

REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ROBERT DUNLAP HOLLAND, JR.

HON. MAC THORBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. THORBERRY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to announce the passing of LCDR (Ret.) Robert Dunlap Holland, Jr. of Annandale, Virginia on January 20, 2016, at the age of 89. He is survived by Barbara, his loving wife of 59 years; his daughter Anne and son-in-law Richard McFarland of Springfield, Virginia; his son Thomas Christopher, daughter-in-law Lisa, and stepson Cody Doss of Jupiter, Florida; his sister Phyllis Eggleston of Norfolk, Virginia; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and special friends.

LCDR Holland was born in Norfolk, Virginia on November 18, 1926, to Gladys Matthews Holland and Robert Dunlap Holland. He was raised in Norfolk and graduated from Maury High School in 1944. Upon graduation, LCDR Holland went to Emory and Henry College as part of the Navy's V-12 program. He subsequently attended the University of Virginia, graduating in 1949 from the Naval ROTC program where he earned a degree in commerce and a reserve commission in the United States Navy. When the Korean War broke out, the Navy activated his commission as part of the contingent invading Inchon. Upon returning to the United States, LCDR Holland trained as a gunfire liaison officer at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

After leaving active service, LCDR Holland relocated to Annapolis, Maryland, to manage a small loan office. In 1954, he met his future wife, Barbara Claire Harkins. They married in 1956. In 1960, Robert, Barbara, and their two children moved to Annandale where he began a career in banking. He was tremendously proud of both his service in the United States Navy Reserve and to be a part of the First Virginia Bank Family.

Mr. Speaker, LCDR Holland and his family represent the very best of America's Greatest Generation. We rise to honor and thank them for their service to our Nation and to wish them Fair Winds and Following Seas.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA NATIONAL CHAMPION FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Alabama football team on winning the College Football Playoff National Championship. This marks Alabama's NCAA-record 16th national championship.

As a diehard Alabama football fan, I loved watching this team because they played with such a strong competitive spirit and refused to be denied. The team was incredibly well-rounded and balanced in all three phases of the game. Each week, it seemed like a different player would step up and make a big

play. That is an important trademark of a true team.

I am especially proud of the players from Southwest Alabama who contributed to the team's success. Quarterback Jake Coker is a Mobile native who played high school football at St. Paul's Episcopal School. In the championship game, Coker threw for over 300 yards and two touchdowns. It was a very gritty and impressive effort, just like Coker's entire college career.

Helping to lead the way for Coker and Alabama's Heisman-winning running back was former Davidson High School standout Alphonse Taylor. As the starting right guard on the offensive line, Taylor and his teammates on the offensive line were rewarded for their outstanding play by winning the inaugural Joe Moore Award. This award goes to the nation's top offensive line each season. It was a well-deserved honor.

Alabama's run to the national championship was marked by outstanding play from the defense. That defense included former Daphne High School star Ryan Anderson. Anderson was a dominating force who racked up six sacks on the year. He played some of his best football down the stretch in the SEC Championship Game and again in the College Football Playoff games. I know opposing quarterbacks will be fearing him next season as well.

Mr. Speaker, this Alabama squad played as a team and in a way that should make every Alabamian proud. To the players, coaches, support staff, and the University of Alabama administration, I want to say congratulations and Roll Tide.

HONORING THE LIFELONG SERVICE OF COLONEL JOSEPH SPIELBAUER

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the service of Colonel Joseph Spielbauer, whose dedication to excellence and sacrifices for public service spanned more than 25 years of active duty military service and over 20 additional years of public service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Colonel Spielbauer was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in Field Artillery from Gonzaga University, in May 1967. He immediately shipped out to Fort Sill, Oklahoma for officer basic training followed by Airborne training and the grueling Ranger course at Fort Benning, the home of Infantry at Fort Benning, Georgia. He earned both his paratrooper wings and the prestigious Ranger tab prior to his first assignment to the famed 82nd Airborne Division.

After duty with the 82nd Airborne Division, Colonel Spielbauer was reassigned to combat duty with the 1st Infantry Division in the Republic of Vietnam, where he served as an artillery firing battery commander. Following combat duty, he returned to the United States and completed the artillery officer advance course, the advanced maintenance course, and rigorous infantry pathfinder training.

Colonel Spielbauer's next assignment was in Germany, where he first served as an artil-

lery service battery commander and then as the Group S-3 (plans and operations) officer.

As Vietnam drew down and the Cold War heated up, the Army decided to station a combat ready Ranger battalion in Europe. The leaders of this elite fighting force went through a vigorous screening process. Colonel Spielbauer's outstanding service record and demonstrated potential for greater responsibility earned him the challenging assignment as the first Fire Support Coordinator for the European Ranger battalions. He excelled in this duty and was subsequently assigned to teach at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, where he was responsible for helping to train the next generation of military leaders.

Colonel Spielbauer and his family then moved to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where he completed the Army's resident Command and General Staff College. He then returned to Europe for the next 7.5 years. In Europe, Colonel Spielbauer served in numerous positions of escalating responsibility. He initially served as the plans officer for the 59th Ordnance Brigade. His initiative, hard work, and dedication to excellence earned him the opportunity to command the 294th Army Artillery Group. This difficult job carried the heavy responsibilities of nuclear fire support for NATO and numerous challenging host nation support requirements. Colonel Spielbauer did an outstanding job in this assignment. He earned the rare opportunity to then command the 552nd Army Artillery Group. He spent 5 years commanding high profile, high risk nuclear units.

Colonel Spielbauer's demonstrated potential for greater responsibility earned him a slot in the resident Army War College class. This is the most senior Army school, reserved for the absolute best Army leaders. After graduation, he was selected for a prestigious staff/faculty position at the War College. Colonel Spielbauer's final assignment was the Senior Army Advisor to the Commanding General of the 28th Infantry Division/Pennsylvania National Guard. Colonel Spielbauer retired from active duty in September 1992 and transitioned to civilian service for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Colonel Spielbauer held several important positions in Pennsylvania including his role as the Director of the Base Development Committee and his current position as Executive Director of the PA Military Community Enhancement Commission. Joe was directly responsible for bringing together all of the disconnected military operations in Pennsylvania and preparing a unified strategy to expand the military presence through the 2005 Base Realignment & Closure (BRAC). Colonel Spielbauer approached this daunting responsibility with the same unflinching dedication and professionalism that he employed to achieve military mission accomplishments. The unquestionable success of Colonel Spielbauer's detailed planning, meticulous execution and foresight can be seen throughout Pennsylvania, as military programs expand and employment grows.

Throughout his long and successful career, Colonel Spielbauer has faithfully executed his diverse duties with great professionalism. He is a "Soldier's Soldier" and a consummate professional. Colonel Spielbauer's outstanding career reflects great honor and credit upon himself, his family, and our nation.