

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE SERVICE OF LORIE GRINNAN

HON. JOHN RATCLIFFE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 3, 2018

Mr. RATCLIFFE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to both express my deep appreciation and to say thank you, on behalf of the constituents I am privileged to represent in the 4th Congressional District of Texas, to Lorie Grinnan, a member of my staff who has completed 20 years of dedicated service to communities in our district. Notably, my comments today build upon those offered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD about Mrs. Grinnan by my predecessor, Ralph Hall, on October 16, 2013.

Lorie Grinnan served as a Regional Representative in my Rockwall office during the first three years of my time in Congress. Prior to that, Lorie served for eight years as a Rockwall County Commissioner and, going further back, served Rockwall area communities for nine years on the Rockwall ISD Board of Trustees (including two terms as board president).

As Lorie neared the end of her second term as County Commissioner, she announced that she was not going to seek re-election and planned to conclude her public service when her term expired at the end of 2014. However, as I was preparing to begin my first term in Congress, I asked Lorie to consider foregoing her plans and instead continue serving the public by becoming part of my original district office staff in January 2015. Lorie graciously agreed to set aside her own plans, and to the greater benefit of the three quarters of a million Texans in this district, has selflessly served these past three years as an invaluable member of my congressional staff.

Now, after a full 20 years of service to the public in Rockwall and surrounding communities, Lorie is ready to enjoy the next chapter in her life. Together, we have accomplished much these past three years for our communities and constituents. I will be forever grateful for her service in my office and to our constituents and communities, and for the lives we have been able to touch and change along the way. I am particularly grateful for her help in building and leading our process for identifying and selecting deserving students to receive nominations to our nation's service academies. During the three years under her leadership, I am proud to say that we have been able to offer more than 75 nominations to incredible young women and men across the 4th District of Texas. As a result of Lorie's dedication to this mission, I know that our country will be better served by the many outstanding future leaders who have accepted appointments to our nation's service academies.

Again, I express my sincere gratitude to Lorie Grinnan and to her family for the sacrifices they have made over these past two decades to support her dedicated career of public service. Godspeed to Lorie Grinnan and her family as they look forward to the next chapter of God's plan for her blessed life.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF DOROTHY MAY WILSON

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 3, 2018

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the life of Dorothy May Wilson.

Throughout her 106 years of life, she impacted countless lives and leaves behind a community of loving family and friends.

Mrs. Dorothy May Wilson was born in Mount Vernon, New York in 1911, where she lived through the Great Depression and met her husband. True to her unrelenting spirit, Mrs. Wilson did not let hard economic conditions deter her and operated a catering business with her husband throughout the Depression and later worked as a nurse. She then moved to Michigan in the 1970s to live closer to family and settled in Ypsilanti, Michigan where she would live for the rest of her life.

After moving to Michigan, Mrs. Wilson became involved with her local ministry, Brown Chapel AME Church. Church members remember her as an active volunteer with a heart for giving and a permanent smile on her face. This past November, those close to Mrs. Wilson hosted a surprise 106th birthday for her at the senior living community where she had been a resident since 1989. Friends and family shared stories of the kindness, leadership, and positivity that Dorothy will be remembered for. On her 106th birthday, Dorothy told her guests that kindness and giving back to others are the two keys to a fulfilled life. She lived her life following these two principles and leaves behind a bright legacy and loving family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of a cherished member of our Michigan community, Mrs. Dorothy May Wilson. She impacted countless lives throughout her 106 years and she will be greatly missed.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
