

Unit Citation Award: Sergeant Daniel Weinsberg, Officers Sean Carter and Matthew Hughes, and Administrative Specialist Tina Shumway of the Sarasota Police Department.

IN RECOGNITION OF DEPUTY JON
HOLT

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deputy Jon Holt for his heroic actions and continued outstanding service.

Most recently, Deputy Holt has been recognized for his courageous act of heroism in the line of duty. Single-handedly, Deputy Holt rescued a woman from being crushed and suffocated underneath an overturned car when he lifted the vehicle off the trapped woman. Both the mother and her child were able to walk away from the accident unharmed.

This was not the first time that Deputy Holt has exhibited bravery and commitment to public safety. Deputy Holt was also recognized by the Greater Hampton Roads Regional Crime Line as both the local and regional "Top Cop" after rescuing two people trapped in a burning house.

In addition to his eight years with the Gloucester County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Holt served his country in Iraq as a member of the Virginia National Guard. In 2007 he was severely wounded by an improvised explosive device while on patrol in Baghdad. Following several years of rehabilitation and after medical retirement from the military, Holt joined the Sheriff's Department.

Currently, Deputy Holt is completing his master's degree in National Security and recently began his assignment with the Gloucester Investigations Unit where he hopes to continue to serve his country and community.

Deputy Holt has repeatedly put his own life on the line to keep others safe. It is an honor to recognize his valiant efforts and know that his substantial contribution to law enforcement has not gone unnoticed. I commend Deputy Jon Holt for his service throughout the years. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask that you rise with me to recognize the brave and humble service of Deputy Jon Holt.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF
OPERATION H.O.P.E.

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Ms. ESCOBAR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the work and service of Operation H.O.P.E.

Operation H.O.P.E., which stands for Helping Other People Endure, was founded in 2009 by Angel Gomez, a life-long El Pasoan and U.S. Navy veteran. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Operation H.O.P.E. has provided funeral assistance to over 1,100 families who have lost loved ones. In the wake of the August 3, 2019 domestic terrorist attack that killed 23 beautiful souls and wounded

countless others, Operation H.O.P.E. was at the center of supporting grieving families who lost loved ones. They helped find funeral homes for those who were killed and helped offset the cost of repatriation of the Mexican nationals who died that day. This past Easter, they gave away food and Easter baskets to over 400 families in need. Whether it is a holiday or tragedy, Operation H.O.P.E. is there when we need them.

I am proud to be sharing Operation H.O.P.E.'s work today, and am grateful for their continued service to our community.

HONORING PAUL DELACRUZ
MEGIA

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, once again, our nation has experienced a mass shooting, this time in our own neighborhood. The deadly shooting that occurred on Wednesday May 28, 2021 at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority took the lives of nine individuals. It is with great sadness that I share one of those individuals was my constituent, Paul Delacruz Megia.

Paul Delacruz Megia immigrated to the United States from the Philippines at a young age and was a resident of Mountain House, California. He was a son, brother, husband, and father who leaves behind his wife and three children.

Paul joined Valley Transportation Authority in 2002 as a bus operator trainee and worked his way up to an assistant superintendent in service management. His supervisor shared that he had a calming effect on others and was always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need.

Paul is remembered as full of life and love. He helped others to reach their goals of pursuing careers in transportation by serving as a mentor with the Overhead Line Worker apprenticeship program at Mission College in Santa Clara, also serving as the liaison between the College and Valley Transportation Authority. Paul cared for others and in his final moments, he risked his life to keep his co-workers safe. He is a hero, and his courage will never be forgotten.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and memory of Paul Delacruz Megia.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUSTICE
CRUZ REYNOSO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Justice Cruz Reynoso. Cruz passed away on May 7, 2021. Cruz was a Veteran of the United States Army, a law professor, role model, a father, grandfather, husband.

Cruz was born on May 2, 1931 in Brea, California and was raised in a barrio outside of La Habra, California. With his experiences, public and community service grew to become

such an important part of his life. Cruz had the urge to serve while attending grade school after he recognized the segregation he and his peers were facing. He attended and graduated from then Pomona College in 1953, served two years in the Army's Counterintelligence Corps, then attended the University of California, Berkeley School of Law where he was the only Latino in his 1958 graduating class.

Cruz was known as a trailblazer to those who crossed his path. He began his career in service as a staff secretary for the office of Governor Edmund G. "Pat" Brown and associate general counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Cruz became the first Latino director of the California Rural Legal Assistance organization, and the first Latino to be a law professor at the University of New Mexico. What brought him back to California was his historic 1976 appointment to the Court of Appeals, 3rd Appellate District, as the first Latino to fill the seat. Again, he was the first Hispanic Associate Judge on the California Supreme Court.

He was a leader, a wise, and a caring individual who was ready to help. Cruz continued his service to others as he practiced in law firms. He was a mentor and a law professor at the University of California Los Angeles School of Law. Cruz was given the inaugural Boochever and Bird Endowed Chair for the Study and Teaching of Freedom and Equality at the University of California Davis School of Law. While doing so, he also began his eleven years of service on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, where he served as the vice chairman.

When he was taking a break from lending a hand, he was getting recognized for his inspiring and tireless commitment to service. Cruz received eight Honorary Doctorates. President Clinton awarded Cruz the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2000 and the Hispanic Heritage Foundation Award. Additionally, there continues to be an investment to help students with their law school endeavors through fellowship and scholarship opportunities in Cruz's name. His legacy continues to be felt in Sacramento through the Cruz Reynoso Bar Association. Cruz was a proud son of a farm working family. He spent his entire life in service advocating for workers and immigrants throughout his career. He was a friend to many in his life and evolved his passion to giving back to others.

He is survived by four brothers and four sisters; four children and their spouses; two stepchildren and their spouses; seventeen grandchildren, three step grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Justice Cruz Reynoso. His service and contributions to the Nation and State of California will be missed. I join his family and friends in celebrating Cruz's life.

HONORING MR. JAMES MCINGVALE

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding work of Mr. James W. Mcingvale who is retiring from Ingalls shipyard after more than four decades of service to South Mississippi.