

answered the call. He always cared about everyone. He was proud of what he did and his unit was proud of him."

Other pilots in Kevin's squadron said that he took great pride in every task that he was given. One pilot even said that Kevin was considered peacemaker of the troop.

Kevin was a devoted husband to his wife Ridgeley and a loving father of their three children, daughter Carrisa, and sons Christopher and Colten. In Chetek, family, friends and teachers remember him as a young man who always contributed to his community and was never shaken by adversity.

While growing up in Chetek, Kevin displayed early signs of his desire to serve his country and fly. One of his biggest hobbies in high school was flying model airplanes. Kevin was so committed to realizing his dream of flying that he enlisted in the Air Force just one year before graduating from high school. Shortly after basic training, Kevin returned to Chetek in his uniform to thank those who had helped him along his way.

The teachers at Chetek High School remembered him as a young man with an incredible desire to learn and a willingness to contribute to the world in which he lived. He touched many lives, and those who had contact with him were proud to call him their friend.

This young man from western Wisconsin wanted nothing more than to provide for his family, to serve his country, and to fly helicopters. He was the son every mother wants, the student every teacher dreams of, the husband and father every family needs, and the soldier every Nation must have.

Mr. Speaker, this tragic accident reminds us that all men and women in our Armed Forces operate in dangerous conditions every day to carry out their mission. It reinforces our respect for the sacrifices that they and their families make in order to serve our country and protect our Nation's interests across the globe.

Kevin Reichert's death is a great loss to our Nation and to our community in western Wisconsin. Our Nation owes Officer Reichert and his family a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid. His service to our country and his ultimate sacrifice will not be forgotten.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they are called the sons of God. And God bless Kevin Reichert, Officer David Gibb, and their families. And God bless all our young men and women in our Armed Forces throughout the globe who are serving our Nation and protecting our freedom.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4, DECLARATION OF POLICY OF UNITED STATES CONCERNING NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE DEPLOYMENT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-150) on the resolution (H. Res. 179) providing for the consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 4) to declare it to be the policy of the United States to deploy a national missile defense, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 883, AMERICAN LAND SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-151) on the resolution (H. Res. 180) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 883) to preserve the sovereignty of the United States over public lands and acquired lands owned by the United States, and to preserve State sovereignty and private property rights in non-Federal lands surrounding those public lands and acquired lands, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

TRIBUTE TO CALVIN EDWIN RIPKEN, SR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. EHRlich) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EHRlich. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to congratulate the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) for a fine job there on behalf of the chairman of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Calvin Edwin Ripken, Sr., born on December 17, 1935, in Harford County, Maryland, at a place designated on Harford County maps circa 1940 as "Ripken's Corner."

At the age of nine, young Cal was left fatherless due to an accident that took the life of his father, Arend, at the intersection of U.S. 40 and Maryland Route 7 in Harford County. Fostered by two older brothers, Ollie, 18 years his senior, and Bill, some 10 years older, Cal followed his brothers to every sand lot game they played in the old Susquehanna League.

At the age of 12, Cal became the batboy of the Aberdeen Cannons, a semi-pro baseball club playing in that same Susquehanna League. One day when his signs were being stolen by an opposing team, Manager Fred Baldwin asked young Ripken, "Boy, do you know how to give signs?" Calvin said,

"yes." So for the next 2 years, young Cal gave the signs sitting on top of the bats. No one ever figured out where the signs were coming from.

In 1953, Cal Sr. graduated from Aberdeen High School and was offered a soccer scholarship to Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland.

Cal Sr.'s baseball team began when he played for those same Cannons in 1955 and 1956. He was a catcher, the same position his older brother, Ollie, had held years before. In 1957, Cal accepted a minor league contract with the Baltimore Orioles and was sent to play in Phoenix, Arizona.

On November 30, 1957, Cal married Violet Gross, a marriage that produced four children in Elly, Cal Jr., Fred, and Bill. Cal Sr. subsequently progressed through the Orioles' minor league system until spring training of 1961. During a game as a member of the Rochester Red Wings, Cal was struck by foul tips twice in succession on the right shoulder, causing a disabling injury. Following a short rehabilitation stay in Little Rock, Arkansas, Cal was given the opportunity to turn his talents to managing and became, at 25 years old, the youngest manager in the Orioles' system. From there he rose through that system to become the Orioles' third base coach. And then, in 1987, he became manager of the Baltimore Orioles, the team he so dearly loved.

Cal Ripken, Sr., and Cal Ripken, Jr., represent the first ever father-son teammates to win a World Series, in 1983. In addition, Cal Sr. is the first manager to ever manage two sons, Cal Jr. and Billy, on the same major league baseball team at the same time.

On March 25, 1999, at the age of 63, Cal Sr. succumbed to lung cancer. Cal Sr. never moved away from his hometown. There he was not known as the father of Cal Jr. but as a neighbor who would help anyone who was in need. After his retirement from baseball, Cal remained involved in the community by lending his support to many causes. Specifically, Cal and Vi dedicated their time and money to many charities, including the Maryland Special Olympics and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Harford County.

Cal also hosted an annual instructional baseball camp for youngsters who wanted to learn how to play the game of baseball. Cal Sr. loved to teach and would spend countless hours helping those who wanted to learn from this man, who had spent his entire life in the game of baseball.

Cal Sr. and Vi were the driving force behind the Boys and Girls Clubs of Harford County in Maryland. Recently, the Justice Department granted the Boys and Girls Clubs \$77,777.77 in memory of Cal Sr. The sevens symbolize the number worn by Cal Sr. on the baseball field. The number 7 is now etched inside the third base coach's box at Camden Yards.