

HONORING AL FOWLER

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, few times each week, we open our newspapers and read about someone who is making important contributions in a particular field. It is these individuals who continue to make America a great place to live, and we should never fail to recognize their contributions. However, it is with much less frequency that we hear about people who have spent a lifetime contributing to our society in numerous different areas, always rising to the top level in each endeavor.

One such individual is Al Fowler, a native of Douglasville, Georgia. After graduating from Douglas County High School and the University of Georgia, where he earned high honors and was active in Student Government and the Future Farmers of America, Al answered his country's call and left to fight in World War II.

During the war, Al served in the 483rd Bomber Group in Italy, where his group of B-17s suffered a casualty rate of 107%, including replacements. Although he had the option to leave after surviving 30 missions, Al Fowler stayed on the front, and stopped flying only when the war ended on the morning before his 34th mission. During his tenure, he was promoted to Brigadier General and earned a Distinguished Flying Cross for bringing his crippled aircraft back to the ground after a particularly dangerous mission.

Fortunately, Al Fowler's time in Italy was marked by more than just war and bloodshed. It was during this time that he met his wife, who was serving with the Red Cross in Italy. They went on to be married on the Isle of Capri. At that wedding, they exchanged rings made of gold confiscated from dead German soldiers by a friendly Italian jeweler, the bride wore a dress sewn from German parachute silk, and the couple departed from their wedding in a B-17 Flying Fortress flown by the groom.

After returning to Douglasville, Al won election to the Georgia General Assembly, where he served with pride and distinction for 16 years. Next, he won election to the Georgia Public Service Commission. During his political years, he truly helped develop the state of Georgia, and was instrumental in building its communications and transportation infrastructure. Later, Al went on to become Georgia's Adjutant General, where he started the National Guard program we rely on today, and once again contributed immensely to our nation's defense.

After leaving politics in the 1970s, Al must have still felt he had not done enough to improve his community, because he took a job as President of Douglas County Federal Savings and Loan. During his tenure of over 30 years in banking, Al helped countless families achieve their dream of owning a home or starting their own business. He also helped reform the savings and loan industry after many of his competitors overextended themselves. His work to reform these institutions has made

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many of them stronger today than they ever were before.

Al Fowler has already been honored by his community and the State of Georgia for his service. He was recently named the 2nd recipient ever of the Chairman's Award at our Aviation Hall of Fame in Warner Robins, Georgia. An exhibit there will honor his contributions to freedom and prosperity in America.

As Al reaches his 81st birthday, and finally begins a well-deserved retirement, I hope that other members of this body will join me in thanking him for his service to our nation and our community in Georgia.

IN MEMORY OF BROTHER NIVARD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great man who has dedicated his entire life to spreading Christian values and beliefs, Brother Nivard, for his lifetime of dedicated service.

Born Joseph Martin Stanton in 1945, Brother Nivard has served his community in countless capacities from a very young age. At age 17 he boarded a train in the Old Union Terminal of Cleveland bound for Kentucky to commit his life to Christianity. His quest for true happiness eventually led him to the Abbey of Gethsemani in Trappist, Kentucky, where he became a monk.

His love and devotion to Christian values and beliefs earned him the respect and admiration of all his peers. His friends and family describe him as a man that has inspired many. Brother Nivard is truly a man that has given back to his community in numerous ways and that has touched an incredible number of people.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the memory of a man that has reached out into his community to improve mankind, Brother Nivard. His kind spirit, gentle demeanor, and warm smile will be greatly missed.

CONGRATULATIONS FOR PHILIP A. SHARP MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2001

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bulter, Kentucky's Philip A. Sharp Middle School. At a time when our nation is faced with a troubling energy crisis, the students of Phillip A. Sharp Middle School serve as a fine example for our youth. Their school was recently selected as the Middle School of the Year by the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project, and they will attend the National Youth Awards Program for Energy Achievement here in Washington, D.C.

I am pleased to see young people take an interest in energy issues. They are learning early in life the importance of energy produc-

tion and conservation. What I find even more impressive is the fact that they are taking what they have learned and, through the NEED Project's "Kids Teaching Kids" approach, passing it on to other interested students. This kind of leadership from our middle schoolers means great things for Kentucky's future.

I congratulate Phillip A. Sharp Middle School on their recent award, and I thank them for their hard work and for setting a fine example for students across the United States. They are on the right track, and I wish them continued success.

HONORING JIM SAMUELSON FOR HIS LIFELONG DEDICATION TO HELPING OTHERS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I ask to honor a great man whose contributions not only to this country, but to our world, should be looked upon as an inspiration to all. James Samuelson, longtime Glenwood Springs, Colorado resident recently passed away. He served in World War II, flourished as co-editor and publisher of The Glenwood Post, volunteered in his community, and gave his time and money to help those in countries less fortunate than our own.

Even before he began his successful career working with newspapers, Jim went into the Army Medical Corps during World War II, where he served in campaigns in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy. Afterward, he married Marilyn, a marriage that would last 55 years until his recent death. Together, he and Marilyn raised a daughter and five sons, and were the proud grandparents to fourteen and great-grandparents to three.

After the war, Jim pursued his journalism and management talent. Donna Daniels of the Glenwood Springs Post-Independent writes of Marilyn's memory about how much more difficult it was to communicate, and how the biggest contact to the outside world was the daily paper. Jim used his skills working as co-editor and publisher of The Glenwood Post with his brother, John until 1966, after which he earned his masters of education from the University of Wyoming.

Jim was an active man all through his life. He skied, fly fished, and played and watched sports. He also volunteered with the Lions Club, American Legion, and the Mountain View Church. He even traveled to Haiti and twice to Mexico to help establish medical clinics there. In 1962 he received a fellowship to attend a three-month seminar for journalists in Quito. He and Marilyn also traveled to Europe, Israel, and Turkey, making their last trip just three years ago.

Mr. Speaker, Jim Samuelson contributed throughout his life to his community, his family, and to his world. He acted beyond expectations to make a positive impact where he saw the need, and for that, I ask to pay him tribute on behalf of Congress.