

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING APPOINTEES TO THE GEORGIA MILITARY VETERANS HALL OF FAME

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 10, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two veterans with ties to my home of Gainesville: Lt. Alexander Ramsey Nininger Jr., and Lt. Col. Rembert Gary Rollison. On November 4, these two veterans will be inducted into the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame, joining a distinguished group of 66 fellow Georgia veterans.

In order to receive this honor, veterans must exhibit valor for heroic action in combat, demonstrate outstanding achievement while in service, or have made significant contributions to their community after leaving active duty. Lt. Nininger and Lt. Col. Rollison clearly met these criteria.

Lt. Nininger graduated from West Point and was dispatched to the Philippines during World War II. When a military unit, separate from his own, faced superior firepower, he made the brave choice to assist his fellow soldiers and gave his life while giving them aid.

Lt. Col. Rollison was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1966. He was eventually dispatched to Vietnam, where his courage inspired others during Operation Junction City.

Other notable veterans in the Georgia Veterans Hall of Fame include former Governor Zell Miller and former Senator Sam Nunn. Soon, photos of Lt. Nininger and Lt. Col. Rollison will flank those of these public servants on the Heroes' Wall in the Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, honoring their legacy and commitment to our nation's security.

With Veterans Day around the corner, let's fulfill the duty that we have to our veterans by showing them our admiration and gratitude. Heroes like Lt. Nininger and Lt. Col. Rollison have defended our nation and preserved our freedoms. We are indebted to them.

I thank these two veterans, and many others, for their service.

HONORING THE MULAS FAMILY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 10, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mulas Family for being recognized by the Golden Gate Salmon Association for their achievements in sustainability.

The Mulas Family has been using reclaimed water for their pastures, crops and dairy since the 1960's and in their vineyards since the 1980's. Excessive water diversions are a major threat to salmon in California's rivers. Recycling water allows families to meet their

needs without threatening the salmon. The Mulas Dairy is a leader in water recycling, which is one of California's major potential sources of new water.

Vickie, Ray and Mike Mulas run the daily operations of the Dairy and Vineyards with their mother, Nilda. Their father, Mitch, was a very active member of our community before his passing in 2011.

In addition to running their dairy and vineyard, the Mulas Family members are consistent leaders on community fire issues, resource management and agricultural issues. Vickie is the Director of the Sonoma County Wine Grape Commission, a member of the Sonoma Resource Conservation District Board, and has coached cheerleading at Sonoma Valley High for the past 26 years. Ray is the Chief of the Schell Vista Fire Department, and Mike is the Assistant Chief. Ray is a member of the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association, the Elks Club and the past president and current board member of the Sonoma County Farm Bureau. Mike is the Director of the North Bay Water District, past President of North Bay Dairy Herd Information Association, and has coached the Sonoma Valley High School Dragons for the past 35 years.

Mr. Speaker, the Mulas family works hard on their dairy and in their vineyard. They are leaders in sustainable farming and contribute honorably to our community. I am proud to have such a hardworking family living in our District. It is fitting and proper that we honor them here today.

WISHING COACH HERMAN "BIG MAN" PITTMAN A HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 10, 2017

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest birthday wishes to Coach Herman "Big Man" Pittman, who will be celebrating his 90th on Sunday, November 19, 2017.

As a young man, Herman was a gifted athlete. He displayed great ability to play the game of basketball, and throughout his high school career at Tampa Middleton High School, he played as the team's point guard. Because of his success, he would go on to earn an athletic scholarship to attend Florida Agriculture & Mechanical University (FAMU), where he lettered on the football team, as well as played starting guard on the FAMU Rattler Basketball Team.

During his time at FAMU, Herman led his team to two Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) Championships. He would go on to make First Team All-SIAC Conference and All-SIAC Tournament Team for two years. After graduating from FAMU with his Bachelor of Science in Physical Education,

Herman joined the U.S. Army, where he was co-captain of the Fort Meade Generals in Maryland. Herman would go on to earn a Master's of Science in Health and Physical Education from Indiana University.

Herman began his career as a teacher and coach for the Dillard High School Panthers in 1955. He taught physical education and driver's education, and also coached basketball, football, and track during his tenure of 37 years. He also coached at Deerfield Beach High School, making a total of 18 years of coaching. His career as a basketball coach, record of conference participation shows seven Conference Championships, as well as being voted Outstanding Coach of the Conference five times. His teams won six District Championships and were runners-up two times. His teams also qualified for the state tournament seven times, having won four state titles, they qualified for participation in the National High School Tournament held at Tennessee State University in 1959, 1963, 1965, and 1967. His coaching records and contributions earned him the title of "One of the Winningest and Most Outstanding Coaches in the Nation."

For Herman's outstanding contributions and commitment to youth and other service involvements in Broward County, he has been awarded numerous honors. The Community and School Board have likewise renamed the Dillard High School Gymnasium as the "Herman Pittman Gymnasium."

As an educator, Herman once stated, "I feel I'm out here trying to educate a child for life. I try to teach them to be able to make adjustments in a changing society. I do the same thing in the classroom that I do on the basketball court—you have to teach young people how to live." This is something that Herman has been committed to his entire life.

Outside of teaching and coaching, Herman has continued to dedicate his time to serving in a wide array of organizations that include: Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc. Fraternity, First Baptist Piney Grove Church, "Meals on Wheels," The Kiwanis Club of Central Broward, FAMU Alumni Association, F Club, and the Dillard Task Force.

On Friday, November 3rd, Herman was honored at the 23rd Annual Mount Olive Development Corporation (MODCO) Community Service Awards Gala, entitled "A Celebration of Savvy Senior Citizens & Committed Military Servants." Among the things that he said was "the world is always evolving," in his 90 years he has evolved with the world. And, he has stood the test of time.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to wish a very happy 90th birthday to my very good friend, Coach Herman "Big Man" Pittman, whose service and dedication to the State of Florida and our nation is truly admirable. Herman will celebrate his birthday with his lovely wife Nielza, their three daughters Linda, Lisa, and Lavette, and their four grandchildren Chelsey, Colin, Mika, and Cody, as well as so many in our community, who love and respect all that he has contributed. I wish him many more years of happiness and success.

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