

HONORING DON ABRAM, FEDERAL  
MAGISTRATE JUDGE

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 31, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to congratulate Don Abram on his retirement after 18½ years of service as a Federal magistrate judge.

Don, who resides in Greenwood Village, Colorado, fondly remembers serving as a lawyer and on the bench both as a State judge in Pueblo and a federal judge in Denver. Don attended the University of Colorado and earned his law degree in 1963. He then joined Phelps, Fonda, Hayes law firm in Pueblo. His dream, however, was to be a judge. That dream became reality when he was appointed as district judge in 1975. During his service as a federal magistrate judge, Don was elected by his peers to be president of the Federal Magistrate Judge Association.

Don's family is very important to him. When an accident left his son paralyzed, Don realized that all the small things in the world don't matter, as long as you have your family. After retiring, Don is looking forward to spending more time with his family.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to congratulate Don and thank him for his dedication to serving the judiciary for over 36 years.

TRIBUTE TO GABE FONDARIO

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 31, 2000*

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Gabe Fondario for going above and beyond the call of duty in making the City of Montclair a better place to live.

Mr. Fondario was selected as the Montclair Fire Department's Employee of the Year based on his dedication to work and his close working relationship with local apartment owners. He has worked very hard to make the City of Montclair a better place for apartment owners to live. On his own initiative, Mr. Fondario started Citizens Against Unwanted Trash in Our Neighborhoods (CAUTION) program. Through CAUTION, Mr. Fondario brings community members together and organizes neighborhood cleanups in neglected apartment areas. These cleanups have had outstanding participation from apartment owners and tenants, and the results have been remarkable.

I commend Mr. Fondario for his sense of civic responsibility and for his hard work for the people of the City of Montclair.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN MEMORY OF COLONEL (RETIRED)  
CHESTER BAILEY MCCOID

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 31, 2000*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Colonel (Retired) Chester Bailey McCoid, United States Army, of Westfield, Connecticut. He was 77.

Colonel McCoid, the son of the late Colonel Chester B. McCoid and the late Florence Addis, was born on July 31, 1922. He lied about his age at 16 years old to enter the Army. By the time he left the service, he had fought as a combat infantryman in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Colonel McCoid was one of only 294 three-time holders of the prestigious Combat Infantry Badge, awarded for direct engagement with enemy ground forces in a conflict.

During the invasion of Normandy on D-Day in June 1944, Colonel McCoid led a parachute rifle company of the 82nd Airborne Division and later refused to stop fighting after being wounded by an enemy gunner. After fighting in Korea, he was an exchange officer with the United States Navy for four years and he served as a member of the Army General Staff at the Pentagon. In 1966, Colonel McCoid began serving the first of three tours in Vietnam for a total of 51 months spread over the next seven years. He was Deputy Commander of the Independent 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division and commanded the 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (airmobile) while in the Southeast Asia theater. In an unusual assignment heading the American Element of The Four Party Military Commission, Region Two, he oversaw the United States' interests in negotiations with the representatives of the Communists and South Vietnam to end the war. Colonel McCoid left for the United States on March 29, 1973, the last ground soldier to serve outside Saigon in the Vietnam War.

In his 34 years of dedicated service, Col McCoid received the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, five Legions of Merit, five Bronze Stars and two Purple Hearts. He was also decorated by France twice and eight times by the Republic of Vietnam. He graduated from the Naval War College at Newport, Rhode Island, and the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, Chester McCoid was a professional soldier and great American. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife of more than 54 years, Dorothy M. Jamison McCoid; his two sons, Chester B. McCoid III and Scott C. McCoid; his two daughters, Maureen Kennedy and Naomi Litecky; his brother and two sisters; and seven grandchildren.

*January 31, 2000*

ON THE RETIREMENT OF JAMES  
TURNER

**HON. SAM GEJDENSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 31, 2000*

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer best wishes to James E. Turner, Jr. on his retirement as President of General Dynamics. Mr. Turner has played a leading role in strengthening American shipbuilding and ensuring that the Navy has the most sophisticated technology available to safeguard our national security.

Jim Turner joined General Dynamics in September 1988 as Vice President and General Manager of Electric Boat, the Company's nuclear submarine division. He was named Executive Vice President of the corporation in February 1991 with responsibility for marine, land systems and services businesses. In addition to these duties, he became President of Electric Boat in April 1993. In 1995, Mr. Turner became President of General Dynamics.

Mr. Turner's retirement will leave a huge void in Navy shipbuilding circles. Throughout the industry, few others match Mr. Turner's technical expertise, leadership and integrity. His deep understanding of shipbuilding has significantly contributed to the fact that this country produces the finest submarines in the world. In recognition of his contributions, Mr. Turner was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, which honored him for " \* \* \* leading the implementation of innovative engineering and design processes, and establishing a new standard for ship design and acquisition." he received the Navy League's Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Award in 1999. This award honors industry leaders who have made major contributions to U.S. maritime strength.

Jim Turner was one of the first in the industry to recognize that the end of the Cold War would require defense-related companies to reorganize in order to remain competitive and successful. Without his insight, technical acumen and leadership, our country might have lost a vital element of shipbuilding capability that is absolutely essential to meeting our national security needs in the years ahead.

Mr. Speaker, the shipbuilding industry will certainly miss Jim Turner's steady presence at the helm. I know many members join me in thanking Mr. Turner for his many years of service to our country. We wish him, and his wife Elizabeth, the very best in the years ahead.

HONORING RICHARD C. WEBER

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 31, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to pause and remember the life of Richard Weber who sadly passed away on December 16, 1999. He was 87 years old.

Richard was born on September 19, 1912 in Canton, Oklahoma. He moved to Dove Creek,