Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to note the long-term record of selfless service by one of Ohio's own, and a member of the "greatest generation," Colonel John Coleman, United States Army, Retired. This year marks the 50th anniversary of Colonel Coleman's election as National President of the Reserve Officers Association and the 73rd anniversary of his acceptance of the oath of office as a commissioned military officer.

Mr. Speaker, few American's can claim such a rich legacy of service to country and countrymen. We all know the excellent work that is done every day by the staff of the Reserve Officers Association and their numerous volunteer members. But few of us know the significant achievements of Colonel John Coleman in his role as national president of the Reserve Officers Association.

During 1951, Colonel Coleman worked closely with the Marine Corps Reserve Association to gain passage of the Armed Forces Reserve Act of 1952 which became Public Law 476. That act provided the framework for a fully integrated and fully capable reserve force working as partner with the regulars in meeting the nation's defense needs. As a result of the legislation passed, the reserve force became a critical resource for all military engagements that followed.

Colonel Coleman's record of military service began with his commissioning as a second lieutenant of the Field Artillery in 1928. His record is marked by selfless service in numerous staff and command positions including service in combat during World War II. Among his many awards and recognition is his membership in the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara for his contributions to the Army Field Artillery.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Coleman fully represents the spirit of the Reserve Officers Association and its model, the Minuteman. Just across the street from the East front of the Capitol building stands the Association's headquarters, the Minuteman Memorial Building: an edifice that is aptly named as it represents the acts and sacrifices of so many of its members personified in the nature and deeds of Colonel Coleman.

Just like the Minuteman, who came forward in a time of crisis to help his nation, so did Colonel Coleman come forward when his nation and his Association needed him. Mr. Speaker, I ask all Americans to join me in a grateful salute to both Colonel John Coleman and his devoted wife, Julia. We are all grateful not only for his service but also to the thousands of men and women who so admirably follow the traditions of one of Dayton, Ohio's greats: Colonel John Coleman.