

THE LIFE OF FATHER MAC

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and reflect the life of Monsignor Ignatius McDermott, who many called Father Mac, a Chicago Priest who helped thousands of people with drug and alcohol abuse.

Father Mac was born on Chicago's South Side in 1909 to an Irish Catholic family. He attended St. Gabriel Catholic School and then graduated from the former Visitation Catholic School. He was ordained in 1936 after studying at Quigley Preparatory Seminary and Mundelein's St. Mary of the Lake Seminary.

During his leave from the seminary in 1930, Father Mac traveled daily through "Skid Row" to get to his job at Arlington Park racetrack. From his daily encounters of seeing the despair of alcohol and substance abuse, he began ministering to the homeless and alcoholics—the forgotten populations. Working toward a solution, Father Mac founded the Addiction Counseling Education Services in 1961, which provided counseling to alcoholics and other substance abusers who had no other means to get help. He would later expand his work to the Chicago schools system, where he developed an alcohol education curriculum and fostered Alternatives to Expulsion, a program to help teachers salvage addicted teenagers who were willing to give up drinking and drugs and resume their studies.

After serving as a parish priest and Chicago Archdiocese administrator, Father Mac devoted full time to helping those who could not help themselves and co-founded Haymarket Center. This Center is the largest drug abuse treatment center in Chicago serving an average of 18,000 clients annually. Haymarket truly changes individuals' lives with providing integrated treatment services, job training and serves as one of the few facilities that assist addicted mothers through pregnancy seeing the delivery of over 900 drug free babies. Haymarket Center serves as a model for other treatment programs throughout the Nation.

Ironically, on New Years Eve, as Haymarket Center celebrated its 29th year, Father Mac passed at the age of 95. Sadly, we lose a man of unwavering faith, deep compassion, and tireless devotion to helping those who are among the most desperate and needy.

The Chicago Sun-Times call him Chicago's Living Saint. Others call him the patron saint of the addicted. It is hard to find words to describe the care, love and compassion Father Mac had for all people—especially those that everyone else forgot about.

Last Congress, I introduced a resolution with my colleagues from Illinois, Speaker HASTERT, Congressman LAHOOD, and the former Congressman Lipinski to honor Father Mac with the Congressional Gold Medal. I would like to thank my 114 colleagues who cosponsored this legislation. In memory of Father Mac, one of his favorite quotes read: "When you no longer burn with love, others will die of the cold." St. Vincent DePaul,

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIRNESS TO ALL VIETNAM VETERANS ACT

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of this Congress, legislation that I am reintroducing today.

The Fairness to All Vietnam Veterans Act directs the Secretary of Defense to find an appropriate way to recognize and honor Vietnam Veterans who died in service to our nation but whose names are not listed on the wall of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

A family in my district, Mary and Tom Manley of Long Beach California, brought the need for this legislation to my attention.

Tom Manley is a survivor of the U.S.S. *Frank E. Evans*.

The *Evans* sailed from the Port of Long Beach for the last time in the spring of 1969.

After seeing serious combat off the coast of Vietnam, the U.S.S. *Evans* was sent to a brief training exercise called "Operation Sea Spirit." This training exercise involved ships of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization.

In the early morning hours of June 3, 1969, the crew of the U.S.S. *Frank E. Evans* awoke to the sounds of an Australian carrier splitting their vessel in half. The forward half, where all 74 deaths took place, sank in three minutes. There were 198 survivors.

Although the *Evans* was in the South China Sea, these sailors' names are not listed on the Vietnam Memorial wall because the U.S.S. *Evans* was just outside the designated combat zone, which determines inclusion on the wall.

Unfortunately, the case of the U.S.S. *Frank E. Evans* does not stand-alone.

There are many families across the United States, like the Manleys in Long Beach, who have loved ones and friends that have been excluded from proper recognition—maybe even in your district.

It is time for the Department of Defense to examine current policies for placement on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

This legislation also calls on the organizations and government agencies that originally constructed the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to examine the feasibility of inscribing additional names.

Should there be no practical way to add these names, the bill seeks appropriate alternatives for recognizing these veterans.

I ask Members to join me in properly honoring those Veterans who have given their lives for their country.

With the ongoing conflict in Iraq we are all acutely aware of the sacrifices our men and women in the military have recently made to ensure our nation's safety, security and our freedom.

A Nation is judged on how well they treat their Veterans. Let us not forget those of a past generation who fought for the freedom that we all cherish today.

