

Many of those who knew him well commented about his gentle demeanor, his modest nature, and his engaging smile. Not only was he a legend in his work, but he also left a lasting impression on the hearts of those he encountered.

Though he was taken much too soon, his legacy both on and off the field will not be forgotten. Lee Roy Selmon's name will remain memorialized in the Tampa Bay Community, spanning the Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway and his restaurant chain, but more importantly we can find solace that the person behind the name will remain a guiding influence in the Tampa Bay community.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR CHIEF
PETTY OFFICER SPECIAL WAR-
FARE OPERATOR KEVIN ARTHUR
HOUSTON

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Petty Officer Special Warfare Operator Kevin Arthur Houston who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Chief Houston was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our Nation. He will be greatly missed.

Chief Houston was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards, including three Bronze Star Medals with Valor, two Purple Heart Medals, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Valor, three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, two Combat Action Ribbons, two Presidential Unit Citations, three Afghanistan Campaign Medals, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and numerous other personal and unit decorations.

Chief Houston is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates.

His Nation owes Chief Houston an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to Chief Houston's family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful Nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

HONORING JERE MELO OF FORT
BRAGG, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life, civic accomplishments and exemplary public service of Jere Melo, city council member and former mayor of the City of Fort Bragg on the Mendocino Coast. Jere Melo, 69, a personal friend of mine who was tragically murdered on August 27, 2011, leaves a bigger than life swath throughout this beautiful coastal town.

Born and raised in Mount Shasta in northwestern California, Jere Melo received a degree in forestry from the University of California at Berkeley in 1964. He was commissioned in the U.S. Army and served in South Korea and completed six years as a commander in the Army Reserves. In 1966 he moved to Fort Bragg where he worked in the local lumber mill. A much admired and loved father, brother, uncle, and devoted husband, Jere was married to the love of his life, Madeline, for twenty-four years.

Jere Melo is known for using his personable skills to get things done in a cooperative way while all the while pursuing renewable methods to keep jobs in the forests. With his affable nature, ready smile and indefatigable energy, Jere Melo was a gentle giant of a man who used multiple approaches to listening to all sides and resolving problems, thus gaining the respect of many facets of the community.

Jere was the mayor of Fort Bragg from 2000 until 2004 and on the city council for the past 15 years. In addition he has served on the Planning Commission, the Public Safety Committee, the Fire Protection Agency, the League of California Cities and was a leader of the Coastal Cities Issues Group.

For many years, Jere, known as the "grill master" coordinated the cooks for the World's Largest Salmon Barbecue, a benefit for salmon restoration. In 2002, he was honored with a lifetime achievement award by the Redwood Region Logging Conference for his decades of work in and on behalf of the timber industry.

Among his crowning achievements was spearheading the fundraising for the new Timberwolf High School stadium. He was an instrumental and valuable supporter of the Fort Bragg Fire Department. And he delighted animal lovers with his support and work for the local dog park and the animal shelter.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, Jere Melo has earned the admiration and respect of his peers, his community and his family. A gentleman, a forester, a facilitator and someone who easily worked with differing viewpoints, Jere embodied what every citizen wishes from a political representative. He was a friend and colleague whose legacy and contributions are long lasting not only in Fort Bragg but throughout the Northern California coast and timber country. For these reasons, it is appropriate that we honor an extraordinary citizen, Jere Melo.

IRENA AND MIKE MEDAVOY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my dear friends, Irena and Mike Medavoy, who are being honored with the prestigious Humanitarian Torch of Learning Award by The American Friends of the Hebrew University. Their commitment to philanthropic and humanitarian causes has been of great benefit to children, Israel, and the global Jewish community, and they are well deserving of this recognition.

I know firsthand of the outstanding contributions that Irena and Mike have made in our community. Irena is the Executive Vice-Chair of Cedars-Sinai Hospital's C.O.A.C.H. pro-

gram, and dedicates her time to a clinic on wheels that provides free primary health care services for low-income children and their families. She is also the founder of "Team Safe-T," an emergency preparedness program for California's public school system, which teaches age-appropriate emergency information and preparedness skills for students in grades K-12.

Mike, as chairman and co-Founder of Phoenix Pictures, has helped create and produce numerous films, including recent blockbusters, Shutter Island and Black Swan. He dedicates much of his time to policy issues and is currently a member of both the Council on Foreign Relations and the Homeland Security Advisory Council. He also serves on the advisory board of the University of Southern California's Center on Public Diplomacy. He has authored the bestselling book "You're Only As Good As Your Next One [. . .]" and with co-author Nathan Gardels, he wrote a thoughtful assessment on the impact of the media on U.S. foreign policy, "American Idol After Iraq: Competing for Hearts and Minds in the Global Media Age." Mike has been the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, including the Lifetime Achievement Award (1998) at the Cannes Film Festival, Chevalier of the French Government's Legion of Honor, the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television and Producers Guild of America Vision Award. He was also inducted into the Hollywood Walk of Fame and received a star on Hollywood Boulevard. His intellectual curiosity and sophisticated analysis of current events and history has made him a valued advisor to me on issues I grapple with on the Foreign Affairs Committee.

The Medavoy's have given generously of their time and energy to political, humanitarian and philanthropic causes in Los Angeles. Through their tireless work with many charities and non-governmental organizations, the Medavoy's have made an indelible mark on our worldwide community. Irena and Mike are among the most dedicated and valuable leaders in our society.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I ask you to join me in recognizing Irena and Mike Medavoy for their many contributions and to congratulate them on receiving this honor from the American Friends of The Hebrew University.

9/11 MUSICAL REMEMBRANCE
CEREMONY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, September 11, 2001, is a day forever etched into the memory of the American people. On that day 10 years ago, over 3,000 innocent people, including nine Texans, died during the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and aboard Flight 93. We gather now to honor both their memory and the sacrifices of their families. We also renew our commitment to honoring the sacrifice and service of the citizens who risked their lives to help all those impacted on that terrible day. Firefighters, police officers, and first responders saved thousands of victims, and nearly 350 rescue personnel gave their lives in the service of others.