

to lay a wreath in honor of the Americans who gave their lives in protection of their nation and the liberation of Europe.

The Ardennes American Cemetery is one of 14 permanent American World War 11 military cemeteries constructed on foreign soil by the American Battle Monuments Commission. It lies among the battlefields of the Ardennes plateau, across which American and Allied forces courageously fought their way first to the German frontier, then to the Rhine River, and eventually into the very heart of Nazi Germany. On December 16, 1944, a major German counteroffensive stalled the Allied advancement across the Ardennes. The "Battle of the Bulge," as the Ardennes-Alsace Campaign has come to be known, proved to be a furious struggle in bitter cold and harsh conditions, and in the first days of 1945, all attacks ground to a halt. On February 2, 1945, the First U.S. Army struck out to the Roer River. Six days later, the Canadian First Army advanced to the southeast, followed by a converging attack in the northeast by the Ninth U.S. Army. In the following weeks, the Allies found success and continued their march eastward toward the Rhine River. By the end of March, Allied armies, including French forces, advanced into Germany across a broad front.

Allied forces liberated the site of the Ardennes American Cemetery in September 1944, and a temporary cemetery was established on February 8, 1945. After the war, the remains of American military personnel buried in temporary cemeteries were moved to the new permanent foreign cemeteries upon the request of next of kin. Many of those interred at the Ardennes American Cemetery died during the Battle of the Bulge and the subsequent offenses and counter-offenses in the region.

The beauty and grandeur of the cemetery and memorial at Ardennes quietly convey the courage and sacrifice of the Americans who lost their lives on foreign soil while fighting for the highest principles on which their nation was established. The grounds and visitor center are wonderfully maintained by a diligent and knowledgeable staff. In particular, I would like to thank the Cemetery Superintendent, Hans Hooker, and his wife Virginia, for the wonderful treatment our delegation received on our visit. I would also like to recognize Vincent Joris for his valuable contribution in the upkeep of cemetery.

One of the more interesting and heartwarming aspects of the Ardennes cemetery is the support and commitment shown to it by the people of Belgium. In fact, 85 percent of the soldiers' graves at Ardennes are "sponsored" by a Belgian family, who watch over the site, ensure that it is in a good state of repair, and even place flowers or other memorials at the grave on special occasions. All Americans should be very grateful for this outpouring of fellowship and allegiance by the people of Belgium.

Representative FARR and I were honored to be the first members of Congress to visit the Ardennes Cemetery and Memorial in its 55 year history. As we laid a wreath for those who perished during World War 11, and gazed upon the crisp rows of white crosses, I was struck by a sense of awe, pride and humility. Over 5,000 men are buried at Ardennes, more

than 100 of which hailed from my home state of Wisconsin. Men from almost every state are buried there, as well soldiers from 11 countries. The unity of effort to defeat Nazism and fascism is reflected in the solemnity of the individual grave markers creating the greater unit of a single, expansive cross.

I encourage all Americans to take advantage of the enriching experience of visiting U.S. battle memorials and cemeteries when traveling overseas. Such excursions give individuals and families an opportunity to reunite with their past—to find and touch the graves of friends and loved ones lost in the great battles of the 20th Century, or simply to study a chapter of American history in surroundings that inspire both pride and reflection. In fact, in Fiscal Year 1999, over 10 million visitors were hosted by the American Battle Monument Commission, at 24 permanent cemeteries and 27 memorials located in 15 countries around the globe.

I also commend the Commission and their staff worldwide for their dedication to the preservation of American graves, American history, and American principles. As the battles of the World Wars begin to fade into history, it is important that we, as a nation, recognize and reflect on our past involvements across the oceans. These experiences shaped the course of our Nation's greatness in the years since, and neither those events, nor the men and women who perished in their making, should ever be forgotten.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
DR. ROBERT ALEXANDER UPON
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
AT AIKEN

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to recognize the impressive achievements of Dr. Robert Alexander. On June 30, 2000, Dr. Alexander retired from his position as Chancellor of the University of South Carolina at Aiken. He has been a leader in the Aiken community and his retirement leaves a great void in South Carolina Higher Education.

Dr. Alexander was born in the small coastal town of Kinston, North Carolina. A product of the public school system, Dr. Alexander earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Duke University, and later a Masters of Divinity.

In addition, Dr. Alexander received management certification from the University of South Carolina and the Harvard Business School.

Before earning his Doctorate in Higher Education in 1977 from the University of South Carolina, he held a number of administrative posts in student services. Following receipt of his doctorate he became an Associate Professor in the College of Education and later served as an Associate Vice President of the University of South Carolina system.