Join me and support The Fairness to All Vietnam Veterans Act.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SECURE DOMESTIC CONTAINER PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 2005

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of this Congress, legislation that I have introduced today—The Secure Domestic Container Partnership Act of 2005.

This legislation directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to create a pilot program that encourages shipping handlers to seal empty shipping containers after they have unpacked them.

Under this pilot program, the Secretary may authorize a shipper, cargo carrier, freight forwarder, terminal operator, port authority, or labor organization that is a qualified container handler to secure under a seal approved by the Secretary, a shipping container that is emptied by the person.

It is my strong belief that this program, when fully implemented, will do so much for securing our supply chain, reducing congestion around our ports and intermodal centers while offering our shippers the opportunity to actively participate in securing our home front, our economic supply chain, our transportation infrastructure and most importantly our communities.

Last year, in response to the 9/11 Commission Report the Maritime and Coast Guard subcommittee took testimony from panelists responding to the Commission's findings and directives.

A scenario, presented to our Committee that characterized "cargo containers as a poor man's missile," struck me as all too real. In Southern California, the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles imported 68,000 containers a week in 2003. Combine exports and imports for 2003 and you have 125,000 containers that come in, out and through the most populous region in the country with seventeen million residents and growing—and with many high risk targets. Our streets, our communities, our rail infrastructure at any time are supporting full and empty containers.

Containers are as common in Southern California as lawyers are in Washington, DC. Look around you and you will know what I mean.

Now, if a container were to be compromised, empty or full, it would call into question the integrity of all containers on our highways and railways that travel along our entire transportation infrastructure and throughout our communities.

Placing a seal on an empty container is a cost effective common sense solution that further strengthens the partnership between the shipping community and the Department of Homeland Security against the ongoing war on terrorism.

Specifically, I would recommend that the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism or C-TPAT administer this program.

This initiative, under the Customs and Border Protection Directorate at the Department of Homeland Security, has a proven track

record of doing great things with securing our supply line.

Through the C-TPAT initiative, Customs has been working in partnership with companies and carriers involved in importing goods into the United States.

Companies are asked to assess the vulnerabilities of their supply chains and to work with Customs to address any vulnerability.

In short, the C-TPAT initiative is the equivalent to the trusted traveler program for goods that the FAA is currently implementing for passengers.

The C-TPAT initiative would be an excellent partner and I would encourage the Secretary to take my recommendation.

Like the C-TPAT initiative, the pilot program created by enactment of The Secure Domestic Container Partnership Act of 2005 would be purely voluntary on the part of shippers.

This is a win/win for businesses, our transportation system and our communities.

I ask my colleagues to strongly support the "The Secure Domestic Container Partnership Act of 2005."

MOURNING THE LOSS OF SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to mourn the passing of my predecessor and mentor, former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm.

As the first African-American woman elected to Congress and the first African-American to seriously run for the office of the Presidency, Shirley was a trailblazer who opened the doors of opportunity for generations of women and minority politicians.

Her advocacy for the education of the disadvantaged, Title IX, and early childhood education established her as one of the foremost education policymakers during her seven terms in Congress. But her legacy did not end there. Unmatched as a voice for social justice, Shirley fought for the interests of groups like veterans, Haitian refugees and day workers.

A gifted orator, Shirley's "unbought and unbosomed" political style allowed her to make friends and political alliances on both sides of the aisle. She was truly one in a million and I am honored to have been part of her Brooklyn political circle and to have worked along side her throughout her political career. Anyone who came in contact with Shirley Chisholm was forever changed for the better; she is one soul on this earth who is truly irreplaceable and she will be sorely missed by all of those who knew and loved her.

REMEMBERING SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I'm filled with great sadness that on the eve of the

109th Congress we mourn the passing of my longtime friend and colleague, Shirley Chisholm, the first African-American woman elected to Congress and the first of her race to seek a major party nomination for the Presidency. She died at her Ormond Beach, FL home on New Year's Day at the age of 80.

I commend to my colleagues the following article describing a time in the life of Shirley Chisholm written by Wil Haygood in the Washington Post on January 4, 2005.

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 4, 2005]

A WOMAN OF THE PEOPLE

SHIRLEY CHISHOLM TOOK A BACK SEAT TO NO ONE

(By Wil Haygood)

There was something so plain and yet so defiant about her. Studious and yet a little jazzy, especially in front of those Brooklyn church ladies.

