

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND  
SERVICE OF TED RADKE

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 21, 2016*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Ted Radke, longtime member of the Board of Directors for East Bay Regional Parks District.

Ted and I shared a passion for conservation. During his 36 year tenure on the East Bay Regional Parks District's board, Ted oversaw and was a key part of the Park District's expansion and growth. Specifically, Ted was instrumental in ensuring that the Park District's acreage more than doubled. After he partnered with former Representative George Miller, the Park District and I worked together to push for an increase in the size of the John Muir National Historic Site. Ted's commitment to the Park District is evident in that he was the longest-serving board member in its history.

In addition to his impressive stint on the Park District's board from 1978 until 2014, Ted was a former Martinez City Councilman and still holds the title as the youngest person ever elected to the Martinez Council, at age 24. Predictably, he used his time on the Council to fight for the conservation of Martinez's waterfront and further the fight for environmental protection. Ted also served on the board of the Association of Bay Area Governments.

Add to his public service a career at Contra Costa College, where Ted taught political science and history for 30 years, he also authored a book with his wife entitled "The People's Choice: An Owner's Guide to Direct Democracy and Political Participation in California," and was co-founder of Contra Costa Ecology Action and Eco-Info.

Ted was an inspiration and a friend. He passed away on August 28, 2016. His wife, Kathy, died in 2011, and he is survived by two sons and several grandchildren.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BETTY  
JANE FRANCE

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 21, 2016*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mrs. Betty Jane

France, a lifelong philanthropist, who passed away on Monday, August 29, 2016. Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire France family as they mourn the loss of this extraordinary woman.

A native of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Mrs. France dedicated her life to the service of others. As the founder and chairwoman emerita of the NASCAR Foundation, she helped lead efforts to grow the sport of NASCAR alongside her husband, the late NASCAR Chairman and CEO William C. France. Her positive attitude and uplifting demeanor was a source of inspiration for all of those around her.

Throughout her lifetime, Mrs. France was staunchly committed to bettering the lives of those around her, particularly the children in the community. A strong advocate in the field of children's health care, she launched projects that helped establish "Speediatrics" children's care units at two Florida hospitals. Her work in this field also included serving as an honorary co-chairperson for the Childress Institute for Pediatric Trauma, as well as on the boards of several other community service organizations. For her efforts, the NASCAR Foundation created the Betty Jane France Humanitarian Award which recognizes the outstanding charitable and volunteer efforts of NASCAR fans across the country.

Compassionate, kind, and loving, Mrs. France's impact resonated throughout the entire sport of NASCAR. Whether it was in her role as Chairwoman, as an advisor to her husband, or as a mother, her impact never went unnoticed. As someone who enabled others to explore the limitless possibilities of their dreams, she truly left the world a better place. While we mourn the loss of Mrs. France, there is no doubt in my mind that her legacy will live on through not only her professional success but also in the countless lives she was able to touch along the way.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in commemorating the remarkable life of Mrs. Betty Jane France.

CONGRATULATING LINDA KAZEN  
GARZA

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 21, 2016*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Linda Kazen Garza on her new position as President of the Advocates for the

American Osteopathic Association; a national organization that supports and promotes the osteopathic profession through education, advocacy, and collaboration.

Linda Kazen Garza was born on December 1, 1963 to Antonio and Josie Kazen in Laredo, Texas. While growing up in Laredo she was a member of the Blessed Sacrament Church youth choir and a participant in the Junior Miss Laredo Pageant. Interestingly enough, it was during her time in choir that she met a fellow guitarist named David Garza, who later became her husband. After graduating from Nixon High School she went on to the University of Texas at Austin where she received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Communications.

Mrs. Garza's involvement with advocacy efforts within the osteopathic medical profession began during her husband's education at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) in Fort Worth. She would even go on to serve as the Vice President for TCOM's chapter of the Student Advocates Association. Eventually, she would go on to serve in her husband's medical practice as an office administrator. She has been serving alongside her husband for over two decades.

Linda's passion for the osteopathic medical field led her to become an active member of multiple advocacy groups. Her involvement includes: Treasurer and former President of the Advocates of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association (ATOMA), Director at Large on the Board of Trustees and delegate to the Advocates for the American Osteopathic Association (AAOA), and she has been a member of several AAOA committees.

Linda Kazen Garza currently resides in Laredo, Texas where she is married to Dr. David Garza and has two sons named Joseph and Nicholas. In addition to her exemplary career and advocacy efforts; she's been an active member of her local community where she was a trustee for the Laredo Center for the Arts and former President of the Laredo Business and Professional Women's Association. In her free time she enjoys hunting, fishing, traveling, and going to the beach.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize Mrs. Linda Kazen Garza on her recent appointment and for her many years of service to the osteopathic community. It is pleasing to see this ninth generation Texan and Laredoan and niece of former Congressman Abraham Kazen doing great work for the community.