

TRIBUTE TO MRS. RUBY BUTLER

TRIBUTE TO MRS. RUBY BUTLER, BETTER KNOWN TO HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS
AS ``DEAR ME BUTLER" -- (Extensions of Remarks - December 15, 2009)

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2009

- Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a wonderful woman who devoted most of her life to the well-being of her friends and family. Dear Me was born to the parentage of Offie and Lillie Floyd Pitts in Opelika, Alabama on January 23, 1926. The Pitts raised Dear Me and her siblings in Salem, Alabama. Dear Me attended Flint Hill School and changed her name to Ruby prior to beginning high school. Ruby was raised in a God-loving, God-fearing home and accepted Christ at an early age. She attended the Weeping Mary Baptist Church in Salem, Alabama.

- Offie and Lillie Pitts moved their family to Knoxville, Tennessee in the late 1950's. Ruby worked as a domestic while in high school and married Frank Butler. They relocated north to Chicago and raised four children-Lucy, Charles, Juanita and Earl.

- Ruby worked at various factories and plant jobs in Chicago, including W.F. Hall Printing Co. and retired from Goodwill Industries. Ruby was highly religious and was a member of the Greater Rock Church, was delighted to see Barack Obama elected president of the United States, and often prayed for him and his family and their safety.

Ruby loved children and made her real lifetime career caring for her own children and for the children of others. I am told by one of her grandchildren, Ms. Wynona Redmond, that she had a tradition of giving members of her family monetary gifts that matched their age on birthdays and that she often thought and acted on behalf of others before considering herself, and that is one of the reasons she will always be ``Dear Me" to all of those who knew her. We salute Mrs. Ruby Butler, Dear Me, for being an outstanding humanitarian with a big heart who was more concerned about others than for herself.