

and chandeliers for christenings and weddings. He even made them for the occasional political event for candidates he felt close to and I am especially grateful and honored for the courtesies he extended to me.

Tun Pete's abilities were eventually recognized by the people of Guam and he became a teacher in the Chamorro Language and Culture program and demonstrated his talents to students at the Guam Community College and the University of Guam. The expertise and talent of this quiet, unassuming gentleman who worked as a custodian at M.U. Lujan Elementary School finally received the acclamation he so richly deserved. He received the Governor's Art Award in 1992 for life time achievement and he wore all of the hats used by the Guam Governor's Youth Band in President Carter's inaugural parade in 1977.

Tun Pete also became recognized as a leader for our manamko's (senior citizens) in Guam. He participated in community meetings, spoke out for justice for Guam's World War II generation, spoke out for fairness and respect for the manamko'. He was elected Rai (king) of the May 1994 celebration of Senior Citizen's month in recognition of his popularity and advocacy.

The island of Guam, the people of Yona, my family will all miss Tun Pete enormously. He demonstrated that personal dignity can overcome handicaps in life that few of us will ever have to deal with. He was a personal inspiration to me, my wife Lorraine and to countless children in Guam.

Tun Pete leaves behind his children and their spouses, Antonia Pangelinan Taitano, Pedro Taitano and Teresita Pangeliman, Priscilla and Pedro Santos, Theophelia and Jesus Camacho, Joaquin and Julie Pangelinan. Si Yu'os ma'ase' Tun Pete put todo I che'cho'-mu. (Thank you Tun Pete for all of your work.)

TRIBUTE TO AL ZANE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the retirement of my very good friend, Alexander Zane. Al has had a distinguished career spanning twenty-five years and thirteen diverse career assignments with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). I am proud to say that one of those assignments was in my congressional office where Al worked with the same dedication and professionalism for which he is well known and respected.

Al Zane came to my office in July, 1995 when I took the helm of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development (VA-HUD). As a seasoned professional, Al dove right in to investigating allegations of fraud at the Depart-

ment of Housing and Urban Development, which was no easy task. He served on my staff until February, 1997 and made contributions that are now being felt in communities across the United States. In addition to his professionalism, Al's ready smile, easy laugh and sincere friendship endeared him to my staff and made him a pleasure to work with. Truly, my staff and I were all sorry when Al's detail to our office was concluded.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing my gratitude to Alexander Zane for his dedicated service and wishing he, his wife, Mary, and family the very best in the years to come.

LUZ BENAVIDES

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and honor Luz Benavides of Corpus Christi, Texas, who has just been awarded the Vida De Oro (Life of Gold) Award, bestowed by the American Association of Retired People (AARP) to recognize those who offer their time and services for the needs of the community.

I have known Luz Benavides for my entire adult life and she is the model of someone who lives a life of gold. She is one of three people who will be honored Saturday night at the Omni Bayfront in Corpus Christi for making major contributions to the senior community by virtue of her everyday hard work, nearly always out of the limelight.

Luz is 86 years old and a familiar face in the Coastal Bend of Texas, for she is involved in a host of activities, including the Nueces County Senior Citizens organization, the local AARP chapter, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, the Senior Community Services, lobbying for issues about which she is passionate, and always helping her neighbors in need.

Luz embodies the powerful instruction of Christianity by visiting the sick and helping the needy. She also works with the Salvation Army, helping the homeless people in the Corpus Christi area, helping them find shelter in the winter months.

She is a political activist, working tirelessly in issue-related campaigns at all levels and on issues that matter to her and which affect all of us. She speaks mostly to issues that affect the elderly, the disabled and the neglected. Recently, she has lent her voice to the nursing home reform campaign in Texas.

She's never owned or operated a car, which is a tricky business in a sprawling city like Corpus Christi. Interestingly, she has never let that be an obstacle to the good deeds she does for the people she helps on a daily basis. When my mother died, Luz found a way to get from Corpus Christi to Robstown, my hometown nearby, to be with me for the funeral.

One of the most important things she does is to encourage people to vote and to participate in our democracy. She admonishes people that, "Su voto es su voz," your vote is your voice. There is no greater gift in our democracy and Luz knows that. She will stay at the polls the entire day on election day. That is all the more incredible knowing that she remains on post from the time the polls open until the time they close. She stands the whole time, and unless someone brings her food, she doesn't eat.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing a beautiful person who is being honored for the everyday work she does for the Coastal Bend community, Luz Benavides.

TRIBUTE TO KING BURSTEIN

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 70th birthday of a fine American, true friend, and outstanding community activist: Mr. King Burstein. King was born on November 10, 1929 in Malden, Massachusetts. Upon graduating from the University of California at Los Angeles, King began working with his father and his brother in a leather findings business.

In 1961, King was married, and in the next few years, he and his wife Lee became parents of two fine sons. In the 1970s, King—along with his brother—relocated the family leather business to Orange County.

King, together with Lee, has long been involved in community affairs and both national and local political issues. From his city council to the White House, King actively participates in the self-government that is the essence of our democracy. He has an admirable passion for doing what is right, and never hesitates to give time and resources when needed.

King and Lee have also been very involved with their temple, Temple Bat Yahn. King in particular is a leader in promoting education on key public policy issues both for members of his temple and for elected officials. He is extraordinarily well-read, and always informed about the significant issues of the day.

I am not alone among my colleagues here in the chamber in calling King Burstein a good personal friend. Those of you who do not know King personally will nonetheless recognize in him the same outstanding qualities that characterize that rare individual among your own constituents who is a true national leader. In recognition of his contributions to our country, to his community, and to his family, I know you will all join me in wishing King a very happy and prosperous 70th birthday, and many more to come.