Mother's only most brilliant one!
 Amen!

CONGRATULATING ALDERMAN
 BRIAN DOHERTY

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the City of Chicago 41st Ward Alderman Brian Doherty. After twenty years of dedicated service, Alderman Doherty has decided to retire, and I wanted to thank him for his work.

Elected to the City Council in 1991, Alderman Doherty represented the City of Chicago's Northwest Side, including O'Hare International Airport. Brian always fought for strong ethics reforms and government transparency, two issues very important to me. He voted for a sunshine ordinance that makes it much easier to determine how taxpayer dollars are spent on Tax Increment Financing Districts.

During Alderman Doherty's time in office, he worked to bring economic opportunities to his communities and make his constituents safer. Since many 41st Ward residents are part of the city's enormous work force, such as police officers, firefighters and employees of Streets and Sanitation, we applaud his efforts for serving those who serve us.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Alderman Brian Doherty of the 41st Ward of Chicago. I appreciate his twenty years of hard work as Alderman and I wish him, his wife Rose and his two children Katie and Kevin all the best.

HONORING ANNIE KLEIN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Annie Klein was born on May 22, 1921 to Dora and Samuel Ratick in Maynard, Massachusetts. Her parents were both immigrants of Warsaw, Poland. She was born into a family of three sisters and four brothers and her mother still had another daughter, at the age of 50.

The family moved from small town Maynard to The Bronx in New York City. Early in her life, Annie lost her father to a heart attack, leaving her mother sole survivor and sole responsible parent for her 9 children.

Annie was a graduate of Morris High School in 1940. On December 7, 1941 she got engaged to David Klein, a soldier in the U.S. Army. They moved from The Bronx to Hereford, Texas. While there, they had a son, Sam, in August 1944. Even though they were offered a "Hereford Cow" every year while

they stayed in Texas by a local rancher, they decided instead to move back to the South Bronx with Annie's mom.

While developing skills that would enable David to get a job, he developed health issues. At the age of 41, David had a massive heart attack that made him a 100 percent totally disabled veteran.

With David unable to work and the addition of her younger son, Les, Annie had to find a job. She worked for the Social Security Office for 5 years. After that, she found a job at City College of New York and worked as a College Office Assistant.

In 1968, her son Sammy married Sandy Desio. While tending to her husband David and son, Les, she managed to work, as well as help care for her mother who had become disabled with Parkinson's disease.

In 1972, her husband David passed away, leaving Annie to once again be the sole caregiver of Les. In 1980, Les married Gail Labita and Annie became a mother-in-law once again. Annie finally decided to retire in the early 1980s.

Annie became grandmother to Sammy and Sandy's children, David and Dena's as well as great-grandmother to David's son Jake and Dena's children Gia, Rocco and Sammi. She is also grandmother to Les and Gail's children Douglas and Allison.

Sadly in her lifetime she had had the misfortune of burying 7 of her brothers and sisters who meant the world to her. Above all, in 2007 Annie received the greatest blow of her life, when her son, Sam passed away. Most people would have crumbled and given up but Annie, with her customary grace and dignity raised her head high and with the help of her family, continued on.

Annie Klein is a Woman of Valor who has shown us all how to live with love and grace even through life's most challenging times. I join with her family and friends and thank her for her dignity and courage. As said in the Bible: "Who can find a virtuous woman for her price is far above rubies?" Well, that woman is Annie Klein.

IN HONOR OF JOHN SHEPHERD
 AND THE AMERICAN SOLDIER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of John Shepherd, the longest-living veteran of the American Revolution, and all of our soldiers and veterans. This Memorial Day, the city of North Royalton will celebrate the life and patriotism of Mr. Shepherd, who lived to be 117 years, 9 months, and 18 days old.

John Shepherd was born near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1729. He was a brave patriot and served in both the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. In 1817, Mr. Shepherd moved to Royalton Township in the present-day North Royalton, Ohio, where he spent the remainder of his long life as a farmer. At the time of his death, he was the last survivor of Braddock's Defeat, and he was the longest-living veteran of the American Revolution. He was buried in the municipal cemetery of Royalton Township.

This Memorial Day, the city of North Royalton will honor Mr. Shepherd, as well as all American soldiers and veterans, with a pancake breakfast, parade, and memorial service. The Cleveland Shrine Band, the United States Army Color Guard, the Boy Scouts of America, the Sons of the American Revolution, and a number of other organizations will be on hand to mark this special occasion. This will be a fitting celebration to commemorate Mr. Shepherd, and all veterans who have served their country.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of John Shepherd, the longest living veteran of the American Revolution. His spirit lives on through all soldiers and veterans that we proudly recognize, honor, and thank this Memorial Day.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1540) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes:

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of the Conyers, Clarke, Cohen, Duncan Amendment, opposing the deployment of ground troops in Libya. It is unconscionable for us to deploy our already strained troops into harm's way again when many of them have served two, three or more tours in Iraq and Afghanistan.

It is also irresponsible for us to spend more money on another open-ended military conflict without a cogent plan of action and withdrawal. As a Member of Congress, I cannot take part in another act of aggression further straining the budget we are so desperately working to fix and our troops who have answered above and beyond the call of duty.

My constituents and I already feel that the war in Afghanistan has gone on long enough without a clear and sufficient exit strategy. We cannot partake in another fruitless war. We must shift our focus to getting out of Iraq and Afghanistan, stabilizing our economy and creating jobs for the American people. Instead let us focus on securing funding for small businesses rather than spending money on another open-end conflict.

Madam Chair, as a representative of the 11th congressional district of New York, our hearts and minds go out to the people's struggle for freedom in Libya. And as a nation, we should continue our support for their quest for freedom, through NATO forces. However it is our duty as a Members of Congress to protect and serve our fellow Americans first. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join us and support this amendment.