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TRIBUTE TO MARY LOU RAYNES

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2001*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to Mary Lou Raynes, who will retire from Central Missouri State University on July 31, 2001, after more than 31 years of devoted service to the Army ROTC Fighting Mules Battalion.

Mrs. Raynes began her service to the Fighting Mules Battalion in August of 1969. During her first decade at CMSU, she served as the university-hired secretary of the department. Later, she was promoted to government service, spending over 20 years as the department's Military Personnel Technician.

Mrs. Raynes has continually gone above and beyond the call of duty. She has received numerous cash awards, two consecutive Annual Formal Inspections with laudatory ratings and received commendation from Cadet Command for excellence on six different occasions. She is continually cited as the "subject matter expert" in Cadet Personnel Management and has been praised many times for "far exceeding the standards expected of a civil service employee." Mrs. Raynes has been a loyal ally of the ROTC Fighting Mules Battalion, even when the group was severely shorthanded in both instructors and administrative support.

On top of her overwhelming support to Central Missouri State University's Army ROTC program, Mrs. Raynes has been successful in other areas. She was recognized as the Warrensburg, Missouri, American Business Woman of the Year. She was also commended for organizing the community Christmas Store and the radio show KOKO Expo Home Show.

Mr. Speaker, Mary Lou Raynes' passion for excellence in Central Missouri State University's Army ROTC has made a difference in the lives of students and teachers. I know all Members of Congress will join me in paying tribute to her outstanding service to the Army ROTC Fighting Mules Battalion.

TRIBUTE TO MATTIE M.  
HOLLIMAN

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2001*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly outstanding woman who did so much in our community to help those who are less fortunate. If only there were more people like Mattie M. Holliman; then this world would be a better place. I am saddened to report that Mattie passed away on March 9 after a brief illness. This lady, known as "Mother Holliman" in our community, leaves behind an outstanding legacy.

During her 79 years, Mattie was a tireless worker who looked out for others who were homeless, hungry or unemployed. Sitting still was a concept that was unknown to Mattie. If there was a community issue to be addressed then Mattie would organize a community meeting with local officials to discuss the issues. She had a special way of bringing people together to solve problems. She was an organizer with an empathetic soul, and she was as much at home with her Mayor or Senator as she was with the homeless person sleeping under the freeway.

For 16 years she worked as a certified social worker at the Sheldon Complex. But her work didn't stop when she turned off the lights and closed the door at the office. Mattie was always doing something to help somebody or some cause. In addition to her job at the Sheldon Complex, she was the founder of two grassroots organizations, Community Volunteers Agency and the Men's Supportive Task Force.

Mattie's dedication and work did not go unnoticed in our community, which is evident by the numerous awards she received for her efforts in community service. Among her many honors were the United Way's Volunteer of the Year Award, YWCA Tribute, Giants Award, NAACP Award, and in 1993 she was recognized by President Clinton for being the first inductee into the Creative Communications Centres Women's Hall of Fame.

All of us who knew Mattie Holliman are thankful for the opportunity to have shared in her life. Her leadership, thoughtfulness, and caring ways will be missed by those who had the privilege of knowing her. She was a remarkable woman with a heart of gold who did so much for so many during her lifetime.

A TRIBUTE TO HOWARD  
RUBENSTEIN

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2001*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to the extraordinary talent and civic contributions of Howard J. Rubenstein, who will be honored on Sunday at the Fifth Annual Heritage Dinner of the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust.

Mr. Speaker, Howard Rubenstein was dubbed by Newsweek Magazine as the "Dean of Damage Control." That praise is indeed appropriate because Howard is one of America's foremost public relations consultants. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, he later finished first in his class in the night school division at St. John's University School of Law, and later was awarded an honorary doctor of law degree from the University. Howard founded his public relations agency in 1954 and ran it from his parents' kitchen table until his mother refused to answer the family phone, "Rubenstein and Associates." Today his firm is one of the nation's largest and best-known independent public relations agencies with a staff of more than 190 people.

Mr. Speaker, the Museum of Jewish Heritage—a Living Memorial to the Holocaust, opened to the public in 1997. Overlooking the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, its mission is to educate people of all ages and backgrounds about the 20th century Jewish experience before, during and after the Holocaust. The Museum contains more than 2,000 photographs, 800 artifacts, and 24 original documentary films. The Museum's core exhibition combines archival material with modern media to provide a thoughtful and moving chronicle of history, keeping the memory of the past alive and offering hope for the future.

Howard Rubenstein is being honored by the Museum of Jewish Heritage for his extraordinary commitment to public service. He has served as a member of numerous civic and philanthropic organizations, and currently sits on the Executive Committee of the Association for a Better New York. He is a trustee of the Police Athletic League, the Central Park Conservancy, and the Inner City Scholarship Fund of the Archdiocese of New York. He is Vice Chairman of the new York State-New York City Holocaust Memorial Commission and is a special advisor to the New York City Commission on the Status of Women. Howard has served on the Mayor's Committee on Business and Economic Development for Mayors Beame, Dinkins, and Giuliani, and he is a member of the board of directors of the Center for Democracy here in Washington, D.C. he also served as a consultant to the United States Foreign Claims Settlement Commission and, as an attorney, he was assistant counsel to the Judiciary Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, one particular episode stands out in my reflection upon Howard Rubenstein's service to his community. In 1991, the Brooklyn community of Crown Heights exploded in a chain reaction of violence, riots, and ever mounting divisions between the area's African-American and Hasidic Jewish populations. These disputes escalated, eventually dividing the city and receiving national attention. Responding to a request for his assistance from then Mayor David Dinkins, Howard undertook the difficult task of diffusing the tensions between the African-American and Jewish communities. He organized a "Peace Conference" in Crown Heights and then planned a "Neighbor to Neighbor" event at the Apollo Theater in Harlem. There he screened the movie, "The Liberators", a film depicting the liberation of a Nazi concentration camp by African-American soldiers, to an audience of over 1300 Jews and African-Americans. The showing was broadcast live on New York television, while simultaneously 500 "Neighbor to Neighbor" meetings were held in homes and community centers around the City. Howard's efforts were critical to defusing tensions as well as restoring civility and understanding in Crown Heights. I believe that this efforts speak volumes about the character and commitment of this outstanding man.

Mr. Speaker, in an era when business leaders all too often fail to demonstrate a devotion to the needs of our society, Howard Rubenstein is a model for all of us to emulate. I invite my colleagues to join me in extending warmest congratulations and sincere appreciation to Howard J. Rubenstein on this special occasion.