In 1983, Dr. Alexander, his wife Leslie, and their son Robert moved to Aiken.

From the beginning, Dr. Alexander used his management expertise and experience to

magnify the University of South Carolina at Aiken's (USC-Aiken) already vital role in South Carolina. He worked tirelessly with leaders from business, government, and the education communities to forge new avenues of cooperation that benefited USC-Aiken and the people it serves.

Under Dr. Alexander's leadership, USC-Aiken, once a small branch of the University of South Carolina, is now thriving. Enrollment has doubled, and student/faculty ratios are among the lowest within South Carolina's state assisted four year public institutions. Undergraduate degree programs have tripled, and several graduate programs have become a part of the university.

USC-Aiken has seen dramatic improvements in its infrastructure during Dr. Alexander's tenure. Among them are the expansion of the Gregg-Graniteville Library and the Etheredge Center for Fine Arts in 1986, and the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center and the School of Nursing Building in 1999; construction of a state-of-the-art Sciences Building in 1989; the Children's Center and the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center in 1991; the Business Education Building in 1994; the DuPont Planetarium in 1995; the natatorium in 1997; relocation of the historic Pickens-Salley House to the USC-Aiken Campus; and acquisition of Pacer Downs student apartments.

Due in large part to his efforts, the endowment of USC-Aiken is now more than \$11 million with 13 endowed faculty chairs. This endowment allows USC-Aiken to offer programs and services not usually found at state-assisted institutions of similar size.

He worked diligently with the US Department of Commerce and the BellSouth Foundation to create the Rural Alliance for Teaching Enhancement. This Alliance significantly enhances the educational opportunities of students in rural public schools in a 10 county area by providing technological support.

Recently USC-Aiken received significant awards from the National Endowment for Humanities, the John Olin Foundation, and the National Science Foundation. These awards will contribute to the operations of the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center and the Economic Enterprise Institute.

Perhaps the most significant legacy of Dr. Alexander is the enhanced regional, state, and national reputation USC-Aiken has developed during his tenure. In 1999, U.S. News and World Report recognized USC-Aiken as one of the top three regional public liberal arts colleges in the Southeast. In their 2000 rankings, USC-Aiken is ranked second. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the National League of Nursing, and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education also recognize the many quality educational programs offered at USC-Aiken.

Dr. Alexander's commitment to the community does not end with the university. He is an honorary member of the USC-Aiken Alumni Association. He also is an active member in the Aiken Rotary Club where he served as a member of the Rotary International District Scholarship Committee and on its board of directors. He also served on the Executive Committee of Security Federal Bank, the Executive Committee for the Economic Development Partnership of Aiken and Edgefield

Counties, as a member of the board of trustees for Aiken Regional Medical Centers, on the vestry of St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church, and continues his work with the Diocese of Upper South Carolina's youth programs.

He once served as Chairman of the Savannah River Regional Diversification Initiative created by the US Department of Energy. He served on the board of directors for the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce where he was president in 1987, the United Way of Aiken County, and the Business Technology Center. Dr. Alexander held positions on the advisory board of Citizens and Southern National Bank of South Carolina, and the Aiken County Commission on the Future. He is also a past trustee of Hopeland Gardens and a chairman of the Peach Belt Athletic Conference.

He served as the Chairman of the South Carolina Council of State College and University Presidents as well as their representative on the Business Advisory Council of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, on the executive committee of South Carolina 2000 where he spearheaded the development of the South Carolina University Research Consortium, as a member of the Commission of the Future of South Carolina, South Carolina Council of Economic Education, Vice President of the Strom Thurmond Foundation, Board of Visitors for the Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Nationally, Dr. Alexander was appointed to the National Advisory Committee of Student Financial Assistance in 1991 and served as the committee chair from 1995-1997, past chair of the Modernization Task Force of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, past member of board of director for the Institute for Continuing Education for the National University Continuing Education Association, and past member and institutional representative for the Association for Higher Continuing Education.

Through all of his hard work and determination to make a difference, Dr. Alexander has collected many deserving awards and honors.

In 1999, he received the Earl Kauffman Award from the USC-Aiken Academy for Lifelong Learning for his commitment to providing educational opportunities for senior citizens. The Student Personnel Association at the University of South Carolina awarded him the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year in 1996. In 1990, the University of South Carolina Black Faculty and Professional Staff Association honored him with an honorable mention award for Affirmative Action. The South Carolina Association of Higher Continuing Education presented him with the Outstanding President's Award in 1987. In 1985, Dr. Alexander was selected as Man of the Year by the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce.

