

eradication spray planes. Something all too familiar happened that day. Captain Quintero's aging chopper was shot down by the terrorist group, the Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia (FARC).

As his chopper was going down, Captain Quintero radioed for help, and proceeded to crash-land his helicopter without severely injuring his crew. Another helicopter landed to take away the injured CNP officers. The helicopter had parts which were deemed to be salvageable, and the decision was made to leave six CNP officers overnight to guard the aging Huey. Captain Quintero chose to stay with his chopper, feeling it was his responsibility.

At dawn the next morning, several CNP Hueys landed near the crash site to pick up Captain Quintero. The sight they came upon was gruesome. Three of the six CNP officers were found with their hands tied behind their backs, face down with bullet holes in the back of their heads. They had been executed by the FARC terrorists. Captain Quintero and the others had been taken hostage by the FARC terrorists.

Over the next 18 months his family waited for any word that he was alive. None came.

In early September 1999, Captain Quintero escaped from his FARC terrorist captors. He stayed on the run through the triple canopy jungles of northeastern Colombia for the next two weeks. The FARC, fearing a successful escape, launched an all-out effort to find Captain Quintero. Captain Quintero did not give in easily. He was shot 35 times in his last stand-off, finally murdered by FARC terrorists. Two fellow CNP counter-narcotics officers were also found executed near Captain Quintero's body.

The CNP, who knew he was on the run, did everything in their power to find him. Every ill-equipped helicopter and aging aircraft was given the recovery of Captain Quintero as a top priority. Unfortunately these aircraft were not able to find him in time.

Captain Quintero is survived by his wife, Carmen Elisa Quintero and two-year old daughter Laura Andrea Quintero Nunez. I extend to his family my deepest sympathy. Mr. Speaker, I ask that Congress take a moment to recognize the service Captain Quintero has done for our country. Captain Quintero is truly a hero. May he rest in peace.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF MR. BILL BOWEN

**HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 1, 1999*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional manager and good friend, Mr. Bill Bowen, on the occasion of his retirement from the General Motors Powertrain Plant, located in my hometown of Bay City, Michigan. Bill Bowen's distinguished career spans 39 years, and I believe it is not an understatement to say that many of our families in the Fifth Congressional District owe in part their secure, well-paying jobs to Bill's wise stewardship of the plant.

Those who know Bill say that his strong sense of integrity underscores all their interactions with him. I certainly am well-acquainted with his unflinching commitment to honesty and hard work, for these two qualities have always been associated with his name. Bill began his career with General Motors in 1956, shortly after graduating from Alma College. While still working, he managed to continue his education and received a master's degree from the University of Detroit in 1966.

Bill held a variety of positions at General Motors Corporation before moving to Bay City in 1977, when he accepted a position as quality manager, and, in 1979, he became a production manager in Brighton, Michigan. In 1990, he was offered, and accepted, the top position of plant manager. This was widely considered unusual, as GM usually slated outside executives for these positions, but it shows the extent of Bill's reputation, and the vast confidence that others had in him.

Over the next decade, Bill and GM-Powertrain continued to shift toward strategic product lines and maintaining a technological edge. GM invested nearly \$1 billion in equipment and tooling for the Bay City plant, and Bill and the Powertrain community delivered. Today, they produce about 40,000 connecting rods daily—although three years ago they produced none. And in 1986, they did not produce camshafts, but now, thanks to Bill's leadership and the Powertrain team, they produce 25,000 daily.

I have great admiration for Bill, as does everyone who has worked with him over the years. Under his leadership, GM-Powertrain has been at the forefront of management/labor relations. The plant has one of the few "living agreement" contracts in the country, which means that the contract never expires; rather, disputes are addressed, and resolved, as they arise. Bill's expertise is not limited to management relations, however, I've worked closely with him on such issues as air quality control standards and Corporate Average Fuel Economy [CAFE] regulations. I hope to continue seeking his excellent advice and expertise during his retirement.

Although Bill would never hint to his extensive civic involvement and community volunteer activities, everyone in Bay City has benefited at one time or another from Bill's kindness. For instance, he has led the campaign for the Bay County Women's Center, in the process raising almost two million for the three million dollar facility, all in less than a year. He has been very involved in the United Way of Bay County, where he served as General Campaign Chairman in 1994 and on the Board of Directors for six years. The list of his civic activities is too long to speak about today, but to name a few: Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, BaySail, Bay Health and Junior Achievement of Northeastern Michigan, and of course, the local Little League. Despite these many community activities, despite his commitment to his work, Bill's greatest pride is in his family. Anyone who meets Bill, knows shortly thereafter of his great dedication to his wife Sally, and their two sons, Robert and David.

Mr. Speaker, Bill is indeed a great leader, a kind person, and devoted husband and father. I have no doubt that he will continue to inspire

others with his selfless contributions to our community. Today, I urge you and our colleagues to join with me in congratulating Bill Bowen on his retirement from GM-Powertrain in Bay City, Michigan.

TRIBUTE TO THE BUDDHIST CHURCH OF SACRAMENTO

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 1, 1999*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to the Buddhist Church of Sacramento. On October 16, 1999, this church will be celebrating its 100th year anniversary. As the church members gather to celebrate, I ask all my colleagues to join with me in saluting this monumental achievement.

The Buddhist Church of Sacramento was established on December 17, 1899. The first meeting was held that day at 1221 Third Street, and the next year, a temple building was purchased at 418 O Street. Today, this small gathering of people has grown to over 1,200 families from throughout Sacramento, Yolo, and Solano counties.

In the past, this church has not been without its share of tragedy. On April 15, 1923, an arson fire destroyed the dormitory housing for children of working parents. Ten children perished in that fire. Additionally, after the outbreak of World War II and the issuance of Executive order 9066, Japanese-Americans from Sacramento were relocated to internment camps throughout the United States. During that time, the U.S. government assumed responsibilities for the church and used it as a military induction center.

However, the members of the Buddhist Church of Sacramento have persevered. Two years after the infamous arson fire, the church members constructed a new temple. A social hall was constructed in 1937 to provide additional recreational and social facilities for the Japanese-American community. As a result of the Sacramento Redevelopment Project, a new temple complex was constructed. It was dedicated on June 27–28, 1959.

Today, the church has grown to host several youth programs and events. For instance, over 200 community youths participate as members of Boy Scout Troop 50, Cub Scout Pack 50, and Girl Scout Troop 569. The church also sponsors various youth sports programs including basketball, volleyball, and golf.

Community programs at the Buddhist Church of Sacramento are not limited to youth activities. The church hosts the Tanoshimi-kai, a weekly lunch program attended by 150 seniors. The church's facilities are open to various Bonsai and other Japanese cultural groups for meetings and gatherings. In addition, the church conducts Japanese language classes, which are attended by over 100 students of all ages.

One crowning achievement of the Buddhist Church of Sacramento is its involvement in the Triple R Day Care Program. The program, sponsored by the city of Sacramento since Spring, 1999, chose the church as its first satellite site, the first Asian program, and the first