Shirley Chisholm, the former congresswoman who died New Year's Day in Florida at age 80, came along at a moment in the 1960s when there was a bubbling symmetry between the women's liberation movement and the civil rights movement. She was holding two candles in the wind.

At church podiums in Brooklyn, she'd talk about babies eating paint they had peeled from the walls, and she'd talk about malnourished schoolchildren, and she'd raise her fist, and her big mound of cloudlike hair would bob, and she would start to crying, tears rolling from beneath those beatnik-era glasses. She would turn her back to the audience—as if she couldn't stand her own tears—and then turn around to face the folk in the pews, and they'd be stomping.

"I used to say to her, 'You should go into drama,' "recalls Edolphus Towns, a Democratic congressman from Brooklyn. "She could drop tears at any time."

Chisholm began her working life in 1950s Brooklyn. She was the director of a day-care center and worked as an educational consultant for the city. The tots had parents and she befriended them and got herself elected to the New York State Assembly in 1964. She was headed to Albany, the same place that launched the national political careers of Theodore Roosevelt, Thomas Dewey, Franklin D. Roosevelt and many others.

In the '60s, the talk in New York of black political figures focused on names such as Basil Patterson, Percy Sutton, Charlie Rangel. They were young lions who belonged to Harlem political clubs. (There was also Adam Clayton Powell, the once-powerful congressman who had crawled back to Congress in 1969 after an expulsion and scandalous headlines. But his day was now gone.)

But Patterson and Sutton and Rangel suddenly had to yank their heads and look across the bridge, to Brooklyn.

Shirley who?

"Shirley came out of Brooklyn, and that was one of the roughest political arenas you can come out of—even today," says Rep. Rangel (D), who knew Chisholm for decades. "For her to succeed, she had to be a little strange—and certainly extraordinary."

In addition to being a woman and from Brooklyn, Chisholm was also—unlike Powell, Sutton, Rangel and Patterson—dark-skinned. Given the history of skin color, she had an extra ladder to climb, and did so with relish, carrying herself with the insouciance of the world's most attractive woman.

So there she'd be, needing a ride to Albany and getting herself over to Harlem so that Sutton, who was also in the assembly, could pick her up.

"Shirley would meet us on the corner of 125th and Seventh—now Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard—and ride with us to Albany," says Sutton. "We did that for two years."

Sutton noted something about Chisholm on those rides. She was hungry for debate: "Even if she agreed with you, she'd want to debate you!"

With the '60s drawing to a close, Chisholm was swimming in the waters of history. "She had the imagination," says Rangel, "of being first—and tenacious."

So she announced in 1968 that she was running for Congress. There were howls of laughter, though not from the church ladies, who saw themselves in the reflection of her beatnik eyeglasses.

In 1968, she became the first black woman elected to Congress. She grinned and gave the peace sign. It wasn't black power. It was Shirley power. She wound up serving seven terms.

She pushed for antipoverty legislation and became a star. Ebony magazine wanted her, and so did Ms. magazine. She appeared with Reps. Barbara Jordan and Bella Abzug. She was known as honest and honorable. "Chisholm would not set up any kind of a side deal for her mother, brother, or cousin," says William Howard, who served as her financial adviser.

When Chisholm announced a run for the presidency in 1972, it seemed a little strange. She was the first black to conduct a large-scale presidential campaign within one of the major parties. The Congressional Black Caucus hardly had the numbers then that it has now, but she rolled her eyes when its members asked why she hadn't discussed her presidential plans with them. "Shirley had a lot of self-confidence," says Rangel.

"I Am Woman" by Helen Reddy was humming on the jukebox that year.

"Black people needed somebody," says Sutton. "We had lost Martin and Malcolm." He raised the first \$25,000 for her presidential campaign.

At the Democratic National Convention in Miami Beach, she was smiling from the podium—those glasses, that hair, the dark skin. Simply getting there was a huge victory.

"The next time a woman runs," she wrote in her 1973 autobiography, "The Good Fight," "or a black, a Jew or anyone from a group that the country is 'not ready' to elect to its highest office, I believe he or she will be taken seriously from the start. The door is not open yet, but it is ajar."

And, in time, they came: Geraldine Ferraro, Jesse Jackson, Joseph Lieberman.

The last time William Howard saw Chisholm was a year and a half ago in Manhattan. She had wanted to go dancing. She was peering at him, through those beatnik glasses, out on the dance floor, imploring him to tell the band to play something jazzy.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the memory of former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, who was a national role model.

I followed in the footsteps of Rep. Chisholm in several respects, having served both in the