He reached the pinnacle of service to the State of South Carolina in May of this year when he was bestowed the Order of the Palmetto, the highest designation the governor awards to an individual.

Dr. Alexander's retirement as Chancellor of USC-Aiken closes a successful chapter in the school's history. He developed the university and its students in every way by surpassing his required duties in all areas. His years of service leave an indelible mark on the institu-

tion. Dr. Alexander's accomplishments will benefit countless others in the future, and his legacy will be solidified by the successes of future generations. A leader in the higher education field and a dedicated community citizen, Dr. Alexander will be sorely missed as Chancellor of USC-Aiken.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR MICHAEL L. MURPHY

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Major Michael L. Murphy of the United States Marine Corps for his distinguished service and courageous leadership on behalf of the citizens of this great nation.

Major Murphy gave his life in the line of duty on the evening of December 11, 2000. By risking his life to ensure the safety of others, he made the ultimate sacrifice that any citizen of this nation can make. He left behind not only a loving family, but also a community and a country who will forever be grateful for his heroism.

As an aviator in the Marine Corps, Major Murphy had dedicated his career to defending the values this nation holds dear. With over 16 years of experience in the military, he had received the Meritorious Service Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with a gold star for his integrity and courage.

Major Murphy's valiant actions and his outstanding service to this nation serve to remind us of the gratitude we all feel toward this brave individual, along with all other servicemen and women who have lost their lives serving as guardians of this great country.

President John F. Kennedy once said, "For those to whom much is given, much is required. And when at some future date when history judges us, recording whether in our brief span of service we fulfilled our responsibilities to the state, our success or failure, in whatever office we hold, will be measured by the answers to four questions: First, were we truly men of courage . . . Second, were we truly men of judgment . . . Third, were we truly men of integrity . . . Finally, were we truly men of dedication?"

Major Michael L. Murphy would truthfully have been able to answer each of these questions in the affirmative. He was indeed a man of courage, judgment, integrity, and dedication. May the memory of this brave individual live on in our hearts, and may God's strength and peace always be with his family and friends.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAJOR EDWARD J. MARTY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I honor and pay tribute to a great American,

Major Edward J. Marty of Tyler, TX, to whom I had the privilege recently to present the Purple Heart Medal which he earned more than twenty years ago.

Major Edward Marty proudly and courageously served in the U.S. Army for 20 years, 8 months and 16 days. On January 1, 1969, 1st Lieutenant Edward Marty was wounded by a land mine while leading his platoon of the 1st Calvary Division through the marshlands and rice paddies of Vietnam. Due to fractures in his legs and arms and a traumatic eye injury, Lt. Marty was transferred to multiple hospitals and was never presented the Purple Heart Medal, as is traditional. After many months in hospitals, and exactly two years after he was wounded, Lt. Marty was sent back to Vietnam as an advisor to Vietnamese Rangers, but through some unfortunate oversight, he still never received the much-deserved Purple Heart while on active duty in the Army, or any time shortly following his retirement.

It was not until this year that Major Marty finally received his award, and I was honored to make the presentation on November 10, during a Veterans' Day program at John Tyler High School in Tyler, TX, where Major Marty serves as Smith County Assistant District Attorney. It was a moving moment for Major Marty—and myself—and I believe the ceremony had a special impact on students at John Tyler who know about the Vietnam conflict only through textbooks or personal testimony. Certainly, most of the students had never met a distinguished Purple Heart recipient.

As we all know, the Purple Heart is an honor launched by George Washington to recognize those who gave above and beyond the call of duty and who wear the scar of battle. Major Edward Marty is among this elite group of Purple Heart recipients who risked their lives and suffered injuries for the cause of freedom. So it is with great admiration that I recognize Major Marty today, and as we prepare to adjourn the 106th session of Congress, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this true American hero—Major Edward Marty.

THE RESPONSIBLE MONITORING ACT OF 2000

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Responsible Monitoring Act of 2000." This bill is intended to make the Internet a better, safer place by encouraging voluntary efforts to detect and stop illegal activities. This legislation would provide real incentives for responsible monitoring by "E-commerce" businesses that host consumer-to-consumer transactions on their web sites. Allowing e-companies to monitor their sites and remove illegal goods and services offered for sale by others, is the right approach for a better Internet. Unfortunately, current law actually discourages E-commerce companies from even looking for illegal activity on their sites.