High School in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1957, thus becoming known as the Little Rock Nine. On the very same day that we gave the Congressional Medal of Honor to the “Little Rock Nine,” the Nation was burying Daisy Bates, who had recently expired. Without Daisy Bates, I am not sure that there would have been a “Little Rock Nine.” Mrs. Daisy Bates was the civil rights leader who helped the nine young African Americans to break the color barrier at Little Rock Central High School.

In 1941, Mrs. Bates and her husband, Mr. L.C. Bates, founded the Arkansas State Press. They turned the weekly newspaper into the leading voice for civil rights in the State of Arkansas long before the decision was made to try and integrate Central High School.

As president of the Little Rock NAACP, Daisy Bates, was an inspiration, a spark and a symbol of hope for smaller chapters which were on line or being organized throughout the state and indeed, in many rural and semi-rural communities throughout the Nation. As the struggle in Little Rock intensified and as Mrs. Bates’ profile emerged, she appeared as a regal, thoughtful and fiercely determined leader who made tremendous self-sacrifices in order to keep the Little Rock NAACP and the Arkansas NAACP alive, viable and continuing to grow.

As the highest profiled African American leader in the state of Arkansas during that period of history, Daisy Bates performed exceptionally well under intense pressure. She was called upon for guidance, counsel, direction and overall leadership for a people.

She was indeed a mother figure, a big sister, a mentor and protector for the Little Rock Nine; but she was more than that, she was a Moses for her people, leading them into a new era of freedom in their quest for equality and justice.

Yes, Mrs. Daisy Bates, a pioneering freedom fighter, may you rest in peace.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

November 19, 1999

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR. LOUIS RAWLS, PASTOR OF THE TABERNACLE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO, IL

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and honor the Reverend Dr. Louis Rawls on the occasion of the celebration his tenure as Pastor of the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois.

Dr. Rawls was born July 16, 1905 in Union, Mississippi to the union of James Rawls, Sr. and Louiza Donnell. Dr. Rawls accepted the call of the Lord at the age of twenty-six. He served as pastor of Canaan Baptist Church for nearly ten years. In 1941, the Lord directed Dr. Rawls to organize the Tabernacle Baptist Church, where he has served as Pastor, preacher and teacher for the past fifty-eight years. With the power of the Holy Spirit, Dr. Rawls has fellowshiped more than 23,000 souls into the church.

Dr. Rawls graduated from Wendell Phillips High School in 1926 and Moody Bible Institute in 1934. Dr. Rawls is the recipient of eight earned degrees and six honorary degrees. Dr. Rawls was a founding member of the Chicago Baptist Institute and the founder of the Illinois Baptist State Convention. He has served on numerous boards including, the NAACP, the National Association of Evangelists and the National Religious Broadcasters of America.

Building a ministry that focuses on the total man, Dr. Rawls founded the Willa Rawls Manor and the Tabernacle Community Hospital and Health Center. Dr. Rawls has worked extensively in the civil rights movement with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rev. Jesse Jackson, the NAACP and the Urban League. Dr. Rawls is a devoted and loving family man to his wife, Willa and his three children, Lou, Samuel and Julius Lee.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with thousands of family and friends who will gather in Chicago on November 27, 1999 to recognize the life achievements of Reverend Dr. Louis Rawls, Pastor of the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church and I want to encourage Dr. Rawls to continue to be steadfast and unmovable always abounding in the work of the Lord. I am truly honored to pay tribute to this outstanding Servant of God and am privileged to enter these words into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States House of Representatives.

MICHAEL J. SCHULTZ

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a special constituent from my district, Michael J. Schultz. Mike is a good friend and serves as a shining example of what can be accomplished through dedication and hard work.